

in **EVERY**  
*Moment*  
2020 OUACHITONIAN

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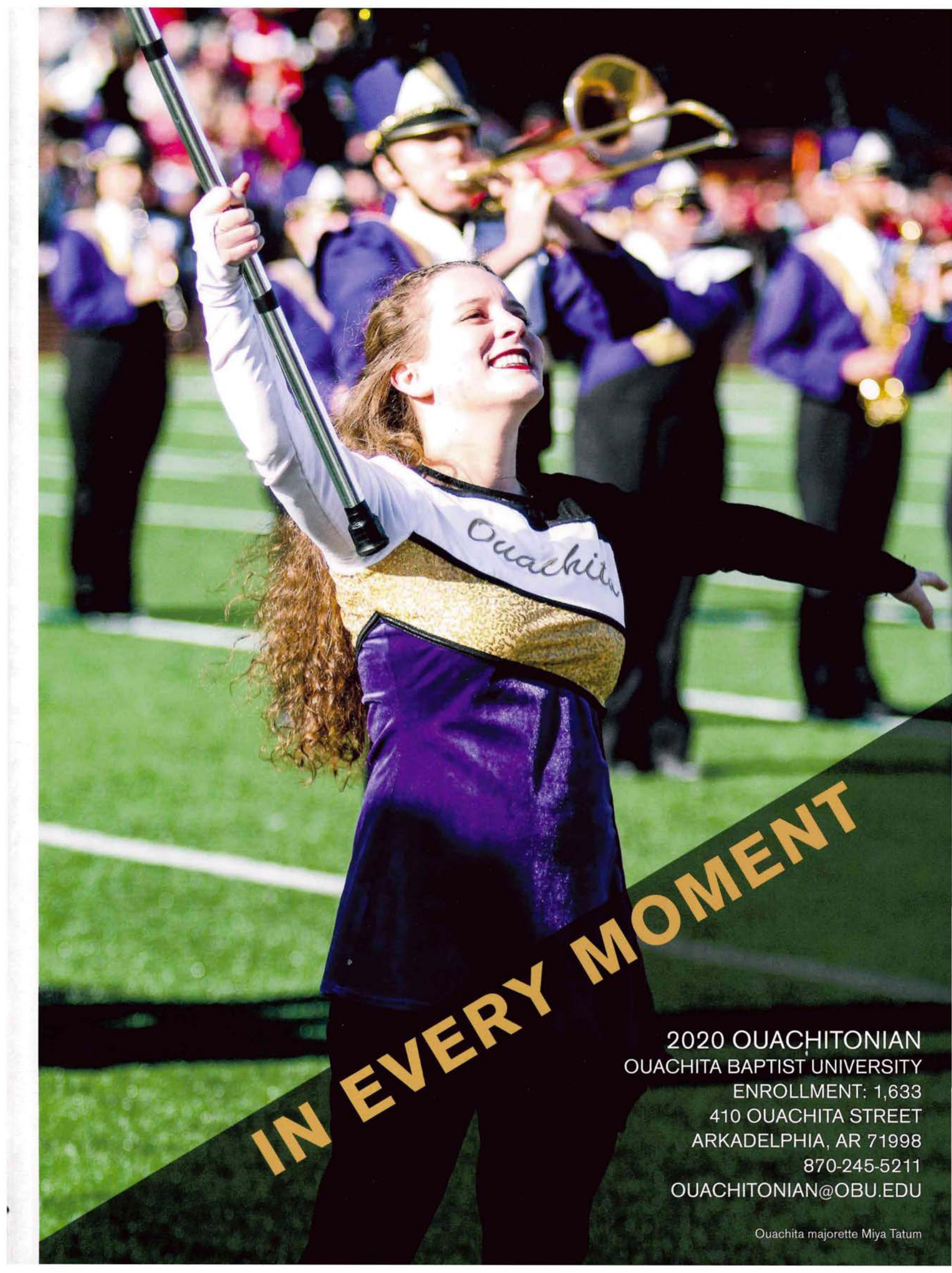
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**IN EVERY MOMENT**

2020 OUACHITONIAN  
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Ouachita majorette Miya Tatum

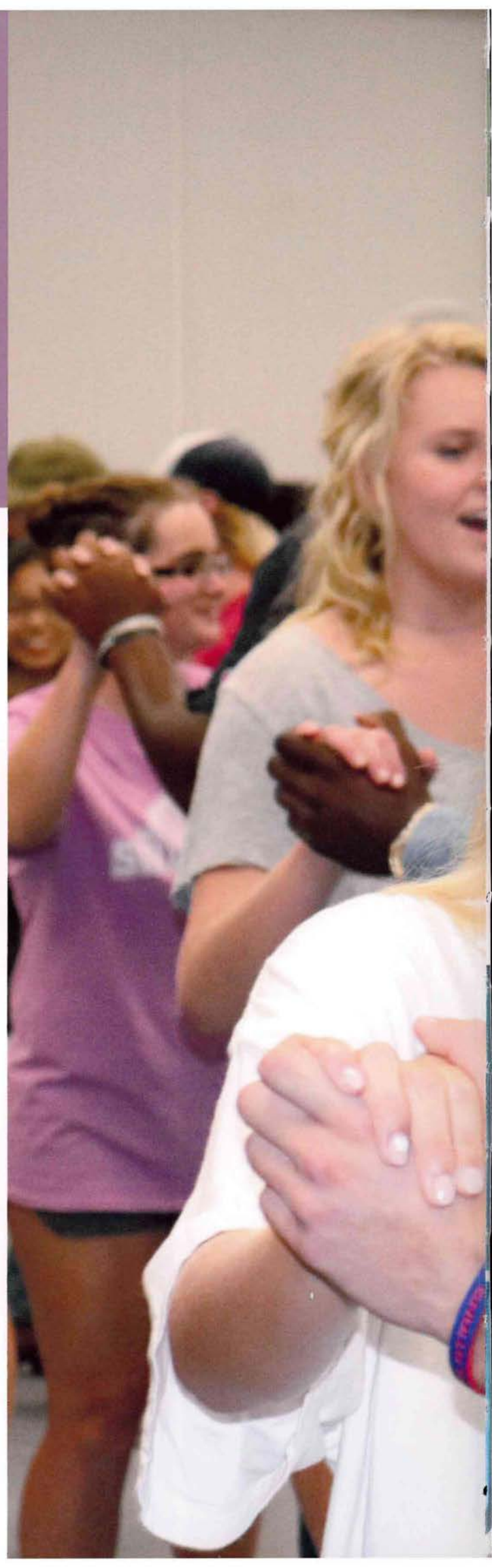


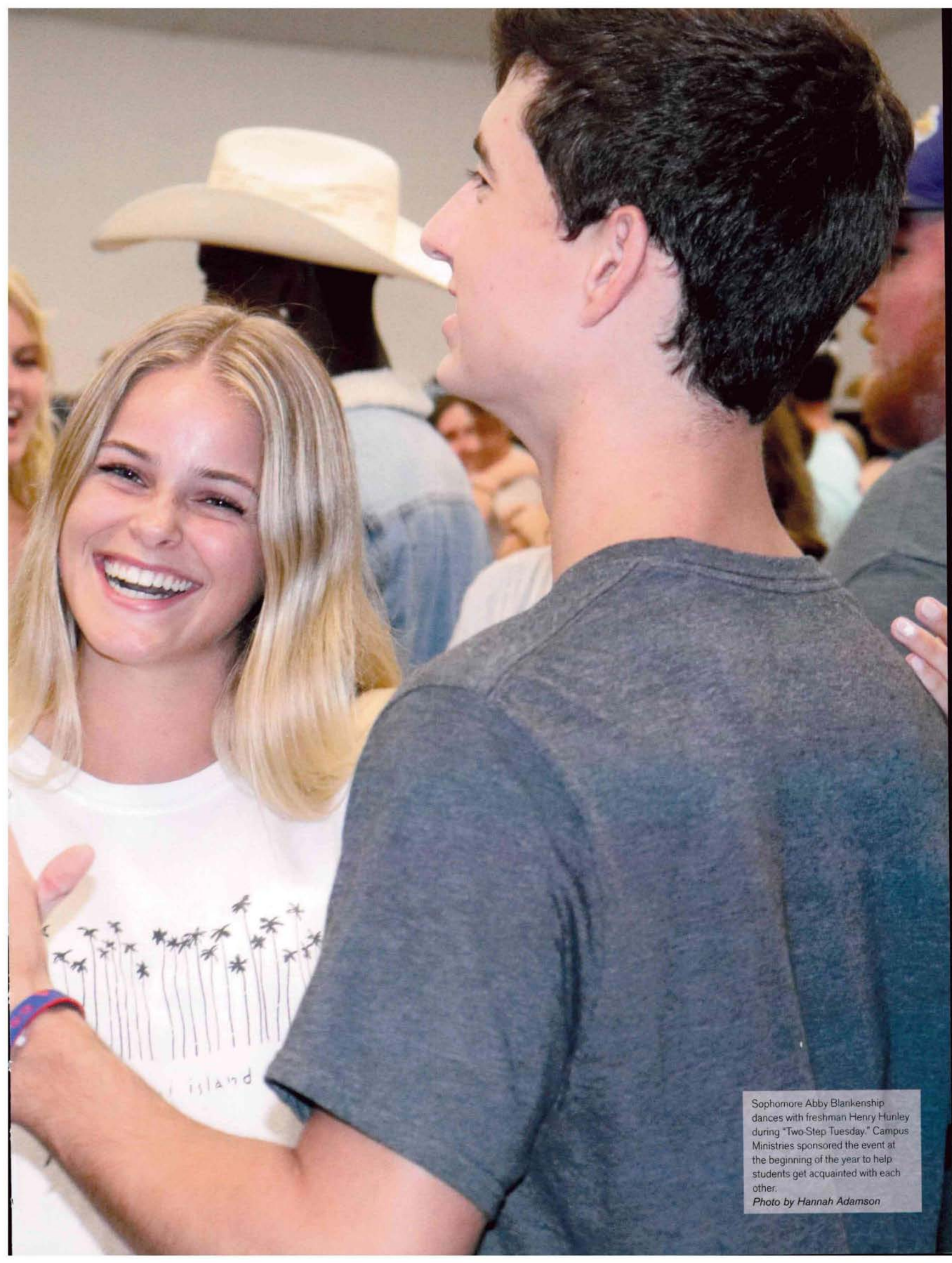
Junior Makeilah Turner and sophomore Haylee Cannon high-five during a tennis match. The women's tennis season was cut short because of the spread of Coronavirus, causing students to move back home in March.  
*Photo by Danielle Sourber*



It is the times we laughed together, that we cherish. It is the times we cried together, that we remember. It is the times we shared burdens together, that we grew. These **MOMENTS** molded us into who we are today. No matter how old you are when you read this, we all shared **MOMENTS** from our time at Ouachita – exciting moments, challenging moments, maybe some moments you wish not to remember. However, the beauty behind these *moments* we shared is that no one or nothing can take away the memories made. The people whom we met helped build what our memories are now - the friends we shared a dance floor with; the brothers and sisters we sang next to; the awkward chapel buddy; the peer that was the perfect study partner, the freshman-year roommate; the professor who never gave up on you. In every **MOMENT**, it's important to remember the details in between.

A professor once said that one of the most beautiful gifts that God gave His people is time. There is the hope of new day exemplified by a sunrise, and the rest of night revealed by a sunset. The common denominator is time. Time allows for process, which furthers growth and opportunity. As a college student, we often felt like we didn't have enough time. We didn't have enough time to finish the paper before it was due at midnight. We didn't have enough time to say good-bye when we left campus in March. On the other hand, we felt like there was too much time left. We thought to ourselves, "When will we be able to go to bed after this long night of voting during Rush week" and "when will the Zooming end?" Despite the perspective, time allows precious **MOMENTS** to turn into precious memories.





