

FROM WINNING THE GAC

FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

TO MADISON BRITTAIN

SCORING HER 1,000th CAREER

POINT, TIGER NATION CAME

TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE ITS

THAT MOMSE OR SECHERRED TOGETHER









Tigers undefeated for second consecutive season

HAMPIONS

To start the season the Tigers ran onto Benson-Williams Field at Cliff Harris Stadium with ESPN cameras directed to them. The Tigers came into the season ranked sixth in the nation and took on 18th-ranked Harding. The Tigers left the field with an intense 16-14 win on a game winning field goal off the leg of freshman kicker Gabe Goodman a business major from Arkadelphia.

After the Harding game, the Tigers won 10 straight games, eight of which were by two touchdowns or more.

The Tigers pride themselves in their defensive product. The defense finished the season ninth in the nation in scoring defense by giving up a mere 16 points per game. The Tigers tallied up 23 sacks, nine interceptions, and five fumble recoveries.

"I believe what made our defense so great is the preparation each and every week," junior Shimorye Hampton a Kinesiology major from Shreveport, La., said. "Also we had the confidence and truly believed that we were the best defense in the nation."

Coupled with the defense, the offense averaged scoring 31 points per game. With a ground attack split among four big play threats in quarterback, Brayden Brazeal and running backs Brockton Brown, Shun'cee Thomas, and TJ Cole, the offense racked up over 3,000 rushing yards.

"Our offensive line is definitely the reason our running game is hard to stop," said senior Brockton Brown a biology major from Sheridan. "Those guys are by far the best unit in the GAC and they do all the heavy lifting for our running attack."

Heading into the 93rd Battle of the Ravine, Henderson State was ranked No. 20 and Ouachita No. 5. The all-time rivalry record was all tied up at 43-43-6. In the greatest DII rivalry, aired on ESPN, the Tigers won their fourth straight BOTR in intense fashion, 24-21, and wrecked the Reddie's playoff dreams.

Senior Mitch Emirch a communications major from El Dorado said, "My senior class has never lost a football game to the team across the street, and we knew were the better team."

The Tigers finished the season on a 41-38 first round playoff loss to Lindenwood University. Despite the first-round exit, it was another great season for the Tigers. Coach Todd Knight was named Great American Conference Coach of the Year for the fifth time in the past nine seasons, and also was named AFC Divisional Coach of the Year. Eighteen Tigers were named to the All-GAC teams.

by Ben Swanger

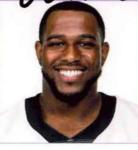


KEYMoment



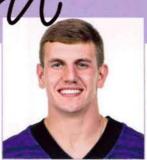
"The moment that impacted me the most was my first missed field goal. I realized what college football is all about, having the whole team count on me to make the kick. I now strive for perfection because of that moment."

- Gabe Goodman



"I realized we had something special during fall camp. The camaraderie and work ethic before even playing a game was great. We became a family for something more than just football."

- Cori Gooseberry



"I knew we had something special when we were in a dog fight with Harding and ended up winning on a game winning field goal."

- Brayden Brazeal

SCOREBOARD



OVERALL 11-1





Freshmen Noah Sanders, Noah McCallum and Conner Bjerke sport the "O-B-U" on their chests for the home opener. Photo by Justin Trostle

The Men of Eta Alpha Omega enjoy the view of another Tiger victory. The Eta's had a strong tailgate presence all season. Photo by Justin Trostle



FOOTBALL TEAM (front row) Allie Freeman, Keandre Evans, Jon Johnson, Tyrik Harris, Jake Ford, Shun'Cee Thomas, Brockton Brown, Head Coach Todd Knight, Lafoy Smith, Mitchell Emrich, Hunter Groom, Michael Neathery, Jacob Roberts, Cori Gooseberry, Zach Curry, (second row) Sabrina Russell, Mara Gillespe, Keemontrae McKnight, Andrew Hayes, CJ Heckard, Julius Clark, John Williams, Dawson Miller, Brayden Brazeal, TJ Lewis, Seth McDowell, Trey Proctor, Hunter White, Taylor Gillham, Tucker Swaboda, Nate Hayden, TJ Cole, Grant Allen, Austin Guymon, Hunter Swaboda, Zack Perez, Savannah Hogg, (third row) Taylor Harper, Justin Dean, Tommy Crumpton III, Darius Hopkins, Kenta Jones, Hayden Lassiter, Dhante Gibson, Geary Allmon, Jonathan Harris, Gregory Junior, Zion Hatley, Dawson Dabbs, Oshae Pruitt, Jar Merrick Waller, Caleb Scott, Carsten Johnson, Trey Flint, Josh Burnham, Jonah Williams. (fourth row) Kelsea Taylor, Cole Edrington, Demarcus Yancy, Terrell Gibson, Bryson Vance, Jack Pillow, Kyle Gasaway, Ian, Abe, Ty Compton, Josh Watson, Griffin Brown, Rico Gonzalez, Anthony Freeman, Jack Burnham, Will Broussard, Ethan Gasaway, Lifith row) Cailey Maples, Alex Rowe, Dawson Miller, Ben Carpenter, Ramello Cason, Dameyun McDonald, Matthew Howard, Josh Wallace, Brock Howard, Jax Young, Hunter Jackson, Nathan Turner, Garner Hodge, Austin Blair, Josh Plunkett, Allyson Edwards. (sixth row) Madison Montgomery, Ethan Harvey, Peyton Stafford, Jarvis Gulley, Nate Zeller, Rashard Martin, Jonathan Beasley, Jacob Barker, Anthony Chairez, Zacary Henson, Josh Watson, Nate Zeller, Mason Martin, Jackson Coleman, Ontario Conway, (seventh row) Lexie, Brock Strother, Cannon Morgan, Dylan Clayton, Hayden Waller, Tyrell Robinson, Zach McWhorter, Steven Benson, Reagan Neal, Caleb Woodfield, Shirmorye Hampton, Noah Pruitt, Rovell Carter, Lavery Shepherd, Hunter McCord, Clark Yarbrough, Gabe Goodman, Oscar Pinedo, Luke Brinkerhoff, Jordan Meacham. (back row) Coach Jay Derby, Coach Harp, Coach Denec Knight, Kyler Bowers, Luke Roberson.

SCOREBOARD

| UT TYLER | 3- |
|------------------------|-----|
| MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | 1- |
| A&M COMMERCE | 3- |
| ST. EDWARD'S | 1-3 |
| MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | 3-0 |
| MISSOURI S&T | 2- |
| ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE | 3-2 |
| LYNN | 0-3 |
| SOUTHERN ARKANSAS | 3- |
| ROCKHURST | 0-3 |
| CHRISTIAN BROTHERS | 3-2 |
| MISSOURI S&T | 1-3 |
| MONTICELLO | 3-1 |
| HARDING | 3-2 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 1-3 |
| HENDERSON | 3-1 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 1-3 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 2-3 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 3-0 |
| SE OKLAHOMA | 3-2 |
| SW OKLAHOMA | 0-3 |
| NW OKLAHOMA | 1-3 |
| HENDERSON | 0-3 |
| HARDING | 0-3 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 3-2 |
| SOUTHERN ARKANSAS | 3-2 |
| MONTICELLO | 3-2 |
| NW OKLAHOMA | 1-3 |
| | |
| OVERALL 14 | -14 |

Senior Katie Camp goes up for the kill. Camp is a reigning GAC Elite Scholar Athlete. Photo by Abby Blankenship Freshman Joni Schneider sets up sophomore Emily Low for a spike. Low racked up over 200 kills and Schneider over 300 assists. Photo by Maddie Cargile







VOLLEYBALL TEAM (front row left to right) Julianna Mack, Abi Roberts, Emily Bass, Temi Fayiga, Lexie Castillow. (middle row) Katie Camp, Abby Cagle, Rileigh Fielder, Shannon Hogan, Joni Schneider. (back row) Emily Low, Karli Ferguson, Adrianna Nolly, Audrey Gallagher, Tabatha Huckabee. *Photo by Wesley Kluck*

KEYMoment



"Our most complete game was our final matchup with Tech. By winning, it gave us a better chance at making the tourney. Our momentum carried us into our next two wins."
- Rileigh Fielder



"Even when the momentum was in Tech's favor, we fought with everything we had to get the win. That game was the spark the team needed."
- Katie Camp



The Tigers were up and down all season long, but when it mattered the most the ladies were up on their A-game. Coming off three straight seasons with 19 or more wins, the Tigers have built a nice pedigree, but also have winning expectations to live up to.

