

## student life

In August, students, gathered for the campus activities board luau.

Returning students, faculty and staff awaited the completion of Ouachita Commons, while new students watched to see what college had in store for them. From Tiger Tunes to community projects, students juggled their classes with their social life. Everyday events proved to be a challenge, a time of enjoyment and something to do when not in class – events that set the heart, mind and soul in motion. *photo by T. Robertson*





During Spotlight on Arkadelphia, junior Kyle Proctor fills out information for a drawing. Spotlight provided students to view businesses in and around Arkadelphia. *photo by B. Baxter*



Students participated in an on-going tradition of guarding the Tiger. This activity allowed students to hang out and carry on the tradition during the Battle of the Ravine. *photo by R. Kibbe*



traditions help in

# KEEPING LEGACIES

by laura norris

Traditions are classified as a way of doing things and sticking with it. Traditions have become a way of life, an intricate part of the workings of the campus. What exactly would the school be without the social club banners hanging from McClelland or the tailless tiger occasionally being painted. Most of the oldest traditions have interesting stories of how they came about.

About 50 years ago, one of the more fun traditions was started by a group of girls who wanted to go out on dates. This was the beginning of TWIRP, or the woman is required to pay. In 1949, the first "Sadie Hawkins Day" allowed girls to ask boys for a date. Even though there were strict rules concerning dating, the event was allowed. It was so popular that it led to an entire week of role reversals.

Traditions that surround the Battle of the Ravine have always added to the mystique of the Ouachita experience. The marble tiger became the traditional symbol of the Ouachita spirit in 1935. "Guarding the Tiger" was first born in those early years when the students draped a large canvas over the Tiger to keep vandals away.

Pranks played a role on the Battle of the Ravine tradi-

tions. One year, the campus was bombed by marshmallows from a Henderson airplane. Talk about a sticky situation! In the 1950s, a homecoming queen was held hostage in Hot Springs for several days before the infamous football game. Although she knew she was in no danger, the incident heightened anger between the two schools. These adventures have lessened over the years.

One of the newer traditions, and possibly the most entertaining, was Tiger Tunes. In 1979, the Ouachita Student Foundation began a small musical show involving group competition. The first Tunes took place in Mitchell Hall for only one night. The clubs were judged on their performance, and the Baptist Student Union came out on top with a grand prize of \$250. A few of the unique theme ideas were the Chi Delta's "Return to Sender" where they were dressed as stamps, and Beta Beta's capturing the essence of 70's television in "Don't Touch that Dial."

Knowing about the past was very important. Students needed to learn about these traditions to pass them along to the new Ouachitonians. It was interesting to see how things were in the past and to see how the University has evolved into what it is now.



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Rho Sigma seniors Kyle Spooner, Christopher Jayroe, Trent Smith, Ronald Glass cheer on the Tigers at the Battle of Ravine. The "Red Shirts" carried on the tradition of being spirit leaders on campus. *photo by T. Robertson*

Senior Alan Bagley moves and grooves at 50's Night, sponsored by EEE. Students put on white shirts and poodle skirts as they enjoyed coke floats and rock-n-roll. *photo by K. Hare*



"Marrin' Sam" pronounces seniors Nathan Hawkins and Elise O'Brien as husband and wife. During Gamma Phi Sadie Hawkins, couples enjoyed old-fashioned hick games. *photo by R. Kibbe*



twirp week brings hope of a

# POSITIVE RESPONSE

by charity bennett

Picking up the phone, she watched her hand shake. She thought to herself, they've known each other for a year now, she should be able to do this. She slowly took a deep breath and let it out. She reached and picked up the phone. Taking another deep breath she slowly pushed the four on-campus numbers. She listened to it ring three, four times. Oh no, the answering machine. Should she hang up, should she leave a message? It was too late, there's the beep. "Ugh... Hey it's me, just wanted to see what's up. Ugh... I guess I'll talk to you later." As she placed the phone back on the receiver she felt her nervousness start to fade and then it quickly flared back again when she realized that she had to repeat the whole process again. She felt a little twang of guilt when she remembered how guys had to go through this anxiety every time they want to ask out a girl. They also have to go through this all year long, not just one special week at Ouachita called Twirp week.

TWIRP-The Woman Is Required to Pay-was a week filled with campus organization sponsored events. The week began with Campus Activity Board (CAB) sponsored Movie night. This year's movie selection was "Return to Me." Students filled the Tiger Den dressed in their pajama fashions.

Monday night was a hee hawin' good time with the Baptist Student Union Barn Bash. This gave the students a great meal and a hilarious show by senior Garth Lombard and juniors Adam Langley and B.J. Kyle. "My favorite part of Barn Bash was my date Nathan Smith," freshman Jill Abernathy said. "He was so much fun. He didn't mind that I couldn't play in

the games because of my broken arm."

Planet Ouachita was a "Hollywood" experience where all the stars showed up on campus for some Coke, popcorn, and a skit-filled night. Tri Chi sponsored the night for all the Ouachita couples dressed as Hollywood stars to sit around, relax, and enjoy some outrageous comedy.

Wednesday night the EEEs sponsored a flashback of poodle skirted girls and tight-rolled jeans boys, to sport the 50's outfits. "The skits were funny," said sophomore Matt Bell, "I had a good time."

Harvest Moon was an elegant night that was held at the DeGray Lake Lodge. Chi Delta sponsored the annual dinner and dance. It was a night that girls dressed in formals and guys dressed in suits and ties. "It was so much fun. I had never been before so it was a new experience for me. My husband and I went with a group of friends and we had a great time," said senior Lisa Wiley.