Sophomore Abby Blankenship dances with freshman Henry Hunley during "Two-Step Tuesday." Campus Ministries sponsored the event at the beginning of the year to help students get acquainted with each other.

*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



Quachita students cheer on the Tiger football team during the Battle of the Ravine game against Henderson State.  
Photo by Hannah Smith

WITH OVER 700 PARTICIPANTS  
IN TIGER TUNES TO OVER 800  
STUDENTS VOLUNTEERING  
FOR TIGER SERVE DAY,  
OUACHITONIANS WALKED  
ALONGSIDE EACH OTHER  
THROUGH LIFE'S MEMORABLE  
MOMENTS.

THAT *moment* WE SHARED TOGETHER  
STUDENT LIFE



1. Sophomore Paige Fett enjoys a fun time with children in the Dominican Republic. She interned with Mission of Hope.

*Photo by Paige Fett*

2. Junior Will Guerra attends El Encierro, the running of the bulls during his summer abroad trip. Guerra took spanish classes while in Spain.

*Photo by Will Guerra*

3. Sophomore Tehya Hinkson and sophomore Cassidy Butcher enjoy ice cream in Siloam Springs. Both girls spent the summer working at Camp Siloam.

*Photo by Cassidy Butcher*

4. Sophomore Caleb West prepares to zip line across the jungle. West, along with other biomed, studied abroad in Coasta Rica.

*Photo by Caleb West*



# THAT FRUITFUL *Moment*

"Knowing what people and God are doing in the world is important for anyone despite where you are from," said Kumpuris. "Being aware of the powers at play, and what we can be praying for and active in as Christians is important."

-Katie Kumpuris



# SUMMERS OPEN FOR NEW EXPERIENCES

While summer can be a time of rest for many students, others use it as a time of adventure. Several OBU students spent their summers traveling, whether for leisure or studies. Jennifer Wallace, a junior from Cabot spent three weeks in Mantua, Italy, furthering her future career in medical science. Jennifer shadowed surgeons in a local hospital through the Atlantis Fellowship with other college students.

"I saw an advertisement for the program on Instagram and didn't really think it was legit, but I applied anyway," Jennifer said. "I ended up getting an interview which resulted in acceptance into the program."

She said she loved getting to fully embrace a new culture and watching interesting surgeries.

"I was definitely forced to grow through this experience because I had never been overseas before and I didn't know any of my fellows prior to embarking on the trip," Jennifer said. "The reward of getting to know people from across the world and actually connect with them made stepping out of my comfort zone completely worth it."

Sophomore Jack Burnham from Arkadelphia took part in a 30-year family tradition of camping in Minnesota. Burnham said his family drove 21 hours then paddled 7-8 hours from Seagull Lake to Alpine Lake. They slept in hammocks for the week and

relied completely on God-given sources of food and water.

"We take filter bags and drink from the lakes up there," Burnham said. "We catch smallmouth bass, walleye and pike." He said his favorite part about the trip was being able to do whatever he wanted every day and having a week away from worrying about his phone. This was Burnham's fourth time to embark on the family camping trip.

A senior from Jonesboro, Phoebe Huff, spent her summer traveling across the country with Fuller Center for Housing Bike Adventure. The organization was focused on combatting poverty-stricken housing. Huff traveled almost 4,000 miles in nine weeks from Seattle to D.C. as the team's intern videographer.

"Meeting so many people in so many different ways and hearing their stories of why they do this ride was really inspiring," she said.

Huff said the independence she took on as the solo videographer for the team gave her a sense of confidence heading into her career.

"I was definitely forced to grow through this experience because, I had never been overseas..."

- Jennifer Wallace

By Samantha Boyd

Junior Phoebe Huff spent her summer as a videographer and support intern for a cross country bike adventure. The team biked from Seattle to DC to raise money and awareness for poverty housing.

Photo by Phoebe Huff



# THAT BITTERSWEET *Moment*

“All I was thinking was, ‘this could be my last selfie with Baba for a year.’ It’s great that I get to stay and study at OBU, but it also means that I will leave my family and friends for a long time. That’s why it’s bittersweet.”

-Saba Esho



Freshman Wade Wilson sings in karaoke the last night of WOW weekend. Freshmen celebrated being Tigers for Life at the Purple and Gold party.  
Photo by Justin Trostle



1. Freshman Joshua Ray plays CanJam with a friend. Saturday was spent at DeGray Lake beach.

Photo by Danielle Sourber



2. After saying goodbye to their families, freshmen find their WOW parents. Each parent made a sign for their family.

Photo by Justin Trostle

3. Sophomore Emily Tarr carries curtain rods into Francis Crawford. WOW parents helped freshmen move in.

Photo by Justin Trostle

4. President Ben Sells and his wife, Lisa, greet families at the legacy reception.

Photo by Danielle Sourber





A WEEKEND  
HEAVILY  
ANTICIPATED

# NEWNESS

WOW, or “Welcome to Ouachita’s World” was all the talk with the incoming freshmen. This was the weekend that every new student could not wait to experience. Some had expectations, but many did not know what to anticipate.

“WOW is what we do to get students ready from transitioning from high school to college life,” said Tim Harrell, director of student life. “WOW is always really exciting, and a lot of fun. There is always good information that comes out of it. There is also a lot of silly things we do together, as well as meeting and interacting with new people.”

During this new season of life, making sure new students had an amazing orientation experience was at the top of the priority list for the student leaders and staff members that planned WOW. It was also important to make sure that Ouachita’s experience was different than any other college.

“The things that set Ouachita’s orientation apart from other schools is the duration of it, the intentionality of it and the community that comes with it,” said Harrell.

Although the office of Student Life sponsored WOW, the WOW steering committee played a substantial role in creating and executing WOW weekend. The WOW steering committee, a group of upperclassmen, helped organize events and lead students for the weekend. Not only were they in charge of planning, but also facilitating

the WOW family groups, led by ‘WOW parents,’ more willing upperclassmen. They were very passionate about all things Ouachita, and were excited to help welcome new students to campus.

“There is a lot more meaning to WOW than just playing around with people. You get to know Ouachita, the campus, and your peers,” said Mallorie Svercauski, a senior member of the WOW steering committee and graphic design major from Hot Springs.

WOW was a weekend that freshmen will never forget, and the memories made were precious for all who were involved. It was a weekend that many people looked forward to.

“I had no idea what WOW was coming into college, and it ended up helping me understand community and what Ouachita is all about,” said Levi Dade, a freshman Christian Studies and Spanish double major from Senatobia, Miss. “The biggest thing I appreciated was watching the upperclassmen care for the freshmen, and it was really something special.”

“The things that set Ouachita’s orientation apart from other schools is the ... intentionality of it, and the community that comes with it.”

- Mallorie Svercauski

by Madi Darr

1. Tiger Blast performs during the Tiger Tunes show. They played songs by Queen and Demi Lovato.

*Photo by Justin Trostle*

2. Seniors Selby Tucker and Addy Goodman pose on the JPAC stage. Tucker served as the President of OSF and Goodman served as Tunes director.

*Photo by Justin Trostle*

3. Junior Abby Shourd performs during the Tunes show. Shourd was a member of the hosts and hostesses.

*Photo by Justin Trostle*

4. Sophomore Brennan Saunders practices his dance during rehearsal. Saunders participated in the Campus Ministries show.

*Photo by Erica Wilmath*



# THAT REWARDING *Moment*

“Being a Tunes director (Rho Sigma, wrestlers) was so much more fun than I thought it was going to be. Developing a show from scratch, then hearing people laugh at your jokes is the most rewarding part.”

- Luke Roberson



# MORE THAN JUST SINGING AND DANCING CONNECTION

Tiger Tunes was created for the purpose of bringing people together and raising scholarships for deserving students. Everyone involved in Tunes had a different role and that is what made everything run smoothly with the result of lasting friendships.

"I have gotten to see tiger tunes from all possible angles all the way from being in shows, to directing a show, and now to helping oversee the production as a whole," said Selby Tucker, senior accounting major and OSF president.

Felicia Valdez, senior psychology major from Terrell Texas, directed the Student Life show and expressed her heart about Tiger Tunes as a whole.

"I learned this year that God works a lot through tunes whether it be with friendships that we make, or the hard times that become stressful," said Valdez.

Felicia expressed that she was so thankful that she got to work with everyone involved in the Student Life show and loved getting the opportunity to direct. Tiger Tunes has always been one of the main events that freshman look forward to being a part of when they are at Ouachita. Some know about Tiger Tunes before starting college, and some do not.

Connor Bjerke, a freshman business administration major from Oak Leaf, Texas knew nothing about Tunes before coming to Ouachita and ended up having the time of his life. "Tunes was a really cool experience and I enjoyed

being in the Campus Ministries show," said Bjerke. "I got to connect with a lot of people that I had never met before and I also got to sing a solo which was super fun." Bjerke has gotten to live the ultimate Tunes experience and thinks that everyone coming into Ouachita should give Tunes a try. He expressed his excitement about some opportunities he had and his thankfulness for his directors.

"Singing a solo wasn't something that I was necessarily wanting to do, but I tried out and the next thing you know I'm walking around campus with super long hair dressed as Moses," said Bjerke. "I also appreciated that our directors actually cared about us as people, made tunes fun, and wanted to know us on a personal level."

Tunes has blessed so many and has brought about so many relationships.

Selby Tucker a senior Accounting major from Hamburg, stated that "Tunes and JPAC are home for so many people and I want that heart to stay for as long as Ouachita is here."

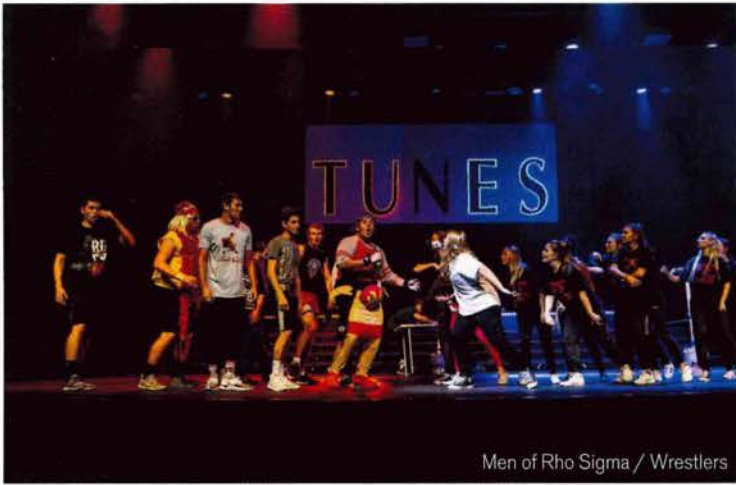
"I got to connect with a lot of people that I had never met before."

