

### WE DID IT!

Freshman Mary Ann Caldwell and sophomore Robyn Anders embrace each other after winning a Lone Star Conference tournament game. The team advanced to the second round, but suffered a second-round overtime loss. (photo by Ben Baxter)

# sports

While balancing classes and practice schedules, student athletes succeeded inside and outside the team setting.

The Tiger football team roared past the Henderson State University Reddies with a score of 37-17, marking a turn in victor of "The Battle of the Ravine."

The TigerSharks and Lady TigerSharks turned waves, winning the New South Independent Swim League Championship, a first since 1985.

The Lady Tiger basketball team stormed the courts, qualifying for the Lone Star Conference playoffs. The team ended the season, marking a turn around for the team.

Continuing a tradition of winning, the Tiger tennis team made headlines, dominating the Lone Star Conference Tennis Championship, advancing to the NCAA Tennis Championship at West Florida University. The team captured third place, a first for the tennis team.

Within every sport, athletes put forth their best effort in order to make the team successful. Turning points were made by each team as they faced a challenge and used their talents to the best of their ability.

## TURNING point



### NUMBER ONE

Members of the TigerShark and Lady TigerShark swimming and diving teams huddle together to celebrate being named New South Independent Swim League Champions. The teams had not advanced that far since 1985. (photo by Ben Baxter)

# determined

with a new coach and staff, the tiger football team made every effort to introduce a winning tradition

by Josh Moore

The Tiger football team opened the season with an overpowering victory over archrival Henderson State University. The Tigers beat the Reddies 34-14 in the 74th "Battle of the Ravine" on Sept. 4.

The Tigers came into the game with hopes of a victory under new head coach Todd Knight, former alumnus and letterman. Coach Knight proved to over 6,000 anxious fans that his players were ready to end a Ravine losing streak that had haunted them since 1987.

Senior fullback Brian Robinette lead the Tigers with an outstanding 113 yards rushing on 18 carries. Also contributing to the Tiger's attack was senior tail back Rico McClarity. Early in the third quarter, with the Tigers already leading 14-7, McClarity took a punt return 84 yards for a touchdown to give the Tigers a commanding 21-7 lead. McClarity would reach the Promised Land on two more occasions in the fourth quarter to assure a victory over the Reddies. Tiger sophomore quarterback Cary Wheaton threw a six-yard touchdown pass to McClarity to seal a Tiger victory with just four minutes to play. For his outstanding achievements, McClarity was named as the Lone Star Conference (LSC) North Division Player of the Week.

The (1-0) Tigers then traveled to Boliver, Mo., where they were victorious 28-24 over the Bearcats of Southwest Baptist University. Senior linebacker Caleb Rawls led the Tiger defense with ten tackles on the game. Offensively the Tigers gained 250 yards on the ground and 41 in the air for a total of 291 yards total offense. The following week the undefeated Tigers went to Portales, NM to take on the Eastern New Mexico Greyhounds. The Tigers suffered their first loss 23-0, as the Greyhounds capitalized on three Tiger turnovers that eventually cost them the game.

On September 25 the Tigers returned home to play the Texas A&M Commerce Lions. Coming back from a 21-10 deficit in the fourth quarter, fullback Brian Robinette pushed the ball past

the goal line with less than two minutes to play giving the Tigers a 22-21 win over the Lions. The game was turned around for the Tigers when freshman linebacker Jim Woolard intercepted the ball at the Lion's 39-yard line with seven minutes to play.

Hardships came soon for the Tigers as they suffered a six game losing streak including close games with Southwestern Oklahoma State and East Central Oklahoma.

The Tigers played their final game in the Lone Star Conference against Harding University for Homecoming on Saturday, Nov. 6. The Tigers were defeated by a tough Harding offensive attack that threw for 356 yards on their way to a 41-7 victory.

Senior tailback Rico McClarity ended the day and his college career with 61 rushing yards. Another senior fullback, Brian Robinette, concluded his Tiger career with 57 yards on nine carries for the afternoon. Senior kicker Jeff Works also gave a farewell performance averaging 43 yard on seven punts against Harding with his longest of the day of 55. Works ended the season as the nation's second ranked punter and the conference's top punter for NCAA Division II. Four other seniors played their last in purple and gold. They included Jason Luce, Caleb Rawls, Donnie Burrow and Wilmer Wade.

The Tigers ended the season 3-7. Even though the season had its ups and downs the team was proud of its accomplishments and was optimistic about the future. "Things don't happen over night; we didn't have a complete staff until May and only 28 players returned from last season," said Knight. Senior Jeff Works added, "With a new coaching staff and new recruits the only place for us to go is up."

The key word for the Tigers was "Discipline." "One of my goals while coaching at Ouachita is to have a program that produces strong young men spiritually, physically, and mentally," said Knight. "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

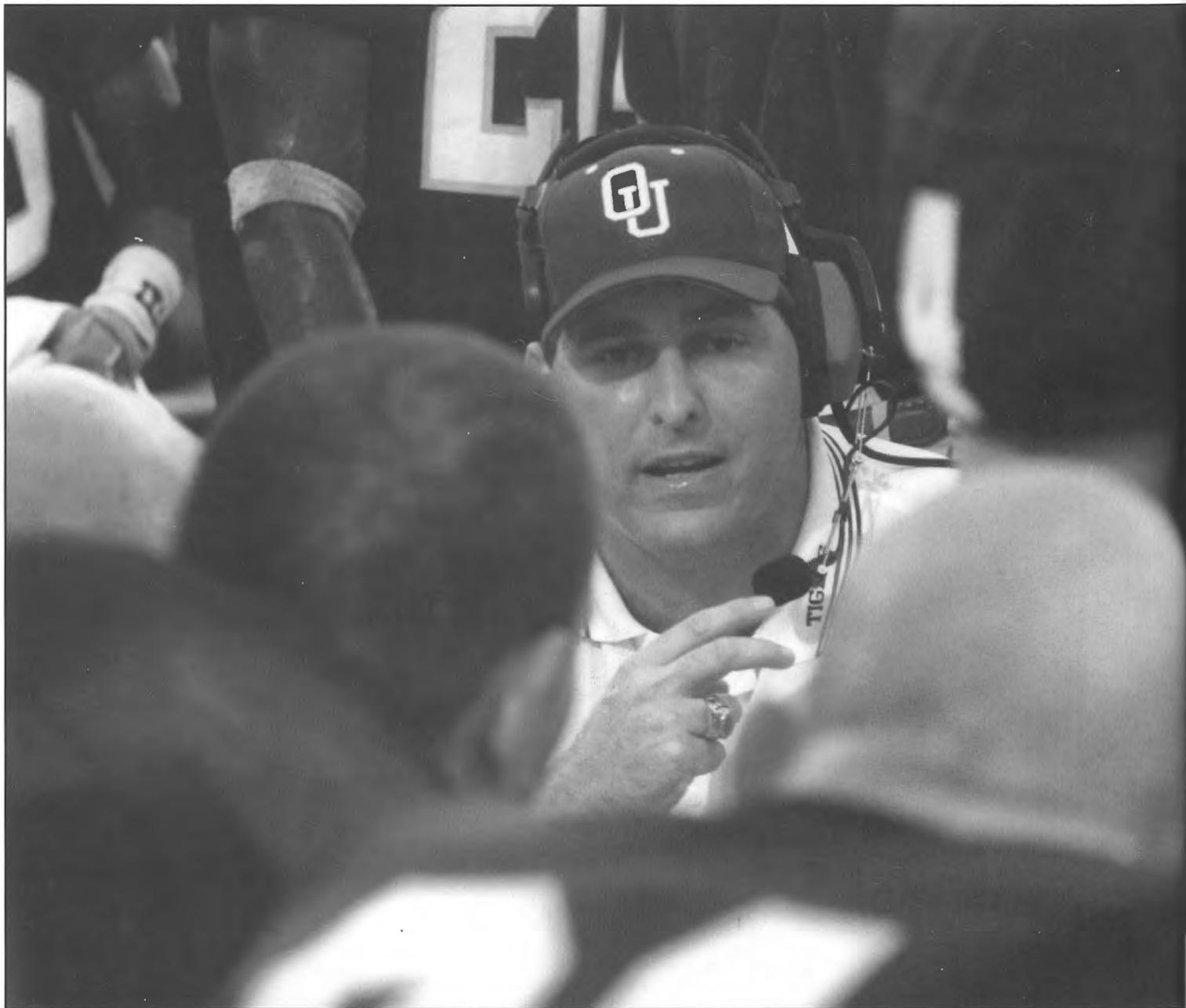
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## you're mine

Sophomore defensive end T.J. Bingham crouches on the line of scrimmage ready to attack a Harding defender. Bingham led the team in tackles (72) and sacks (8) for the season. photo by Ben Baxter





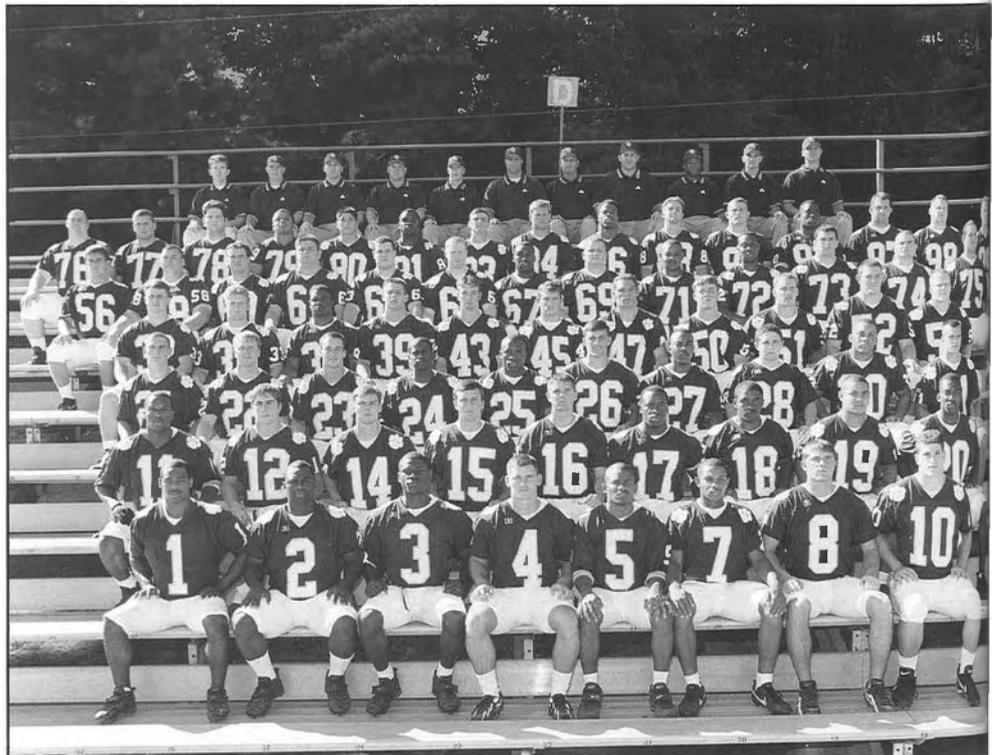


### strategic adjustment

Coach Deron Huerkamp instructs his players on the sideline. Communication between players and coaches was vital during the middle of a game. *photo courtesy of Photo Lab*

### the team

*first row:* Bruce Johnson, Montoya Brown, Jermaine Wilson, Cary Wheaton, Melvin Polk, Richard Allen, Matt Turner, Caleb Rawls; *second row:* Eric Allen, John Whitehead, Bo White, Jason Luce, Jan Bradford, Travis Johnson, Kennis Mumphrey, Jacob Hunt, Rico McClarity; *third row:* Seth Stowell, Ryan Roberts, Jeff Conway; Courtney Williams, Antwoyne Edwards, Nathan Wagnon, Andre Brooks, Dustin Schluterman, Lequan Collins, Jered Stowell; *fourth row:* Brian Robinette, Greg Gibson, Brandon Jefferson, Jim Woolard, Gary Burrow, Brad Davis, Victor Rodriguez, Michael Moore, Chase Ellis, Jarred Seamans, Matt Klopfer; *fifth row:* Mark Day, Daniel McFarland, Russ Pickett, Tom Nail, David Slaughter, Nathan Sayer, Joseph Williams, Brent Buie, T.J. Nelson, Broderick Holmes, Daniel Andrews, Jared Green, Roger Boyer; *sixth row:* Donnie Burrow, John Hart, Patrick Freeman, Greg Robinson, Chris Hall, Wilmer Wade, Zach Edwards, Steven Webb, T.J. Bingham, Andy Atchinson, Demarquis East, Justin Myrick, Lee Ruiz, Michael Whitten, Jeff Works; *seventh row:* James Bolin, Greg Rudolph, Rob Taylor, Jay Derby, Rustin Gortmaker, Todd Knight, Ken Wheaton, Deron Huerkamp, Kent Laster, Scott Jones, Zac Cannaday





**intensity**

Senior cornerback Jason Luce takes a deep breath and returns to the sideline. Luce recorded the only safety of the season. *photo by Tim Harrell*



**field goal**

Freshman John Whitehead holds the ball as senior Jeff Works attempts a field goal. Works finished third in punting in NCAA Division II. *photo by Carrie Dunham*

**football scoreboard**

*3-7 overall, LSC*

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Henderson State University      | 34-17 |
| Southwest Baptist University    | 28-21 |
| Eastern New Mexico University   | 0-23  |
| Texas A&M Commerce              | 22-21 |
| Southwest Oklahoma State        | 3-14  |
| Southeast Oklahoma State        | 19-49 |
| Northeast State University (OK) | 0-57  |
| Central Oklahoma University     | 20-41 |
| East Central University (OK)    | 7-14  |
| Harding University              | 7-41  |



**see ya**

Senior fullback Brian Robinette breaks away from the Reddie defense. The Tigers ran for 277 yards against Henderson and won the ballgame by a score of 34-17. *photo by Jaime Hancock*

setting the pace

During an invitational meet, junior Anna Stuckey takes the lead. The Lady Tigers competed against area schools, including Henderson and Arkansas Tech. *photo by Josh Pickens*



**cross-country**  
**scoreboard**  
*13th, LSC*

| <b>Lone Star Conference Championship</b> |     |
|--|-----|
| Harding University                       | 48  |
| Texas A&M Commerce                       | 65  |
| Tarleton State University                | 71  |
| Angelo State University                  | 98  |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University   | 98  |
| Texas A&M Kingsville                     | 131 |
| Abilene Christian University             | 211 |
| West Texas A&M University                | 223 |
| Eastern New Mexico State University      | 246 |
| University of Central Oklahoma           | 272 |
| East Central University (OK)             | 281 |
| Southwestern Oklahoma State University   | 305 |
| Ouachita Baptist University              | 325 |

# strengthened

the lady tigers faced a new season with a new coach  
in hopes of crossing the finish line

by Deondra Morris

“On your mark, get set,” came from the intercom. In that instant, people, on and off the field, became ready. With the sun glaring down the shot sounded, and a cloud of dust was all that remained of the cross country runners. The women’s cross country team had set out to fulfill their dreams—to win.