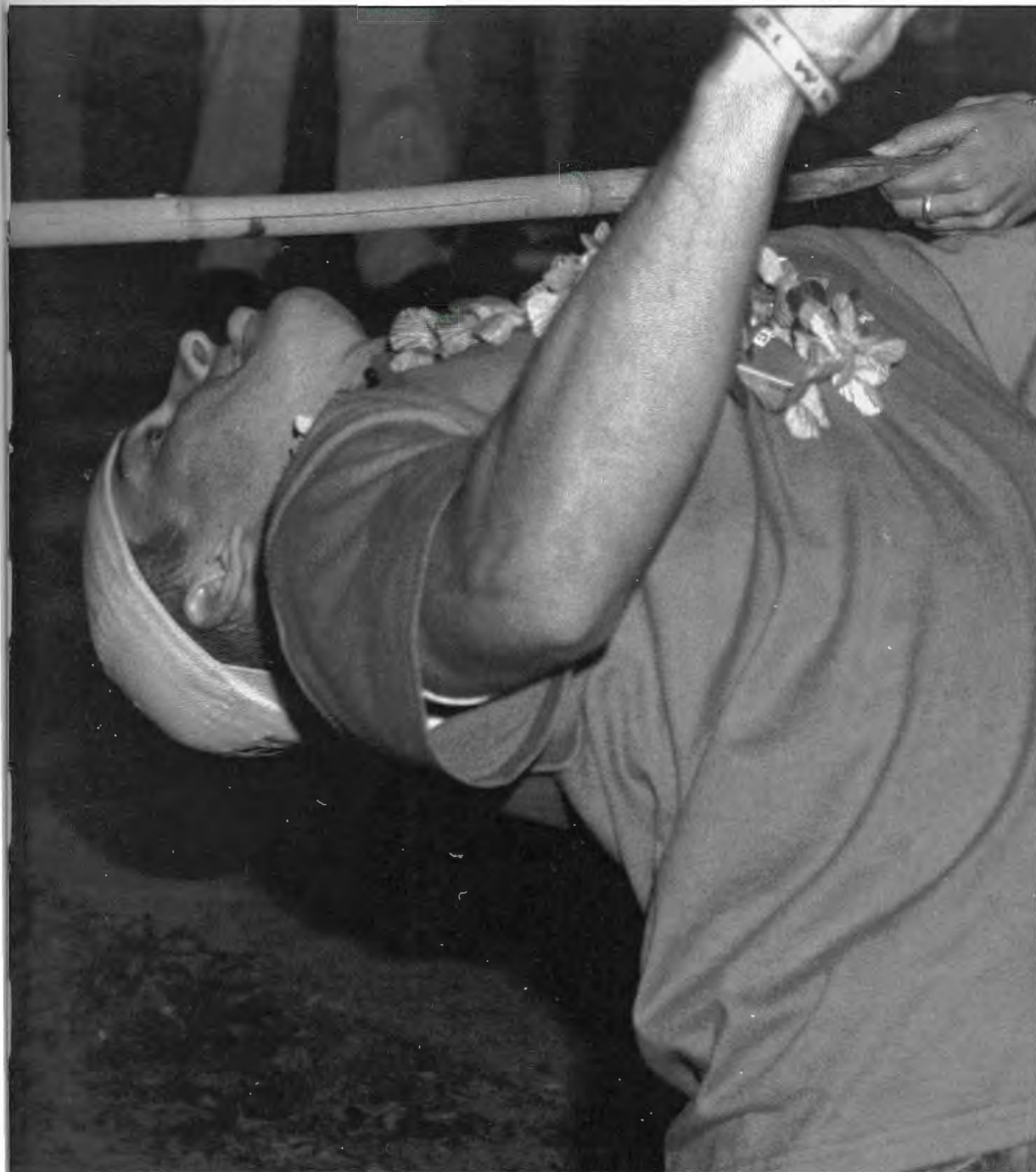
Sadie Hawkins, sponsored by Gamma Phi, was a night of fun-filled games with a carnival atmosphere. Students dressed in their favorite hick outfits and got hitched and played games, such as pin the tale on the donkey.

TWIRP continued after the Saturday football game Hawaiian-dressed students joined the ladies of Chi Rho Phi for an Aloha Luau. Everyone who attended learned how to hula.

TWIRP Week meant silly costumes, good food, funny skits, and an inexpensive date. It was a tradition that would be around for years to come.



Enjoying dinner with friends at Harvest Moon, senior Justin Franz listens to across-the-table conversation. After dinner, students continued the evening with dancing. The event was held at Lake DeGray Lodge. *photo by M. Doom*



Freshman Nathan Tuckfield get downs as he tries his luck at limbo. Hula Night was sponsored by Chi Rho Phi and gave students a chance to unwind in a tropical setting. *photo by B. Chandler*

Campus Activities Board Luau, senior Rick Dildine gives an Hawaiian welcome to freshman Katie Robertson. The luau allowed new students to meet other freshmen and upperclassmen. *photo by B. Baxter*



Grovin' to the beat, junior Robert Hand, senior Clayton Danner, and juniors Sean Michel and Joey Gordy entertain the crowds on the drums. Upperclassmen hosted a variety of events to allow new students to mix and mingle. *photo by T. Robertson*



## new students find activities for

# GETTING STARTED

by gary miller

It all began in late July. The trip to Wal-Mart to find matching bed spreads, matching towels and even matching curtains, all for the dorm room at college. Many students faced this scenario when coming to college. They wanted the college life to have some similarity to home, but the distance of being out on their own. In order to help students make that transition, several groups on campus held various events to ensure that new students felt welcome. "As I pulled into the main entrance of Ouachita, my heart pounded slightly and my nerves rattled," said freshman Sarah Huckabee. "Fortunately when we pulled into the parking lot, we were met by several students, all smiling and wanting to help me unpack."

Upperclassmen participating in Welcome to Ouachita's World (WOW) assisted new students as they moved into the dorm. This made them feel more at ease about leaving home and let them meet a few people before classes began. "I was glad to have help, especially with all the stuff I had," Huckabee added.

During WOW, new students met together in "family groups" and learned the basics of college life. This included not carrying a purse for the ladies, not referring to the cafeteria as Burkett Williams Hall and playing in the aisles of Super Wal-Mart at 2:00 in the morning. This information was passed on by sophomore, junior and senior

WOW leaders, usually consisting of one male and one female per family group.

New students and upperclassmen began another school year with several other events to help break the ice. Spotlight on Arkadelphia allowed all students to see what area churches and businesses were in and around Arkadelphia. "I honestly only went to Spotlight for the free stuff, but ended up learning about the town," said freshman Cameron Connell.

In a display of talent, the Baptist Student Union sponsored the New Student Variety Show. Upperclassmen hosted the show as new students sang, danced and performed stupid human tricks for other students. What was a nerve-racking experience for some students, those who participated found the show to be enjoyable. "It's a good way to get to know the freshmen and their talents early on in the year," junior Jennifer Smith said.

Other activities for freshmen were TWIRP Week, Battle of the Ravine and Guard the Tiger. Each of these allowed new students to become more involved on campus and participate in Ouachita traditions.

Living, laughing and loving were three words that could sum up what new students experienced as they participated in different campus events. Feeling welcome was the main concern for the new students as they entered a time of change and challenges.



**F**reshman Marie Bryant displays her talent during the New Student Variety Show. Hosted by the Baptist Student Union, new students entertained freshmen and upperclassmen with a special or unusual talent. *photo by B. Baxter*



The men of Kappa Chi strike up a tune as Bowlers during Tiger Tunes. A three-night event, Tunes ended the Homecoming weekend on Saturday evening. *photo by T. Robertson*



**Tiger Tennis**  
Coach Craig Ward returns a serve during the Homecoming tennis tournament held at Heflin Tennis Courts. The game celebrated Ward's 10 years of tennis at Ouachita. *photo by T. Robertson*



**Junior Marcus Freeman** watches as a fellow teammate tackles an opponent from UWA. The Ouachita Tigers were edged out by the West Alabama Tigers in the final seconds of the game. *photo by C. Shera*

**Junior Kelly Kruger** feeds the tiger during the Homecoming game. Those attending the game were able to take pictures with the tiger, provided by the Student Senate *photo by B. Baxter*



## OLD & NEW

by jennifer crawley

A football game, class and social club reunions, tailgate parties, Tiger Tunes, a golf scramble and alumni dinner. All these equaled one thing—Homecoming.