- Connor Bjerke

by Madi Darr

Junior, Ryan Lynch salutes his way through a winning performance. The Men of Kappa Chi won first place as the Leprechauns.  
photo by Justin Trostle





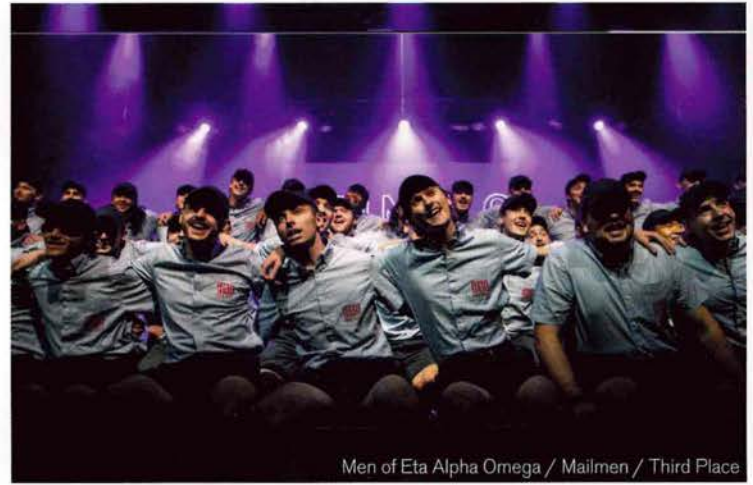
Men of Rho Sigma / Wrestlers



Men and Women of Campus Ministries / Time Travelers / Fourth Place



Women of Tri Chi / Diner



Men of Eta Alpha Omega / Mailmen / Third Place



Hosts and Hostesses



Women of Chi Delta / Fairies / People's Choice Award

# TIGER TUNES 2019

*Photos by Justin Trostle*

- 784 participants

- over 8,000 tickets sold

- 600 cumulative hours practiced

- 40 judges

- Saturday early show sold out before opening to the general public

- All shows sold out before show week

- first Tunes meeting in March of 2019

- only two weeks of JPAC practices

- over \$100,000 raised for student scholarships



Men of Beta Beta / Danger Zone



Women of EEE / All-Stars / Second Place



Women of Chi Mu / Artists



Tiger Blast

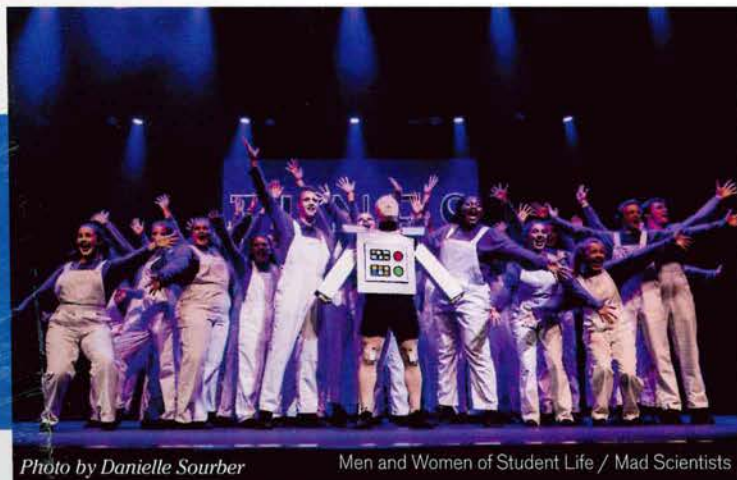


Photo by Danielle Sourber

Men and Women of Student Life / Mad Scientists



Men of Kappa Chi / Leprechauns / First Place



# THAT EXCITING *Moment*

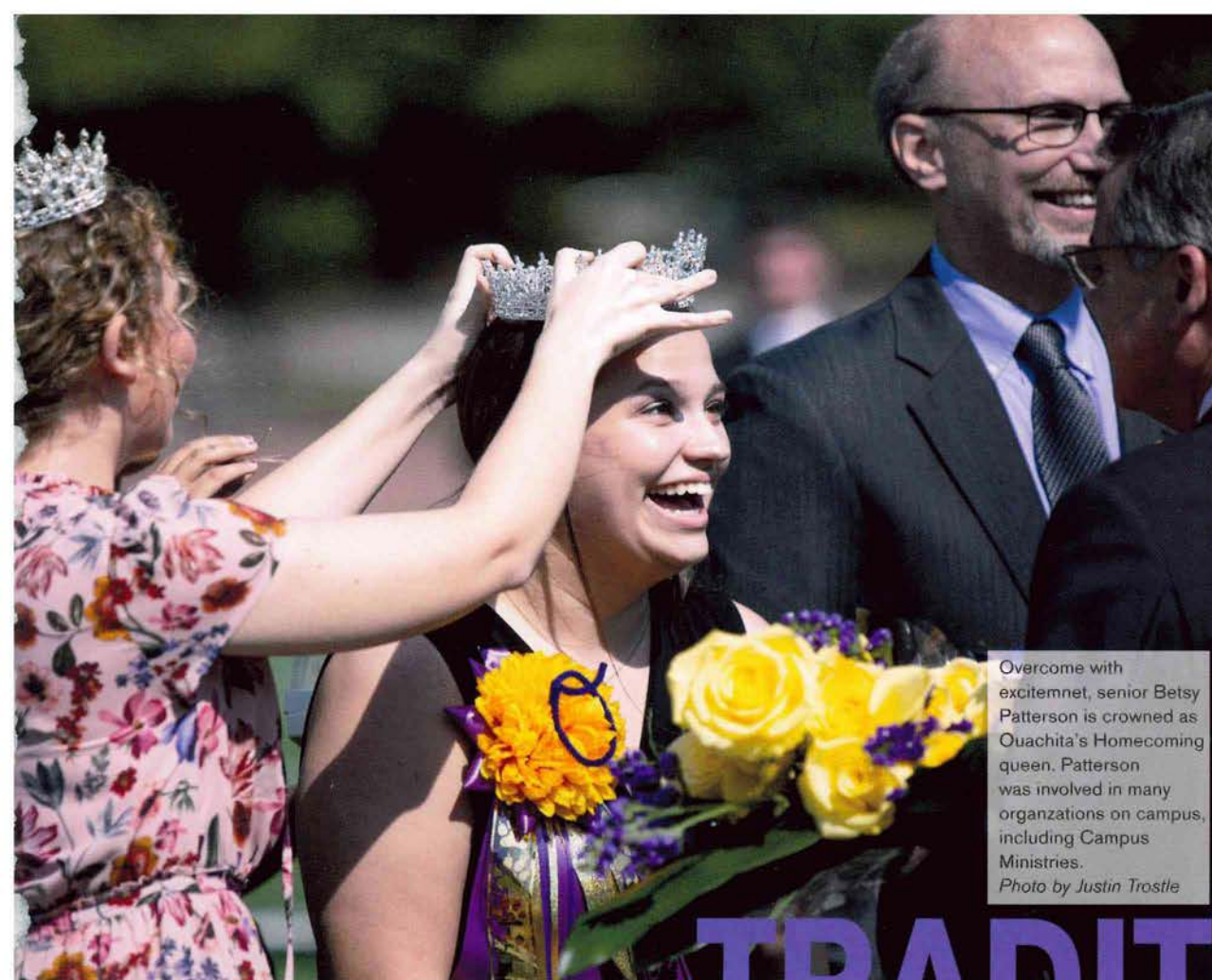
“That touchdown was in the third quarter to give us a 27-7 lead. This kind of sealed the game so I just remember being thankful to God for the team I played with. That win made us perfect halfway through the season, and from there we continued to be undefeated.”

- Brockton Brown



1. Senior Christian Gillium laughs with a Beta alumnus at Homecoming. Clubs hosted reunions in Grant Plaza.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*  
2. Sophomores Bailee Havener and Ashton Roots greet Gamma Phi alumni. Gamma Phi hosted its first Homecoming since being re-established as a club.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*  
3. Junior Elizabeth Ring and sophomore Madi Esch visit with alumni at the Tri Chi Tea.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*  
4. Sharing club letters, junior Abby Turner poses with her mom at the EEE Alumni Tea.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*





Overcome with excitement, senior Betsy Patterson is crowned as Ouachita's Homecoming queen. Patterson was involved in many organizations on campus, including Campus Ministries.  
Photo by Justin Trostle

EVENTS  
HIGHLIGHT  
CAMPUS

# TRADITIONS

Ouachitonians came from near and far to participate in the chaos and joy that is Homecoming.

Director of Tiger Tunes for the Ouachita Student Foundation, Addy Goodman, a senior political science and mass communication double major from Arkadelphia, was in charge of ensuring the club shows were going well.

"I think this job was a gift from God, one that I wasn't expecting and one I didn't think I deserved," said Goodman. "I didn't think I was capable of doing such an important task, and so being able to hundreds of my classmates and be trusted by them left the impact of being capable and thankful."

Tiger Tunes provided a place for alumni to return and relive their college days once again.

"I think Tiger Tunes is the flagship of Homecoming weekend. I think it is the reason people come home, and that is beautiful," said Goodman.

The football team played Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The Homecoming victory continued the Tigers' undefeated season.

Hayden Waller, a junior kinesiology major from Telephone, Texas, experienced the Homecoming game personally for the first time. After being behind the starters for the last two years, playing in the game was special to him. Homecoming was especially meaningful to see a packed stadium of

students and alumni.

"We have a lot of alumni come back and watch us play," Waller said. "We wanted to show how hard we worked for the win."

The club alumni events were designed for alumni to come back and enjoy socializing, eating, and fellowshipping before the football game. Keleigh Shands a senior psychology, sociology, and political science major from Searcy, attended the Women of EEE alumni tea.

"I enjoy it because I get to see a picture of my social club through the ages people come back and are so joyful," said Shands. "They are home, and Ouachita means a lot to them."

Student Senate remained busy facilitating the Homecoming queen nominees and crowning of the queen. Betsy Patterson, a senior secondary education and math double major from Richardson, Texas, was crowned Homecoming queen.

"It made me feel really loved and everyone talked to me before and after," said Patterson. "Receiving text messages of encouragement was nice. It was a really encouraging and affirming experience."

by Ana Oelenburger

"I enjoy it because I get to see a picture of my social club through the ages... and it is so joyful."

-Keleigh Shands

1. Sophomores Carrie Jo Harville, Celeste Pinkerton, and Emma Kelley make memories at the Gamma Phi TWIRP night. The night consisted of games and dancing.

*Photo by Grace Talley*

2. Freshmen Jack Webb and Pietra Camago hide behind their masks at Chi Mu's Masquerade. This was Chi Mu's first year to hold a masquerade theme.

*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

3. A group of sophomore guys pose next to a tractor at CM's Barn Bash. The night consisted of line dancing and a meal.

*Photo by Mitchell Waite*

4. Sophomores Cade Haynie, Jessa Bryant, Alyssa Price and Jonathan Sandy enjoy Tri Chi 80s TWIRP night. Students wore their best 80s costumes and participated in a costume contest.

*Photo by Michaela Allen*



# THAT LOVING Moment

"My first and last barn bash was bittersweet. I loved spending time dancing with my best friends, but I am sad to see it go. It was definitely the best TWIRP night!"

- Mercedes Svercauski



# BEYOND COMFORT ZONES TRADITIONS

Leading up to TWIRP week, Ouachita's campus was buzzing with excitement. Each year, students looked forward to shopping for creative outfits to wear to fit the themes of the events and securing a date or a group of friends to attend them with. TWIRP was enjoyed by students of all classifications, but was an especially valuable experience for freshman. These events were some of the first activities of the year that gave new students a chance to interact with their classmates and meet people they may not have otherwise.

"I decided to participate in TWIRP week because I hadn't really been involved in anything at Ouachita yet, and I wanted to start branching out," said Sophia Meryhew, a freshman art education major from The Woodlands, Texas. "I really enjoyed it because it got me out of my comfort zone in a fun way and helped me meet a lot of new people." Since its inception in the 1970s, tradition has been an important part of TWIRP, which is an acronym for "the woman is required to pay."

Each event is based around a particular theme, and hosted by a different women's social club or organization. Over time, some themes have changed. This year, new traditions were formed that will carry on for years to come. Emily Johns, a junior communications and media major from Amity, served as the Event Chair for

Chi Mu and helped plan the club's event. This year, the members of Chi Mu decided on a new theme: Masquerade.