This year was a little more challenging for the team. Only six of the eleven girls were returning, but team had a new coach involved. Coach Jason Jones replaced Jovetta Arnold for the season. He came to the University from an assistant basketball coach position for Sheridan High School. Besides cross country, he also took on the role of assistant with the Lady Tiger women’s basketball team.

“Cross country was hard on Coach Jones and the team because he had to split his time between us and the basketball team,” said sophomore cross country member Rachel Stivers.

Jones’ main goal for the season was to better last season’s 11th place finish in the Lone Star Conference. He used the talent of the six returning runners, along with the two new but experienced faces, to tackle the course.

“Things were different for me at the beginning. I had never really belonged to a team be-

fore, since last year was my first year to run and I am the only freshman,” said Holly Willett.

One definite quality was the girls had a sense of closeness. Their encouragement for each other helped them to keep going on and off the field. It also made it easier to adjust to the changes of the season.

Among the diversities of each girl, their main goals were the same: to have a chance at the conference title, to better themselves as a team overall, and to do this with a new coach.

“If it wasn’t for the closeness of the team it would have been harder to adjust to Coach Jones,” said Stivers.

The 1999 season didn’t end exactly like the team hoped it would. They placed 13th with an overall score of 325 at the Lone Star Conference Championship

“Next year will be better because it will give Coach a year’s experience on us; he knows how we work now,” said Stivers.

Through all their hard work, successes and what seemed like failures, they all agreed on one final phrase, which was repeated by many members, “...and when you cross the finish line, there is no greater feeling than to know you worked hard and did your absolute best.”



## ready to go

The Lady Tigers take their place before starting one of the races. All team members ran, not competing against one another, but to gain the best time, which added to the team total. *photo by Josh Pickens*

## pressing on

Freshman Holly Willett takes a look ahead of her to see her standing during a race. Although they finished 13th in the Lone Star Conference, the team was positive about the outcome. *photo by Josh Pickens*

### breakin' a sweat

Senior Matt Parker feels the heat as the warm morning sun beats down on him during the SAU Invitational, an event leading up to the Lone Star Conference Championship. Overall, Parker took 56th place in the LSC Championship, finishing with a time of 29:20. *photo by Josh Pickens*

### the team

Adam Norwood, Brandon Jeffus, Kevin Rogers, Coach Michael Wagstaff, Jared Ray, Jason Gerber, Darren Hull



## cross country scoreboard

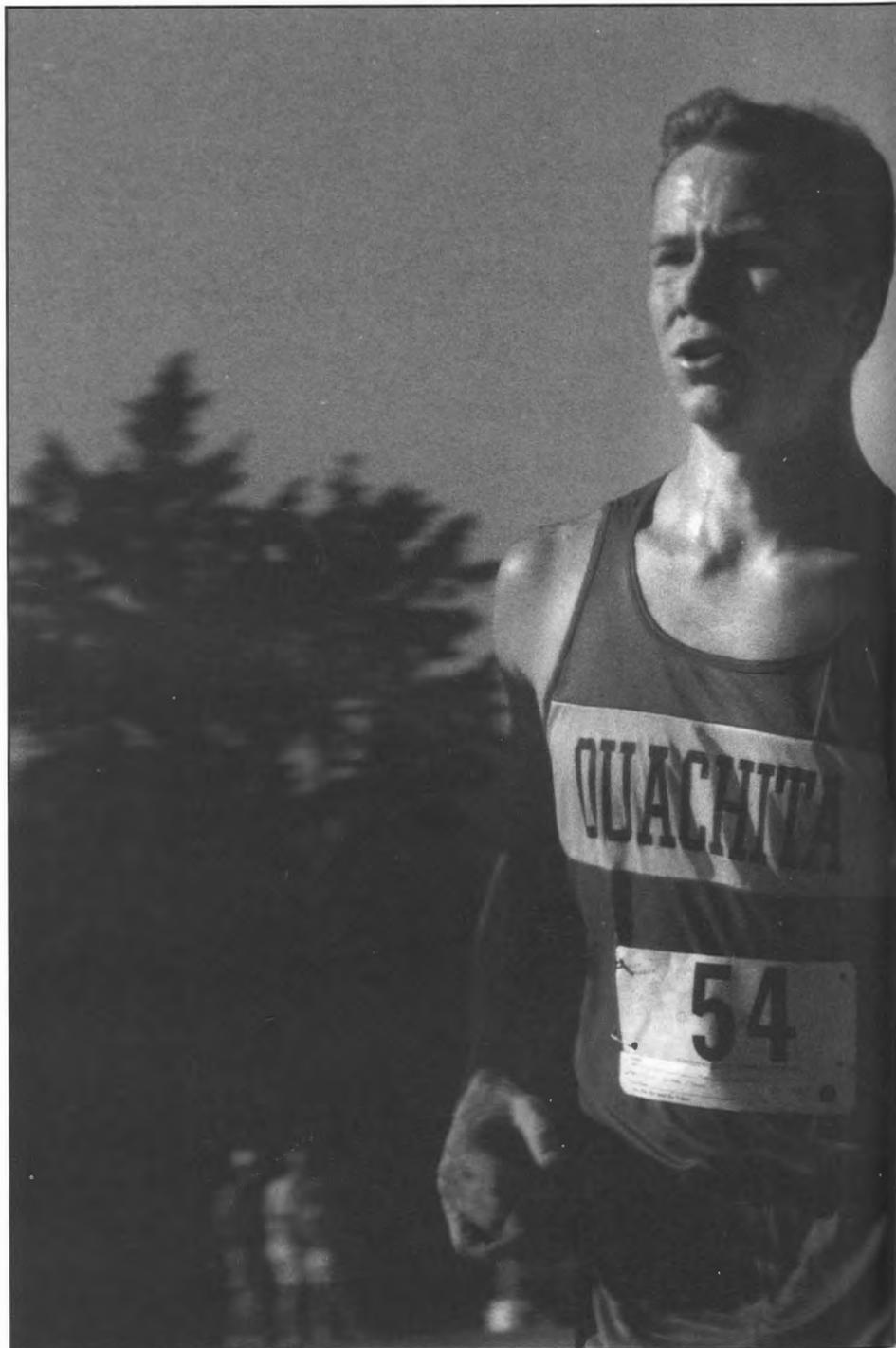
*8th, LSC*

### Lone Star Conference Championship

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Abilene Christian University     | 25  |
| Harding University               | 52  |
| Texas A&M Commerce               | 72  |
| Texas A&M Kingsville             | 143 |
| Angelo State University          | 150 |
| Tarleton State University        | 174 |
| East Central Oklahoma University | 207 |
| Ouachita Baptist University      | 216 |
| West Texas A&M University        | 216 |
| Eastern New Mexico University    | 227 |
| University of Central Oklahoma   | 258 |

### concentration

Juniors Darren Hull and Kevin Rogers, sophomore Adam Norwood, junior Jared Ray, freshman Jason Gerber, senior Matt Parker and junior Brandon Jeffus mentally prepare in the final seconds before the race. *photo by Josh Pickens*



# commitment

to make the final stretch, hard work became the key element for the tiger cross country team

by Paul Rayburn

**E**arly Saturday morning did not come easy to them. They loaded the vans anyway, looking forward to the road trip with the guys and to the thrill of competition. After a couple of hours cracking jokes and catching up on sleep, the men's cross country team arrived in Magnolia at Southern Arkansas University for its first meet of the season. As the time of the race drew nearer, anticipation grew stronger and their warm-ups became increasingly more strenuous. Junior Kevin Rogers described the start of a race: "You're doing everything you can just to get warmed up and stretched until they call you to the line. Then, when the gun sounds, it's a mad rush, and you don't think about anything else except getting a good position."

Coach Grant Pate, who had coached the men's cross-country team for the previous three seasons resigned in mid July to take a coaching job at the University of Mississippi.

Unfortunately, there was yet a second coaching change only two weeks into the season, and the team was without a leader. "We all stuck together despite the confusion," said freshman Jason Gerber, "and we were up at six every morning for practice."

Despite the rough beginning, the team soon found itself under the sound guidance of Coach Michael Wagstaff. Junior Darren Hull said, "Coach Wagstaff put his entire heart into coaching the team. When he started, our attitudes

completely changed. Only a couple of days into it, and we were all laughing again." Junior Adam Norwood added, "He's a great motivator, and he's Spirit-led."

From the very beginning, this season was to be the cornerstone for the next. Hull said, "Because of that rough start, we knew we would not be able to accomplish all that we wanted, so we did everything looking forward to next season. Most of us have been together for three or four years, so that will be the culmination of all our hard work."

In addition, the Tigers had finished their final season in the Lone Star Conference. The team was very optimistic about the shift into the 12-team Gulf South. "We expect to finish in the top five," said Norwood.

The Lone Star Conference recognized two Tigers for their academic achievement. Juniors Kevin Rogers and Adam Norwood were named to the LSC Men's Cross Country 1999 All-Academic Team.

There were only a few that rose in the mornings before the sun. There were fewer still those that hold the level of discipline and commitment it takes to run six miles before the rest of campus has even rubbed sleepy eyes. Often unheard and unseen, the men's cross-country team run at the crack of dawn five days a week. "Sure, we complained a little," said junior Jared Ray, "but it was all worth it."

## touchdown

Freshman Jason Gerber runs at the Harding Bison Stampede. Gerber's eighth place finish gained the Tigers the title of second place to the host team, Harding University. photo by Josh Pickens



# cornerstone

this young team was determined to lay the foundation for future domination in a new conference

by Amanda Perkins

**O**n August 19 at 8 a.m. the Lady Tiger volleyball team stepped onto the court for the first practice to start the volleyball season. The team of 15 girls consisted of ten returning players and five new members.

"At first I was hesitant about the new girls," said sophomore Kelly Johnson. "I didn't know what to expect from them, but they turned out to be great additions to the team."

In addition to the players and Coach Bill Sutton were graduate assistant Danny Prescott and two managers, Laura Gimenez and Bryan Slaton. Helping the girls with form, technique and game plans was senior Bryan Slaton.

To the average person the volleyball team had a tough year, but to the players and coaches, it was a good season despite the overall record.

"It was a great year for me in that it was a building process," said coach Bill Sutton. "We had a young team and the year gave us a time to know each other better."

Johnson commented on one special game that kept her spirits up about the season. "Games kept me going. Knowing that we had the potential."

During the match against Washburn the girls were losing by two games, but the tables turned when the Tigers made a major comeback and

won the match in the fifth game.

"The girls have lots of talent and are a very promising team," said manager Bryan Slaton. "They have a real heart for Jesus on and off the court, and I'm very excited to see how they will do in the next five years."

Despite the season, two girls did come out on top. Junior Susi Kurth and freshman Amy Pace were placed on the Lone Star Conference North Division All-Conference Team in the honorable mention category.

The Lady Tigers' posted a 9-24 record. However, the members kept a positive spirit about the season. "It was tough keeping a positive attitude even with our losses," said Kurth. "We tried to pump each other up and were accountable to one another. That helped us get through some of the down times."

Competition was a key element in the Lady Tigers' strategy. The team competed against some of the nationally ranked teams in the state and U.S. The team looks forward to joining the Gulf South Conference in the fall. It will bring about a new challenge for team members.

"We are excited about the conference change because we are looking to be more competitive in this conference," said junior Courtney Lawson.

## the team

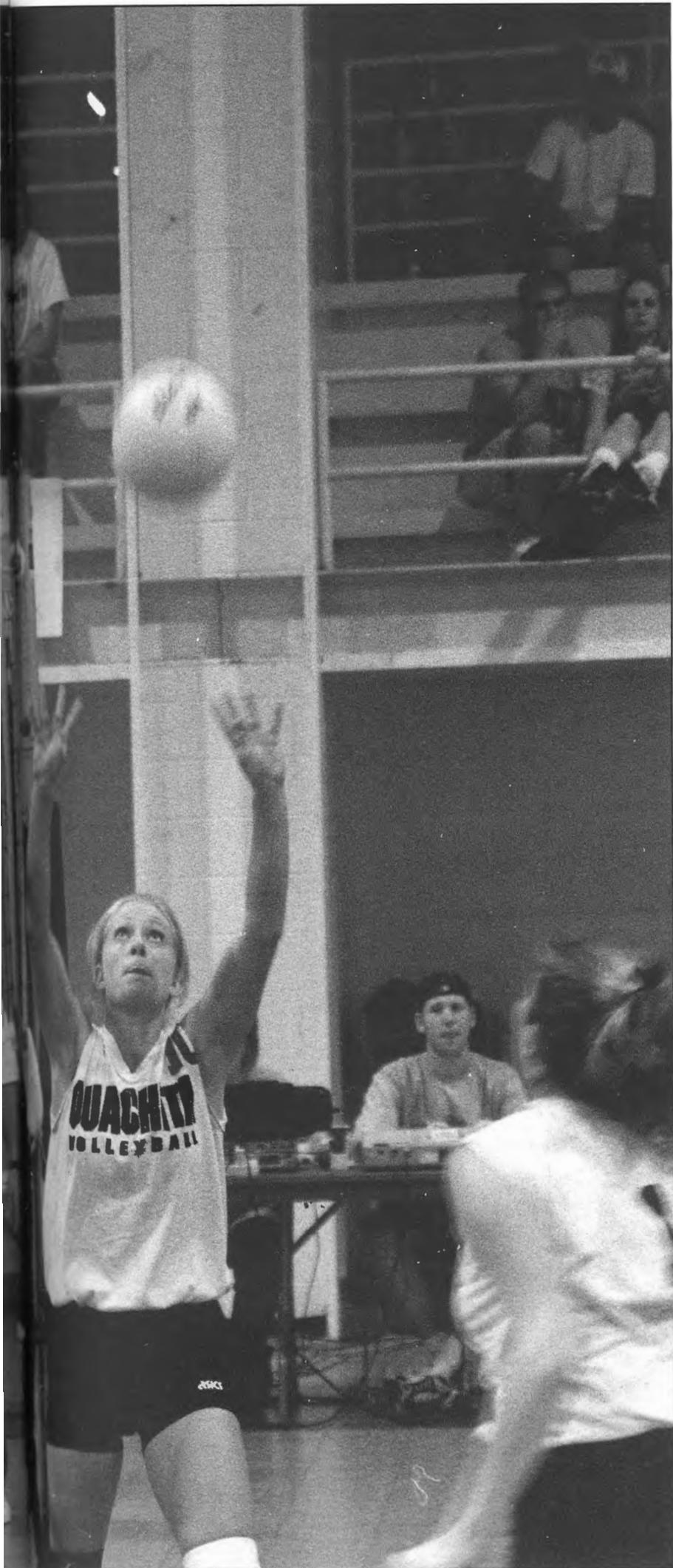
first row: Jill Waldon, Courtney Lawson, Karen Cunningham; second row: Suzi Kurth, Angie Tarayon, Robyn Johnson, Kelly Johnson. photo by Tim Harrell



## victory

The Lady Tiger volleyball team celebrates after scoring a point. The young team was comprised of only four juniors, six sophomores and five freshmen. photo by Ashlee Vann





**placement**

Junior Karen Cunningham sets for sophomore Christa Campbell as students look on from upstairs. Students came on Saturday afternoons to support the team. *photo by Ben Baxter*

**kill**

Freshman Jill Waldon attacks the net as freshman Angie Tarayon awaits a possible block. Underclassmen were a significant force on the team. *photo by Jamie Hancock*



**volleyball**  
**scoreboard**

9-24 overall, LSC

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Henderson State University             | 0-3      |
| East Texas Baptist University          | 3-2      |
| University of Central Arkansas         | 2-3      |
| Texas A&M Commerce                     | 2-3      |
| Harding University                     | 0-3      |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University | 3-0      |
| University of Central Oklahoma         | 0-3      |
| Abilene Christian University           | 0-3      |
| Angelo State University                | 0-3      |
| Wayland Baptist University             | 1-3      |
| University of Alaska                   | 0-3      |
| LeTourneau University                  | 3-1, 3-0 |
| Cameron University                     | 0-3      |
| Texas Woman's University               | 1-3      |
| Southwest Baptist University           | 0-3      |
| Washburn University                    | 3-2      |
| Harding University                     | 0-3      |
| Texas Wesleyan University              | 0-3      |
| Austin College                         | 2-3      |
| University of Central Arkansas         | 1-3      |
| Mississippi College                    | 3-0      |
| Lyon College                           | 0-3, 3-0 |
| University of Central Oklahoma         | 0-3      |
| Arkansas Tech University               | 0-3      |

# performance

intramurals provided a chance for students to improve physically and to have good, clean fun

by Peggy Itchner

The batter stood at the plate, surveying the scene before him. The count was full with three balls and two strikes. One of his teammates was on each base and it was the last chance to win, as they were losing the game by three runs. The pitcher tossed the ball and the crack of the bat as it hit the ball was heard by everyone in the area. Pressure built as he sped around the diamond, knowing his team needed him to score. He rounded the bases and slid into home plate just before the ball was relayed in, giving his team the victory by one run.