A week of activities led up to the final sound in Jones Performing Arts Center when Tiger Tunes ended. Beginning on Tuesday, the homecoming nominees were presented in Chapel, representing different clubs and organizations on campus. As the student body voted, 1999 Homecoming queen Candace Sharp performed the love ballad "Who is that girl I see?" "I felt the song best reflected me and what I felt the moment I was crowned queen," Sharp said.

Saturday morning featured social club, department and class drop-ins. The women of EEE celebrated their 75th anniversary at First Baptist Church. This was a meaningful time for club members and alumni. They were able to share in traditions of the club and experience seven decades of sisterhood.

The Tigers hosted the University of West Alabama, but were edged out by their opponent 22-21, as over 3,300 Ouachitonians watched the narrow loss.

Tiger Tunes, sponsored by the Ouachita Student Foundation, brought Homecoming weekend to an end. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and former students gathered in JPAC to watch and support the participating clubs. The men of Kappa Chi took first place as bowlers, giving them their second consecutive grand championship. "This was the biggest crowd we'll perform to and the most students involved," said senior Emily Watts, mistress of ceremonies and OSF president. "The clubs have all worked very hard and it shows in the excitement and involvement."

The events and triumphs of the weekend proved to live up to the theme of Homecoming — "Everything old made new."

In a crowning moment, senior Kim Ward and her father react as she is announced as the 2000 Homecoming Queen. Ward was overwhelmed by the honor of becoming queen.  
*photo by B. Baxter*



*Homecoming*  
2000

Senior Heather Peeples and sophomore Brooke Honnell open the EEE show as puppets. The EEEs earned the honors of first runner up after all three nights. *photo by T. Robertson*



Members of clubs and the hosts and hostesses sing "Larger than Life" during the Tunes finale. For the finale, each club selected members to come back on stage to perform with the hosts and hostesses. *photo by B. Baxter*



## tiger tunes settles as a

# CROWD PLEASER

by kathryn stewart

Destiny's Child, Diamond Rio, The Monkeys, 'N Sync, Diana Ross, The Village People, and an array of other performers echoed throughout the auditorium. "Millennium Legends," the megamix finale of hits from the past and present, unified the audience of all ages. The lights dimmed and the music began and the auditorium buzzed with excitement as the crowd recognized familiar tunes. "All you people can't you see can't you see" was heard as the curtain rose and the hosts and hostesses approached center stage. Tiger Tunes, sponsored by the Ouachita Student Foundation, was celebrating its 22nd year with the theme "Larger Than Life." With sell-out crowds, hundreds of participants, and 17 different acts, this year's show was definitely "LARGER" than ever. "This year was one of the largest productions in the history of Tunes," said Mac Sisson, director of Tunes. "We had a sold out crowd all three nights."

Eight campus clubs and organizations participated in this year's show, performing before crowds of alumni, students, friends and family. They were judged Thursday, Friday and Saturday night in the categories of music, choreography, theme and lyric, and costume. Kappa Chi men's social club won overall with the theme of bowlers. This year marked their sixth grade prize award. The director of the Kappa show, senior Josh Moore, said, "Winning was nice, but I was glad to see the guys saw the real meaning of Tunes, and that

is to have fun." EEE women's social club entertained with a theme of marionettes entitled "Puppets at Play," taking first runner-up, followed by the Baptist Student Union Egyptians who took the spot of second runner-up. Beta Beta men's social club Trojans won third runner-up and the women of Tri Chi, masked as ants, finished as fourth runner-up with their show "Life's a Picnic." Other participants included Eta Alpha Omega as robots, Rho Sigma as prisoners, Chi Delta as cowgirls, and the crowd-pleasing men of Sigma Alpha Sigma as triangles.

A LARGE amount of hard work went into the performance of Tiger Tunes. Preparations began back in the summer months as each club director selected music, rewrote lyrics, designed costumes and created choreography. The clubs started practicing in the early days of September. Night after night countless hours of singing and dancing were put into each rehearsal, and week after week lifelong memories were made.

Since the introduction of Tiger Tunes 22 years ago, it has proved to be a favorite tradition of many at Ouachita. After the practices stop, and the curtain closed on another year, the talk of Tunes could still be heard around campus for weeks after the show. The thoughts of performing and winning will last forever, and the memories made were remembered as a LARGE part of the college experience.



Senior Jeremy Conrad is congratulated by Eta Alpha Omega member Dalton Brewer as he celebrates the Kappa Chi victory in Tunes. This was the second consecutive year that the Kappas were named grand champions. *photo by B. Baxter*



The hosts and hostesses perform an acapella version of the "Stars and Stripes Forever." Between club acts, the group performed musical numbers by N'Sync as well as ABBA. *photo by T. Robertson*

Junior Robert Hand and the Refuge Band lead the student body in praise worship. Refuge was a great place where students could praise God.  
photo by B. Baxter



## students finding

# GODLY REFUGE

by alaina huber

Standing with their hands lifted high to the sky, singing in harmony with one another for the sole purpose of bringing praise and worship to their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That was what Refuge was all about. "Refuge was a time to celebrate the worship they have had throughout the week as a body of believers," said junior Alyssa Ross.

Every Thursday night students gathered to fellowship with one another, to learn more about God and to worship Him. "It was very refreshing to spend time with other believers worshiping and praising God in the middle of a busy week," said senior Jennifer Elliff.

Refuge was led by the Baptist Student Union campus ministries. The theme verses were Psalm 91:1-2, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I will trust."

The Refuge band, "unworthy vessels for God's truth," said sophomore bass guitarist Steven McMorrان, consisted of eight students. The four seniors were Chuck Everson- keyboard and vocals, Michael Bleeker-guitar and vocals, Natalie Putman-vocals, and Garth Lombard-drums. Junior Sean Michel-percussion and Robert Hand - guitar and vocals, were both juniors. Freshman Neil Greenhaw played electric guitar. Sophomore Jeremy Jackson ran sound. Senior Kevin Rogers and sophomore Stephen Wickliffe provide the words to songs and verses with power point.

"I can remember back when I was in high school and I

came to visit OBU," Hand said. "I went to Praise and Worship (now called Refuge) and it was great to be able to worship with the students. I know the importance of praise and worship and to be able to be a part of it is a blessing. The first time the band came together we didn't know each other very well but right away there was a bond, a unity, a oneness. The band is an amazing group of people and it is such a blessing. I love it!"

Each week a message was brought to the students. Kevin Inman, the campus minister, met with the members of the band and they spent time together in prayer about the speakers for Refuge. Letting God lead their decision, they decided on a speaker.