The Tigers started the season 6-6 trading wins and losses each game. Hovering around a .500-win percentage all season long the Tigers seemed to be on the verge of breaking out but never were able to until the season was winding down.

"Our turning point was when we all came together as a team and decided to use adversity as motivation rather than an excuse," said redshirt freshman accounting major from Frisco, Texas, Temi Fayiga. "We all made the commitment to give 100 percent effort 100 percent of the time and that translated into becoming the best version of our team we could be."

Heading into a home game against Arkansas Tech the Tigers were 11-13 and had lost four straight. It would have been easy to quit on the season as they were not in the postseason picture. The Tigers, however, saw an opportunity to run the table. With three straight wins, they wedged themselves into the tournament picture.

Being able to turn things around was as a result of the team's family atmosphere.

"A major turning point was the team bonding so much off the court and being more compatible with each other," said sophomore psychology major from Austin, Texas Emily Low. "It's hard being a team with new players, but the more we all hang out and do fun things with one another the easier is it to be a strong team on the court."

With 3-2 victories against Arkansas Tech, a road victory against Southern Arkansas and a senior night win against Arkansas-Monticello the Tigers charged their way into the Great American Conference tournament. One week the Tigers were out of the conference tournament conversation, but the next week, they moved up to the seven seed. The Tigers finished conference play 9-7.

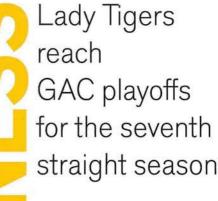
The Tigers rounded out the season with a 3-1 loss to Northwestern Oklahoma State in the GAC Tournament. Nonetheless, the Tigers proved their unwavering determination down the stretch.

Sophomore Lexie Castillo was named to the All-Conference team, Katie Camp and Julianna Mack were named Elite Scholar Athletes and Shannon Hogan and Temi Fayiga were named Distinguished Scholar Athletes.

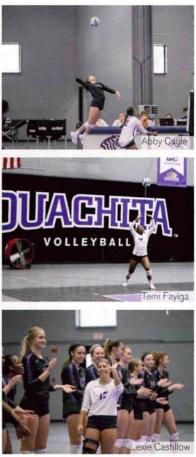
Despite the ups and downs the Tigers were able to come through in crunch time. Must-win games are no easy task, but the ladies never batted an eye, rattling off three straight to continue their streak of GAC Tournament appearances.

by Ben Swanger

















Tigers fight their way through a tough schedule with dignity

Coming of a conference championship, the Tigers were continued their success in the new season. With new teams joining the Great American Conference, new challenges were in front of the Tigers.

Starting with three losses and a tie in their first four games, the Tigers went into conference play with little momentum. Despite the struggles, the Tigers were able to start the conference gauntlet with a 1-0 win over Southern Nazarene. A shot off the foot of senior Nery Flores a business major from Little Rock was the winning goal; it was his first career goal.

"Our coach always talked about the four phases of a team development: forming, storming, norming, and performing," Flores said. "With my goal against SNU and the win, it helped us overcome the first three phases."

The struggles would continue for the Tigers, but the season highlight came on October 12 in an afternoon match with 25th ranked Rogers State. In an overtime thriller, freshman David Stankovic a Computer Science major from Wylie, Texas, kicked in the game-winning goal to send the Tigers home with a victory.

Stankovic said, "That goal couldn't have happened without my teammates giving it their all in the second overtime."

Despite the struggles, the team never let that get in the way of their family atmosphere.

"After the late goal to give us the win, we all piled onto each other," said sophomore Kobe Coleman a business major from Georgetown, Texas. "It was a moment of fulfillment and excitement that I won't forget. That day I felt we became a family. Nobody could take that away from us."

The Tigers would capture two more wins the rest of the season against Southern Nazarene and Harding.

Junior goal keeper Matt Day a business major from Texarkana, led the Great American Conference with 86 saves, averaging just over five per game.

The new additions to the GAC proved costly to the Tigers' success, but they are looking to bring back their winning ways next season.

by Ben Swanger





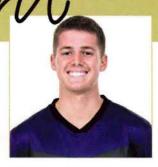
"Against Southern Nazarene, I put the team up 1-0 on a PK and scored a goal by a through ball from Ryan Wilson."

- Abraham Lazo



"Against Rogers State we played a golden goal OT and in the second half we had a header in the corner and it was game over."

- Matt Day

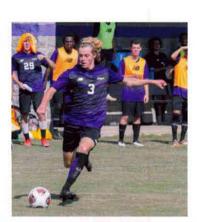


"We went into the Rogers game as underdogs and won 2-1. It was the most complete game we put together this year."

- Ryan Wilson

SCOREBOARD





Freshman David Stankovic shoots the ball on the edge of the 18 yard box. Stankovic appeared in every game in his rookie campaign.

Photo by Hannah Oliver

Zach Larkin crosses the ball to his teammate along the sideline. Larkin had his season high in minutes at 47 against Delta State and Southern Nazarene. Photo by Hannah Oliver



MEN'S SOCCER TEAM (front row): Morris Tsuma, Jared Cox, Alexis Lara, Zach Larkin, Jasper Capaciete, Ryan Wilson, Abraham Lazo, Jakob Cuellar, Nery Flores, Noa Cuellar, Johnny Hanifan, Henry Terry, Collier Byrd, Caden Pulliam, James Jolly. (back row) Michael Soldner, Max Kenyan, Mariano Escobedo, Ryan Shaughnessy, Hector Duran, David Stankovic, Ryan Nolen, Kyle Nelson, Matt Day, Nathan Bloomer, Kobe Coleman, Michael Roach, Blake Andros, Natneal, Abeje, Matt Heffernan. Photo by Wesley Kluck

| MISSOURI S&T | 1-2 |
|------------------------|-----|
| DRURY | 0-1 |
| DELTA STATE | 0-1 |
| MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | 0-0 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 1-0 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 0-1 |
| FORT HAYS ST. | 2-2 |
| NEWMAN | 1-2 |
| HARDING | 0-2 |
| NE STATE | 0-2 |
| ROGERS STATE | 2-1 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 1-3 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 3-1 |
| NEWMAN | 0-3 |
| FORT HAYS ST. | 0-1 |
| HARDING | 1-0 |
| ROGERS STATE | 0-3 |
| NE STATE | 2-3 |