Excitement like this ran wildly during the intramural softball season. Players loved the chance to make friends, hang out with old friends, and enjoyed competition during the various sports offered by the recreational sports program. Teams were formed by various organizations, social clubs, or random groups of friends who just wanted to get out and have some fun. Junior Josh Mayfield said, "Everyone gets out there just to play and have a good time." Senior Karen Moore agreed, "Intramurals provide a good way for everyone on campus to get involved."

Some students noticed that the intramural program had definitely improve. With a longer season for basketball and softball, students felt there was more time to enjoy each sport. Senior Jonathan Watson stated, "There are more tournaments this year, longer seasons, and new

sports. The prospect for next year's intramurals looks even better."

The various sports offered included football, volleyball, and floor hockey during the fall and basketball and softball during the spring. Students could participate on men's or women's teams or co-ed.

Students participated in intramurals for various reasons. For some, getting outside provided a great chance to have fun in the sun. For others, the exercise and time with friends made intramurals worthwhile. Some students enjoyed intramurals for unique reasons. Junior Emily Maifield said, "It is a good chance to make friends, but I like to win the free t-shirts!"

Even students who did not participate found excitement in watching the games take place. During basketball season, it seemed that students were drawn to the gym night after night to watch the action. The stands packed out as teams took the games seriously and played to win. "It's really fun to watch the games. Some of them are close and the players get really into it. You can tell they are really working hard," said junior Charlee Morrison.

No matter what the reason for playing or watching intramural sports, great friends could be made and exciting entertainment could be found on the fields and courts of the games. As intramural participant junior Patrick Hicks said, "The excitement is overwhelming!"

## home run

During a softball intramural game, senior Jesse Mullinax knocks the ball past the outfielders. When the weather turned to spring, students were excited to start a new sport. *photo by Ben Baxter*

## running back

Junior Grant Bennet runs for the endzone in a flag football game for the Ss. Social clubs participated in most intramurals, sometimes having two teams per sport. *photo by Suzanne Morton*



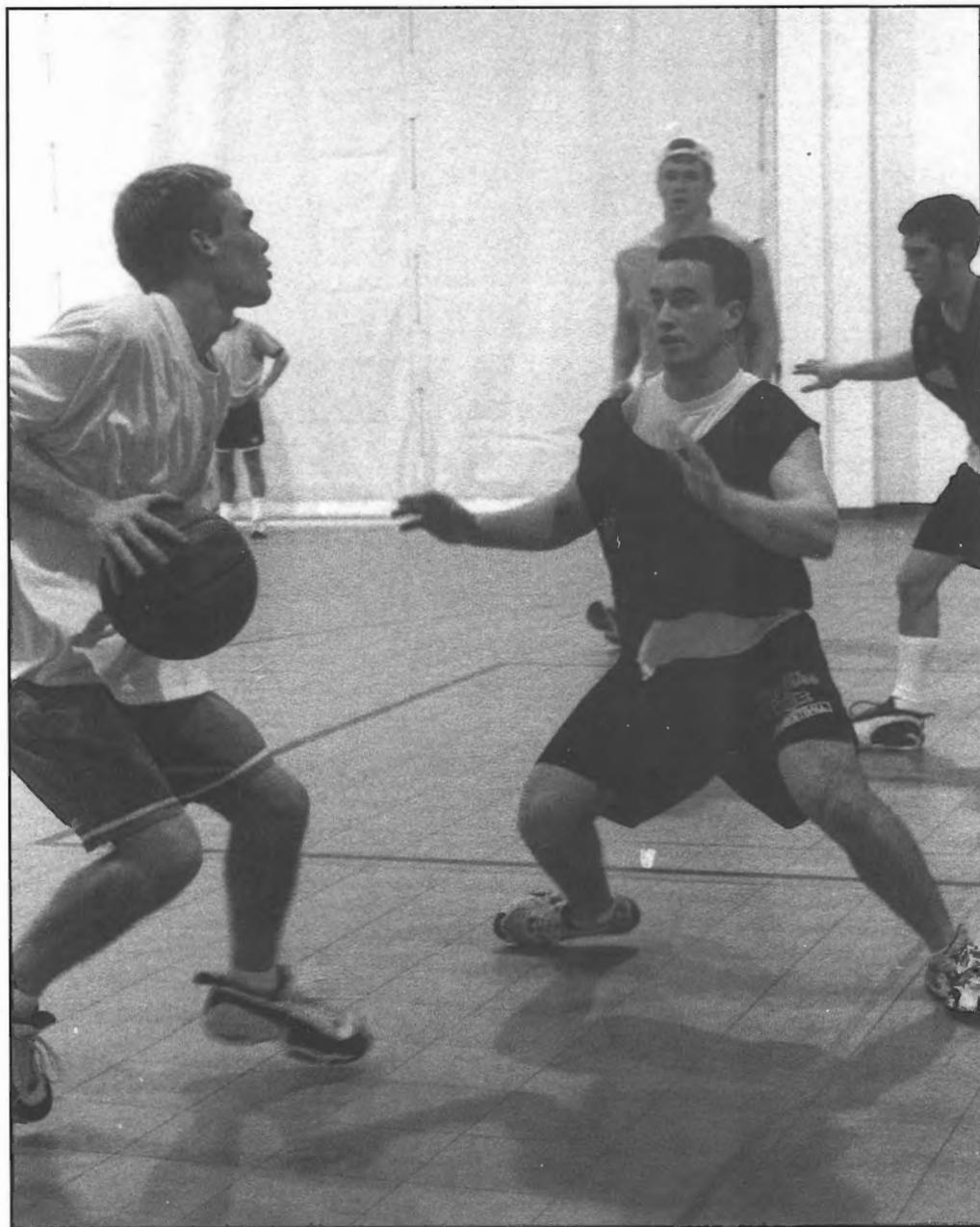


**jump shot**

Senior Donnie Copeland flies by his opponents and makes the two-point shot. Intramural basketball games provided entertainment for students during the winter months. *photo by B. Wayne Johnson*

**point guard**

Guarding the oppoents provides the biggest challenge to the other intramural players. The games were played on the intramural/volleyball court in SPEC. *photo by Shelley Shupe*



# hard-pressed

the tigers were building a new team, but various injuries throughout the season limited progress

by Emily Watts

In the third season of Lone Star Conference play, the Tiger Basketball program had to start anew. Only two members from last season's team returned. Coach Mike Reynolds recruited eight new players, three of which were juniors, one sophomore and four freshmen. These new players had to work to overcome the team's most difficult obstacle: injuries.

"This team is a very competitive one," said Reynolds, "but injuries kept it from reaching its full potential." With such injuries as broken thumbs, knocked-out teeth, and the flu virus, each setback proved harmful. With the lineup changing constantly, the Tigers finished the year 8-17 overall and 3-10 in conference play.

The Tigers were able to compete, despite the injuries. "We didn't let injuries stop us from doing our job," said junior Michael Medlin.

The scores for these games were close; almost half of the games were within 10 points. "When you look at the points, you have to realize that it was a difficult season. This season's lessons will make next season easier," Medlin said.

Also, the team's wide variety of talent helped the Tigers during the season. Freshman Jarris Kentle of Pine Bluff led the Tigers in scoring, averaging 14.8 points. Kentle also made All-Conference honorable mention. He shot 44 per-

cent from the field and 74 percent of his free throws.

Second in scoring for the Tigers was Mauricio Watson, a junior transfer from Panama City Beach, Fla. Watson averaged 13.6 points per game while shooting 50 percent from the field and 67 percent of three pointers.

Atif Williams, a junior transfer from Tulsa, Okla., joined Kentle and Watson in double-figure scoring, averaging 10.2 points per game. Williams also shot 45 percent from the field. T.J. Jones, a junior transfer from Conway, and Tim Lane, another junior transfer from Cleburne, Texas, both supported the Tigers. Jones, averaging 9.1 per game and Lane, averaging 7.2, contributed to the offense of the team.

Competition was tough for the team. Some LSC schools they played set conference records. However, the Tigers kept a positive outlook and remained focused. "We had several difficult opponents," said senior Kyle Dean. "We didn't let that scare us, instead we used it to help us stay on task."

The team's goal was cohesion. Bonding together helped the team stay together. Ten of 11 players on next year's team will be returning. "All of our top scorers and rebounders are scheduled to return next year, and that will make for better consistency," Reynolds said.



## the team

first row: T.J. Jones, Mario Thomas, Michael Medlin, Marcus Wright, Josh Fendley, Kyle Dean; second row: Jordan Cowart, Atif Williams, Hassan Conteh, Tim Lane, Mauricio Watson, Jarris Kentle, Josh Thompson.



## pressure

Senior point guard Kyle Dean moves the ball down court against a Henderson State Reddie opponent. The home game drew the largest crowd of the season (1580). Henderson prevailed by the score 69-52. photo by Jamie Hancock

## to the hole

Freshman Jarris Kentle drives to the basket against a Southeastern Oklahoma State University defender. The Tigers won both contests against the Savages by a slim two-point margin. photo by Ben Baxter



## rebound

Junior Mauricio Watson towers above Reddie defenders to grab a rebound. Watson led the team in total rebounds and had the highest field-goal percentage on the season. photo by Ben Baxter



## basketball scoreboard

*7-18 overall, LSC 3-10*

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Arkansas Baptist                  | 86-76 |
| Arkansas Tech University          | 78-70 |
| University of Central Arkansas    | 68-67 |
| Angelo State University           | 99-72 |
| Abilene Christian                 | 89-70 |
| West Texas A & M University       | 76-74 |
| Eastern New Mexico University     | 67-59 |
| Henderson State University        | 69-52 |
| Southern Arkansas University      | 71-64 |
| University of Arkansas-Monticello | 81-78 |
| Southern Arkansas University      | 82-68 |
| East Central University           | 75-66 |
| SE Oklahoma State University      | 51-49 |
| Cameron University                | 86-75 |
| SW Oklahoma State University      | 92-84 |
| Northeastern State University     | 72-59 |
| Henderson State University        | 76-49 |
| Harding University                | 75-67 |
| Northeastern State University     | 80-49 |
| Central Oklahoma                  | 91-82 |
| SE Oklahoma State University      | 66-64 |
| East Central University           | 85-76 |
| Harding University                | 69-67 |
| SW Oklahoma State University      | 90-77 |
| Cameron University                | 88-79 |

# competitors

healthy and hard working, the Lady Tigers proved to be a team of tremendous depth and talent

by Laura Norris

The crowd was pumped and ready for a victory as the Lady Tiger basketball team ran onto the hardwood floor at the Sturgis Physical Education Center. Coming off a season filled with injuries and a 13-13 record, the Lady Tigers were primed for the season and did not disappoint their fans.

What made this season so different was the fact that the team was a year older and had a year's experience behind them. Younger teammates looked to the seniors to step-up and lead the Lady Tigers, with four of the five starters from last year returning, as well as six total lettermen. Having no injuries and staying healthy gave the team great confidence on the court. Sophomore Vivi Dees and seniors Jeannie Kennedy and Jennifer Edwards all suffered from injuries from last season, but were recuperated for the 99-00 season. "Sure, injuries hurt us last year, but if you look at the numbers, we held together. The girls gained some much-needed experience and we found out that our team is full of interchangeable parts. Overall, I only see last year as something that helped with this season," said Crowder.

Also, the team was loaded with depth that was lacking in past years, and that gave them opportunities to overcome the other teams in their conference. "It was a difficult conference and all the other teams were good, but we stayed in there," said Crowder.

Another important factor for the good season was senior Jamie Scheppman. After playing two seasons for the Lady Techsters at Louisiana Tech University, Scheppman played her first season for Crowder's Lady Tigers. She was named Lone Star Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Year at the end of the season. This was the first time an athlete from Ouachita received such a prestigious award. "She has tremendous talent and helped take our team to another level," said Crowder. At the end of the season, Scheppman led the confer-

ence in scoring average with 21.7 points per game, and number of steals in the team's 19-9 season.

Along with Scheppman, sophomore Robyn Anders, Dees and Kennedy were given top awards. Anders was named to the LSC North Division All-Academic Team and Commissioner's Honor Roll, as well as the Second Team All-LSC. Dees was named to the LSC Commissioner Honor Role for academics. Kennedy, a post, was chosen All-LSC Honorable Mention. Kennedy also led in rebounding with an average of 8.8 per game and averaged 9.2 points per game.

Crowder believed that one person didn't make a team. There were games when the other girls stepped up and became leaders as well. Freshmen Jennifer Privett and Mary Anne Caldwell were vital in helping the team to victory. "They both did an outstanding job during the season," said Crowder.

The Lady Tigers were also blessed with the services of a new assistant coach. Jason Jones served as the women's assistant basketball coach and also worked with recruiting.

The Lady Tigers ended the regular season with 18-9 record and placed second in the Lone Star Conference North. The Lady Tigers played host to the Eastern New Mexico University Zias in the first round of the tournament. The Zias were shut down by an 82-67 Lady Tiger victory. This allowed the Lady Tigers to advance to the semifinal round and travel to Kingsville, Texas to play the Texas A&M - Kingsville Aggies. The Tigers lost 82-74 in overtime.