Psalm 34:3, "Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together." Noonday was a 15 minute period every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. Students gathered to pray, sing and listen to testimonies of students or anything God led them to do. "I think it was awesome to be in God's presence with believers even if it is for only 15 minutes," said freshman Kara Haase.

The leaders of Noonday were junior Sarah Washam, and sophomores Angie Kirksey and Frank Schimunek provided the agenda for each session and lead the time in prayer and worship. Noonday provided a break out of a busy day to stop and take time to reflect on God's greatness. Senior Michael Toller said, "Students can come together and be encouraged by fellow classmates in music and thought."



**B**etween songs, senior Michael Bleeker speaks to students at Refuge. Held on Thursday nights at First Baptist Church in Arkadelphia, this time allowed students to enjoy praise and worship and hear a message from God. *photo by B. Baxter*



**G**uest speaker Barbara Schleiff speaks to students during Christian Focus Week Noon Day. This was a time in which students came together during the day to spend time with God. *photo by J. Tohlen*

During Tiger Serve Day, members of the international club are instructed about their assignment in helping clean a grave yard. Tiger Serve Day brought students together to help the community.  
photo by B. Baxter



students find a way to

# SERVE OTHERS

by meredith welsch

A deep awareness of the suffering of another coupled with the desire to relieve it. That is compassion, as defined by the *American Heritage College Dictionary*. One must have compassion in order to be truly dedicated to community service. Empathizing with others, developing sensitivity to the conditions and struggles of others, those who are less fortunate. The passion for service began with the desire to reach out to others with the love of Christ. For the students who volunteered, their time spent became more than the act of service, but a concern for someone else's needs.

The opportunities for service arose, many through the help of the Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community, which often bridged the gap between the community and the university campus. There were programs like America Reads/America Counts, which provided tutors through the public schools for children who struggled with reading and math and encouraged them. Students also served through the Transerve program. Transerve was not only a chance to get volunteer hours noted on students' university transcripts, but also it reminded them of the idea of servanthood.

Sponsored by the Elrod Center, Tiger Serve Day was a distinguishable day of service. This, what now seems like a tradition, was a chance for students to get a taste of community service by going "Into the Streets," as it was originally titled in its outset in 1997. Shortly after students returned from Christmas break, there was a special emergency Tiger Serve Day organized. An ice storm that caused power outages throughout the state of Arkansas and damaged an extensive amount of trees and left Arkadelphia in need of a massive cleaning up. Willing and com-

passionate students volunteered. Whether raking leaves, picking up tree limbs, or raising money for the Humane Society, Tiger Serve teams spread out through the city hard at work. Students met new people and built friendships through their group efforts and the time spent together. Team leader freshman Stephen Mathews said, "Not only was a great task completed for the community, but six individual students developed friendships with one another, and were able to see the positive results of helping out other people. Serving others is the best way that I can share the love of Christ."

Participants in the Baptist Student Union's Big Brother/Big Sister program gave up an afternoon each week to spend with a child from the community. Students who served as so-called siblings to Arkadelphia children were volunteers who not only sought to help others, but also gained personal reward, as most any act of giving does. Freshman Courtney Phillips said, "I volunteered because I knew there was a little girl out there who, for at least an hour a week, needed someone to make her feel special, and show her that God loves her. Although, I always feel like I benefit from our time together more than she does. She teaches me to laugh for the sheer joy of life." Many students, like Phillips, found their experience as a Big Brother or Sister to be much more than a ministry, but a chance to learn from a child.

Community service, like the special Tiger Serve Day after the ice storm, brought hope and healing, rooted in the compassion of students for the community of Arkadelphia. Volunteers served not out of obligation, but out of compassion. Perhaps Paul said it best, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit... Each of you should look not only to your interests, but also to the interests of others," Philippians 2:3,4.



**Junior Adam McClure** and sophomore **Amber Franks** volunteer their time to help the community. Projects varied from painting to pumping gas at the two Exxon stations. *photo by R. Kibbe*

**Julie Wilson**, Tiger Serve Day coordinator, gives instructions to all the participating teams. Many members of social clubs formed teams to aid in the community project. *photo by T. Robertson*





Sophomore Kenny Wasson dials up an alumnus during the University's annual phon-a-thon. The phon-a-thon gave students the opportunity to visit with alumni while raising money for the Ouachita Scholarship Fund. *photo by T. Carter*

Junior Alyssa Ross, senior Staci Robertson, and junior Rachel Payne made the most money and secured the most number of pledges during the phon-a-thon. Development Officer Lane Smith presented the winners with prizes. *photo by B. Baxter*



students help in

# MAKING CENTS

by caryn bridges

Ring! Ring! "Hello?" "Hi, my name is.... I am a student at Ouachita Baptist University." This was how most of the students would start off a conversation with a former student or alumnus whom they called during the phon-a-thon.

The national phon-a-thon was an event during which student volunteers called former students and alumni and asked them to make a pledge to the Ouachita Scholarship Fund. The phon-a-thon was held for three weeks in February on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Many Ouachita clubs were involved in participating in this event, including OSF, BSU, CAB, and most social clubs. There were also some students who worked previous years and were asked to come back and work again. This year students were able to raise over \$113,000. This number increased from last year's \$101,000. Each night of the phone-a-thon, over 20 prizes were given to students who volunteered.

Overall, there were three winners, two of whom received \$100 gift certificates to Best Buy, while the third winner

won a wind-suit and athletic tennis shoes. The winners were Staci Robertson, Rachel Payne and Alyssa Ross. Robertson, a senior from Byrant, Ark., received 115 pledges from different individuals, the most out of anyone who worked in the phon-a-thon. Payne, a junior from Memphis, Tenn., raised almost \$16,000 alone, while Ross, a junior from Plano, Texas, received 104 pledges. "I love talking to the alumni," Payne said. "They are always so curious to find out about everything new that is going on Ouachita's campus."

This year, the Development Office tried a new angle in securing pledges. There was an email sent out to most of the alumni. Through this, alumni could email back a pledged amount. This way, they would not be disturbed at home with a phone call. This turned out to be quite a success, according to Development Officer Lane Smith. Ouachita is working on a more advanced way of pledging on-line, other than just email.

There were over 170 student, faculty and staff volunteers who worked to help make the phon-a-thon run smoothly.



**Freshman Lyndsey Choate calls friends, family, and alumni to ask for pledges. The phonathon raised money for the Ouachita Scholarship Fund. photo by T. Carter**



**Senior Emily Watts and admissions counselor T.K. Zellers discuss their call sheets. The phon-a-thon was a time to visit with friends while raising money for Ouachita. photo by T. Carter**

university improvements equal to a

# CAMPUS FACE-LIFT

by caryn bridges



A member of maintenance power washes the windows of Lile Hall. Whether it was clean windows or planting flowers, the support staff ensured that the campus was constantly clean and beautiful.  
*photo by T. Robertson*

As many students were awoken on yet another morning by the sounds of construction, the maintenance crews were working on a variety of projects. The University underwent several changes during the year.