OVERALL 4-12-2

SCUBERUVEU

| OUGILLOGA | N D |
|-----------------------|-----|
| NE STATE | 1-2 |
| UT TYLER | 1-0 |
| A&M COMMERCE | 0-1 |
| A&M INTERNATIONAL | 4-3 |
| DELTA STATE | 1-1 |
| CHRISTIAN BROTHERS | 0-1 |
| HARDING | 0-1 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 2-1 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 1-0 |
| NW OKLAHOMA | 2-1 |
| SW OKLAHOMA | 0-1 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 1-0 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 2-0 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 4-3 |
| SW OKLAHOMA | 1-1 |
| NW OKLAHOMA | 2-1 |
| HARDING | 2-0 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 1-4 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 0-1 |

OVERALL 10-7-1

Meagan North dribbles the ball down the middle of the field. North racked up over 1100 minutes this season. Photo by Levi Dade Ashlyn Heckman passes the ball down the field to a teammate. Heckman accounted for 19 points this season. Photo by Levi Dade







WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM (front row) left to right: Kylie Sharp, Gracen Turner, Katie Crouse, Madelyn Filla, Erin Webster, Michele Snow, Emma Schaeffer, Olivia White, Jayden Glover. (middle row) Kaylee Bobbitt, Jamie Fowler, Madison Humbard, Sydni Perry, Jaymee Dotson, Ashlyn Heckman, Josilyn Kispert, Ashlyn Lynch, Reese Marks, Morgan McCarty, Chloe Schnaitman. (back row) Hanna Thompson, isabella Lowry, Carmen Scott, Meagan North, Alyssa Hardan, Simone Norvell, Erica Gaddie, Makenna Kager, Anna Black, Asha Samson. Photo by Wesley Kluck



"I knew it was going to be a special year when we beat Oklahoma Baptist. This was the first time we beat them in my three seasons. It was also their first conference loss in two years!"

- Carmen Scott



"When we met our freshman class during preseason, I knew the new talent mixed with our talent from last year could make our team super competitive and aggressive."

- Erin Webster



"The key turning point was when we beat Oklahoma Baptist at the beginning of the season. They were the defending champs and we lost to them three times last season. So, beating them gave us the boost we needed."

- Ashlyn Heckman



For the first time in four seasons the Ouachita Lady Tigers put together a winning season on the soccer field. Growing pains were experienced, losses were taken and bumps in the road were hit, but the Tigers broke through this season to earn double digit wins for the first time since 2015.

"I realized we had an amazing team fairly early on in the season," said sophomore goal keeper Madelyn Filla a psycology major from Flint, Texas. "We meshed really well with the freshmen during the preseason, which resulted in great team chemistry and the amazing season we had."

The women started off the season 2-4, but panic never set in. Going into the match with Oklahoma Baptist, the Tigers had lost two in a row. Oklahoma Baptist had not lost in 27 straight regular season Great American Conference games, but to Ouachita they would fall.

With two second half goals, the women rallied to defeat the reigning conference champs 2-1. It was a turning point in the season that propelled the women to a successful year.

Three weeks later Oklahoma Baptist sought revenge as the Tigers travelled to Shawnee, OK. But the Tigers did not let them take advantage. The Tigers outscored the Bison 4-3 in another improbable victory.

"The first win against Oklahoma Baptist was very much a confident booster," sophomore Makenna Kager a biology major from Sulpher Springs, Texas said. "Last year they won our conference so being able to beat them not only once but twice put us in a good position as far as conference rankings."

The women would move on to win eight out of their next 10 in a magical run to the conference tournament.

Unfortunately, the run would end as the Tigers once again ran into Oklahoma Baptist. This time around, the Bison defeated the Tigers 1-0. Despite the disappointing ending, the Tigers proved they have built a winning program for years to come.

"My favorite moment was after the last game, even though we lost, all of my teammates hugged me, knowing it was my last game," senior Katie Crouse, a communications major from Allen, Texas, said. "In that moment, I just felt so loved, even though it was the ending of a chapter."

Carmen Scott was named the GAC defensive player of the year as well as an all-region team member, while Jaymee Dotson, Erin Webster and Ashlyn Heckman also received conference honors. The Tigers will look to continue to build upon the momentum going into 2020.

by Ben Swanger

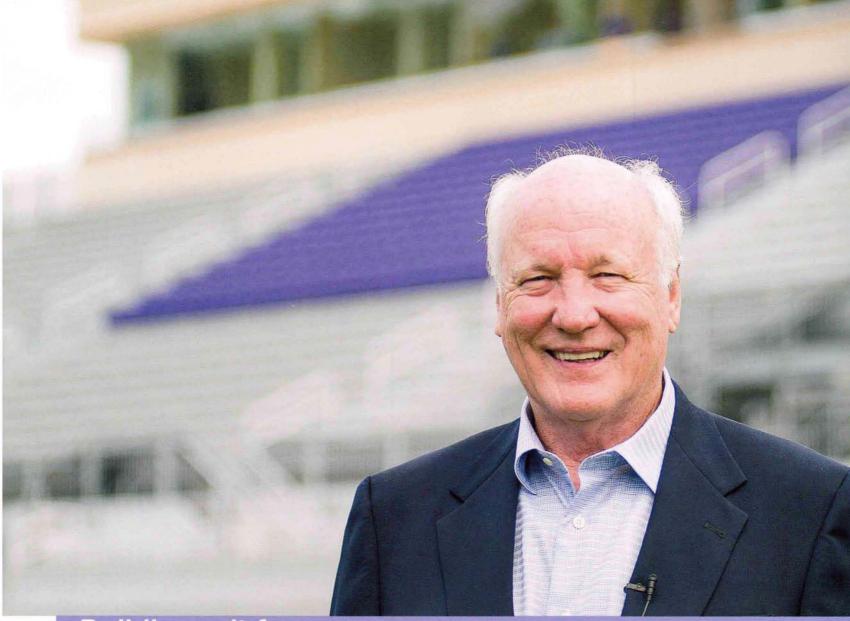












Building grit from a

small town legacy

Cliff Harris now lives in football immortality as a Pro Football Hall of Famer, but he rose from humble beginnings. Out of Des Arc High School, one of the greatest safeties to ever grace the NFL gridiron had one scholarship offer. That offer was from Ouachita Baptist University.

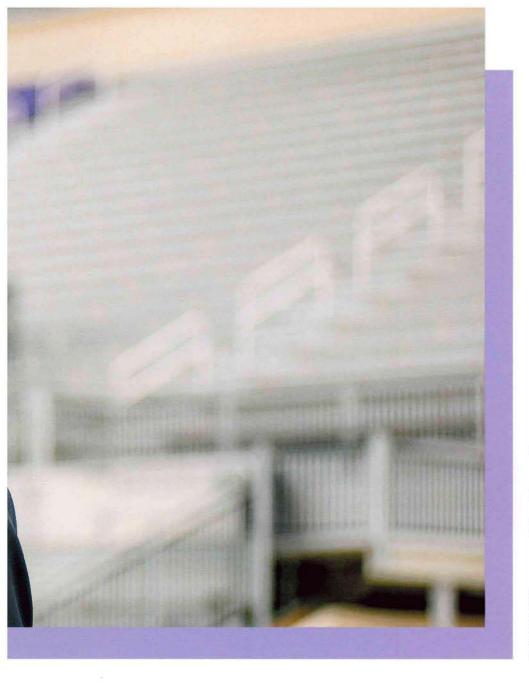
Harris told the simple story of his recruiting process. "Every morning, Coach Buddy Benson would have coffee with Red Nelson, and Red told Coach Benson, 'Buddy Harris has a son that plays quarterback, why don't you give him a scholarship?'"

The rest is history.

At Ouachita, Harris transitioned to defensive

back where he learned the nuances of the safety position. Harris played under one of the NFL greats in Coach Tom Landry, but believes Coach Benson orchestrated more grueling practices. Harris said, "The two-a-day practices on that OBU field were harder than the Dallas Cowboys. The reason Ouachita won, and the reason I made it in the NFL, is I was tougher than a lot of the guys." Harris credits his success to his WWII hero father Buddy Harris and Coach Buddy Benson.