"We thought it would be something different because there's not really a formal night during TWIRP week," said Johns. "We thought it would be fun to start the week off with something really formal and different." Ouachita's newly reestablished social club Gamma Phi held their first campus event in almost 20 years during TWIRP week. Their event, which was themed "Angels in the Outfield," served as an introduction of the club to the rest of Ouachita.

"Planning the TWIRP dance from scratch was an exciting process," said Lauren Williams, a junior graphic design major from Hensley. "We had fun sharing our different thoughts and ideas with each other. It was a great bonding experience for us as a group."

The chance to dress up, spend time with friends and meet new people is what makes this long-held tradition a favorite part of the fall semester.

"I really enjoyed it because it got me out of my comfort zone in a fun way and helped me meet new people."

-Sophia Meryhew

by Abby Leal

The Women of Gamma Phi welcome students at their Angels in the Outfield party Saturday night of TWIRP week. This was the first event Gamma Phi hosted since being re-established.  
Photo by Grace Talley





*Students use talents to start*

# *small businesses*

From different walks of life, one thing bonded these four students. They were all small business owners, taking the initiative by being creative and making a brand for themselves.

“I realized I loved making earrings, and it was a great way to relieve stress,” said Faith Briggs, a sophomore music industry major from Little Rock, AR.

“It was amazing how fast it has grown and all the support I have gotten,” said Briggs. She started her own business, “Shaped by Faith,” where she personally designs and makes clay earrings.

“I have gotten opportunities, like having a local bakery in Bryant want to display my products. It was a special moment having them pray over my business,” said Briggs.

Each business owner finds their own balance of

business and schoolwork.

“I go once a week to Hot Springs thrift stores, and I sell an average of 10 things a week online. On breaks, I spend a lot more time going to thrift stores,” said Ben Swanger, a senior communications major from Forney, TX.

In high school, thrifting was a hobby Swanger and his friends pursued until he realized he could make money doing it. He has gone to thrifting conventions and hosted pop up shops on campus.

“I walked into the convention wearing an Astros jersey, and a really famous thriftatier from Houston bought it right off my back,” said Swanger.

From street wears to studio art, these small businesses owners use their outlet to share their passions with the world.



“I have gotten opportunities, like having a local bakery in Bryant wanted to display my products; it was a special moment having them pray over my business.”

- Faith Briggs

(left to right) Junior Ben Swanger, sophomore Faith Briggs, senior Mandy Berry and sophomore Adeline Boyd hold items included in their small businesses. Students worked hard in their studies, and also building their entrepreneur etiquette. Photo by Justin Trostle

“I sold my first commission when I was 12, and since then by word of mouth and Instagram it’s kind of snowballed into what it is today,” said Mandy Berry, a senior studio art major from Nashville, TN.

“I am passionate about creating art that starts a conversation and addresses things like mental health,” said Berry.

She has done some amazing commissions over the years.

Each entrepreneur took a leap of faith by sharing a piece of what they love to do with the world.

“I have always liked art and making things, and wanted the chance to share it with others,” said Adeline Boyd, a sophomore elementary education major from Fayetteville, AR.

“I learned I was capable to run a little business. I love sharing what I make, and being confident about it,” said Boyd. “When you share your art, you are sharing your heart with others.”

These students are using their talents to share their gifts with the world, while getting to make some money and bringing joy to themselves and others.

“I needed to find something I was passionate about to fully be myself. I have learned more about who God created me to be through this,” said Briggs.

by Emily Barton

# THAT SPECIAL *Moment*

“After twirling for 14 years, I finally realized that this was the last game I would ever twirl at. Looking up in the crowded stands was a good way to end my twirling experience here at Ouachita.”

- Rachel Mills



Senior Allie Freeman leaps up in the corner of the endzone snagging a touchdown pass. Freeman was All-GAC First team and broke the conference record with over 237 career receptions.  
*Photo by Hannah Smith*



1. The senior class locks arms as they take the field for the Battle of the Ravine. This senior class was the winningest class in school history.

*Photo by Hannah Smith*

2. Freshmen paint their bodies to cheer on the Tigers. The crowd filled the stands and areas around the stadium.

*Photo by Hannah Smith*

3. Students take part in the tradition of carrying the torches to the pep rally.

*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

4. Junior Kat Allen holds a sign in the student section. The crowd cheered on the Tigers to an undefeated season.

*Photo by Hannah Smith*





TRADITION  
THROUGH  
THE  
YEARS

# SUPPORT

After a Reddie touchdown, the Tigers found themselves down four points with 1:37 left in the rivalry game between Henderson and Ouachita. The only thing that stood between another Tiger Battle of the Ravine victory, Great American Conference Title and a position in the Division II Playoffs were 74 yards between them and the endzone.

Before the week even began, the campus was prepped for a week of Henderson pranks and vandalism. Each night of the week, members from each class dedicated their night to guarding the beloved Tiger statue. Tents were pitched, coffee was brewed and memories were made during the tradition like no other. With the leadership of the Ouachita Student Senate and dedication of the Men of Rho Sigma, the tradition and Tiger was safe throughout the week.

"Us Rho Sigs carry a lot of pride in making sure the Tiger stays safe day and night," said Justin Villegas, a junior engineering physics major from Allen, Texas. "We see it as our number one responsibility for Battle of the Ravine."

The rivalry continued with heated pranks and late nights for students guarding the Tiger in the middle of campus. At the end of the week students not only had the game to look forward to but also

the traditional pep rally. Walking down to the pep rally with fire torches in hand, students cheered on their Tigers as they prepared for another great game.

Along with guarding the Tiger, players and students came together to participate in another cherished tradition, the bonfire of the burning "H" and pep rally performed by the band and cheerleaders. Dr. Casey Motl and Jacob Roberts, a senior football player and history major from Sherwood, Ark., delivered their pump-up speeches as fireworks capped off the night.

"I feel like this year was one of the best years as far as support goes for the team," said Roberts. "Having that support from all over campus played a big role in the confidence we had going into the game."

As for the game, with 35 seconds left, and facing third-and-goal from the Henderson State one-yard line, senior Brockton Brown plunged into the endzone for another Tiger Battle of the Ravine victory. The Ouachita stands were elated as the referee declared, "game."

by Madison Cresswell

"Having that support from all over campus played a big role in the confidence we had going into the game."

- Jacob Roberts



1. Members of the Tiger Serve Day leadership team celebrate the beginning of TSD. The team arrived early to set up for the event.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

2. Freshman Anna Holiman sorts clothes at Lighthouse Ministries for Tiger Serve Day. Groups were assigned different projects at various locations.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

3. Big TSD balloons were strung onto a truck for the event. This area served as a photo booth for teams to take pictures.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

4. Senior Madison Burch grabs supplies with the help of sophomore Able Kusaloka. Kusaloka served on the leadership team.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



# THAT FRUITFUL *Moment*

“Serving my grandfather (Bill Vining) on Tiger Serve Day has always been really special to me,” Madeline Wallace said. “He has given so much to OBU, and I love being able to give back to him, alongside my friends and classmates.”



# SERVING OTHERS IS A **LIFESTYLE**

Tiger Serve Day has been a day students, staff and faculty all look forward to. The service and sacrifice put forth by those involved is a perfect representation of what it looks like to spread Christ's love.

Judy Duvall is the Associate Director of the Elrod Center and is in charge of organizing Tiger Serve Day. She loves everything TSD and loves the acts of service displayed by the participants.

Duvall said, "Tiger Serve Day allows our student body, faculty and staff an opportunity to gather collectively and give back to our local community. This day gives us a tangible way to put our faith into action and serve others by meeting needs."

Unfortunately, the spring installment of Tiger Serve Day did not take place in Arkadelphia, but Ouachita still urged students at home to serve in some capacity.

"Because of the pandemic, our Ouachita volunteers were sheltered in place," Duvall said. "This gave us all opportunities to look at creative ways we could serve those closest to us both in our homes and neighborhoods."

Duvall continued, "We can carry this spirit of service wherever we are and in whatever circumstances we find ourselves in."

Ian Cosh, the vice president for community & international engagement, has been involved in TSD since its founding in 1997.

Cosh said, "When the Elrod Center was

established in 1997, we wanted to create a signature event that would involve the entire student body much like we do with Tiger Tunes and Tiger Traks, so hence I came up with the name Tiger Serve Day to relate three major events that are well known and loved by students at Ouachita."

Hannah Martin, a junior psychology major from Conway, is part of the leadership team. She especially loved being able to serve at home while practicing social distancing.

"As volunteers, we are able to be the hands and feet of Jesus and serve those in our community," Martin said. "Since COVID-19 made us go home early and stay quarantined, TSD at home edition was just an idea to bring that OBU feeling home. It was such a cool opportunity to bring a smile to someone in need."

Daniel Thomas, a senior finance major from Fayetteville, also served on the TSD leadership team. Thomas' favorite part of Tiger Serve Day was driving down Pine Street looking out at all the people making a difference in the community. Thomas said, "When I got blessed with the opportunity to join the TSD Leadership Team I knew this was the place for me. It's all about serving God and serving others."

Thomas continued, "I believe Tiger Serve Day isn't just an event, it's a lifestyle." by Ben Swanger

"I believe Tiger Serve Day isn't just an event, it's a lifestyle."

-Daniel Thomas

Junior Brooklyn Parker and senior Madison Burch head out to rake leaves as part of their Tiger Serve Day project. Many groups did yard work throughout the community as their team project.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship

# THAT WORSHIPFUL *Moment*

“It was cool to work with different people who were used to being in leadership, but were very quick to look at Robert, Landon and I to make decisions and organize things. I loved being able to lead some days, but also being able to just go to worship services and be in the congregation.”

- Marcy Clayton



Keenan Hord speaks at Refuge during Christian Focus Week. He is the youth pastor at First Baptist Bentonville. Photo by Ashly Stracener



1. Juniors Lindsey Crowder and Hannah Webber paint a banner.

The Art and Worship session was held in the Tiger Den.

Photo by Hannah Oliver

2. James Taylor interviews Rachel Pool, Bryan McKinney and Tyler Rosenthal. The topic was “Testifying in a Non-Ouachita World.”

Photo by Hannah Smith

3. Freshmen Kyleigh Stevens, Katie Bonge and Emily Stover enjoy cheesecake and coffee after a session by Sandra Glahn.

Photo by Hannah Smith

4. Students choose paints for the Art and Worship activity.

Photo by Hannah Oliver





CALLED TO  
SHARE THE  
GOOD NEWS

# TESTIFY

One week during the semester, multiple classes were canceled and schedules cleared for one purpose only, to gather with peers to focus on Christ. Christian Focus Week was organized and by leaders through Campus Ministries. There were multiple speakers for worship sessions and breakouts during the week. Senior speech communications major Mercedes Svercauski from Hot Springs co-led the week and started the planning process months in advance.

"We came up with the theme, what the design would look like and kind of what the vision was, the communication, and reviewing chosen speakers," Svercauski said. "We basically represent the student body when it comes to Christian Focus Week."

This year the theme was Testify, and the theme verse was Acts 20:24.

"We wanted to choose a theme that would be clear what the week would be about, find a verse to go with it and have t-shirts that students would want to wear," Svercauski said. "Before I got to college, I heard what Christian Focus Week was and I thought it was awesome that it was a week dedicated to spiritual growth for students. I couldn't wait to be a part of it, but also wanted to help in planning it and knowing the heart behind it."

Freshman Christian studies major Wade Wilson, from Springdale, AR, enjoyed participating in Christian Focus Week. He

attended most morning and evening worship times, Noonday, a dessert night with a seminary professor, and Refuge.