With the addition of a healthy team, new recruits and new assistants, the Lady Tigers had a monumental run in the LSC. The leadership of the seniors, the immense talent of the sophomores and freshmen brought together a squad that was destined for a great year. This was a season of epic proportions for Lady Tiger basketball, and would not soon be forgotten.

## the team

first row: Jennifer Privitt, Shannon Sangster;  
second row: Ashley Wadlow, Corrie Gilliland,  
Tracy McBryde, Jennifer Edwards, Robyn  
Anders, Jamie Scheppman, Vivi Dees; third  
row: Jeannie Kennedy, Mary Ann Caldwell

## smooth moves

During practice, senior Jamie Scheppman looks for an opening to go up for a shot. Scheppman was named Lone Star Conference Player of the Year. This was the first time a player from Ouachita received this award. photo by Ben Baxter



## good game

Sophomore Tracy McBryde receives cheers and high fives from the Tiger football team and other fans. Students and faculty gathered in Vining Arena to support the Lady Tigers during the Lone Star Conference tournament game. photo by Ben Baxter





### eyes on the goal

Senior Corrie Gilliland crouches at the free-throw line during the Henderson-Ouachita game. Gilliland helped lead the Lady Tigers in a victory over the Reddies. *photo by Jamie Hancock*

### SUCCESS

Seniors Jamie Scheppmann and Corey Gilliland and sophomore Robyn Anders celebrate a job well done. All three played an essential role in one of the best seasons in Lady Tiger history. *photo by Ben Baxter*



## basketball scoreboard

19-9 overall, LSC

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Jarvis Christian College          | 70-35 |
| Angelo State University           | 83-81 |
| Abilene Christian University      | 73-72 |
| West Texas A & M University       | 75-64 |
| Eastern New Mexico University     | 60-40 |
| Henderson State University        | 75-69 |
| Southern Arkansas University      | 81-59 |
| Texas Woman's University          | 91-72 |
| Texas Wesleyan University         | 72-74 |
| Montevallo University             | 73-55 |
| Southern Arkansas University      | 78-61 |
| East Central University           | 73-70 |
| SE Oklahoma State University      | 69-58 |
| Cameron University                | 75-51 |
| SW Oklahoma State University      | 69-50 |
| Central Oklahoma                  | 65-48 |
| NW State University               | 67-53 |
| Henderson State University        | 70-69 |
| Harding University                | 83-61 |
| Northeastern State University     | 48-44 |
| Central Oklahoma State University | 72-70 |
| SE Oklahoma State University      | 73-70 |
| East Central University           | 81-66 |
| Harding University                | 75-68 |
| SW Oklahoma State University      | 67-43 |
| Cameron University                | 66-59 |



# aggressive

staying competitive and focused left the baseball team wanting to be its very best

by Gary Miller

**W**e plan to throw out some traditional cardinal rules of baseball and take on a more aggressive hitting and base-running style," said Coach B.J. Brown, new head coach of the Tiger baseball team. And that's what he did.

Brown took leadership of the team, hoping to build from a demanding off-season program, and an aggressive plan of attack to better the team. He said that he wanted fans to be part of an exciting experience when attending games.

The team was mixed company, returning several four-year players as well as a talented group of new freshmen. "Our seniors and veterans really had a desire to win and we hoped that the younger guys could feed off of that," said Brown.

Before the season began, the Tigers were picked to finish last in preseason poll. Brown wasn't moved by the pick and felt that the team had more than what showed at surface level. "We were a young team starting out and hadn't made a significant effort to the title yet," he said. "We wanted to shake things up."

The team started with a doubleheader against the University of Central Arkansas Bears. They lost the first game, but took a victory in the second game. They came out in the second game swinging, scoring four runs in the first inning.

The Tigers then experienced a series of losses. However, the team stayed focused and worked together in order to finish the season. "We played our hardest every time, and even though we didn't come out on top, we knew our work was worth it," said sophomore Adam DePriest. "Working together was our key to keeping focused in the game."

The Tigers reached the opening of the Lone

Star Conference North Division games against the Bulldogs from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. The Tigers won the first game, but lost three during the weekend game series.

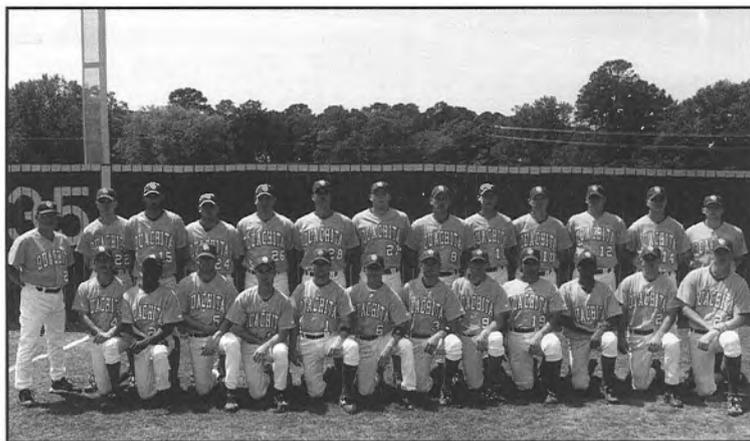
The team kept the idea of staying focused when facing the Henderson State University Reddies. The weather was a determining factor in the game. The Reddies scored early in the first inning, three in the fourth and on run in the fifth to take a lead over the Tigers. Brown's team wouldn't be counted out and pulled out a seven run inning. The Reddies fought back to end the game in a stalemate as inclement weather moved to cancel the remainder of the original nine inning game, thus giving the Tigers a tie to add to their record. "We really wanted to beat the Reddies," said freshman Doug Riley. "We pulled together to stay up but the weather stopped us from finishing the game."

The Tigers pulled another tie against the Harding University Bisons in Searcy. In the last game of the Harding series, the Tigers had three runs by the third inning. The Bisons scored one in the fourth and one in the sixth, ending the game in a tie of 3-3.

Coming to their final game, the team faced four consecutive losses in a back-to-back doubleheader against defending LSC champions Southeastern Oklahoma State University Savages. The Tigers dropped their last 10 games of the season by a combined total of 36 runs to opponents' 97. The team ended the season in last place, but Brown was proud of what the team accomplished. "We weren't able to see any post-season action, but we stayed competitive, focused and kept in mind that our purpose was to do our very best. That's what we did."

## the team

first row: Adam DePriest, Douglas Riley, Kyle Spooner, Andrew Fielder, Heath Bays, Lee Pearce, Carl Weatherford, Billy Adams, Andy Gee, Marlin Evans, Eric Harrison, Wes Martin. back row head coach B.J. Brown, Trent Smith, Tony Carozza, Ryan Hudson, Matt Burns, Rusty Byrd, Austen Breaux, Frank Graham, Steven Bertman, Ronald Glass, Clay Combs, Dave Johnston, students assistant Jay Davis. photo by Ben Baxter



## acrobat

Freshman Heath Bays avoids a runner sliding into second base as the umpire looks on intently to make the call. Players had to be ready for anything, including avoiding being hit. photo by Ben Baxter

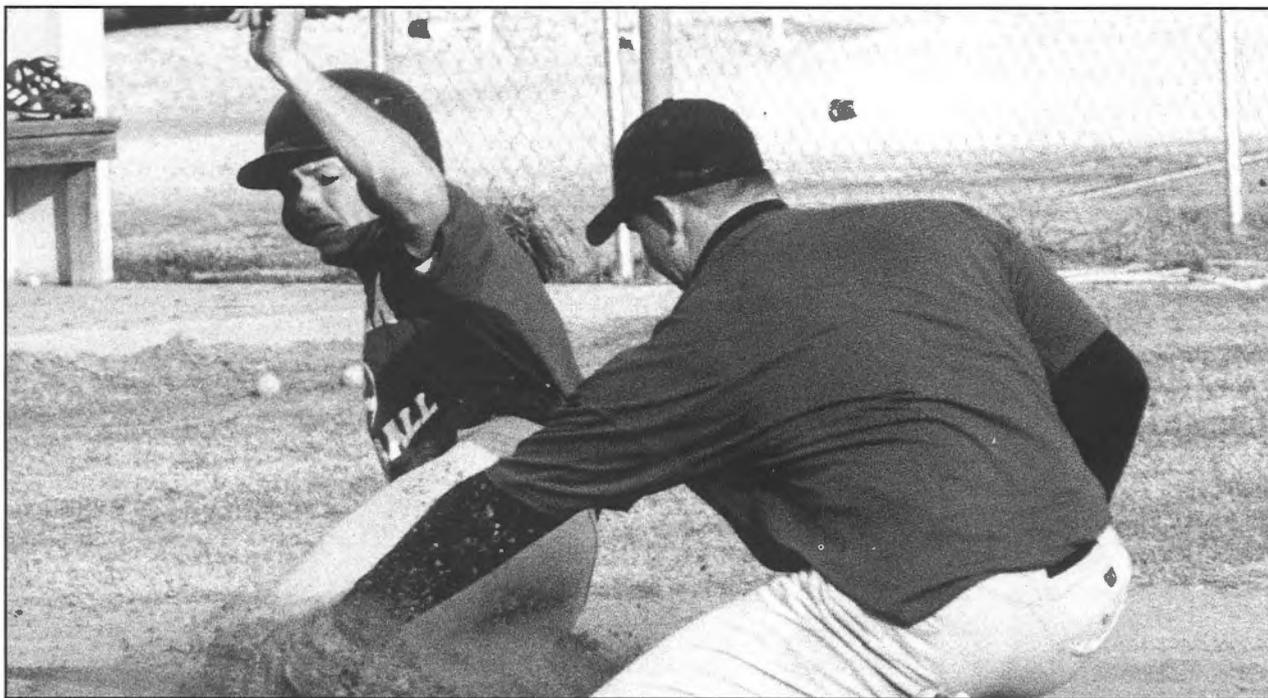




# baseball scoreboard

6-35-2 overall, LSC

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| University of Central Arkansas         | 2-4   |
| University of Central Arkansas         | 9-7   |
| University of Arkansas-Monticello      | 1-14  |
| University of Arkansas-Monticello      | 6-11  |
| Texas Wesleyan University              | 5-15  |
| Texas Wesleyan University              | 2-10  |
| Texas Wesleyan University              | 0-11  |
| Texas Wesleyan University              | 1-7   |
| University of Central Arkansas         | 5-1   |
| University of Central Arkansas         | 3-9   |
| Southwestern Oklahoma University       | 4-6   |
| Southwestern Oklahoma University       | 2-11  |
| Southwestern Oklahoma University       | 0-1   |
| Southwestern Oklahoma University       | 3-2   |
| Southern Arkansas University           | 4-9   |
| Henderson State University             | 7-7   |
| University of Central Oklahoma         | 0-13  |
| University of Central Oklahoma         | 10-11 |
| Delta State University                 | 4-9   |
| Delta State University                 | 5-10  |
| East Central University                | 7-5   |
| East Central University                | 2-8   |
| East Central University                | 3-8   |
| East Central University                | 11-7  |
| Harding University                     | 1-9   |
| Harding University                     | 1-6   |
| Harding University                     | 2-8   |
| Harding University                     | 3-3   |
| Delta State University                 | 3-8   |
| Delta State University                 | 1-18  |
| East Texas Baptist University          | 25-12 |
| Northeastern State University          | 1-9   |
| Northeastern State University          | 6-12  |
| Northeastern State University          | 4-5   |
| Northeastern State University          | 1-6   |
| University of Arkansas-Monticello      | 8-9   |
| University of Arkansas-Monticello      | 3-12  |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University | 2-13  |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University | 5-12  |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University | 3-10  |
| Southeastern Oklahoma State University | 3-9   |



### batter up

Preparing for a swing, junior Eric Harrison focuses on the ball hurtling toward him. Harrison helped lead the Tigers in scoring. *photo by Ben Baxter*

### safe?

During practice, senior Carl Weatherford slides onto the plate, while junior Matt Burns touches the ball to the plate. Weatherford was trying to avoid being tagged out, a move that was important to the game. *photo by Jennifer Dyer*

# powerhouse

strong leadership and talent allow for  
a victorious season for the tiger sharks

by Cassidy Allen

Water was something to be feared. From the time a child views it, there was something unknown lurking beneath the ripples. Some children feared it, but others jumped right in it and loved the splash. This group showed that water was nothing to fear, but to be conquered.

For the TigerSharks, this was all but true. They began the season with a victory at the Texas Relays at Texarkana Community College. The team pulled a combined score of 29 points shutting out the Red Wave of Henderson State University.

From there, the victories continued. A battle of the ravine came next, with another defeat of Henderson, 166-75. The team won all but two events in the 13 event match up against the Red Wave.

At the Henderson invitational on Nov. 19-20, the Tiger Sharks took first one more time, scoring 427 points over Henderson, who totaled only 340 points. The team held a continuous seventh rank in the nation throughout the season. "It was an awesome feeling to keep defeating Henderson," senior Jesse Mullinax said.

The annual University of Arkansas at Little Rock Christmas Invitational saw the Tigers as the combined winner. The team, along with the Lady Tiger Sharks, took first in the composite rankings with 1,189 points. The team nearest them in score, Delta State University, had only 993. By this time, the Tiger Sharks moved up to fifth place.

Keeping the winning tradition, the Tiger Sharks won another decisive victory at Hendrix College, where they defeated the Hendrix men's team by 86 points. This meet characterized as "fun" by many of the team members. Several of the swimmers were exhibited at Hendrix.

The men's swim team began working hard to prepare for conference. Coach Jim Dann said,

"Our goal was to win conference and this meant that everyone had to contribute."

And that's just what they did. After doing so well in their conference schedule, the Tiger Sharks went on to win the New South Independent Swim League (NSISL) conference meet for the first time since 1985. The Sharks won by a slim margin—only half of a point separated them from Delta State. "Winning the conference title made all the hard work worth while," said junior Darryl Friend.

After the conference victory, the Tiger Sharks had to devote a great deal of time in preparing for the NCAA Division II National Championship. Six swimmers qualified for the meet. These swimmers had to meet certain goals during the various NSISL and other non-conference meets. These included making certain time, setting a record or gain a certain amount of points. Mullinax, junior John Berry, sophomores Moss Duvall and Chris White and freshmen Kip Schneider and Joel Jackson all qualified for the championship.

At the championship, the most notable accomplishment was made by Berry. He went on to be named NCAA Division II Male Swimmer of the Year. He set a new school record and NCAA Division II record in the 50-yard freestyle with a :19:84 in the preliminaries. "Breaking the record wasn't a big deal for me but was a big honor," said Berry. "Swimming is what I do and that helped me accomplish the task."

The team broke 13 school records at the Buffalo, N.Y. meet, scoring a total of 200 points. The Tiger Sharks finished the season with a 5-2 record, a platform to start from the next season. "We have a lot to look forward to next year," said Dann. "I expect new talent to help improve the team and the current members to help continue to strengthen the team as a whole."