Harris' father lost his vision and was unable to watch Cliff deliver the majority of his backbreaking blows in the NFL, but nonetheless, his father demonstrated toughness through it all.



"I always believed if I could make it through Buddy Bob's practices, I was tough."

Cliff Harris

Cliff Harris stands on the new turf on Benson-Williams Field inside of Cliff Harris Stadium. In 2014, through generous donations, OBU made renovations to the football stadium and named it in honor of NFL legend Cliff Harris.

Photo by Hannah Smith

"One of the elements of making it in pro football, and I believe in life, is mental toughness; my toughness came through my dad," Harris said.

Harris continued, "Coach Benson also taught me mental toughness. He talked about a fine line between winning and losing, and I always believed if I could make it through Buddy Bob's practices, I was tough."

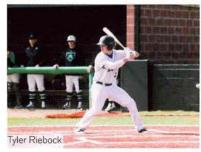
In 1970 the Dallas Cowboys brought in 120 undrafted rookies. Harris was the only one to immediately crack the starting lineup.

Due to military service, Harris lost his starting position to eventual running mate and business partner Charlie Waters. He regained that starting position the next season and teamed up with Waters for 10 seasons to create arguably the best safety-duo in NFL history.

The odds were never in Cliff Harris' favor to succeed in the capacity he did, but he shattered those odds. To pass along that hope and to continue his legacy, Harris presents the Cliff Harris Award to the nation's best small college defender each year.

Cliff Harris: a pedigree of toughness produced a prodigy of toughness who now provides the promise of hope to young dreamers.

by Ben Swanger









Tigers grind their way through a season full of potential

BLUE COLLAF

The Tigers struggled to gain their footing at the beginning of the fall. There were several fresh faces in the locker room, but the team still found a way to grow through the newness.

Head Coach Luke Howard said, "Half our roster was made up of new players. When that happens, it takes a little longer for the team to mesh."

The slow start was taken care of during fall workouts, and the team was ready for the season by the time the opener came around in spring.

Junior Blake Tubbs, a kinesiology major from Hartshorne, Okla., said, "This team is the closest team I have ever been a part of."

Tubbs was not the only one who felt the dynamic of the team was close.

Cade Burris, a freshman accounting major from Walnut Ridge, similarly described the team by saying, "The chemistry within the team was one of the best I've ever played with. Guys I've only known for a semester were like my brothers and I would trust them with anything."

Not only did the Tigers bond as brothers in the fall, but when it came time for their season to begin, they implemented the things they learned in the offseason to help them during the season.

Tubbs said, "I learned a lot about being consistent in who I am. Both on the field and in the locker room, I tried to learn to be the same person all the time."

Burris also learned skills both on and off the field due to the culture of discipline the team established.

Burris said, "I learned how to balance school, class, practice and games throughout a daily basis. I overcame this by using all the resources on campus that are available to help."

Although the season was cut short due to the Coronavirus, the progress that was made during the year will propel the Tigers into the 2021 season. The Tigers' goal is to grow in the offseason and work to be prepared for the next time they get to touch the diamond.

Howard said, "The team grew a lot this year and was starting to gel when the season came to a halt. I look forward to them being hungry next season and picking up right where we left off."

by Caroline Johnson

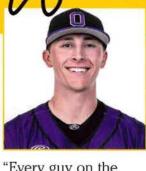
Brandon Matros served as the Tiger's ace in the short-lived spring season. Matros earned GAC Pitcher of the Week in his final start. Photo by Abby Leal



"We had the confidence to go out and beat anybody. Nearly every game we won, we won it in a close fashion. We wish we could've had the chance to go to the tourney, but we'll be back next year." - Parker Edwards

"We had a couple

of great wins to end the season against Oklahoma Baptist and Delta State. Those wins will give us a full head of steam going into next year with a huge group of upperclassmen leading the way." - Louis Steen



"Every guy on the field took pride in never taking a pitch off. We always competed. Our winning culture and camaraderie on this year's team could not have been any better." - Sheldon McCown



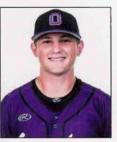
The program has made many improvements since Luke Howard became head coach in 2018. This spring, the program installed a turf halo around home plate, a new net, and a new backstop. Photo courtesy of Ouachita Baseball's Facebook

The team celebrates a victory at Rab Rodgers Field. In a short season, the Tigers built a bond that will last much longer than their 20-game season.

CLASS OF 2020



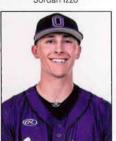
Jackson Nichols



Brandon Matros



Jordan Izzo



Sheldon McCown



Logan Huneycutt



Head Coach Luke Howard

Photo by Wesley Kluck BASEBALL TEAM (team photo not available prior to cancellation of season) Louis Steen, Tyler Riebock, Logan Huneycutt, Josh Salim, Chris Willard, Pierce Mitchum, Jarod Free, Simmons Sowell, Cooper Timmons, Blake Tubbs, Carter Wade, Beau Burson, Brandon Matros, Cole Kelly, Hunter Gautreaux, Sheldon McCown, Jordan Izzo, David Rainwater, Cade McBride, Matt Bryant, Colin McWhorter, Jackson Nichols, Tommy Foster, Hayden Childers, Parker Edwards, Luke Scaggs, Ben Miller, Andrew McDonald, Noah Fowler, Maddox Long, Cade Burris, Caleb Donoho, CW Schrader, Jackson Huskey, Jacob Bowman, Head Coach Luke Howard, Assistant Coach Tanner

Rockwell, Assistant Coach Charles

SCOREBOARD

| UNION | 7-14, 3-13, 8-6 |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| CENTRAL OKLAHOMA | 1-5 |
| NW MISSOURI STATE | 7-9 |
| NEWMAN | 3-2 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 4-8, 0-2, 7-5 |
| ECCLESIA | 11-2 |
| MONTICELLO | 1-8, 3-5, 7-6 |
| HENDRIX | 14-6 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 10-4, 10-7, 1-7 |
| MONTICELLO | 4-11 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 1-11, 9-13, 5-0 |
| DELTA STATE | 9-5 |

OVERALL 10-12 Season suspended March 12

SCOREBOARD

| CHRISTIAN BROTHERS | 7-5 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| TEXAS A&M KINGSVILLE | 1-6 |
| ST. LOUIS | 2-11 |
| TARLETON ST. | 0-11 |
| ANGELO ST. | 0-4 |
| TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL | 2-7 |
| ANGELO ST. | 2-6 |
| NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS | 8-4 |
| MONTICELLO | 1-5, 2-3, 4-5, 4-5 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 0-8, 1-9, 2-6, 1-9 |
| MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | 0-7, 1-4 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 0-2, 1-3, 4-3, 1-4 |
| MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | 3-2, 5-2 |
| OVERALL 5 | |

Junior Sloane Precure fields the ball down the line and prepares to toss it over to first. Precure came back to rejoin the Tigers after transferring her sophomore season.

Photo by Ashley Stracener
The Tigers celebrate at home
after Jillian Jones launches a
home run. Jones was a force
in the lineup all season for the
Tigers.