"Although OBU is a Christian college, it is very easy to get so wrapped up in classes, clubs, and organizations that you tend to neglect your relationship with God," Wilson said. "Christian Focus Week is a time to remind us that God is who's most important in our lives, and that our focus should stay on him throughout the hustle-and-bustle of our school year."

In the middle of the week, a group of students led worship in Berry Chapel at an event called Voices in Worship. Katelin Cotton, a sophomore worship ministry and Spanish major from Bryant, AR, not only got to participate in the week but also led her peers in worship.

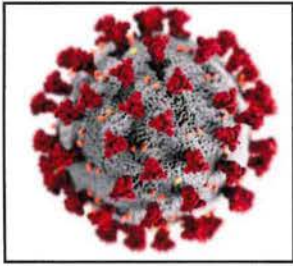
"I feel called to worship ministry, so getting to lead my peers has been such an honor in knowing that I am no better than them, but they are allowing me to lead them in worship is super cool," Cotton said. "During the week, I learned a lot about the context of the passages that are used against women in ministry, which gave me a better understanding of my calling in ministry."

"... my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given to me - the task to testifying to the good news of God's grace."

- Acts 20:24

by Gracen Goudy

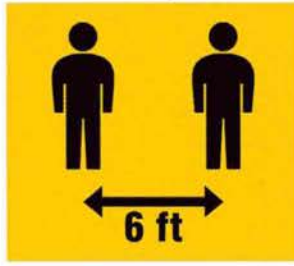
Images of COVID life...



Testing at football stadium



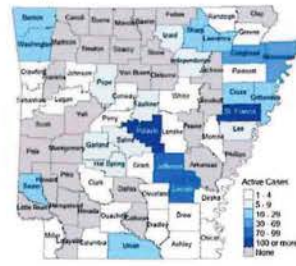
Social distancing



Virtual Tiger Serve Day



Mapping the cases



# FINDING THE Blessings

## AMONG A PANDEMIC

According to the CDC and as of the end of May 2020, Arkansas had a total of 105 deaths among the near 8,000 cases of COVID-19 reported. Though the lives lost due to this pandemic could never be overshadowed by students' personal heartache of missing out on their college experience, this is how the story impacted the Ouachita community.

Little did students know that after an announcement from President Sells' office was released on March 12, 2020, which at first extended Spring Break and established the two weeks following as an interval for online classes, there would be no more learning on campus for the school year of 2019-2020.

At first, students kept hope alive, posting on social media and praying that their stay at home was as brief as first announced. However, on March 3, 2020, President Sells delivered more news that echoed among universities across the nation in a decision to continue remote virtual learning for the remainder of the academic year. This email, leaving freshmen with no warning that such a significant year was complete and abruptly marking the end of seniors' Ouachita story, signified the deep threat of COVID-19. It declared that even the famous OBU bubble

### MOMENTS

#### DECEMBER 31

Chinese Health officials warn WHO about a cluster of 41 patients with a mysterious pneumonia; most linked to Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market

#### JANUARY 7

Chinese authorities identify a new type of coronavirus called novel coronavirus (nCoV)

#### JANUARY 20

First US case is reported in Washington state, a man who traveled to the Wuhan area

#### JANUARY 30

WHO declares a global public-health emergency

#### FEBRUARY 25

US CDC warns that spread to the US is likely and that people should prepare

#### FEBRUARY 29

US reports its first death

#### MARCH 11

Gov. Hutchinson confirms Arkansas' first presumptive positive case

#### MARCH 12

NCAA announces cancellation of all remaining activities.

Ouachita announces students will leave campus by March 15, and courses will move to remote instruction

#### MARCH 13

A US national emergency is declared

Wearing the masks



Livestreaming worship



Working puzzles



Washing hands



Zooming



could be penetrated, sending students home to learn in quarantine.

Though the pandemic forced students' classrooms to become Zoom meetings, Ouachita's faculty and staff tried their best to bring the indescribable culture of campus to online learning. With some professors having movie nights via Netflix Party and others having themed dress-up days, many claimed that the remarkability of Ouachita remained intact.

While, of course, much was changed, much also stayed the same. Many social clubs and student organizations continued to meet. Tiger Serve Day and Scholars Day became virtual events for students at home across the country. In the end, many could still find Ouachita's "love of God and love of learning" value to be true, and it's the "love of God" aspect that many focused on in this historic pandemic.

Daryn McMinn, a senior English major from Royce City, Texas, found some much needed rest through it all and realized God was using this significant time to teach her something new.

"The disruption of COVID-19 to my senior year left me feeling like I didn't have the

closure I wanted with Ouachita...but I think COVID disrupting my last semester was also a blessing in a lot of ways," said McMinn. "During this time, God has taught me a lot about how to love my family well. He convicted me of being too quick to speak, which often hurts my family. It's not loving to say cutting things, even if I mean them teasingly. I've had to learn to have more self-control and patience with them, to think before I speak and to give preference to them wherever I can. And I think learning to better love my family—whom I love more than anyone in the world—will help me to better love those outside my family."

McMinn continued, "I see that God has used this time during quarantine to teach people things we have needed to learn but that we weren't listening to with all the noise of the world. Quarantine forced us to be still and hear Him. I think He's used this time to help us re-center our hearts and minds on Him and on our families. I know I feel more grounded having endured all this, and I think I needed to tend to my roots here at home with my family and with the Lord before I branch out into the world on my own."

by Ethan Dial

Be still,  
and know  
that I  
am God.  
Psalm 46:10

**MARCH 17**

All public schools in Arkansas closed

**MARCH 19**

First reported case in Clark County

**MARCH 20**

Ouachita announces classes will not resume on campus for the spring semester

**MARCH 24**

US reaches 50,000 coronavirus cases

First death in Arkansas reported

**MARCH 26**

NYC becomes the epicenter of the US outbreak

**MARCH 29**

US passes 140,000 coronavirus cases - more than any other country in the world

**APRIL 6**

US death toll passes 10,000

**APRIL 24**

US death toll passes 50,000

**MAY 5**

Ouachita President Ben Sells announces the university plans to resume on-campus and residential life for the fall semester, and will follow CDC, ADH and university's Health Monitoring Action Team guidelines

**MAY 9**

Commencement originally scheduled for May 9 is postponed until October 10

**“SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL”**  
By MALLORIE SVERCAUSKI

“This piece was created for an exhibition in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., titled ‘The Beloved Community’. The Hope is that this illustration would inspire the viewer to engage, learn, and grow from people that are different from them, not judging someone based on the color of their skin, their age, their religion, etc.”



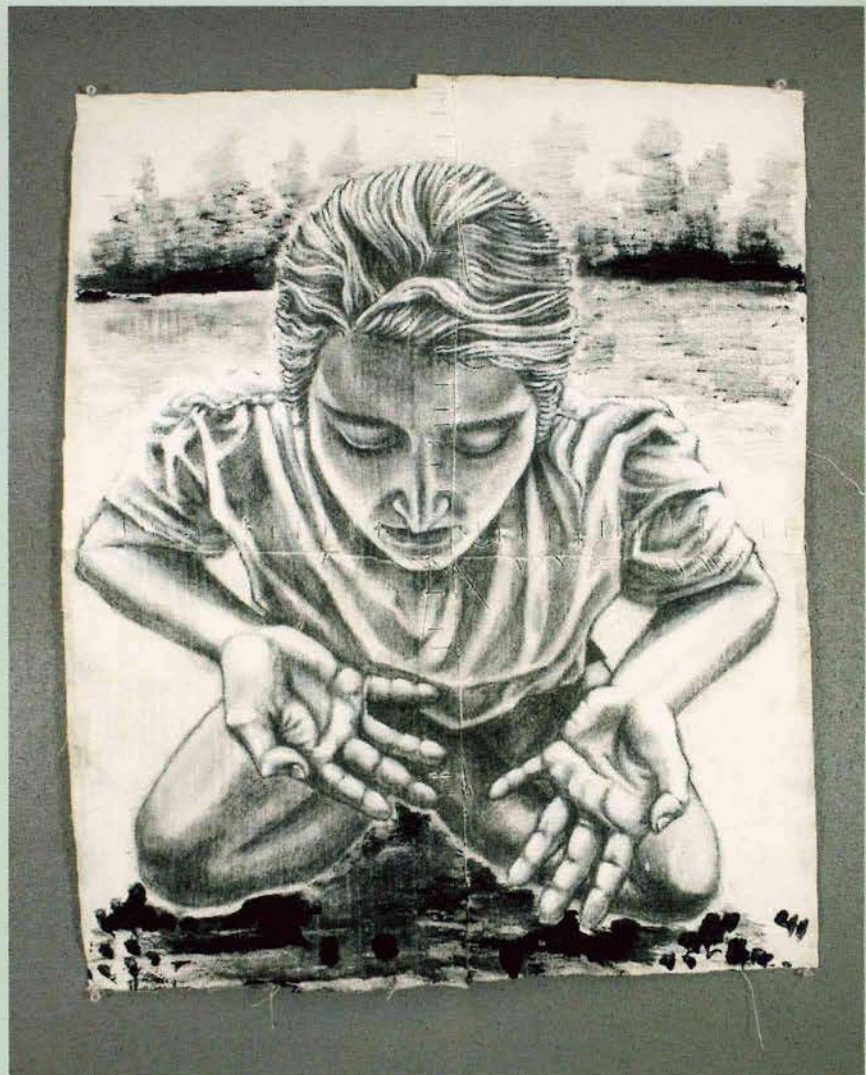
By TYLER DUNCAN

“Created through the sketchbook pro computer application.”

**“SNOW”**  
By LESLEY HOWARD

“Snow’ is a visual representation of the peace and rest that comes with moving away from the habits/thoughts/behaviors that hurt us. The canvas was created by stapling scraps of unused canvas together and priming the combined pieces with white gesso one would use with a classic, wooden, canvas. Ebony and charcoal were then used to depict the figure whose hands are clean - sitting in a position of receiving, as with the canvas, the state of moving from self-defeating behavior is not perfect; it is actually quite messy.

Yet, we ourselves are clean, resting in the knowledge that abundant grace always exists and that we are free to sit in this state of peace.”



# The Gallery



## “JUST START”

By **BETHANY LAGEN**

“Just Start’ is a fauxsaic, which is a fake mosaic, that was created completely digitally on Procreate. Most people have one thing they want to do but are scared of trying. The hardest part is just starting. The thing that stops me every time is the idea of perfection, I don’t want to make/share my ideas if it’s not perfect. Perfection holds us back but failing and making mistakes is how you learn so just start.”

## “DANIEL”

By **ANDREW WEST**

“This was my first attempt at a portrait I did that was digitally painted. I left in the mistakes and flaws to remind myself of where I started and how far I have come..”



## “LENNOX SOUND DELUX”

By **ABBY LEAL**

“This was such a fun project that began with a class field trip to the Caddo Valley Flea Market where we each chose an item to make an infographic about. I drew inspiration from one of my favorite directors, Wes Anderson, and really enjoyed making a puzzle out of my information.”





1. While being heavily guarded, senior Jaime Bunting looks for an open teammate. The opposing team, hardcorEEE, finished in second place in this year's intramural season.

*Photo by Maddie Cargile*

2. Shane Seaton leads students across the river. Students spent the day backpacking through the Ouachita National Forest.

*Photo by Jessalyn Vanderstucken*

3. Senior Ashley Stacener runs down the court while looking to get open during a basketball game. She played with her social club, and their team name was ChiMoney.

*Photo by Maddie Cargile*

4. Students sit alongside the river in the Ouachita National Forest. The hikers had to take their shoes off and put on water shoes in order to cross the river.

*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



# THAT IN-AWE Moment

"I have always loved the outdoors. Ouachita gave me opportunities to experience God's creation in a whole new way. For this trip, I forgot to bring shoes to cross the ice cold river cutting through the rugged cliff side.