In January, students returned to find the Ouachita Commons open for business. The new cafeteria allowed students to experience a new dining atmosphere and provided room for a variety of serving lines. Students could also enjoy their favorite coffees at Starbucks, located between the Commons and Riley-Hickingbotham Library.

A major spring project was phase one of the renovation of A.U. Williams Football Stadium. Phase one included a complete renovation of the playing surface and some cosmetic changes to the stadium. Phase two, to begin next year, would include extensive cosmetic changes, including new seating, restrooms, concession stand and pressbox.

"All of the projects are pretty complex and the projects come off the campus master plan made several years ago," stated Richard Stipe, vice president for administrative services, about the construction on Ouachita's campus. Also from this plan, it was decided what project would be done next.

Plans were being made for additional classroom space for the Pruet School of Christian Studies and for the removal of Birkett-Williams Dining Hall.

In addition to structural changes, the physical plant staff was continuously working to keep the campus in shape both inside buildings and out. Hours were spent in groundskeeping, which made for a pleasant atmosphere for students, faculty, and staff and provided a positive first impression for visitors.



**A**bove: Dr. Andy Westmoreland, senior Amber Wilson and other students and staff cut the ribbon to the new cafeteria. **B**elow: The A.U. Williams football field undergoes repairs, with a new surface and eventually plans for new seating. *photo by K. Shelby*





not your typical

# COLLEGE WEEKEND

Flying eggs, cotton candy, sumo wrestling, and mud volleyball—who would think these had anything in common? They were all part of “Arkansas’ Most Exciting College Weekend.”

The weekend was co-sponsored by the Ouachita Student Foundation and Campus Activities Board. Events began on the main campus with Spring Fling, which featured popcorn, cotton candy and inflatable games such as the joust, the human fly and a tsunami slide.

The fun continued as the 500 students participating in Tiger Traks competition gathered on the football practice field for the egg toss. Pigskin pass followed and the 59 teams rotated in SPEC for their shot at darts, Jenga, Pictionary and the basketball relay. Each team consisted of four males and four females.

Saturday morning found students rising early to go to the raft races held at Waggoner Pool. A new rule allowed “Trakers” to leave the paddle in the raft and use their hands to cross the pool, which many students found made the race easier.

A picnic lunch was provided before Traks really got dirty. Competition intensified as the last few events were held in an enormous mud pit. Junior Dustin Freeman said, “Winning feels good, but winning with friends feels great. I know we finished third, but it felt like we won it all because we had so much fun.” While participating in the obstacle course, mud volleyball, and tug-o-war, many students found time to throw friends in the mud and run around having fun.

At the end of the day, however, only one team could claim the championship. For the second consecutive year, Sweetness, led by Wes Engram, edged out legacy team, El Nino IV. Sweetness pulled out the win by just one point. Junior Jeremy Nottingham, a recruit to Sweetness, said, “I was thrilled to be asked to be part of the team and it was even more thrilling to pull off the win.”

Over the course of the weekend, students learned exactly what flying eggs, cotton candy, sumo wrestling, and mud volleyball had in common. And, in fact, it did make for “Arkansas’ Most Exciting College Weekend.”



Opposite page: Members of team "Sweetness" participate in tug-o-war. Left clockwise: Junior Kelly Kruger aims her shot during pigskin pass. A Campus Activities Board (CAB) member prepares a pseudo-sumo for battle. Sophomore Clay Stallings uses his strength to make it across the pool during the raft races. During Pictionary, team members concentrate to decipher the word being drawn. Sophomore Amy Peterson hangs upside down on the Velcro Wall at Spring Fling. *photo by B. Baxter*

The Wolf tries to give Little Red Riding Hood, sophomore Lana Hancock, new directions away from Grandma's house. "Into the Woods" was a mixture of different fairy tales intertwined.  
*photo by T. Robertson*



singing, dancing and

by gary miller

# PERFORMING

## PRODUCTIONS

A filled house and attentive audience were two items that those in the productions and musicals hoped for. Time and much effort went into the three main shows, and the performers wanted it to be perfect.

In the fall, senior Rick Dildine had his directing debut of "How Mr. Mockinpot was Cured of His Suffering." A slapstick comedy, the theme was of a man who spent his entire life in a structured environment, void of variety. Mr. Mockinpot and his guide, Jack Pudding, traveled to doctors, the government and even God to find an answer to his "sufferings." "The play is a comedy in the style of vaudeville and Chaplin-esque humor. It is a very entertaining piece of theatre," said Dildine.

Another comedic production was the fall operetta "Mikado." Containing a strong element of British humor, the piece was challenging for the performers. However, Dr. Jon Secrest, music professor and director, felt that it exposed them and the audience to a new genre of art. "We really worked on developing our operatic productions," he said. "Hopefully, when more people are exposed to this type of opera it will generate even more interest on our campus."

"The Mikado" told the story of Nanki-Poo, son of the Mikado who roamed throughout Japan to escape the romantic attentions of an elderly admirer. Yum-Yum, the fiancée of the Lord High Executioner, finds herself admired by both Nanki-Poo and Katisha, a man eventually

condemned to death for flirting. "The story was funny and the talent was amazing," said sophomore Robert Ramsey.

Bringing a enjoyment of fables to the stage, the spring musical, "Into the Woods," allowed the audience to experience the collection of fairy tales adapted by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. It was a "musical comedy with a message," explained director Dr. Scott Holsclaw, associate professor of theatre arts. It had a strong message about life, and the basic moral was that getting what you wish for does not always have the results you expected, he said.

The show centered on the baker, his wife and the witch and the stories of Cinderella, Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood and Jack and the Beanstalk. Snow White and Sleeping Beauty also made brief appearances. In the first act, the characters made wishes; in the second, they saw the outcome.

Freshman Lana Hancock described the musical as very "bright and colorful. The play was really neat and the music was different and sometimes difficult to do," she said.

Senior Josh Shaw echoed Hancock's beliefs about the production. "I think people laughed a lot, but I also think they were impressed with the scale of the show," he said. "There were a lot of big-scale special effects and a lot of work went into this."

The many hours put into each of the productions resulted in three "outstanding" shows. Performers, technicians, directors and audience saw the end result to be well worth the effort.



Senior Jeremy Bishop, and other members of the opera, rehearse for the production of "The Mikado." Performed during the fall, the musical was part of the opera workshop. *photo by C. Shera*

Jack Pudding, played by Spencer Sutterfield, advises Mr. Mockinpott, played by Stephen Boutwell, on who exactly can "cure" his suffering. The play was directed by senior Rick Dildine. *photo by R. LeMay*



Miss OBU 2001 sophomore Erin Pittman, poses with the runner ups (l to r) sophomore Danna Wagnon, freshman Melissa Golden, and sophomore Amber Franks. photo by B. Baxter



miss obu proves to be more than

# MEER BEAUTY

by gary miller

Big hair. Bell bottoms. Capris. Denim jackets. These fashion crazes, along with many others, have come and gone through the years since Miss OBU pageant was formed in 1967, but much of the procedure has stayed the same.