Photo by Wesley Kluck







SOFTBALL TEAM (front row) left to right: Tori Herbert, Kendyl Dockter, Hannah Stuart, Macy Wilson, Faith Melton, Kirsten Shaw, Sarah Tuller, Maddi Terry, Kyndal Moyer. (back row) Sloane Precure, Heather Brown, Addyson Miller, Hope Waid, Maci Hill, Jillian Jones, Leighton Withers, Nicole Arreola, Rebecca Holiman, Madi Miller, Lacy Ornelas, Tobi Finley, Callie Jourdan, Tally Turnbow, Lexie Foreman. Photo by Wesley Kluck

KEYMoment



"The whole year we struggled to bring everything together, but our last two games we finally figured out how to make it all work. I've never been on a team filled with this many amazing girls."

- Sloane Precure



"We started our season struggling, but we dug deep and turned our season around. We got a win against OKBU then two against Mississippi College, and finally, we found our rhythm."

- Maci Hill



"It's not a secret we had a rough start to the season, however, our last two games gave us a glimpse of what we could have accomplished this year."

- Nicole Arreola



The Ouachita Tiger softball team, like every other spring sport on campus and countrywide, had its season cut short. Despite the adversity, it was not lacking lessons.

Leighton Withers, a sophomore business major from Benton, will never forget the moment their season was called quits.

"The moment I will take with me forever was when we were made aware of the season being canceled," Withers said. "It showed me how quickly things can be taken away from you, and we should not take anything in life for granted."

Despite a slow start, the ladies found their footing in the final week. The Tigers won their final three of four games. At home against Oklahoma Baptist, the Tigers captured a 4-3 victory after falling behind 3-0. The Tigers completed the comeback on a Callie Jourdan two RBI double to seal the victory.

The Tigers then took its momentum into the final double header of the season on a Tuesday afternoon against Mississippi College. The ladies played their two best games of the season as they captured 3-2 and 5-2 wins.

The girls were just hitting their stride when the news hit that the GAC was canceling spring sports.

In a season cut short it was still a memorable one for all the girls.

Faith Melton, a senior kinesiology major from Maumelle, said, "We had our fair share of hardships, but no matter what happened, at the end of the day, I always knew that every one of those girls had my back."

Madi Miller, a sophomore kinesiology major from Nashville, said, "The memories we made on the field, at practice and traveling, are memories that I will always hold dear to my heart."

One cannot forget the countless moments spent off the field and the fall workouts the team went through in preparation for the spring. On the outside it might be easy to assume disappointment, but the girls stayed strong and built a bond that will outlast any adversity.

In wake of the cancelation, NCAA Division II sports granted all athletes an extra year of eligibility and Head Coach Dean was thrilled.

"I am so ecstatic that was offered for the young ladies," Dean said. "As of now, only two of four seniors will return. It's tough for seniors to take advantage of that, however, a couple will be able to take the NCAA up on their offer."

by Ben Swanger

EARNEST





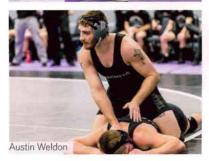














Tigers fight through strong schedule with toughness

FORTITUDE

The Ouachita Tigers put together a season full of sweat and hard work. The men began the season with an appearance in the Georgia Open that saw many team members record wins.

The Tigers then followed the Georgia Open up with wins against Arkansas Baptist and Central Baptist College. Redshirt sophomore Cody Cagle, a Christian Studies major from Wyoming, had a memorable match that day in Little Rock.

"I wrestled through some really tough matches, but when my parents were able to watch me wrestle for the first time in college at the Arkansas Baptist and Central Baptist duals was my favorite memory," Cagle said. "I won three tough matches and it was so great to have the support of my team and family that day."

The Tigers found success again in November when they hosted the Ouachita Quad. Against Emmanuel, the Tigers gathered in a 21-17 victory to close the tournament on a positive note.

Much of the wrestling that goes on is not noticed in the win and loss column. The Tigers endured a long season, and with a long season came many grueling practices.

Alex Thyes, a business major from Conroe, Texas, said, "We made it through very tough practices with our brothers by our side. At the end of the day, we are able to say we made it through something most couldn't."

Tough practices are said to build camaraderie and in the case of these men, a brotherhood was built brick by brick.

Freshman Trey Taylor, a kinesiology major from Fort Worth, Texas, said, "They are all my family away from family and I would do anything for these dudes. We sweat together, bleed together, and maybe even cry together."

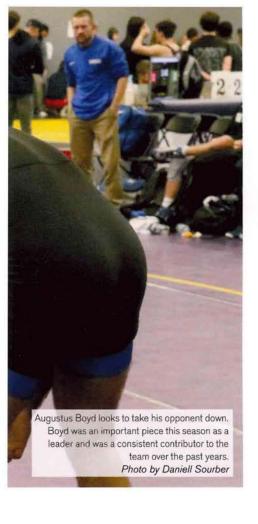
The Tigers found their final team win in January against Lyon College.

The Tigers had to rely on young players as 15 true freshmen were on this year's roster of 22.

Cagle had high praise for the youngsters. "We had a lot of freshmen who stepped up and filled positions on the team, and it was really encouraging to see how they wrestled and fought through all the adversity."

The Tigers looked to continue to build a winning program in the coming years.

by Ben Swanger



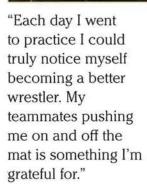
KEY/Nomen



"I will always remember my first college win when I competed in our tournament against OCU. All the hard work paid off." - Adrian Salazar-Rivera



single moment that stood out to me, but, rather, a collage of the entire season. I watched everybody get better day by day, but the team growing together and building a bond was great." -Austin Weldon



- Christian Carney





Head Coach Kevin Crutchmer and Assistant Coach Kyle Ash celebrate a big victory. Crutchmer has been the head coach of the wrestling team since 2017.

Photo by Danielle Sourber

Christian Carney sizes up his opponent. Carney and many other freshmen all experienced their first taste of college wrestling. Photo by Wesley Kluck



WRESTLING TEAM (front row): Trey Taylor, Caden Mills, Darryl Nicholas, Marcel Molu, Noah Yeamans, Ta Thai, Michael Crockett, Thomas Brenton, Robert Otero, Noah Yeamans. (back row) Joseph Presley, Assistant Coach Kyle Ash, Jacob Mintzmyer, Cody Cagle, Brady Mattioda, Keelan Stanley, Chandler Cooley, Johnny Green, Augustus Boyd, Rey Reyes, Christian Carney, Austin Weldon, Ben Parkhurst, Head Coach Kevin Crutchmer. Photo by Wesley Kluck

SCOREBOARD

| ARKANSAS BAPTIST | 48-6 |
|------------------------|-------|
| CENTRAL BAPTIST | 24-17 |
| LINDENWOOD | 6-47 |
| UNIV. OF THE OZARKS | 3-45 |
| EMMANUEL | 21-17 |
| OKLAHOMA CITY | 20-28 |
| CENTRAL OKLAHOMA | 0-51 |
| DRURY | 8-33 |
| LYON COLLEGE | 34-14 |
| TEXAS WESLEYAN | 23-27 |
| MARYVILLE | 3-40 |
| MCKENDREE | 0-55 |
| INDIANAPOLIS | 6-48 |
| BELLARMINE | 5-46 |

OVERALL 4-10

SCOREBOARD

DELTA STATE UT TYLER ST. EDWARD'S 3-6 ST. MARY'S 2-7 **WEST ALABAMA** 2-5 MISSISSIPPI 6-1 COLLEGE **TEXAS A&M** 7-0 TEXARKANA **JACKSONVILLE** 7-0 COLLEGE **NW MISSOURI** 5-2 STATE **OVERALL 5-4**

Season suspended March 12

Dan Kaplun returns the ball back to his opponent. Kaplun was an important piece for the Tigers in his four years at Ouachita.