- Daniel Thomas



ADVENTURES  
CONTRIBUTE  
TO LOVE OF

# OUTDOORS

Students loved to engage in active and outdoor events throughout the year to break away from the pattern of academics on campus. From hiking in the beautiful Ouachita forest to friendly competition on the lower intramural fields, Recreational Life provided students with numerous activities to get away from campus academic life.

Intramural sports and rock climbing were two popular options for students to participate in. However, there were also many other opportunities that allowed students to break a sweat and enjoy each other's company.

"My favorite thing about Rec Life is the diverse opportunities we provide for students to be physically active," said director of Rec Life, Shane Seaton.

One of the most popular activities Rec Life was responsible for is the intramural sports. Josh Ray, a freshman business major from Gilmer, Texas, was a referee for intramural basketball games. Ray followed in his older brother's footsteps working for the intramural referee team. Alumnus Sean Ray worked for the intramural team when he was a student a couple years ago. Ray enjoyed getting to see how the sport brought people together. The camaraderie

was fun to watch.

"There's a broad spectrum of students who participate in intramurals," Ray said. "Every social club has a team, but there's also a lot of teams that are just friends from different clubs or independents who are just there to have fun together."

Rec Life also hosted different weekend or break trips for students. This past winter break, the team took students on a snow retreat to Camp Honeyrock in Three Lakes, Wis. Students had the opportunity to cross-country ski, tube, ice skate, horseback ride, and relax around a bonfire.

"I loved every bit of the faster pace things like cross country skiing and tubing, but I think my favorite part would be our hike to the old cabin," said Kassidy Bond a freshman nursing major from Alexander, Ark. "It was really insightful to see how little we actually needed just to have a good time and be happy."

by Abby Turner

"I loved every bit of the faster pace things like cross-country skiing and tubing but I think my favorite part would be our hike to the old cabin."

• Kassidy Bond

After a victory in soccer, the Beta team calls it up. Beta had three different teams play during the intramural soccer season.  
*Photo by Hannah Oliver*

1. Sophomore Cade Haynie washes a car for his Tiger Serve Day project. Students formed groups with social clubs, majors or friends.

*Photo by Hannah Oliver*



2. Senior Olivia Wylie loads up a Thanksgiving basket for delivery.

Students collected food items and passed them out within the community for Thanksgiving.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

3. Senior Lauren Archer spends her afternoon tutoring a student.

Archer participated in America Counts through the Elrod Center.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

4. Junior Jonathan Rubin carries a box of tools before heading out to participate in Tiger Serve Day.

Students spent the day out in the community participating in multiple service projects.

*Photo by Hannah Oliver*



## THAT UNIQUE Moment

“The team has taught me how people who have unique characteristics can come together under one purpose to serve others. Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team has been a light in my life and in the lives of Arkadelphia.”

- Raegan Pyle



# SERVICE AND GROWTH LEADS TO **IMPACT**

Through the opportunities the Elrod Center provided, students were able to serve, grow and impact those around them.

Sophomore Allyson Oliver, a psychology and political science major from Conway, got involved with America Reads after hearing about it during Chapel freshman year. Her passion for reading led her to want to help kids in grade school, who were behind, to catch up.

"My favorite part has been getting to know the kids I tutor," Oliver said. "Each time I meet with them they get a little more comfortable around me and they let more of their personality show. They are so fun and encouraging. They teach me to slow down and not take life so seriously. They always remind me to have fun."

Oliver worked closely with the educators to help meet the students' needs.

Lauren Archer, a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Fordyce, was drawn into an Elrod Center opportunity her freshman year as well.

"I saw the email freshman year, asking for people to help deliver baskets, and I didn't have much to do that afternoon, so I decided to go help," Archer said. "I thought that was such a cool opportunity to help the community. After that, Mrs. Judy (Duvall) asked if I would be the student leader of the program for the next year, and each year after that. She saw my love for the program and could see my excitement as I spoke about my experience that first day."

Through the Thanksgiving Basket Program, students collected and delivered food to families during the holiday season.

"The most rewarding thing about helping lead this program is hard to say," Archer said. "Getting to see students come together and volunteer their time just because they want to help is wonderful. Also, just getting to see the people's faces when you hand them the basket is priceless."

Will Guerran, a junior finance and political science major from Benton, decided to get involved with Tiger Serve Day because he wanted to be a part of something that had an impact beyond him. Guerra served on the Leadership Team and was in charge of logistics. His role was to make sure all the volunteers had the necessary tools and equipment needed at various service projects.

"I love that the TSDLT is truly service-oriented, and nothing more," Guerra said. "The TSDLT, to me, is truly one of the most humble groups I've worked with, and it has been a refreshing experience to work with a group so pure in motive and so concerned with helping others, without worrying so much about how it looks to others or how it makes us feel."

"They teach me to slow down and not take life too seriously. They always remind me to have fun."

• Allyson Oliver

by Gracen Goudy



Juniors Emily Trigg, Charlece Lake and Avery Jackson place turkeys in Thanksgiving baskets. These Thanksgiving baskets were a way for students to give back to the community..

Photo by Abby Blankenship



*Shining a light on*

# *cultural diversity*

During the month of February, celebrations in addition to Valentine's Day and Kindness Day took place throughout Ouachita's campus. Students put on events in order to shine a light on African American culture and celebrate Black History Month.

Junior biology and psychology major Tyrese Allen, from Savannah, Georgia, served as secretary and choir director for the MORE organization. He played an extensive role in planning events for Black History Month. The multicultural students program, Nicole Porchia, and the MORE organization worked diligently to ensure the month's success.

"Celebrating this month on campus gives an

opportunity for my friends to ask questions and understand why I identify so strongly with my culture," Allen said. "Celebrating Black History Month creates an environment where students at Ouachita can feel comfortable learning and interacting with different types of cultures without the anxiety of being humiliated. The environment is safe and exploratory and that, to me, means the world. To be understood is to feel loved, and Black History Month aids in understanding of me and my culture."

Students took part in these events throughout the month of February. "It means the world to minority students at Ouachita that we are shining a light on other cultures," Allen said. "Ouachita



“It means the world to minority students at Ouachita that we are shining a light on other cultures.”

• Tyrese Allen

Coach Roy Thompson speaks at Noonday during Black History Month. Thompson is the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for the Tiger football team.

is becoming a more diverse campus with every semester, and she is adjusting well to the change.”

Senior music and Spanish major Katie Kumpuris from Little Rock, AR, attended some of the break out sessions and cultural events with her friends during the month that became fun and meaningful for her.

“I love the connections that form through honoring and celebrating black history,” Kumpuris said. “I, along with so many others, learn so many things I wouldn’t have otherwise during this month. Even more so, some great memories and friendships among different cultures have grown in my life because of MORE and Black History Month.”

Senior studio art major Bri Benton, from Bryant, Ark., was the president of the MORE organization. Her role during Black History Month was to make sure that students were well informed about the activities, to get volunteers to participate in the activities and to make sure the event ran smoothly.

“My favorite part about celebrating Black History Month on campus is seeing people that look like me come together and getting the opportunity to see my culture being celebrated,” Benton said.

by Gracen Goudy

# THAT MEANINGFUL *Moment*

“Being a student at Ouachita, I got to appreciate the story of Jesus’ resurrection in a whole new way through the language of German and the aspect of classically singing text from a holy song book reaching back hundreds of years into the beginnings of opera.”

-Logan Dooley



The cast of “Resurrection History” performs in McBeth Recital Hall. Ouachita Singers accompanied the cast as the chorus. Photo by Justin Trostle



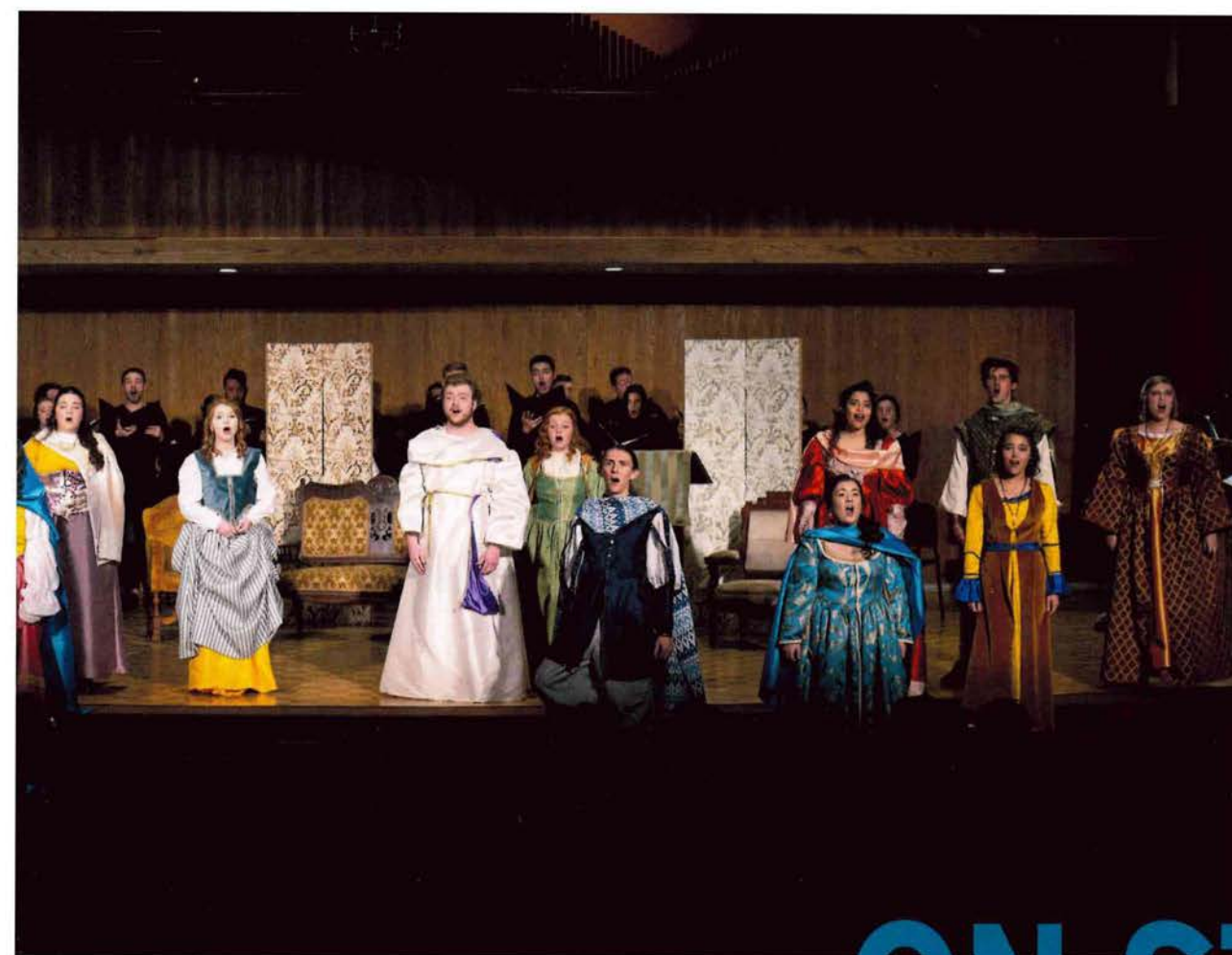
1. Junior Stuart Sowerbutts and sophomore Jacob Cates play the role of the two angels. The costume and scenery reflected the original opera performed in 1623. Photo by Justin Trostle

2. Although the spring performance of “Cats” was canceled, the cast performs “Jellicle Songs for Jellicle Cats” on video. Photo Submitted

3. Seniors Sharayah Wallace and Raleigh Peterson and junior Emma Lawyer join senior Hannah Hill on stage. The cast performed for six different shows. Photo Justin Trostle

4. Senior Raleigh Peterson glares at junior Emma Lawyer. Photo by Justin Trostle





TELLING  
THE STORY

# ON STAGE

During the fall semester, the theatre program brought the childhood stories of Junie B. Jones to life with the production of “Junie B. Jones, the Musical.” Also in the fall, the opera program presented “Resurrection History: The History of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.” Not only were the students in the productions enjoying the creative process and entertaining the student body, but these productions were helping to prepare students for their life after Ouachita.