## dive

Senior Adam Koelling performs a low dive at the Delta State University meet. Diving, a part of all meets, was a different competition but was added to the total score. *photo by Ben Baxter*





### breaking waves

During the conference meet, senior Jesse Mullinax and sophomore Joel Jackson swim the 200 breaststroke. The two came in first and second respectively. *photo by Ben Baxter*

### champions

Junior Darryl Friend, seniors Jesse Mullinax and Phillip Davis, and freshmen Jonathan Roberts and Ty Jordan celebrate the conference championship. This was the first time since 1985 that the Tiger Sharks won the conference title. *photo by Ben Baxter*



## swimming scoreboard

*5-2 overall, NSISL champions*

### NSISL CHAMPIONSHIP

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Ouachita Baptist University | 904   |
| Delta State University      | 903.5 |
| Henderson State University  | 576.5 |
| John Brown University       | 260   |
| McMurry College             | 203.5 |
| Austin College              | 195.5 |
| Hendrix Collge              | 147   |

### NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Californina State University-Bakersfield | 687   |
| Drury University                         | 630   |
| West Chester University                  | 277   |
| University of California-Davis           | 275   |
| University of North Dakota               | 249   |
| Univeristy of Missouri-Rolla             | 225   |
| Ouachita Baptist University              | 200   |
| University of Tampa                      | 187.5 |
| Truman StateUniversity                   | 155   |
| Delta State University                   | 143.5 |

### congrats

President Andrew Westmoreland congratulates senior Keri Elliot and Phillip Davis, captains of the men and women's swim teams, for a job well done. The two teams won the conference title in the New South Independent Swim League. *photo by Ben Baxter*

### backlash

Junior Tracy Kruger races against time to beat out competitors from Henderson State University and other schools. Time was very important, especially when trying to gain points for the team. *photo by Ben Baxter*



### the air up there

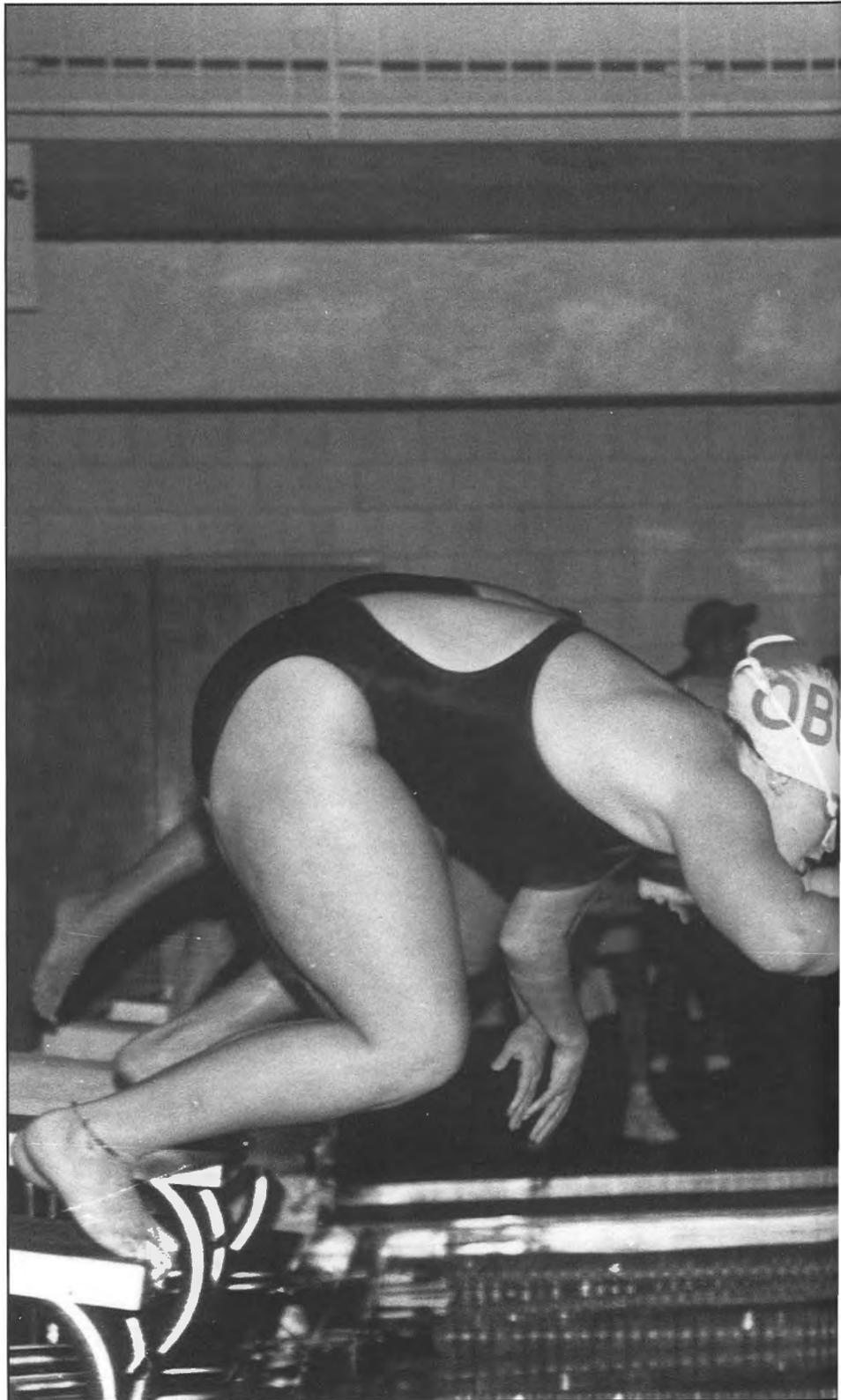
While swimming one of the events during a meet, a member of the Lday Tiger swim team comes up for air. The Lady Tigers broke waves when they captured the New South Independent Swim League Conference title. *photo by Ben Baxter*

## swimming scoreboard

4-3 overall, NSISL champions

### NSISL CHAMPIONSHIP

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Ouachita Baptist University     | 800 |
| Delta State University          | 790 |
| Henderson State University      | 507 |
| John Brown University           | 295 |
| Hendrix Collge                  | 251 |
| Austin College                  | 242 |
| University Arkansas-Little Rock | 235 |
| McMurry University              | 162 |



# strengthened

hard work and determination allowed the lady tigersharks to gain a conference title

by Amber White

Cheers went into the air and some people – including the coaches – went into the water as the Lady Tiger Sharks celebrated their first-ever conference win at the New South Independent Swim Leagues championships. “It was so crazy...everyone was screaming and hugging and jumping around,” said freshman Katie Turner. “Even before they announced it, we knew we had won,” freshman Jen Lovette added. “When they said we were number one, we pushed everyone in the water - with all their clothes on.” Although picked to take second to Delta State University, the swimmers stepped up going into the conference meet and won by 14 points, making the team the first in Ouachita women’s swimming history to take first place in the conference.

“The goal the whole year was to win conference,” said swim coach Jim Dann, “and on paper it looked like we couldn’t do it. But they swam an almost perfect meet – they swam as a team. Every single person contributed, and if they hadn’t all contributed, we couldn’t have won,” he said.

Working toward that goal began every morning, when the girls were in the water by 5:45. “We had a good solid group of seniors,” Dann said, “and our recruiting class was strong as well.” The four freshmen worked with the six returning swimmers, including seniors Keri Elliott, Shannon Leathers and Catherine Manning, to prepare for team and individual events.

After a Purple verses Gold intrasquad meet in early October, the women met their first opponent, Northeast Louisiana University, in Monroe. Although the Lady Tiger Sharks lost to NLU by a score of 121-111, the swimmers kept their heads up and went across the street to beat the Lady Reddies of Henderson State University in their next meet.

The hard work and cooperation among the team members that had been developing throughout the season was evident during the Henderson Invitational swim meet in November. The women dominated the competition, claiming first place with 419 points to defeat Henderson, Rhodes College, Hendrix College, John Brown University and Southern Arkansas University. The meet was a success with first place awards in 12 events, but Dann realized the team would have to swim faster during the upcoming Christmas Invitational at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

The women did just that at the UALR meet, taking second place in the women’s division,

ready?

Hearing the buzzer in the background, a member of the Lady TigerSharks pushes off of the platform. The Lady TigerSharks ended the season with a record of 4-3. photo by Ben Baxter

and working with the men’s team to make Ouachita the combined winner of the invitational. The Lady Tiger Sharks broke several school records while at the meet, as they continued to improve and work toward the goal of winning the conference. “The UALR meet made it seem as though we were capable of winning conference. Before then, no one thought we could do it,” said Manning.

After the Christmas break, the team continued to improve its record with a win over the Hendrix Lady Warriors, 116-102. “The times were slow,” Dann said regarding the meet. “I really put the teams through a rigorous workout schedule coming back after Christmas. They were a little tired. But, we had a lot of fun in the meet.” This victory moved the Lady Tiger Sharks to a 2-2 overall record and a 2-1 record in the NSISL.

The team then moved on to the UALR Invitational on January 22, taking third place behind Drury College and Delta State. Another victory over the Henderson Lady Reddies in January sent the Lady Tiger Sharks into the conference championship with hopes of winning it all.

Those dreams came true at the peak of the season when the team traveled to Little Rock for the NSISL championships, where the swimmers defeated the 1998-99 conference winners, the Delta State Lady Statesmen. Manning said, “It was a great experience to finish off my last year of college swimming with a big win.” Henderson came in third, followed by John Brown, Hendrix, Austin College, UALR and McMurry University.

During an invitational meet hosted by Ouachita in late February, Turner qualified for the NCAA Division II championships in Buffalo, N.Y. She got the “A” cut in the mile, and in addition she swam in the 500-free, 200-free and 200-back events when she traveled to New York March 8-11. While she saw this as a great opportunity, Turner said, “Getting to know the team and forming relationships with people on the team was the highlight of the year for me.”

A season of hard work paid off as the Lady Tiger Sharks reached their goal of taking the conference – a goal that teams in the past had imagined, and that future teams would continue to strive toward. The year had many turn abouts and even some surprises. Lovette said, “I’ve never seen any group of girls come and put 110 percent into what they do like this team has. Let’s just say, ‘Expect the unexpected.’”

# experienced

a life-long sport for the tiger golf team allows

them to bring their game up to par *by Gary Miller*

With a watchful eye, he made his aim and swung. As the small, white ball left his sight, he watched and hoped that his shot landed where he wanted.

Golf was a sport that required time, patience and perserverance. For the Tiger golf team, it was also a life-long hobby as well as a sport. "I've been playing golf since I could hold a club," said sophomore Jeremy Wessels. "I never thought it would be something I would play on the college level."

Wessels, like other members, began playing at an early age along side family members. The players picked up the game from their parents or sibilinings.

Coach David Sharp helped those who played continue their past time hobby. He coached the team for the past several years, providing an avenue for avid players to continue the sport in collge. "Golf has been a part of our culture for over a century," he said. "It is a game like no other, requiring great concentration and control."

Senior Beau Bishop has been on the Tiger golf team since his freshman year and has played even longer. He felt having the sport on a college level was helpful to him. "Playing golf at school has helped me to continued improve my game," he said. "It also allows me to compete

with myself and other players my age."

Commonly thought of as a challenging game, team members found the game to be easy. "When I started playing, it wasn't long before I had swinging and putting down," said junior Jeff Maneth. "It was a matter of practicing and staying with it."

In order to help the team continue to improve, a benefit golf scramble was held in March. The money raised was added to the golf team account to help pay for tournaments and travel expenses. "The proceeds really go a long way in helping us with travel and other incidentals involved with competing on the Lone Star Conference level," said Sharp.

The Tigers were able to compete against other players from Lone Star Conference schools. Players spent many hours practicing at the DeGray Golf course allowing the small-numbered team to gain expereince working together. Sharp said, "Their closeness allowed them to help one another and that helps the team as a whole."

The team used their talents and finished the season in 10th place in the LSC golf tournament. Working together allowed team members to stay focused and improve their skills. "They wanted to get better and that's what they did," said Sharp.

## moving on

Two members of the golf team walk down to the next hole to tee off. The team worked together to help improve themselves and the team. *photo Travis Robertson*



## gone!

Senior Brent Walker raises his golf club as a salute during the DeGray Tournament. Walker helped to lead the team in scoring during the tournament. *photo by Travis Robertson*



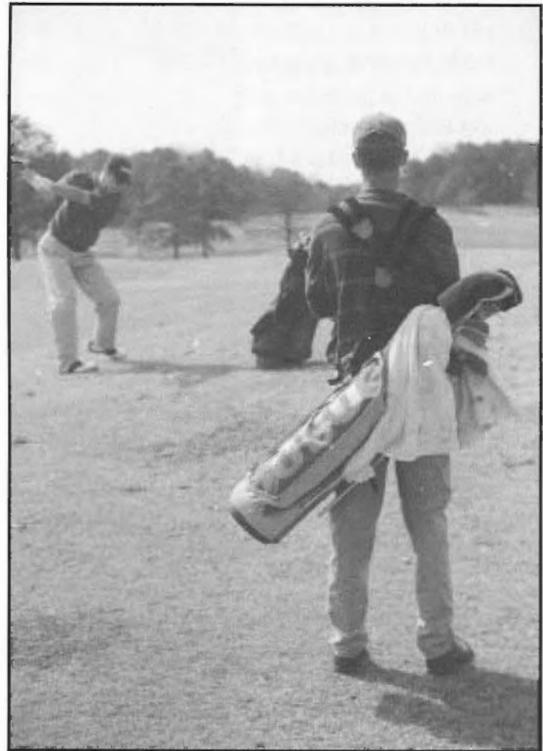


**teed off**

Sophomore Jeremy Wessels tees off during practice. The team spent many hours preparing for tournaments. *photo by Travis Robertson*

**waiting and watching**

Senior Beau Bishop watches as another golfer tees off. The Tiger golf team practiced and played at the DeGray Golf Course. *photo by Travis Robertson*



**golf**  
**scoreboard**

*10th overall*

**Lone Star Conference Tournament**

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| University of Central Oklahoma     | 889 |
| Northeastern (OK) State University | 913 |
| Southwestern (OK) State University | 924 |
| Abilene Christian University       | 925 |
| Texas A&M Commerce                 | 930 |
| East Central Oklahoma University   | 933 |
| Cameron University                 | 941 |
| Harding University                 | 957 |
| West Texas A&M University          | 977 |
| Ouachita Baptist University        | 987 |

# changing

the tigers finished the season as a club  
and looked for a new season as a team

by Mark Davis

"This season is going to be a blast!" Senior Jeremy Conrad said these words as the men's soccer team took the field for its last season as a club. In the past, the team competed as a club which meant a bigger weight on each member's shoulders. Without the financial support that a varsity team receives from the university and without the widespread support by the students, the soccer team looked to make a name for themselves.

"We really have to rely on each other to get people out to our games," Conrad said. This meant the Tigers scheduled their own games, provided their own transportation and raised funds that were needed for the club.

Club members agreed that it was sometimes tough going out and playing under those conditions, but were ready to face whatever came their way and to have fun with it. "It was a little trying at times not having as much support as other teams, but we stuck together and supported one another when we were down," said senior Daniel Nipper. "Being captain of the team meant keeping a good outlook for the team and giving constant support."