The Blue Key National Honor Fraternity, sponsor of the event, was encouraged by officials at the Miss Arkansas pageant in Hot Springs to begin the pageant. The fraternity approached school officials, and facing no opposition, began the pageant in 1967.

The four phases of competition were talent, private interview, eveningware and swimwear. Mac Sisson, news bureau director, said the basic judging criteria has not changed since Miss OBU's early days.

"I think the main difference was the platform issue [added in 1989]. This was established by the Miss America committee to change the emphasis from beauty to a well-rounded young lady," he said.

Each contestant choose a platform issue which they advocate. These issue varied: self-esteem, Medical issues, the arts, and young people.

The nine pageant contestants this year were freshmen Cameron Dodson, Melissa Golden, Amy House, Cara McCone, sophomores Leslie Fodge, Erin Pittman, Danna Wagnon, Stephanie Lochala and Amber Franks. Each of the girls spent countless hours preparing for the one-night event. However, it was Pittman, a missionary kid from Brazil, who was named 2001 Miss OBU, she was sponsored by the men of Sigma Alpha Sigma. For Pittman, it began with

helping in Miss Diamond Lake, held in Jones Performing Arts Center weeks before Miss OBU, that caught her interest. "After that, when Mac approached me with the idea of being in the pageant, I thought it would be fun," Pittman said. "I never expected to participate in a beauty pageant, much less win one," she added.

Her view of pageants changed after Miss Diamond Lakes and especially after Miss OBU. "I think it's important to let people know that pageants are more than just beauty," she said. "They are also about promoting women who are talented and good with people. It gives women a chance to express themselves."

Using her experience of living in Brazil, Pittman's platform was cultural awareness. She said that in Brazil, people weren't as driven by work, weren't as concerned about race and were more accepting than in America. She believed that everyone should see different cultures and see new places.

First runner-up was Franks, and second runner-up was Golden, who won the swimsuit portion of the competition. Third runner-up was Wagnon, who tied Pittman for interview. and House was named Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants.

For Pittman, the pageant not only brought about scholarship, but a chance to share her view of culture to the world as well as gain a personal view. "Not all of the girls [in the Miss Diamond Lakes pageant] looked like models," she said. "I realized that the pageant allows an avenue for expression as well as promoting a personal talent."



**Sophomore**  
Lauren McNair,  
2000 Miss OBU,  
sings a tribute  
song before  
giving away the  
crown. McNair  
won the talent  
portion of the  
2000 pageant.  
*photo by K. Selby*

**New Miss OBU,**  
sophomore Erin  
Pittman, is filled  
with excitement  
as she receives  
her crown.  
Pittman would go  
on to participate  
in the Miss  
Arkansas  
Pageant. *photo*  
*by B. Baxter*



**With a big smile,**  
freshman Melissa  
Golden models  
her evening  
gown. Golden  
won the swimsuit  
portion of the  
pageant. *photo*  
*by B. Baxter*

more than a

# pretty girl

by rachel lemay

"She was the best package," said Gregg Frizzell of the new 2001 Ouachitonia Beauty, 19-year-old freshman Lacy Fleming.

Frizzell, who chaired this year's five-member judging panel, said that Fleming embodied what a Ouachitonia Beauty should be because she possessed both outer and inner beauty.

"Not only are these girls pretty, but a 'Ouachitonia Beauty' needs to be able to communicate in order to show her inner beauty," said Frizzell. "[Lacy] is very poised and very polished, and she's just a freshman."

Despite her age, this Ouachita freshman had a variety of experiences that "polished" her into a Ouachitonia Beauty.

"I don't think the pictures do them justice," said Frizzell, who commented that each of the contestants was pretty. First through fourth runners-up honors went to: Bridget Stroope, Katie Kirkpatrick, Tamara Rossworn, and Erica Kimbrough and Sharesa Williams tied for fourth.

Fleming has done everything from teaching dance to performing on a Disney cruise ship. She has been featured in a promotional health video and was part of the Citrus Bowl halftime show. She held the 2000 Arkansas Junior Miss title and was the Miss Southeast Arkansas representative for the 2001 Miss Arkansas Pageant. Fleming had even been in an exercise segment with Cindy Crawford.

"My mom and I were just

waiting in line to see 'Good Morning America,' and they asked if we would like to do a workout segment," explained Fleming. It was only after they agreed that they were told the leader would be Cindy Crawford. "It was really fun," said Fleming.

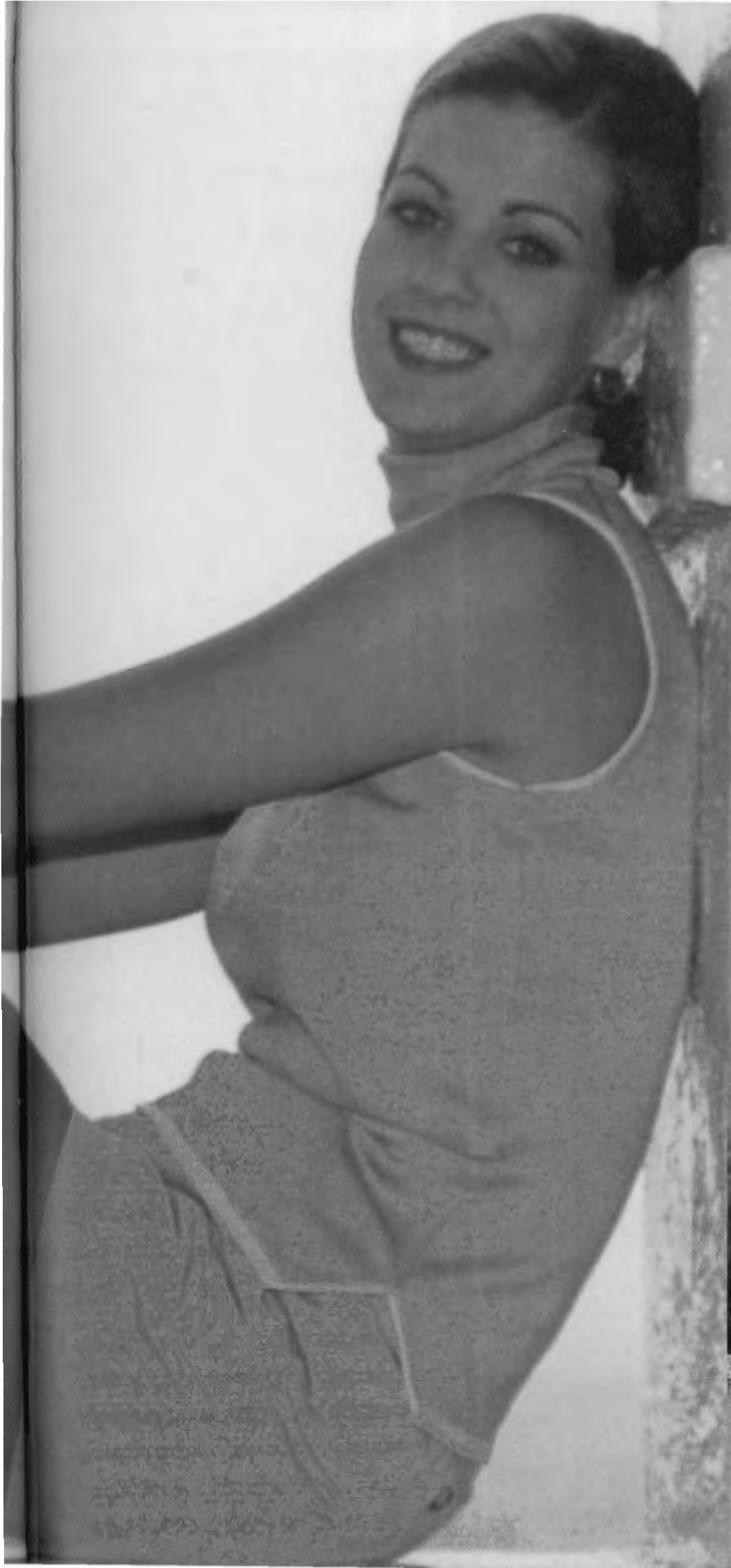
Fleming classifies all her experience and especially her pageant involvement as having helped her to mature and build her character. "I don't classify myself as a pageant child," said Fleming. With her 5'6" height, blonde hair and blue eyes, the freshman said the scholarships were one of the primary focuses of pageant and it was those scholarships that enabled her to come to Ouachita.