Raleigh Peterson, a senior from Branson, Mo., and member of the Junie B. Jones cast, said, “I played one of the twins, Chenille. It was a really fun role but also it was challenging because our trio song was one of the hardest songs. So, I learned a lot from working on that song and it definitely improved my harmonizing skills.”

The Ouachita Theater department does not only give upperclassmen the opportunity to perform on stage but freshmen as well. Israel Jackson, a freshman music and Christian studies major from Van Buren, Ark., described what she gained from her experience in Junie B. Jones. “I learned a lot about team work and how to have fun on stage. I was able to grow closer to some of the other musical theatre majors and it helped me to have a support system in the theatre department.”

“Junie B. Jones the Musical” was followed by the Opera Theatre production of “Resurrection History: The History of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.” The opera, featuring baroque setting and music, was first performed in 1623.

The opera displayed the biblical story of Jesus’ life. Rather than using Jones Performing Art Center, the production was performed in McBeth Recital Hall to ensure optimal performance.

Logan Dooley, a musical theatre major from, Texarkana, Texas, played the role of Jesus. “The moment of learning and taking on such a role taught me a lot about myself,” he said. “It showed me what hard work and motivated practicing can do for me personally as an artist and what I can achieve if I put my mind toward something. The performing also showed me what God can do with those that you know to make a great story told in one of the most unique forms of expression, being through opera.”

Another unique aspect of the opera production was that the cast was accompanied by the Ouachita Singers. The group served as the chorus for the production.

The popular Broadway musical “CATS” was scheduled to take the stage in April but, due to the coronavirus, it was canceled.

Ms. Stephanie Murry, the director of “Junie B. Jones” and “CATS” described the unforeseen changes to the performance schedule. “The students, especially the seniors, were all disappointed to have their production canceled, but they handled it like professionals. We all understand these decisions are for the greater good.”

by Caroline Johnson

“I learned a lot about team work and how to have fun on stage.”

-Israel Jackson



1. Senior Emily Johnson and sophomore Cross Brandon embrace their characters during the production of "Almost Maine." The play was performed in Verser Theatre in February.

*Photo by Wesley Kluck*

2. Autumn plays Nora Helmer in "A Doll's House." Nora is a woman who feels trapped in a loveless marriage, but finally discovers the strength to become the person she didn't know she wanted to be.

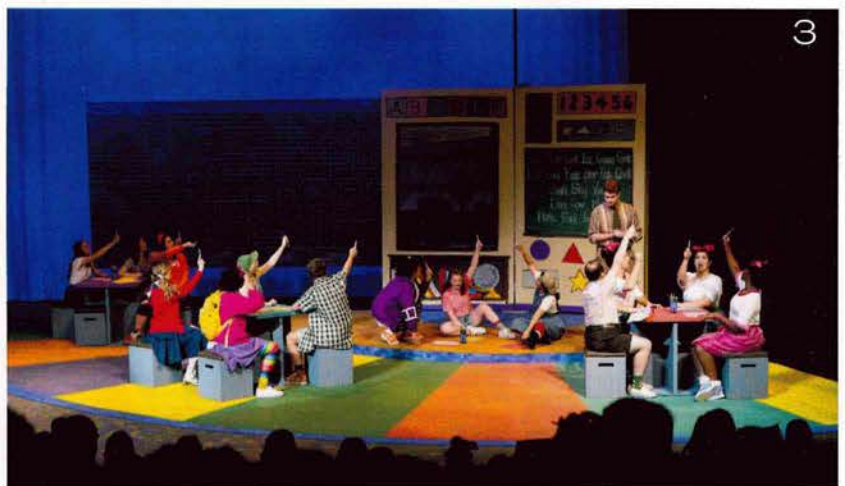
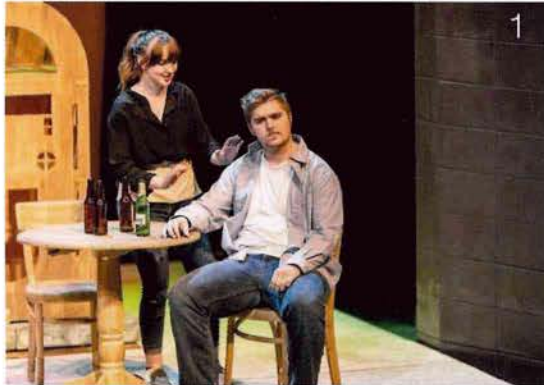
*Photo by Danielle Sourber*

3. The cast of Junie B. Jones sits in a classroom. Senior David Hudson played Junie B. Jones' teacher, Mr. Scary.

*Photo by Justin Trostle*

4. Concluding a song, the cast surrounds Junie B. Jones, played by Hannah Hill. The musical was enjoyed by all ages.

*Photo by Justin Trostle*



# THAT WOW Moment

"I was blessed to have played Junie B. Jones, who I spent hours and hours reading about when I was a little girl, and am thankful to our director, Stephanie Faatz Murry for believing in me and giving me this opportunity."

- Hannah Hill



# LEARNING TO ENGAGE YOUR **CHARACTER**

From “Junie B. Jones the Musical” and “A Doll’s House” to “Almost, Maine,” the theatre program gave students hands-on experience while providing the audience a rich evening of entertainment. The productions allowed for students to show their creativity and talent, while also giving them experiences that will last a lifetime.

“Being in the OBU Theatre has been one of my biggest blessings at Ouachita because I have been able to meet my closest friends,” said Elizabeth Dawson, a senior theatre musical major from Little Rock, Ark. “A special bond is created when you are in a show with someone which has made it so easy to perform with my friends.”

Dawson played Bossy-Head May in “Junie B. Jones the Musical.”

“I have grown so much as a performer while being part of theatre productions at OBU,” said Cedar Valdez, a senior musical theatre major from Garfield, Ark. “I believe that one of the most important pieces to getting better at something is simply doing it as much as you can.”

Valdez was able to leave his mark on theatre productions his last year at Ouachita. He has created some memories that he will cherish as he leaves OBU.

“This year was by far my busiest year in theatre productions. In the fall, I played Daddy in ‘Junie B. Jones the Musical’ and Torvald

Helmer in ‘A Doll’s House.’ In the spring, I co-light designed for ‘Almost, Maine.’ It has been a crazy year, but it has impacted me immensely as a performer. Knowing that it was my last year, has pushed me in everything that I have done and made me appreciate the people around me.”

“It truly take a village to mount at theatrical production,” said Stephanie Murry, assistant professor of theatre arts. “Much of the recognition is given to the actors, because that is who the audience sees in action. However, there are typically 20-40 people behind the scenes making all the magic happen. There is a team that builds/paints the set, another team responsible for costumes, yet another for props. The list goes on.”

One theatre performance was a bit different this year, with the All Night Theatre Festival taking place via a Zoom Webinar. Students rehearsed in Breakout Rooms on a Thursday evening, and then performed the following night on Zoom. Over 100 people attended the virtual production.

The annual Theatre Banquet was also held via Zoom. What is typically a formal evening was turned into a pajama party where the annual theatre awards are presented. The seniors were honored with their annual Senior Video.

by Houstin Kirkpatrick

“I have grown do much as a performer while being part of theatre productions at OBU.”

—Cedar Valdez

Senior Sharayah Wallace and junior Emma Lawyer sing to Hannah Hill in the lead role of “Junie B. Jones, the Musical.” The musical was performed multiple times in the month of September.

Photo by Justin Trostle



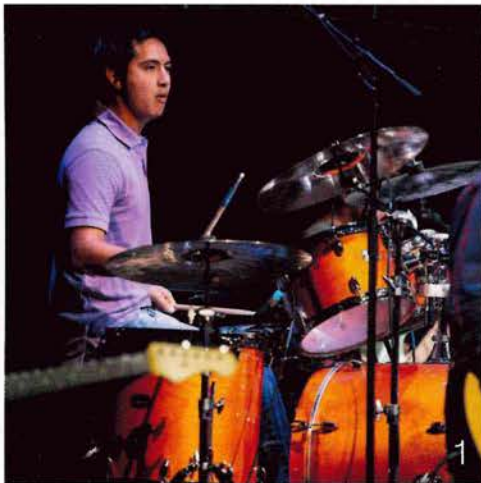
# THAT JOYFUL *Moment*

“It’s brought me so much joy not only to lead worship for the student body and for different churches around the state but also seeing those come after me having an outlet of growth and step into the calling that God has for their life.”

- Robert Pilcher



Senior Madeline Wallace speaks of her time spent in Ireland. Students shared their study abroad experiences to encourage other students who may be interested.  
*Photo by Danielle Sourber*



1. Richie Blosch plays drums with the Chapel worship band. Braden Crawley and Trexler Proffitt also led worship during Chapel on the drums.

*Photo by Danielle Sourber*

2. A speaker from Ireland spends his Tuesday speaking to students at chapel.

*Photo by Faith Webb*

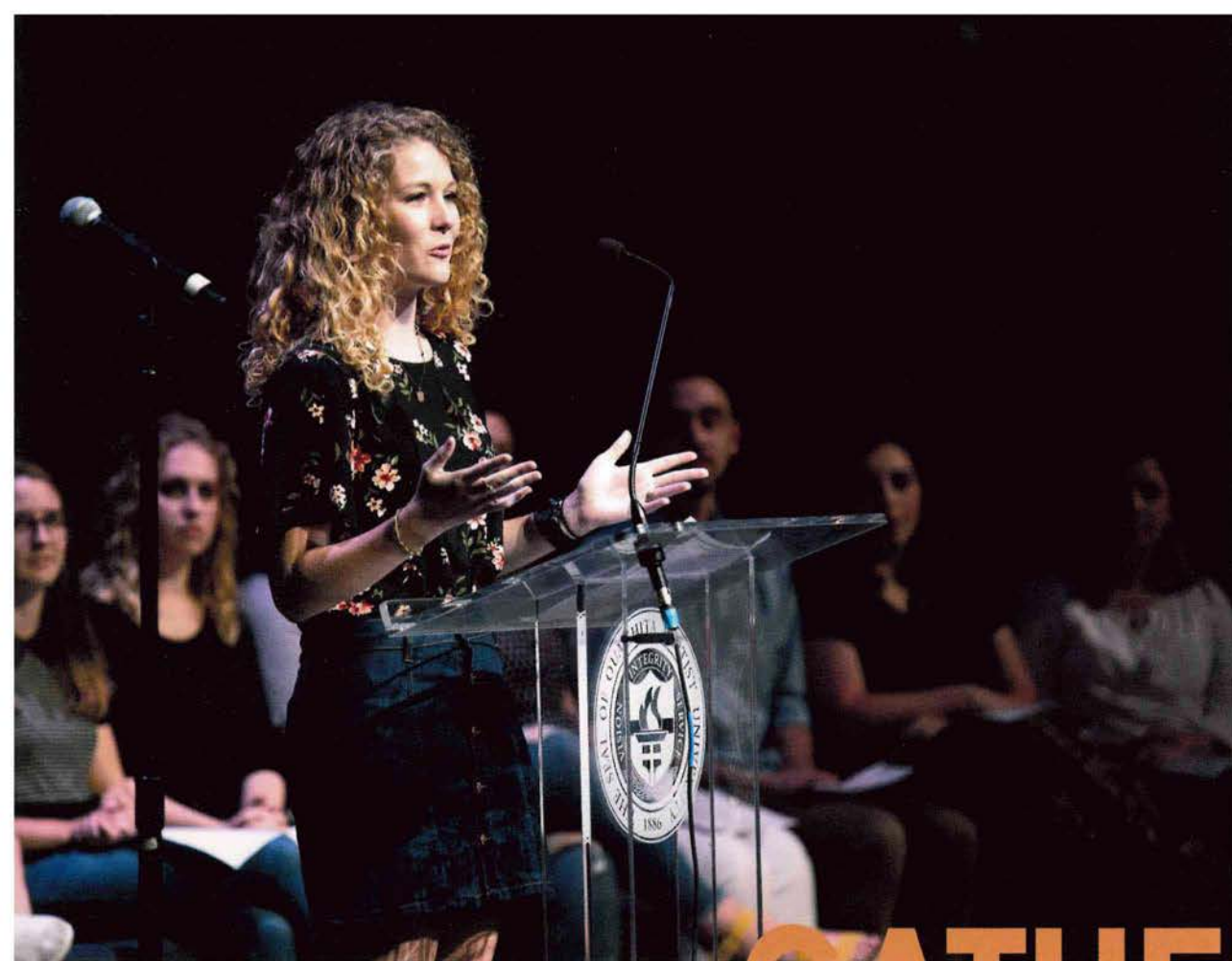
3. Sophomore Katlin Cotton and Karis Staley lead worship during Chapel. Students then shared their study abroad experiences.