Photo by Ashley Stracener
Head Coach Craig Ward addresses an attentive team after practice. Ward has been at Ouachita since 1990.

Photo by Ashley Stracener







MEN'S TENNIS TEAM (front row) Juan Moncada, Head Coach Craig Ward, Seth Hernandez. (second row) Nair Adi, Dan Kaplun, Carlos Solorzano, Santiago Kearney. (back row) Javi Sanchis-Fito, Francisco Oliveira, Tobias Fuerschuss. *Photo by Wesley Kluck*

KEYMoment



"We faced every match with courage, character and determination. We were ready to have a successful season by giving 100 percent on and off the court."
- Santiago Kearny



"We had a rough start, but we kept training, stayed focused and kept our high energy. The work ethic of the team in every moment was admirable. I'm proud to be a Tiger."

- Dan Kaplun



"We always gave our very best. Our high intensity practices led to success. I do not think I have ever been on a team like this. We can be proud of our effort and passion."

- Carlos Solorzano



One of the biggest takeaways from knowing a player on the men's tiger tennis team was seeing that family is more than just your bloodline; it transcends geographical borders, language barriers, and exists long after a team member graduates.

"This team leaves a legacy that is best summed up as exceptional character and lifelong relationships," said Coach Craig Ward, who has led the program since 1990. "I have never had a team that exemplified the best character attributes (teamwork, persistence, positive attitude, enthusiasm, and honesty) any more than this group of guys."

The players recognized their bonds with one another would be key for success as a team. With the addition of two freshman players as well as three graduating seniors, the team created a close-knit chemistry, following Ward's motto: "It's all about relationships."

"We do pretty much everything together," said sophomore Chico Oliveira, a business major from Porto, Portugal. "We eat together, and we hang out together. We study together; it's exactly like a family."

For senior business major Juan Moncada, this brotherhood was a home away from his home in Resistencia, Argentina.

"Being on this team made me feel like I have another family. I was happy to be part of the team through every moment," Moncada said.

The team competed in both semesters, with individual success from the players in the fall, to team success in a shortened spring season. The team was forced to end the spring before conference play really began, but went out with a 5-4 record after defeating Northwest Missouri. Though the rest of the season could not be completed, the matches that were played reinforced the hard work that was put in during the fall.

"It shaped the team in a lot of positive ways," said senior Dan Kaplun, a kinesiology major from Montevideo, Uruguay. "We saw how well we can do on the court, and that we had the tools to beat any team in the country."

This realization proved just how much the tough practices and long matches had paid off, especially for the team's three seniors: Nair Adi, Juan Moncada, and Dan Kaplun, all of whom will leave their legacy on tiger tennis.

"All three helped rebuild the tennis program back to national prominence," said Coach Ward.

To Nair Adi, a business major from San Martin, Argentina, the program was much more than the competition.

"It has changed my character," he said, looking back at his four years. "These guys have helped me to become a more selfless and grateful person."

by Claire Phillips

LENSIT

Tigers succeed in all facets, proving to be a consistent force













Lady Tigers come together to fight through tough schedule

PROGRESS!

The Lady Tiger tennis team learned how to take advantage of the unexpected. From Coach Rachel Jones going on maternity leave in March, to their competitive season being cut short way too soon, the girls did not let these obstacles take down their goal as a team - to improve in every opportunity.

To kick off the fall semester, the team got together and created a goal that would motivate them every time they stepped out on court. They aimed to get better every day, to progress in some way, no matter how big or small, at every practice.

"Each and every day was an opportunity to improve," said Haylee Cannon, a sophomore education major from Denison, Texas. "That's the mind-set we had during every practice, conditioning session and match."

Being a sport that required just as much individual motivation as it did teamwork, this mantra was perfect to fuel the work ethic of the team as a whole, as well as each individual player. With a roster of only six, it was essential for each player to buy into the team's goal, "...there was no room to not be the best that we could," said Cannon.

When they stepped out on court, they were playing for more than just themselves.

"The hardest thing is probably that your individual match is never just a match. The result on your court affects the team overall so you're not just fighting for yourself, you're fighting for your teammates," said Makeilah Turner, a junior business administration major from Plano, Texas. "Whether you're playing well or not, each match is important and can change the overall team outcome."

This mind-set was a key aspect of the type of culture that Coach Jones wanted to create for the team.

"I want them to be both self-motivated and team players," Jones said. "I wanted to teach the girls that their attitude on the court and with their teammates can make all the difference. If they are each willing to work hard and put in the time, they'll begin to see positive things come from their efforts."

While the season ended before the team could see what would come of their hard work, the Tigers were not going to let this stop them. Makeilah Turner noted that the team was still going to work hard and were excited to get back on court in the fall.

"As the (next) year goes on and we prepare for season, we'll only grow closer as a team and to accomplishing our goals," said Turner.

by Claire Phillips







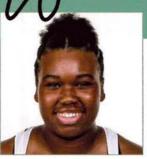
"We are such a very tight-knit team. And I credit that to our Head Coach Rachel Jones. She has been a great coach every step of the way, and I can't wait to get back to work with the team."

- Taylor Hansard



"Although we didn't get to finish our season, I think we can all be proud of how we took advantage of every moment together. Each practice we made it a goal to be better than we were yesterday."

- Claire Phillips



"We faced challenges as a team, but we came together by relying on Coach Jones. Coach always encouraged us to work harder. Despite our small team, I'm proud to compete alongside them all."

- Makeilah Turner





Makeilah Turner anticipates a return in a doubles match. Her doubles partner was Haylee Cannon.

Photo by Danielle Sourber

Taylor Hansard returns to her opponent. Hansard played a big part to the Lady Tigers' success.

Photo by Danielle Sourber



WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM (front row) Haylee Cannon, Claire Phillips, Mackenzie Wade. (back row) Taylor Hansard, Clarisa Valenzuela, Shirley Hernandez, Makeilah Turner.

Photo by Wesley Kluck

SCOREBOARD

| UT TYLER | 2-5 |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| ARKANSAS TECH | 0-7 |
| NORTHEASTERN STATE | 0-7 |
| RHODES COLLEGE | 4-5 |
| TARLETON STATE | 2-4 |
| NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE | 2-4 |
| DELTA STATE | 0-7 |
| HARDING | 0-7 |
| NW MISSOURI STATE | 0-7 |

OVERALL 0-9 Season suspended March 12

SCOREBOARD

LOYOLA (LA) 100-155 UT PERMIAN-46-256 BASIN **HENDERSON** 64-138 STATE **INCARNATE** 95-174 WORD 110-93 HENDRIX 5th **DELTA STATE** INVITE MONTEVALLO 119-67 **HENDERSON** 91-114 STATE **OKLAHOMA** 70-145 BAPTIST NSISC 4th CHAMPIONSHIP

OVERALL 2-6

Nolan Gerfers competes in the breastroke race. Gerfers contributed all season to the Tigers' success. Photo by Hannah Smith Jacob Ragsdell swims toward the finish. Ragsdell was a part of the 200 yard medley relay that secured top finishes all season. Photo by Hannah Smith







SWIM TEAMS (front row): Assistant Coach Dawson Pritchard, Hannah Hickman, Samantha McCarty, Kaitlyn Montgomery, Rachel Sansano, Elysian Majeske, Camilla Howarth, Christina Beger, Jade Ashley, Victoria Kunselman, Ariana Rizo, Volunteer Assistant Tyler Sanders. second row stairs: Alyssa Reece, Paige Vire, Courtney Myers. third row stairs: Madison Shankle, Emma Starkman, fourth row stairs: Anastasiia Ulianova, Erica Tatom. fifth row: Cody Kehmeier, Erin Strautman, Lauren Gaharan, Lucas Riley, Mason Youngblood, Sydney Parker, Jordan Wendt, Lilia Clark, Moe Patterson, Peyton Stone, Trayton Armstrong, Chase Foiles, Joe Ragsdell, Alex Noel, Nolan Gerfers. back row: Eddie Pimentel, Trent Reeder, Bryce Johnson, Vaughn Stresow, Head Coach Steven Bostick, Joao Rodrigues, Jack Conner, Jacob Ragsdell, Sebastian Bustillo, Keith Matthews, Mitchell Lee.