In pageant competition, Fleming had child abuse as her platform, an issue that affected her personally when a friend was a victim of abuse. "You never realize how serious this issue is until it happens close to you," she said.

Fleming was also an avid dancer. Having studied tap dance for 16 years, she now teaches. She uses a combination of her dance and vocal skills for the talent portion of pageant.

This beauty said she hoped to have a "happy little school family" meaning that her fiance, who attends Louisiana Tech, would coach basketball while she also taught kindergarten.

With her many talents and aspirations, she simply wants a usual life. "I'm ready to get on with establishing my family and just living the normal, happy life," said Fleming.



**Freshman Lacy Flemming poses as the 2001 Ouachitonian Beauty. Flemming was the second consecutive freshman to be honored as the Ouachitonian Beauty. photos by T. Robertson**



Dr. Andrew Westmoreland introduces the Distinguished Alumnus Dr. John S. Jackson. Jackson was a 1962 graduate of Ouachita and was the interim chancellor and professor of political science at Southern Illinois University. photo by B. Baxter

Senior Alan Bagley leads the prayer at the beginning of commencement. As senior class president, Bagley was selected to lead the prayer. photo by B. Baxter



graduation symbolizes a time of

# MOVING FORWARD

by gary miller

With the advancement of technology, universities were changing more and more. One way of using this technology was broadcasting events via the internet. During the spring commencement, international and missionary parents unable to attend were able to log on and view the ceremony in progress.

Empowered by a grant from Firststar bank, the viewing allowed anyone to view the ceremony via the world wide web. "The grant from Firststar allowed us to move further into wireless technology, which has great potential for enhancing our web site," said Bill Phelps, director of computer services. "We have had live coverage of football and some basketball games, but we hope to add live broadcasts of several other events next year. We're excited about starting the process with commencement because it gives family and friends of our graduates who can't travel to campus an opportunity to participate in the experience."

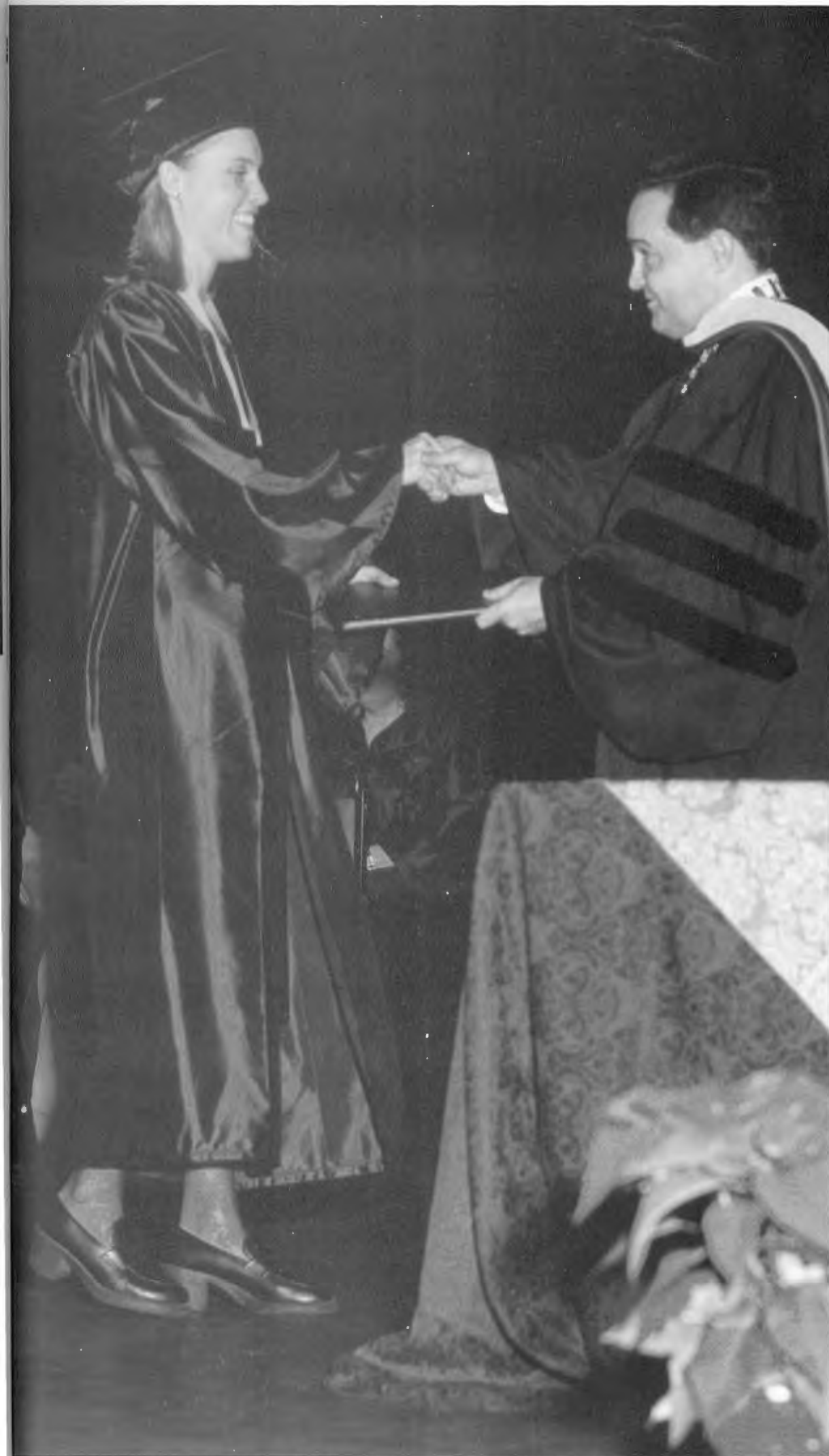
The families of the 234 graduates who couldn't attend were able to listen to that "proud" moment.