Sometimes the games were long, especially the less victorious ones, but the Tigers always kept up their heads. They faced grizzly compe-

tion during the season, but were able to learn from their experience and gain a better sense of what next season would be like in a new conference. "We were challenged this year both on and off the field," said new head Coach Rod Spears.

The team looked to the following season for several changes. The main one was no longer being a club sport but a solid NCAA team sport. The Tigers looked to gain the support needed by students with the recognition of being part of the NCAA.

Along with the major change of competition in the Gulf South Conference, the Tigers gained new leadership. Spears came at the end of the spring semester to coach the varsity team. He brought the experience needed to help the team finish the year and prepare for the future. "I am excited about being apart of this first-year program," he said. "We will be young but we will not let that stop us from giving it all we've got."

Spears knew that a new program required some minor adjusting, but he was eager to help the team have a great season. "I had to come into the team and find my place with them as well as learn what they are capable of," he added.

## go for the goal!

During soccer camp, freshman Clint Blackwood takes aim to put the ball past the goalie. The camp helped prepare prospective players to be soccer coaches. *photo by Shelly Shupe*



## listen up

Senior Jeremy Conrad, freshman Luke Nipper and teammate take time to listen for instructions during practice. The club met on their own time to practice for games. *photo by Shelly Shupe*





**gotcha**

Senior Jeff Works tries to block a ball from going past him during a game. Works was a member of soccer team as well a member of the Tiger football team.  
*photo by Shelly Shupe*



## soccer scoreboard

3-15 overall LSC

|                                     |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Louisiana College                   | 8-0  |
| University of Montevallo            | 2-3  |
| Lambuth University                  | 0-5  |
| Mississippi College                 | 2-1  |
| University of North Alabama         | 0-8  |
| University of Central Arkansas      | 1-3  |
| Hendrix College                     | 0-2  |
| College of the Ozarks               | 0-4  |
| Texas A&M Commerce                  | 1-7  |
| East Central University             | 1-7  |
| Northeast Oklahoma State University | 0-11 |
| University of Central Oklahoma      | 0-9  |
| Southwest Oklahoma State University | 3-2  |
| West Texas A&M University           | 0-10 |
| University of Central Arkansas      | 0-1  |
| Harding University                  | 0-3  |
| Midwestern State University         | 0-5  |
| Angelo State University             | 0-4  |

### the struggle

Freshman Kara Ketner struggles with her opponent, trying to get the ball while teammate junior Mary Frank comes to assists. Teammates bonded on and off the field, enabling them to work better as a team. *photo by Ben Baxter*



### the team

*front row:* Morgan Montgomery, Christina Overton, *second row:* Jenny Hearon, Amber Angell, Kara Ketner, Ndebele, Jessica Simmons, Faith Hannah, Rachel Burgess, Carla Seymour, Jenny Medlin, *third row:* Jeremy Conn, Wendy Porter, Leslie Lafferty, Cindy Gwekwerere, Mary Frank, Lisa Musick, Angela Garcia, Jenny Gable, Rachel Sping, Rachel Payne, Isaac Mwase

# foundation

university students offered a warm welcome to the first-ever women's varsity soccer team

by Laura Tharel

**W**e are the foundation" was the basis for the Lady Tigers soccer team in its inaugural season. Although the girls had high expectations, they were not disappointed with their 3-15 record. "We always kept in mind that we were a very young team. We learned a lot of first-year stuff that we could build on for years to come," said sophomore Jenny Heron.

In preparation for a varsity team, the university last year sponsored a girls soccer league to spark interest in the sport. Of all of the girls who played in the club, only six signed to play for the fall season. Head coach Dr. Isaac Mwase, who coached the club the previous year, recruited players from five states. "I was offered scholarships for different sports by colleges, so I was unsure where I wanted to play," said freshman Brooke Hudnell. "Dr. Mwase was nice and very persistent, and in the end, everything pointed to Ouachita."

The girls entered their first season filled with a variety of emotions. "At first I was nervous about playing soccer on the college level; I didn't know what to expect," said freshman Kara Ketner. "Once I got here and met Dr. Mwase and the other girls, though, I knew that it would be a fun season."

"I was very excited about playing for the team," said freshman Faith Hannah. "I was curious about the skill level of the other girls on the team, and I was anxious to see the level of competition that the other teams in the conference would offer."

The Lady Tigers opened their first season with a 8-0 win over Louisiana College. Sophomore Rachel Burgess scored the first goal, while Hannah added three goals. "I was really pumped for the first game, which turned out to be my best game of the season," said Hannah. "Pulling the hat trick was the highest point of the season for me."

Students cheered the team on to its first victory. "We went out to play our first game, expecting to see maybe 10 people there," said sophomore Jenny Medlin. "It was so exciting when 75 people showed up."

"The fans were great; they couldn't have been better. After we lost our second game, we were proud of our effort, but we were still

down," said Hannah. "A group of guys sang 'You Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman' to try to lift us up."

"Having the fans come out and support a new team that they really didn't know much about meant a lot to us," said Ketner. "They made me want to try harder, even when we were losing."

No matter the final record, most girls agreed that one of the most important aspects of the season was developing lasting friendships. "At first there was tension because of the frustrations due to our high expectations. When we finally got used to each other and the different girls' playing styles, we got beyond some barriers," said Medlin. "We had two-a-days, meetings, slumber parties, and ate together at lunch, which helped us bond as a team. Establishing this bond helped us tremendously on the field."

"This was my first year to get to play with girls who had such a Christian attitude," said Ketner. "At the end of every practice and the beginning of each game, we said our team motto, 'We play for our Savior; we play for Jesus Christ.'"

As the season progressed, the team looked for ways to stay positive through the losses. "As a team, we tried to not let the losing negatively affect us," said Heron. "It made me want to work harder."

"I wanted to go full force not matter what. I love playing soccer because it is so physical. I used it as a stress relief and a way to take out my anger on other people," said Hudnell.

"By the end of the season, I think we got used to losing. We almost expected to lose which brought down our aggressiveness and made us complacent," said Medlin.

The girls looked forward to using the skills they developed in their next season. "I'm excited about next year because we now have a firm foundation," said Hannah. "We have learned from our experiences. We will still be young, but we will know what to expect and how to prepare for games. I'm curious to see where our team will stand; plus I want to see what will happen when we play teams in the conference that we will develop rivalries with."

## foot race

Senior Rachel Spiegel races her opponent to catch the ball. The team believed that developing relationships was the most important aspect of the season. *photo by Ben Baxter*



# victorious

the tiger tennis team goes all the way to the top,  
placing third at the national tennis tournament

by Josh Moore

**M**ost people consider tennis an individual sport, but the Tiger's teamwork disproved that theory. The team rose above the competition to achieve the number one nationally ranked spot during the season for the first time in the team's history. "Our goal was simple. Always do your best, whether on the court or in the classroom," said coach Craig Ward.

Last year the Tigers finished the season ranked fifth in the nation going into nationals. They made it to the second round before losing a close game to Armstrong University from Savannah, Ga. Once again the Tigers set their sights high, with hopes of gaining the national title. With six players returning, the Tigers felt that experience would help give them confidence when entering the nationals. The Tigers ended the regular season with a near perfect record of 22-1, losing only to Oklahoma City University in a close match 5-4. "We've learned that every opponent was as important as the next," said junior Daniel Vejman. "Many of the matches were close, but we were able to work together to reach our goal, which was to win."

The team's record setting season came with many individual accomplishments as well. Vejman was ranked in the top 10 in the nation. Sophomore Raul Bermudez was ranked 20th in the nation, and Vejman and senior Martin Linkhorst were ranked third in the nation in doubles. The team was also proud of its academic excellence. Many of the players were rewarded as Academic All-Americans.

Another crucial element to the team was the

clutch performance of the three freshmen, Gilles Lagardere, Nicolas Buffon and Tjeerd Star. "Depth was crucial," Ward said. "Without our three freshmen, there was no way we could have maintained our momentum this season. Gilles was probably the best freshman we've ever had. He had a record of 22-1 for the season."

After winning the Lone Star Conference Championship, the Tigers prepared for the NCAA Tournament. Traveling to the University of West Florida, the Tiger tennis team beat Valdosta State University 5-1 to secure third place in the 2000 NCAA Division II Men's Tennis Championship Tournament in Pensacola, Fla. It was the best finish ever by a NCAA Division II team in Arkansas in the national tournament. Ward's Tigers, representing the Lone Star Conference, finished the year with their best record ever with 25 wins against only two losses.

The Tigers, who were seeded number one going into the tournament, took all three doubles against the Blazers. Vejman knocked off Christopher Napp at number one singles 6-3, 6-3 and Johan Eriksson, a junior from Forshaga, Sweden, who had battled sore knees the whole tournament dispatched Valdosta's Rasmus Larsen 7-6 (3), 7-6 (1) at number five to secure the win. Andy von Michaelis beat Buffon, at number six for the Blazers' only point at 7-5, 6-2.

Ward summarized the team and the season best. "I am extremely proud of what our team did at nationals. They played their hearts out against some excellent competition. I could not have asked for anything more."

## the team

first row: Cameron Walbert, Daniel Vejman, Tjeerd Star, Gilles Lagardere, Martin Linkhorst, Johan Eriksson; second row: Nicolas Buffon, Raul Bermudez, Andrew Morgan. photo courtesy of Tennis Team

## power

Junior Daniel Vejman slams the ball on a serve, while partner senior Martin Linkhorst stands ready to return the volley. Vejman and Linkhorst were ranked third in the nation in doubles. photo by Ben Baxter



## champs

Junior Johan Erikson, freshman Nicolas Buffon, junior Daniel Vejman, freshman Tjeerd Star, coach Craig Ward, freshman Gilles Lagardee, senior Martin Linkhorst, sophomore Raul Bermudez and junior Andrew Morgan proudly display their awards at the NCAA Championship. The team placed third at the meet. photo courtesy of Tennis Team





**speed**

Junior Daniel Vejman moves quickly to return a serve during a match in the Lone Star Conference Tournament. For another year, the Tiger tennis team captured the LSC title. *photo courtesy of Tennis Team*

**back at ya**

Junior Johan Erikson gives a quick return during finals at the NCAA tournament in Florida. The team took third place in the finals during the four-day tournament. *photo courtesy of Tennis Team*



**tennis scoreboard**

22-1 overall, 3rd NCAA,

1st Lone Star Conference Division II

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Southwest Baptist University            | 9-0 |
| Delta State University                  | 9-0 |
| Drury College                           | 5-2 |
| Oklahoma Christian University           | 8-1 |
| <b>Elite Eight Tournament</b>           |     |
| Oklahoma City University                | 5-4 |
| University of Central Oklahoma          | 9-0 |
| Tyler Junior College                    | 5-1 |
| Rockhurst University                    | 9-0 |
| NE Oklahoma State University            | 8-1 |
| Harding University                      | 9-0 |
| Oklahoma City University                | 4-5 |
| Henderson State University              | 9-0 |
| University of West Florida              | 5-4 |
| Valdosta State University               | 5-3 |
| Eckerd University                       | 6-3 |
| Florida Southern College                | 7-2 |
| <b>Bronco Invitational Tournament</b>   |     |
| Southwest Baptist University            | 5-1 |
| Minnesota Duluth                        | 5-0 |
| West Texas A&M University               | 5-1 |
| Ferris State University                 | 5-1 |
| Northwood University                    | 5-1 |
| <b>Lone Star Conference Tournament</b>  |     |
| NE Oklahoma State University            | 5-0 |
| Abilene Christian University            | 6-0 |
| Midwestern State University             | 5-1 |
| <b>NCAA Regional Championships</b>      |     |
| University of Colorado-Colorado Springs | 5-0 |
| Abilene Christian University            | 5-1 |
| <b>NCAA Finals</b>                      |     |
| Anderson University                     | 5-0 |
| University of West Florida              | 5-4 |
| Lander University                       | 1-5 |
| Valdosta State University               | 5-2 |



# endurance

overcoming the previous season, the lady tiger tennis team faced a year of adversity

**A**fter last season's short comings, the Lady Tiger tennis team looked to better themselves both individually and as a whole. With only two returning players, the Lady Tigers hoped to bring new talent to the team.

The returning team members, seniors Betsy and Christy Henry, looked to build upon their skills from the previous three years, while Coach Betsy Danner added four new faces to the team roster. New members were freshmen Sylvia Sieval, Hanneke Rothbart, Gennan Houston and Katinka Trabant. Danner said the new talent would "help show a strong showing during the year."

Danner was impressed by the endurance of the team. "This group of women over came a tough schedule and was able to be victorious."

She also felt the leadership with the team was another the reason the team played well together. Betsy and Christy were looked upon as the team leaders. Houston felt the two siblings were at the cornerstone of the team's foundation. "Whenever it seemed liked we were down and out Christy and Betsy would help pull the team back together," she said.

With the strong leadership in place, the Lady Tigers began their season by posting wins over the Hendrix College Lady Warriors and over Centenary College. They split matches losing to Oklahoma Christian University. In the following weeks, the Lady Tigers challenged Delta State University at home and Mississippi University. They two teams edged out the Lady Tigers, Delta State 1-8, Mississippi 3-6. However, the Lady Tigers pulled off an impressive win over the University of Central Arkansas

Lady Bears.

by Mark Davis

Halfway through the season, the Lady Tigers surpassed the previous year's record of 1-14 overall posting a 5-3 record. "This season was really a good year to compete," said Betsy Henry. "The competition was there and we were together as a team."

The Lady Tigers were full of surprise along the way. They compiled a 4-1 record in their next three competitions, which brought their record to 8-4. Sieval said that it was a good feeling to know that they could win on the road like that. "We were traveling a lot and we thought it might get our game off but we showed that it didn't," she said. "We faced some very strong competition and came away with several wins."

The Lady Tigers were left with one other battle, The Battle of the Ravine. They faced the Henderson State University Lady Reddies. Using the strength and emotions of their previous wins, the Lady Tigers traveled across Highway 7 to defeat the Lady Reddies. Rothbart walked away with a straight winning set. "This was such a huge win not only for myself, but for the team," she said. Danner added, "It says a lot about the team the way they came out and played against Henderson."

Going back on the road, the team faced stiff competition at the University of Central Oklahoma Bronco Invitational. They struggled early during the competition, but came away with a 3-2 record. Bringing a close to their season, the Lady Tigers came away with a 12-6 record. "The team worked hard and overcame the adversity to give them a season to remember," said Danner.