*Photo by Danielle Sourber*

4. Sophomore Lucie Shepard leads worship alongside the band for Christian Focus Week.

*Photo by Faith Webb*





CHAPEL  
PROVIDES  
POSITIVE

# GATHERING

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. the student body gathered inside Jones Performing Arts Center to worship and listen to an inspirational speaker. This time provided students an opportunity to stop what they were doing and be encouraged and inspired by alumni and staff.

"As a Chapel 'watcher' for 32 years, I think that the sense of community Chapel offers is an extremely positive part of the Chapel and Ouachita experience," said Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement. "At a larger university, it would be impossible to allow the entire student body to gather for the common purpose of worship and celebration. At Ouachita, we can enjoy each other's company each week, and that is a unique experience offered at a smaller Christian university."

Weekly Chapel programs have been a part of the Ouachita tradition since its founding, and it was an integral part of spiritual and academic life.

"The most valuable lesson that I have learned from Chapel is to continue to seek God's heart in the midst of a stressful academic week," said Ellie Hooten, a junior art education major from Benton, Ark.

She described chapel as a blessing. "The message is always such an encouragement to me

when I least expect it," said Hooten.

Tanner Caton, a senior Christian studies major from Bryant, Ark., said he also saw Chapel as a blessing.

"I love the fact that Chapel is required for all students because it brings students to Chapel who wouldn't normally attend a worship service. The fact that students might hear about Jesus for the first time because of Chapel is so cool to think about."

Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus, students were sent home to complete the remainder of the spring semester online. However, Ian Cosh did not disappoint the Ouachita community. Even though in-person Chapel was cancelled, each Tuesday a Chapel podcast was made available for students on the podcast app on smart phones.

Faculty and staff contributed to the Chapel podcasts for students to listen to during the quarantine time at home. This was beneficial during a stressful and maybe lonely time for students. Being home for some students wasn't a healthy space and the podcasts helped bring life to many.

"...The sense of community Chapel offers is an extremely positive part of the Chapel and Ouachita experience."

• Ian Cosh

by Gracie Stover



**OUACHITA  
CLASS OF**

**2023**

The traditional commencement banners were hung on Cone-  
Bottoms Hall during the scheduled commencement week to honor the  
graduating class. Commencement was postponed due to COVID-19,  
and rescheduled for October 10.



**FRESHMAN CLASS 2016**

**SENIOR CLASS 2020**

Four years ago, the freshman class, along with President and Mrs. Sells, looked toward commencement for the Class of 2020, scheduled for May 9. Due to COVID-19, students transitioned to remote learning in March, and commencement was rescheduled for October 10.

However, the university honored the Class of 2020 on its original commencement day by hanging the traditional banners on Cone-Bottoms Hall, and releasing a video on May 9 honoring the graduating class. The video included comments and reflections by the Sells, along with each name of the Class of 2020.

In the video, Lisa Sells shared her thoughts about May 9. "Class of 2020, we're here without you, but we want you to know we've raised the banners at Cone-Bottoms because we miss you and we're honoring you even though you're not with us," she said.

The Sells shared their special relationship with the graduating class, since they were also new to Ouachita in 2016. "We have a

special relationship with the Class of 2020 because we started together four years ago. I was a new president and we were new to Ouachita, so we've done so much together."

The Sells reflected on special memories with the students over the last four years, including their first Tiger4Life ceremony, the president painting himself purple in response to a challenge he made to students, hosting students at their house, and four years of winning the Battle of the Ravine.

Reflecting on New Beginnings their freshman year, the Sells noted how the name of each freshman student was read out loud, and each student was prayed for as they began their college careers. Lisa Sells commented, "Even as that day we held you in our hearts and prayers, we are doing that as well again today."

In his closing comments, Dr. Sells noted, "I think what the Class of 2020 will remember from this time, is how we walked together."



*Dorm to*

# *home sweet home*

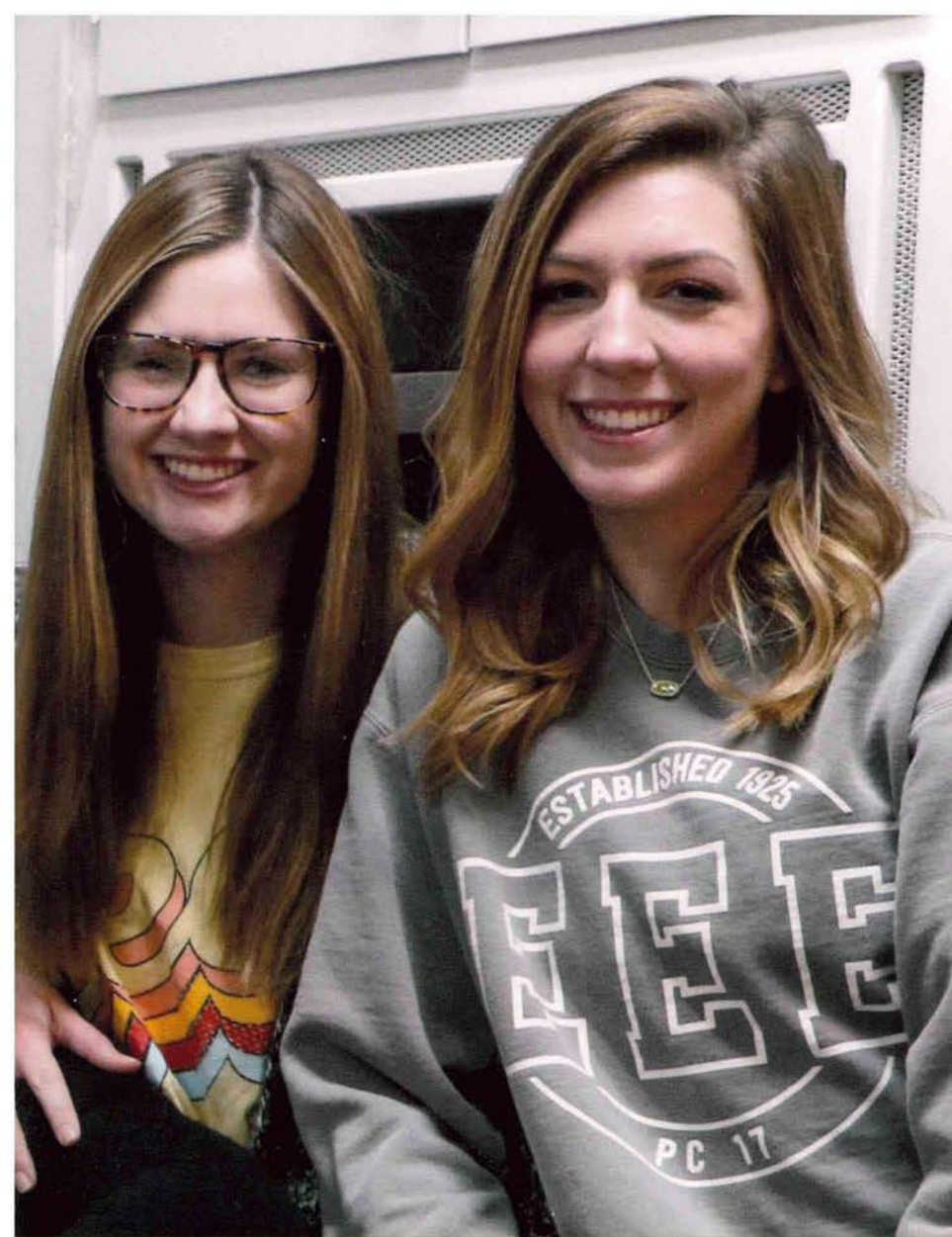
It was her senior year, and everything was perfectly lined in place. Except one thing that had slipped through the cracks: housing. Olivia Wylie, senior nutrition/dietetics major from El Dorado, AR, and her future suite had forgotten to fill out the housing application. This resulted in four upcoming seniors to be placed at the bottom of the list for the female student body and most likely being placed in Francis Crawford for their senior year.

“It was ironic at the time because my roommate since freshman year and I were talking one night about how we kind of missed the atmosphere of living in Francie and being so close to everyone,” Wylie said. “Little did we know we were actually going to get that opportunity again.”

There was mention of a house that the school might buy and use as another form of housing for upperclassmen. A few weeks later while packing up their rooms in Gosser to go home from the summer, the suite received a call that they had been offered the opportunity to live in a house instead of Francie.

“When we saw that we had an email saying we were the first on the list to choose if wanted this house or not, I’m sure all of first floor Gosser heard us because we were obnoxiously excited and surprised with this ginormous blessing,” Wylie said. “We decided without hesitation to live in the house and since there are six bedrooms, we got to pick two other girls to live with us.”

This two story, six bedroom house is located



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• Olivia Wylie

(left to right) Seniors Joahanna Olivas, Olivia Wylie, Kelsea Moore, Taylor Harper, Grace Gorman, and Alex Terry share a kitchen while living life together. The seniors were one of the first groups to live in a campus-owned house.  
Photo by Danielle Sourber

right across the street from the Elrod Center, at the corner of 6th and Hickory Street. The house has two living rooms, a kitchen and two and a half bathrooms.

Because of the increasing population on Ouachita’s campus, an additional house was purchased where four senior girls reside including Lexa Baxter, a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Murfreesboro, AR.

“I was overjoyed when given this opportunity,” Baxter said. “I had been praying that the Lord would take control of my living situation, and then He blessed me with living in a house with my own bedroom.”

This house features a living room, kitchen, dining room and one bathroom.

“A positive for living in the house is being able to have my own bedroom, kitchen and laundry room all in the house,” Baxter said. “The only con I would say about living here is having to haul trash in our cars to Pine Apartments trash can.”

These girls were the first to experience the school’s new housing opportunity. “I think in a way it has prepared us for adulthood in a sense because this is a house and not an apartment, so there is a lot more cleaning, responsibilities and bigger bills since there is more space and whatnot,” Wylie said. “I love the fact that I live with five of my best friends in the same vicinity.”

by Gracen Goudy