During Baccalaureate, Rev. Ben Rowell of First Baptist

Church, Rogers, gave a message of encouragement. The distinguished alumnus award was presented to Dr. John S. Jackson, interim chancellor and professor of political science at Southern Illinois University. Those attending listened to his words of what to expect from the new century. "I felt what he said applied to us more than anyone because we are the first class of the new millennium," senior Amy McCormick said.

In its second year, the university held December graduation. Eighty-three students received the bachelor degrees during the ceremony. To help reduce the number of those walking in the spring, December graduation offered students who finished in the summer and fall to not have to wait until May to walk. "Fall graduation was a necessity because of growing enrollment numbers and senior classes too large for a single springtime commencement," Judy Jones, registrar, said.

Whether it was December or May, graduation was a time of completion, finalizing and completion of another chapter in the life of a student.



**With a firm handshake, Dr. Andrew Westmoreland congratulates senior Signe Vang during fall commencement. Eighty-three students graduated in December. photo by B. Baxter**



**Senior Ben Cantrell accepts his diploma from Dr. Andrew Westmoreland. Cantrell graduated with a perfect 4.0 GPA. photo by B. Baxter**

Quachita students watch in anticipation to see who will become the next president. The election party was held in the Student Center and was open for all students.  
*photo by S. Shupe*



george w. bush verses al gore in

# ELECTION 2000

by kathryn stewart

From the early days of the presidential campaign season, it was clear the race would be a tight one between Vice President Al Gore and Texas Governor George W. Bush. Few, however, would have predicted that the contest would not only come down to the wire, but to a single state, and beyond that, a few hundred votes.

It was clear from Election Day, November 7, that the election of 2000 would be one for the record books. Indeed, at different times on election night and in the wee hours of November 8, each of the candidates was declared the winner, later to be stripped of the title "president-elect." On November 11, after the mandatory machine recount of the state of Florida revealed that the candidates were only a few hundred votes apart. It was at this point that the election began its tortuous journey through the judicial system, when the Bush camp sued in federal district court and ultimately ended in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The long-awaited results of election 2000 elicited yawns from the public, but the drama in Florida engrossed the nation and undoubtedly signified the influence of the public's

reliance on the cable news stations, which offered round-the-clock coverage and commentary on the spectacle. It seemed that just when voters had enough of the litigation, a bomb would drop, providing ample fodder for new debate and discussion. "I have always been extremely interested in politics and the direction of this year's election was so exciting to follow," sophomore Amanda Wiley said. "Every afternoon I tuned into the news to get the daily update. The never-ending debates between the two parties was like a political scientist's dream!"

Almost one month after the election was over and the countless lawsuits, counter suits, appeals and arguments were heard, Texas governor George W. Bush became the president elect, prevailing over Vice President Al Gore in the electoral college by the narrowest of margins, 271-267. Gore dominated the popular vote however, winning 50,158,094 votes over Bush's 49,820,518. When Bush took the oath of office in January, he was the fourth president in history to have triumphed in the Electoral College, but not the popular vote.



During the Victory 2000 rally, president-elect George W. Bush speaks to Arkansans about some of his reforms and presidential plans. The rally was held at the Little Rock Riverfront in October. *photo by B. Adams*



From the White House press room, Al Gore announces his candidacy for the 2000 presidential election. Gore represented the Democratic party.



# IN THE



On campus, the ice broke several of the trees. Up to a quarter of an inch of ice fell on the ground on Christmas Day.

photo by Maintenance

On Christmas Day, families gathered around the tree to celebrate, when suddenly their electricity made the celebration dim. A wintry storm, including freezing rain and sleet, blanketed much of Arkansas. The tremendous amounts of ice caused many power lines to break from falling trees. This left 300,00 Arkansans without electricity for several days, even up to several weeks. On Dec. 29, President Bill Clinton signed major disaster declarations for 52 counties in Arkansas. *Signal Staff*



An unidentified aide clears a path through the waiting press as Napster founder Shawn Fanning leaves the federal courthouse in San Francisco.

photo by Lou Dematteis

With nearly 70 million people using Napster, the on-line MP3 downloading program, the recording industry saw this as a serious copyright infringement. In December, the Recording Industry Association sued Napster, accusing it of encouraging an unrestrained, illegal, online trade of music. Heavy metal band Metallica also sued the company for copyright infringement after realizing more than 300,00 users were trading their songs online. In March, Napster shut down its music shopping cart, thus ending

the world-wide share of music. *The Associated Press*

# NEWS

With the increasing price in gas, travel became less and less of an option. In March, price of gas began averaging at \$1.55 and by May it was \$1.76. Gas prices were expected to reach \$2 by the summer. And part of the cause came from an attempt to save energy by the Bush administration. Also, the spike of prices was linked to the cost of U.S. refineries refinery, fires and refinery maintenance. A result of the hike in price was a gas tax that would ease prices at the pump, and wholesale

price caps on electricity to force California's energy market back into a more consumer-friendly balance. *Frank Pellegrini, Time.com*



While making a speech at an Exxon Gas Station, Democratic leader Richard Gephardt touts his party's energy plan. *photo by Shawn Thew/AFP*

Socially awkward and fascinated by guns, Timothy McVeigh found himself wondering what happened. Those thoughts haunted him as he awaited to be put to death by lethal injection. His involvement in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing resulted in the sentence ordered in April. Timothy McVeigh argued that the arrogance of the Federal Government, the government that wanted to take his guns and cramp his rights, was so vast and so dangerous that he needed to blow up a building, start a revolution. "I did it for the larger good," he claimed, and if innocent people had to die, well, that's what happens in war. He called the 19 dead children "collateral damage," and bragged that even if he is executed, he still wins: the final score will be 168 to 1. His May execution was postponed when it was learned that FBI had not turned over all of its documents to the attorneys.



Timothy McVeigh on the day of his arrest. McVeigh was sentenced to death by lethal injection. *photo by Associated Press*