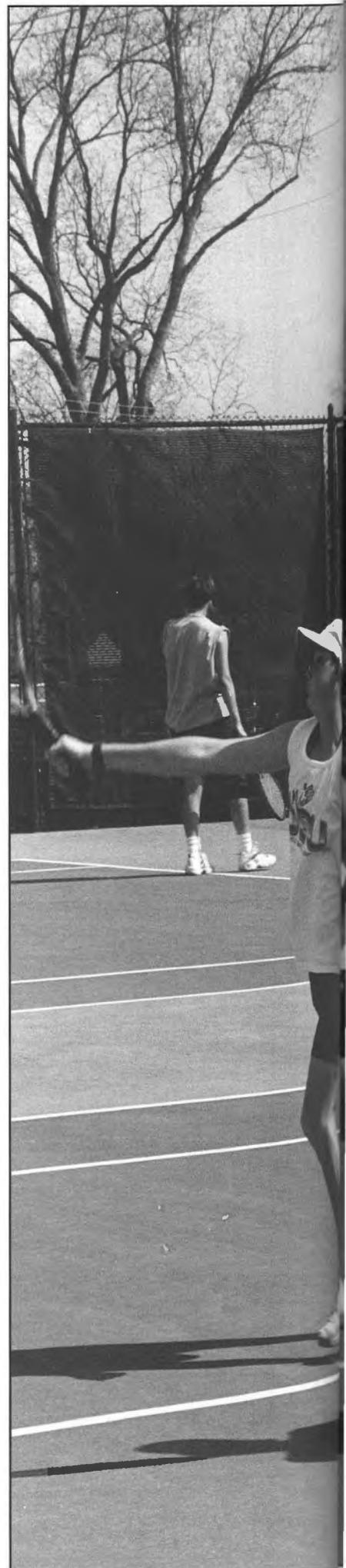


## the team

front row: Sylvia Sieval, Betsy Henry, Katinka Trabant  
second row: Hanneke Rothbart, Christy Henry, Gennan Houston. photo by Ben Baxter

## double trouble

Seniors Betsy and Christy Henry double up during a tournament to take on the competition. Both Christy and Betsy helped lead the Lady Tigers in doubles. photo by Ben Baxter





**match point**

Freshman Gennan Houston throws the ball in the air to vault it to the other side of the court. *photo by Ben Baxter*

**game position**

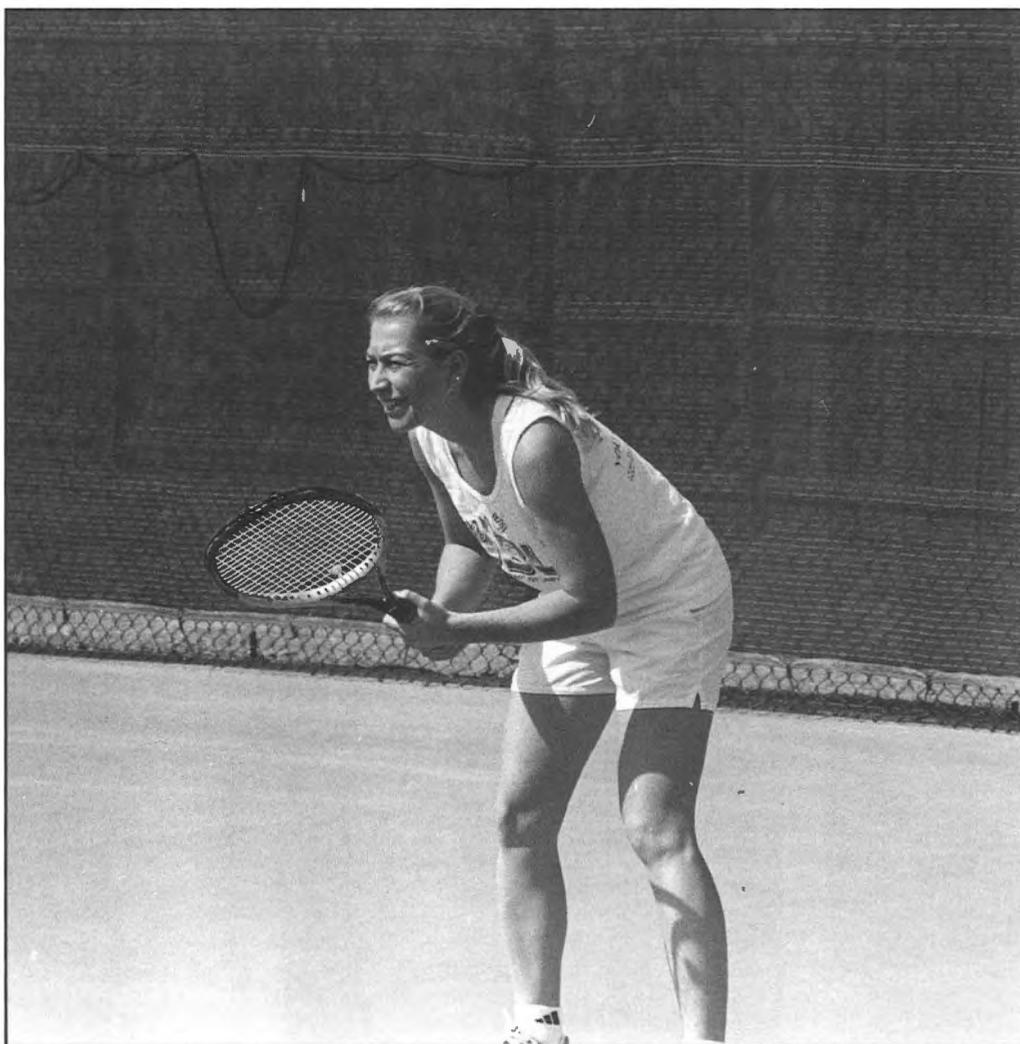
Freshman Katinka Trabant stands ready, waiting for her opponent to put the ball on her side of the court. The team played singles and doubles, but all relied on each other for the win. *photo by Ben Baxter*



**tennis**  
**scoreboard**

*12-6 overall LSC*

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Hendrix College                  | 7-2      |
| Oklahoma Christian University    | 0-9      |
| Centenary College                | 8-1      |
| Delta State University           | 1-8      |
| Mississippi University for Women | 3-6      |
| University of Central Arkansas   | 7-2      |
| Harding University               | 5-4      |
| Henderson State University       | 8-1      |
| Copiah-Lincoln Community College | 9-0      |
| Portland State University        | 8-1      |
| Eckerd College                   | 4-2      |
| Valdosta State University        | 1-8      |
| Eckerd College                   | 4-2      |
| Harding University               | 7-2      |
| Bronco Invitational              | 3-2      |
| Lone Star Conference Tournament  | 5-0, 1-5 |



# big band

with a swing in their step, the marching band entertained the halftime crowd with the sounds of Duke Ellington

by Amanda Perkins

The fever of swing music swept its way back to the hearts of music lovers, and the Ouachita Marching Band caught it.

It was Homecoming Day and the Ouachita Tigers were battling against the Harding Bisons. As the second quarter ended, Ouachita students, alumni, and fans awaited the performance of Marching Band. As the band marched out on to the field, a new sound fell upon the ears of the listeners.

Under the leadership of Dr. Craig Hamilton, the marching band paid a tribute to Duke Ellington's 100th birthday by playing the famous swing song, "It don't Mean a Thing if it Ain't Got That Swing." This added another dimension to the conventional style of the Marching Band.

Not only did the swing performance include the band, the majorettes and the flag line, but an ensemble of eight swing dancers directed by graduate Jennifer Redmond also made a debut.

"Dr. Hamilton knew that I love to swing dance, so he called me and asked me to find some other students to help contribute to the show," Redmond said. "We practiced Friday afternoon and then on Saturday morning before the show,

and I've never had anyone comment on any other thing I've done while at Ouachita. Everyone seemed to really love it."

Not only did the band march at all home football games, they marched in two different contests as an exhibition group. This allowed other schools to see the band's hard work and also served as a recruiting tool.

"We weren't judged at these contests because it's simply an exhibition, but it gave us a chance to perform in front of other bands, and we had a lot of fun," Hamilton said.

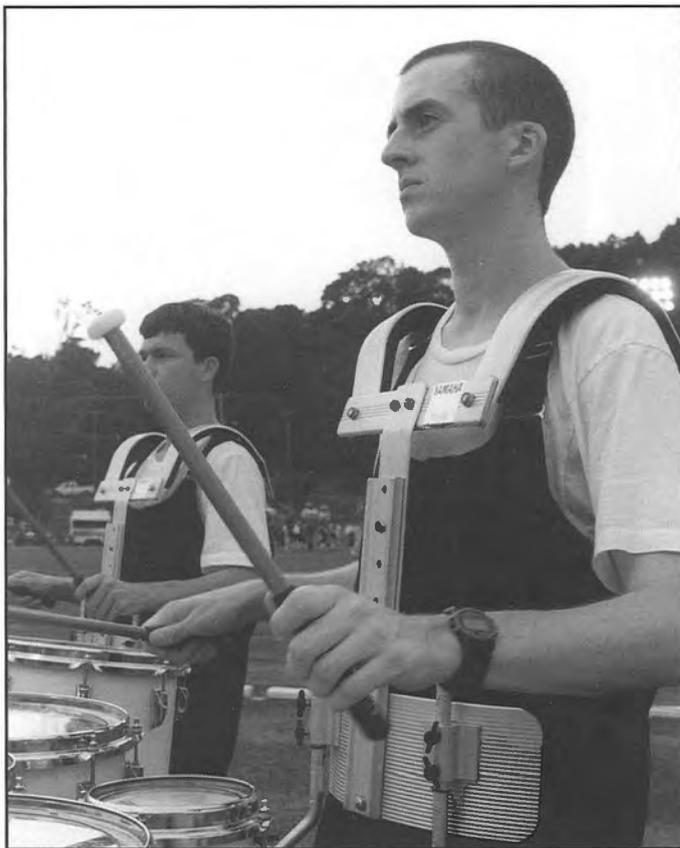
Freshman Jared Smith said, "Band gave me the opportunity to further my music ability from the high school level."

Much hard work and perseverance went into each performance. The band practiced four days a week to help perfect the show. During weeks of a home game, they also practiced on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

"The Ouachita Marching Band did a great job this season by giving performances that the fans will never forget," said Hamilton. "Folks in the band work real hard and are really proud of what they do," he said. "I am very proud of them."

## percussion

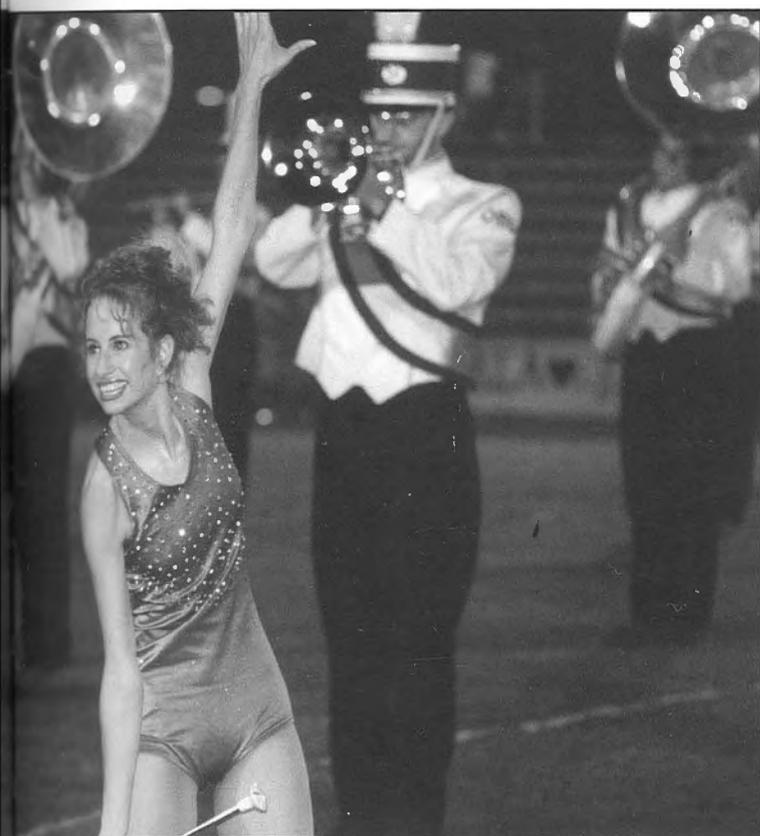
Sophomore Mason Atkinson and freshman Jason Rana play the quints at the home football contest against Henderson State. The percussion section set up on the track, facing the rest of the band and the crowd. *photo by Tim Harrell*



## showtime

Senior twirler Melanie Ross smiles and strikes a pose for the grand finale. The Marching Band adopted the popular swing theme and performed several Duke Ellington numbers at halftime. *photo by Tim Harrell*





#### motivation

Freshman Jennifer Gable and sophomore Shannon Starks perform "The Eye of The Tiger." The football team made a special request for this song to be played at every home game. *photo by Tim Harrell*

#### leadership

Sophomore drum majorette Tiffany Key conducts the marching band at halftime as a full house looks on from the grandstands. This was Key's first season on the platform. *photo by Tim Harrell*