Photo by Wesley Kluck

KEYMoment



"In this year's Battle of the Ravine we really just came together and supported each swimmer in every race. It was the most energized meet I'd ever swam.

- Keith Matthews



"I think all of my swims were phenomenal, but I think I was most proud of my 200 butterfly in the NSISC Conference tournament."

- Sebastian Bustillo



"I felt most proud of our team at the end of the season because I knew how far we had come from the beginning, and being able to see everybody's hard work pay off is amazing."

- Mitchell Lee



The men's swim team gained new team records and discipline due to the strict workouts and schedules. The team members saw their hard work pay off from beating their personal record from previous seasons.

"As a swimmer in college, the Ouachita swim team was my home away from home where my body was pushed to its limits, my leadership skills were strengthened, my faith blossomed, and my future grew brighter," said Dawson Pritchard, assistant men's coach. "But being the assistant coach was interesting because I got to see a lot of what I went through as a student-athlete: physical exhaustion, stress from school, being away from home, relationship issues, excitement over potential jobs and internships, from a different point of view."

Pritchard worked with the team to push them toward their goals during these tough times.

The mission statement of the Ouachita Athletic Department was to provide the student-athletes with the opportunity to enhance their educational experience and participate in a Christ-centered athletic program. The Ouachita men's swimming and diving team reflected these goals and values with opportunities to develop leadership and spiritual growth.

The team showed their tiger spirit all season. It was evident that the men proved their character in and out of the water which created an incredible environment for the Tigers this season.

Vaughn Stresow, a sophomore finance major from Frisco, Texas, said, "I love interacting with the international swimmers — they have become my best friends. I have also learned determination and teamwork."

The team had a successful season, and secured 4th place at the NSISC Championship conference, which was a step up from last year.

Tyler Sanders, who also served on the coaching staff, said, "The men had their most complete performance in all my years working with them. They started great, stayed mentally strong for four days, and finished with a great last day of racing. We had men of every class step up with some superb performances throughout."

by Gracie Stover

ENDURANCE

Tigers swim through strong schedule with speed and skills















Tigers finish strong in a season full of success

RSILIEN CR

The season was all about improvement for the Lady Tiger Swim team. The team gained enough swimmers to double the size from last year. With the combination of new personalities, the group came together with the goal to improve both as individuals and as a team.

In a sport that was classified as a team but required individual success, the whole was greater than the sum of its parts. This was where personal mentality, as well as team synergy came together.

"There are so many personalities in the pool; it gets everyone out of their shell," said Sydney Parker, a sophomore accounting and finance major from Edmond, OK. "Everyone's energy bounces off of each other. Everyone on the team knows what events you swim. It's so cool to be able to watch someone in what you know is their best event and be able to talk about the race after."

Watching one another compete did more than just encourage teammates, it showed the team how the work they put in during practice was vital to the overall success.

Camilla Horwarth, a junior marketing major from Allen, Texas, was fond of the memories she made during competition.

"My favorite memory from this season is watching the underclassmen get their best personal record times because I was once there," said Horwarth. "To have an impact and see the team come together really just puts a smile on my face knowing that I can leave a legacy."

The team knew that this year would be one to heighten their level of competitiveness.

"We always have the expectation of going faster," said Head Coach Steven Bostick. Success for the team was measured by the clock, and an ambitious mindset had been taken on by the team.

"We're climbing our way up and getting more and more competitive," said Parker. "We are going for records now."

by Claire Phillips



KEY/Moment



"We really overcame so many obstacles and came back to really show the other teams what we're made of. Placing third at NSISC was something to be proud of."

- Alyssa Reece



"Breaking the 200 freestyle relay pool record with my teammates is a moment I'll take with me the rest of my life. I will forever get chills retelling that moment."

- Lilia Clark



"I am most proud of finishing in third place at our conference championship. We struggled early in the season, but it was great to see how much we had improved and grown."

- Elysian Majeske





Kaitlyn Montgomery prepares to begin her backstroke race. Montgomery placed fifth at the NSISC in the 200-yard backstroke.

Photo by Hannah Smith

Members of the women's swim team relax after an exhausting race. The women brought home third place at the NSISC Championships.

Photo by Hannah Smith



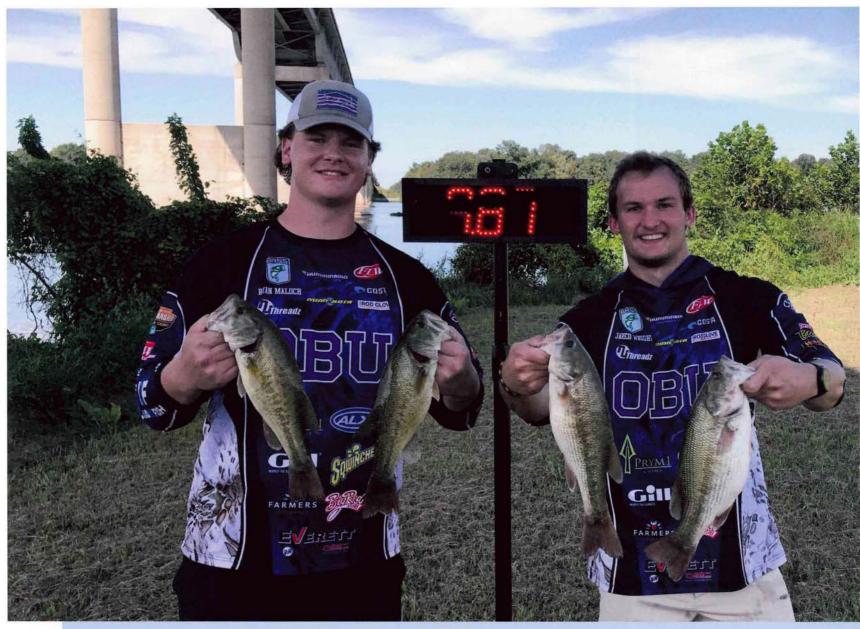
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Photo by Wesley Kluck

SCOREBOARD

| LOYOLA (LA) | 148-111 |
|----------------------|---------|
| UT PERMIAN BASIN | 92-185 |
| HENDERSON STATE | 78-127 |
| HENDRIX | 1st |
| DELTA STATE | 4th |
| WEST FLORIDA | 59-145 |
| MONTEVALLO | 120-80 |
| HENDERSON STATE | 126-76 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 128-93 |
| UALR / VANDERBILT | 3rd |
| NSISC | 3rd |

OVERALL 5-3



Club members compete in the

great outdoors

Relatively new to Ouachita, the fishing team has been a club sport for almost two years. Getting the team revived wasn't too difficult for members, and current team president Jared Wright. Wright shared his experience about reviving the club.

"The hardest part is just teaching yourself the process of starting something from scratch, and a majority of the faculty was accepting and helpful," Wright said.

The team competed in fishing tournaments with other universities including Arkansas Tech, Henderson State, University of Central Arkansas, Southern Arkansas, Dallas Baptist, Auburn,

Clemson and Texas A&M.