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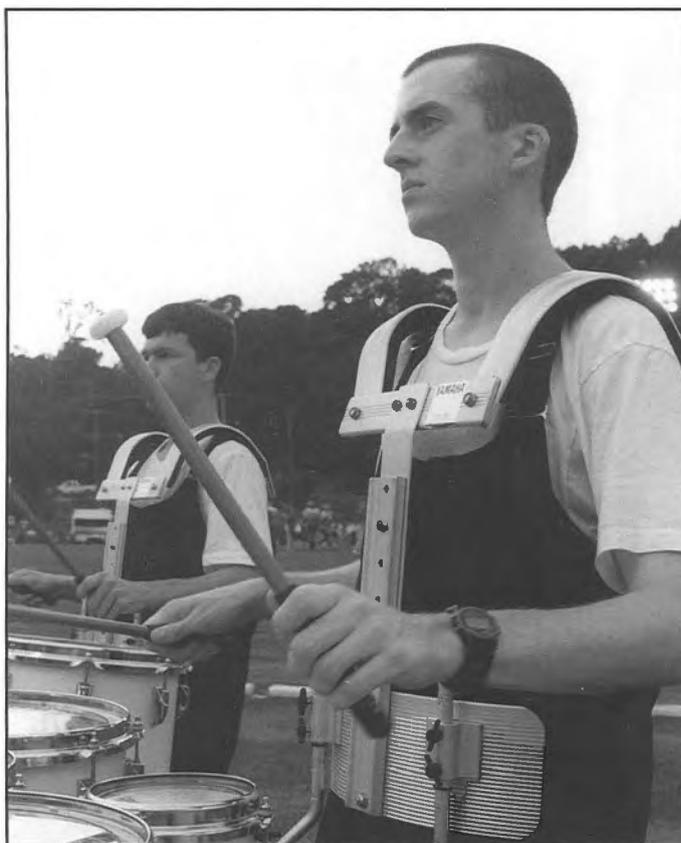
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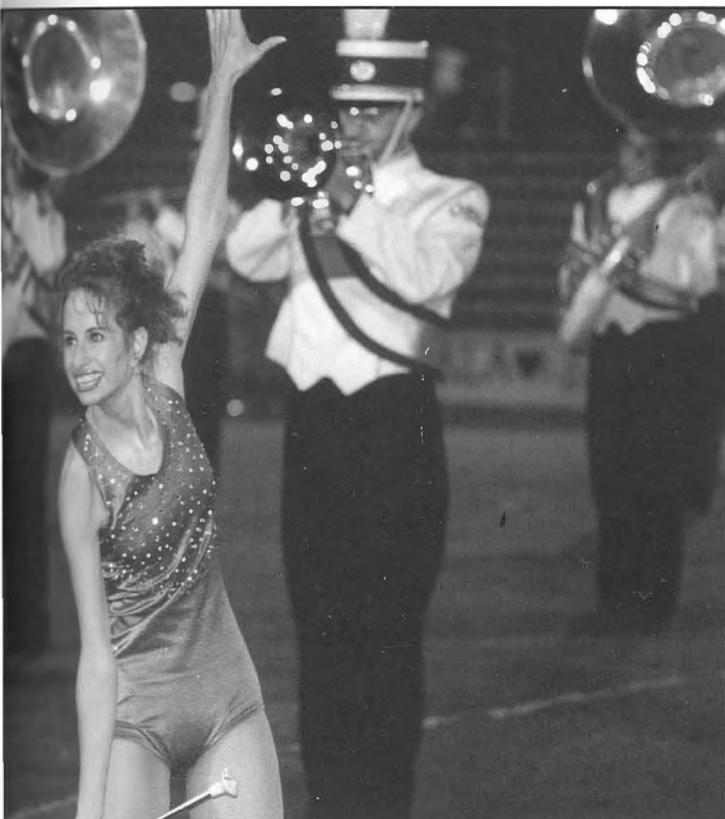
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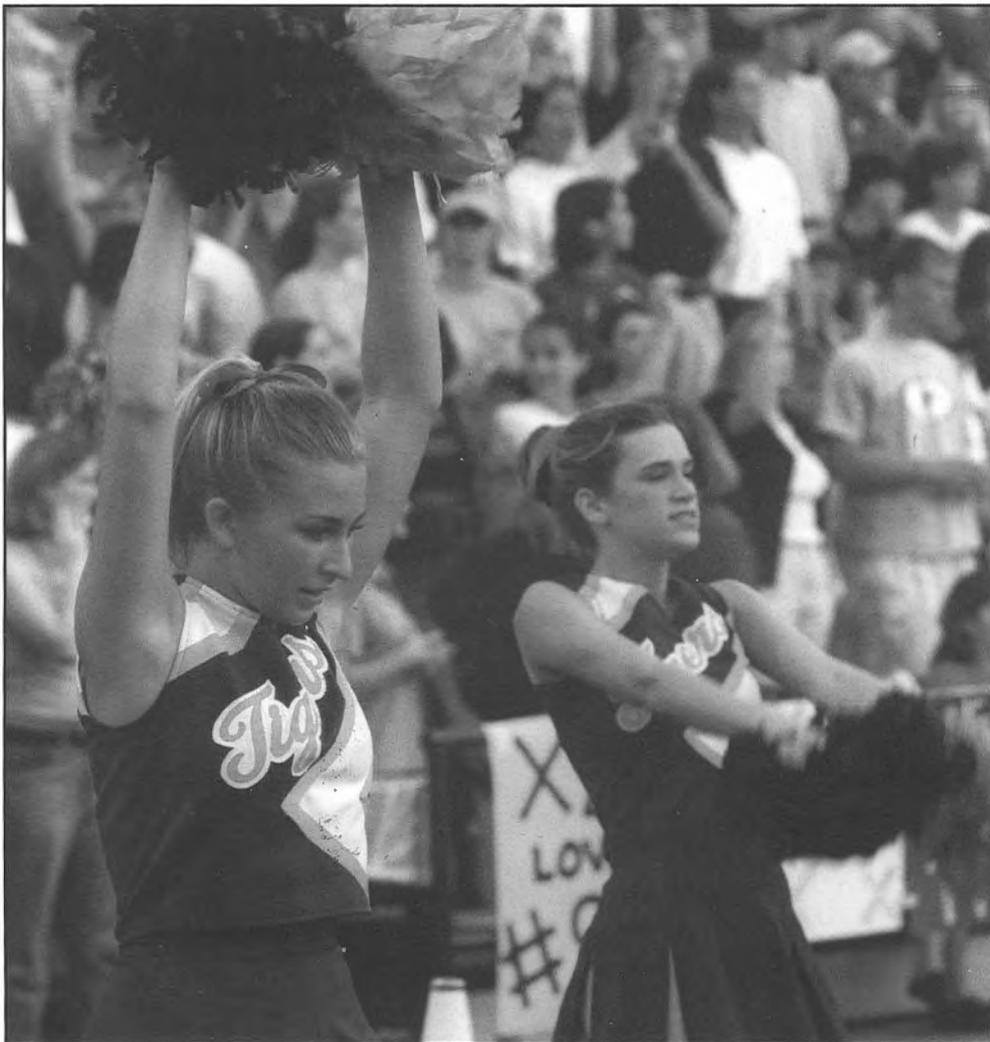
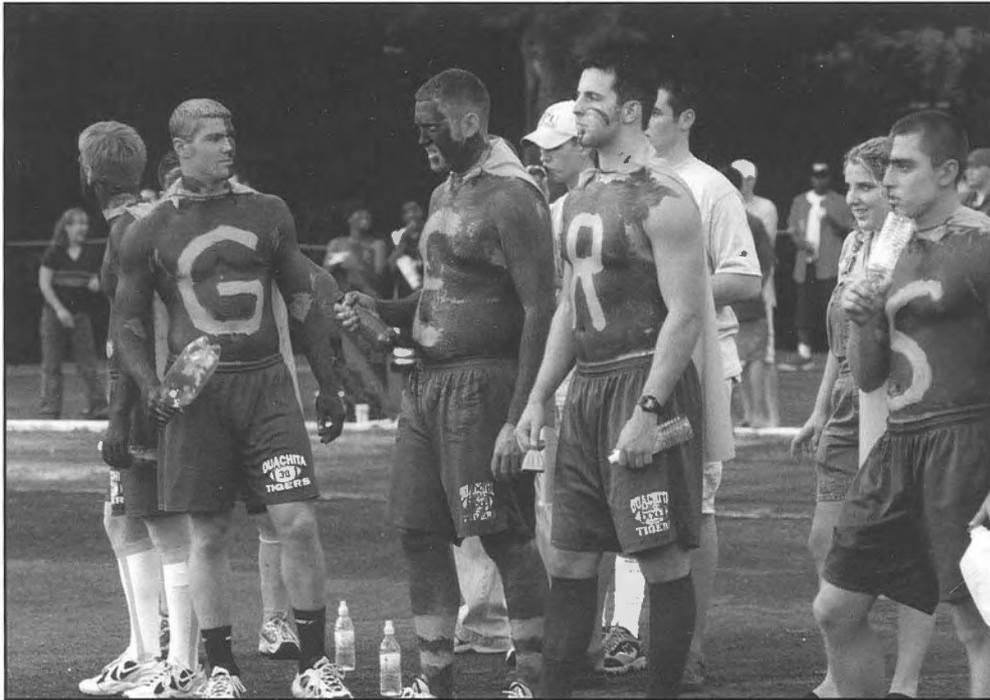


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Freshman Jennifer Gable and sophomore Shannon Starks perform "The Eye of The Tiger." The football team made a special request for this song to be played at every home game. *photo by Tim Harrell*

#### leadership

Sophomore drum majorette Tiffany Key conducts the marching band at halftime as a full house looks on from the grandstands. This was Key's first season on the platform. *photo by Tim Harrell*



### diehard fans

Sophomores Brett Albright (T), Joel Harding (I), Joshua Quinn (G), Brandon Berry (E), Cody Cates (R) and Cody Malone (S) stand spirited and painted on the track at the football game against Henderson State. Students pulled out all the stops to show their support for the Tigers. *photo courtesy of Photo Lab*

### school spirit

Freshmen cheerleaders Jo Anna Judd and Mindy Graves cheer for the Tiger football team in front of a capacity crowd. They led an excited and lively multitude of students, faculty and community members throughout the Battle of the Ravine. *photo courtesy of Photo Lab*

# fired up

students found a fresh faith in the home team, going to great lengths to show their support

by Gary Miller

**S**tanding on the field, gathered with his other teammates, he waited for the signal. With a huddle and victory on three, he turned and lead the team toward the towering white sheet. At full speed the team broke through the sign, supported by the human ladder.

This human pyramid consisted of students supporting the Tiger football team at each home game. They gathered on the sidelines to help 'pump up' team members for the game. "Supporting the team was just as important as the game itself," said senior Michael Watson. "Showing spirit let the team know that we were behind them 100 percent."

This was one of many ways students showed school spirit. The men of Rho Sigma helped at every home game. Club members gathered the night before the game, painting a break-away sign for the team to run through. This was a tradition that the reestablished club has continued to do in support of the team. "The signs were good morale for the team and usually gave the crowd a good laugh," said junior Matt Burns.

Throughout the game, members of Rho Sigma stood continuously with cow bells in hand. They men of Chi Iota Sigma stood along with them with can shakers and signs of support. "We all got together and painted Coke cans green and put rocks in them," said senior Patrick Hicks. "We also made a sign; one part was the letter 'D' and the other part was a cutout of a fence. Most of the team enjoyed that one."

While in the stands making noise, the men of Sigma Alpha Sigma gather at the end zone with their Civil War cannon. Banned by NCAA rules, the Ss only used the cannon at the first non-conference game against Henderson State. Members also painted themselves blue and ran along the track, in hopes of leading the crowd in cheering for the Tigers. "Running around painted and half-clothed was part of the fun," said junior Ray Miller. "The cannon really surprised the crowd, not us."

Other students not in clubs painted themselves in support of the team. Using purple and gold, they too wore only shorts and painted the rest of their bodies. Standing along the sides,

the six men spelled Tigers using the letter painted boldly on their bodies.

Watching were members of the cheerleading squad. They, too, helped lead in cheers. With two males on the squad, the group was able to perform more difficult stunts to help engage the crowd. "It was great having the two guys," said sophomore Alicia Ritter. "They helped in tosses and their voices carried into the stands a lot better than ours could."

The Tigers not only heard but saw signs of spirit. Many of the women social clubs hung posters and banners along the stand and time clock. The women of EEE used Styrofoam cups and spelled out "EEE loves the Tigers" in the chain-link fence.

Adding in the sound was the Tiger band. Playing pop tunes and small clips of music, the band helped liven the games and allowed the crowd to have fun. "The band always helped lighten the game and made them fun," said junior Leah Bushy. "The songs gave us something to dance to."

The football games weren't the only places to see signs of spirit. Students attending basketball games cheered for the Tigers and Lady Tigers. At the Lady Tigers basketball playoff game, members of the football team came dressed in their jerseys in support of team. The women social clubs continued to make signs supporting the team and their favorite player.

Other indications of spirit were shoe polishing cars. Members of the Campus Activities Board volunteered an afternoon during Battle of the Ravine, the game against Henderson, to adorn students' cars with Tiger pride. "Shoe polishing was a fun deal," said junior Allison Kemmer. "We figured what better way to show school pride than on your car. That way, everyone knew who you were going for."

At a school where some say spirit is dead, students proved that statement was untrue. "As a student body, we support the teams of the campus through attending the games and yelling our guts out regardless of the score," senior Andy Scott said.

## touchdown

Seniors Ronald Glass and Jay Davis stand in triumph for a Tiger touchdown at the Battle of the Ravine. Club members often made up various types of noise makers and stood together during the games to show their support. *photo by Myles Wertz*

## fair play

The men of Rho Sigma raise a banner before the football game against the Reddies. The sign was a reaction to the video recording of a Tiger football practice allegedly by a Henderson football coach. *photo courtesy of Photo Lab*



### calling out

Senior Ryan Hillman uses his duck caller to attract fowl in the area. Many students spent entire weekends duck hunting or went early in the morning hours before classes. *photo by Brad Johnson*

### going up

Sophomore David Nelson takes his try at rock climbing. Known as an extreme sport, mountain climbing required thrill seekers to brave higher altitudes and risk the dangers of falling. *photo by Brad Johnson*



### scenic view

Senior Nancy Swanigan and junior Josh Mayfield take in the mountain top air. Spending time outside gave students a chance to get away from the stress of school and take in the scenes of nature.

### crawl

While doing some outdoor climbing, junior Matt Costner makes sure he has a steady grip before making his next move. Costner spent many weekends enjoying the outdoors. *photo by Brad Johnson*



# outdoors

hunting, fishing, mountain climbing and biking  
provided students time for rest and relaxation

by Peggy Itchner

**A**s a 13-year-old boy, somewhat experienced as a hunter but not completely confident, he roamed through the woods. His eyes were peeled for deer, searching through the darkness of the early morning. Suddenly, a rustling sound came from behind him and he stood still. A group of four deer stood at arm's length from him, staring him in the eyes for more than a minute before casually going around him and continuing on their way.

This amazing sight was reality for junior Josh Mayfield. "It was so exciting to be that close," he said. "Most people will never know the beauty of that experience." Besides deer hunting, Mayfield also enjoyed bear hunting, fly fishing and camping with whatever necessities in which he could fit on his motorcycle.

Many students participated in sports and activities in which they could enjoy the great outdoors. Hunting was a popular past time for college students, especially in Arkansas. The stereotypical idea of hunting was to search for deer in hopes of killing off an innocent animal for a meal. However, students didn't go hunting to kill animals. "Going hunting gave me a chance to relax and get away from the stress of everyday life," said senior Frank Vaughn. "I was able to bond with a friend I hadn't seen in a long time and enjoy God and nature."

Many times viewed as wrong, immoral and cruel to animals, hunters described the sport as a necessary method of animal population control. Junior David Jackson said, "If you don't do it, the population of animals gets too big. That's the problem currently. That's why so many people are hitting deer while driving."

Most hunters had influences that brought them to the sport. Family and friends usually played a vital role in whether someone participated in hunting and the sport often allowed opportunities for togetherness. "My dad took

me hunting quite a bit when I was younger," Jackson said. "I remember going since the age of three."

Mayfield agreed with Jackson that family outings encouraged his interest in outdoor activities. "Some of my earliest memories were fishing trips with my dad and grandfather," he said. "They were both good woodsmen. By spending time with them, I learned to see the outdoors in a different light."

Hunting wasn't the only popular sport students enjoyed in their leisure time. Junior Brandon Carter found excitement in repelling off mountains. Repelling allowed partners to help each other climb a mountain with the use of ropes and a harness. "I do it for the adrenaline rush," Carter said. "Looking down while hanging off the side of a mountain was an awesome feeling!"

Senior Monty Ray spent much of his leisure time rock climbing and backpacking. Ray grew up spending time outdoors, but was introduced to rock climbing by a friend. Ray loved the adventure of making it to the top of the rock and looking down to see how far he'd come. "I find a rush in the struggles of overcoming the rock," he said. "It's also amazing to go out and see God's creation because it's really a different world out there."

Outdoor leisure sports were an excellent source of relaxation and a different way to spend time with friends while enjoying the outdoors. Students found accomplishment and adventure when they ventured to try new things in nature or gained a rush by experiencing a new thrill. Mayfield added, "I learned the difference between solitude and loneliness. Solitude is wonderful. It's easier to pick up on what God is saying and there's an opportunity to see wonderful things most people will never know exists."