Most tournaments were held locally at DeGray Lake, but the team also competed at Bull Shoals Lake, Lake Millwood, Greers Ferry, Lake Dardanelle, Lake Hamilton, and the Pendelton pool of the Arkansas River. Out-of-state competitions were at sites such as Lake Pickwick and Lake Toledo.

All the supplies used by the team were personally funded by the members. In competitions, they used their personal boats. Dr. Tim Knight, the team's sponsor, discussed the importance of this team.



"This sport is competitive, but it also allows students of any major to get out in nature and experience it firsthand."

• Dr. Tim Knight

Juniors Ryan Maloch and Jared Wright weigh in after a fishing tournament. This was the second year for the club sport. Photo by Hannah Smith

"This sport is competitive, but it also allows students of any major to get out in nature and experience it firsthand," Knight said.

Fishing is popular activity for many people in Arkansas. The school saw this team as an opportunity to get students' attention. Anyone is encouraged to join the team if interested in the sport, and it always helps if you own a boat.

Knight talked about the commitment the team members had to make. "Just like any sport, the team members have to find a good balance to juggle their course load as well as their participation in the team," Knight said.

The members promoted the team at other sporting and school events to get the word out and raise money. They hosted their own fishing tournament on Lake DeGray as a fundraiser for their team. They secured local sponsorships that allowed them to travel and pay the expenses for the registration fees at the tournaments. As long as the team was supported, they continued to grow and had fun doing what they loved.

"It gives me a way to take care of my competitiveness and still do something I love like fishing," Wright said.

by Emily Barton

SCOREBOARD

| ARK. FORT-SMITH | 70-79 |
|------------------------------|-------|
| PHILANDER SMITH | 69-60 |
| ST. CLOUD ST. | 56-51 |
| MINOT ST. | 62-66 |
| DALLAS BAPTIST | 56-70 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 74-82 |
| ARKANSAS MONTICELLO | 73-76 |
| CENTRAL BAPTIST | 89-69 |
| HARDING | 73-70 |
| CHAMPION CHRISTIAN | 80-50 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 84-78 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 62-80 |
| SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 61-67 |
| NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 77-83 |
| HENDERSON ST. | 66-88 |
| ARKANSAS MONTICELLO | 75-68 |
| SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 83-90 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 71-85 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 64-62 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 47-70 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 83-63 |
| HARDING | 72-64 |
| HENDERSON ST. | 72-82 |
| SOUTHERN ARKANSAS | 52-82 |
| NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 90-88 |
| SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 64-63 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 76-90 |
| SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 77-91 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 61-49 |
| OVERALL 12-1 | 16 |

Larenz Nero dribbles the ball down the court and sets the offense. Nero was a big threat off the bench down the stretch and had a season high of 15.

Photo by Justin Trostle
Morris Talbert leads the charge on a fast break. Talbert has been a contributor on both ends of the court since he became a Tiger.

Photo by Justin Trostle







BASKETBALL TEAM (front row) Jacob Street, Eric Brown, Isaiah Harper, Trey Harris, Morris Talbert, Kyle Wright, Larenz Nero. (back row) Head Coach Dennis Nutt, Kendarious Smith, Matt Stanley, Leon Kalinic, Grant Jones, Xavier Hall, Assistant Coach Jordan Bailey. Not pictured: Allie Freeman. *Photo by Wesley Kluck*

KEYMoment



"Being able to defeat #1 ranked SNU was a defining moment for us. Ultimately it helped us secure a spot in the tournament."

- Grant Jones



"A key moment for us was being able to defeat SNU. I think we rallied together when Matt Stanley's injury happened and we knew we had to turn a corner, and that's exactly what we did." - Kyle Wright



For the sixth straight season, the men's basketball team made the Great American Conference tournament. Despite being out of the playoff picture with two weeks to play, the Tigers found a way to claw its way into postseason play.

The Tigers stumbled out of the gates to a 2-5 start, but quickly regrouped and went on a five-game win streak between Nov. 30 and Jan 2. Within that five-game win streak, the Tigers picked up three conference wins against Southern Arkansas, Harding and Southern Nazarene.

Jacob Street, a sophomore business major from Nacogdoches, Texas, was a big shooting threat who came off the bench for the Tigers. He made a big leap from his freshman to sophomore season.

"I've grown a lot on and off the court," Street said. "I got to play a much bigger role this year than last. It's crazy the difference there was from last year to this year in just above every aspect of my game. The biggest improvement was my confidence and gaining size."

One big loss the Tigers suffered was not a game, but a player. Junior big man Matt Stanley, a business major from Cabot, Arkansas, went down just 10 games in with a leg injury. Despite the setback, Stanley was able to learn through it.

"I learned that everything has a valuable lesson," Stanley said. "I started paying attention to the little things like being able to walk or just being able to do a squat. This injury has truly been a blessing in disguise because it has made me even more motivated and focused on coming back stronger and better."

With two weeks to go in the season, in terms of the conference tournament, the Tigers found themselves on the outside looking in.

Two home wins against Northwestern Oklahoma State and Southwestern Oklahoma State in the second to last week of the season was enough to send the Tigers into postseason play.

Senior guard Trey Harris, a finance major from Little Rock, Arkansas, scored 49 points in those games.

"It felt great to perform that well in two of our most important games of the season," Harris said. "I tried to be more aggressive and assertive and, luckily, opportunities were there that I could capitalize on. The fact that those were my last two games in Bill Vining Arena added to my desire to perform well."

The Tigers were unfortunately unable to make a run in the conference tournament but were still able to play into the postseason for the sixth straight season.

The Tigers will look to be back next season to accomplish bigger and better things.

by Ben Swanger

Tigers reach sixth straight GAC tourney

















Lady Tigers take on season with new head coach for the first time in 20+ years

ROGRESS

It was a new season for the Lady Tigers and for the first time in over 20 years, the Lady Tigers were beginning the year with a new head coach. Coach Robert Dallimore made the trip down from the University of Arkansas - Little Rock to take over the OBU program.

It was not a conference tournament appearing season. It was not a season highlighted with big wins. However, a foundation was set for Coach Dallimore's program, and an individual milestone for senior Madison Brittain was a highlight of the season.

Brittain, a finance major from Bentonville, Ark. said, "Scoring 1,000 points was a huge milestone because I always wanted to accomplish that when I started as a freshman."

The Lady Tiger's biggest win came on a cold December afternoon when they faced off against Rogers State University. The Tiger's shooting was anything but cold as they lit the scoreboard on fire, scoring a season high of 86 points.

One lasting memory the team shared together was a trip to Memphis with tickets to see the Memphis Grizzlies take on the Detroit Pistons. Jakyya Clay had an unforgettable moment with one of the NBA's greatest players.

Clay, a junior kinesiology major from Marion, Ark. said, "When the game was over, I made eye contact with Andre Drummond and I asked for his game jersey. He signaled for me to come down and I got Andre's jersey."

Coming into the season the Lady Tigers were already short-handed with just eight players. Depth was never a luxury the team had, but despite the lack of numbers, the team's effort never wavered.

The Lady Tigers may have struggled, but they never failed to bring the energy. The team's resolve was never broken, and their bond was a lasting one.

Laura Spradlin, a senior music major from Cordova, Tenn. said, "I will remember this season for the relationships we built as a team. We dealt with many challenges this year, and with so few people on the team, it was a great bonding experience for us all."

The Lady Tigers will look to have a bounce back season next year.

by Ben Swanger

Senior Madison Brittain passes the ball in to freshman Makayla Miller. Brittain finished her senior season with over 1000 career points. Photo by Levi Dade

EY/Moment



"A moment that will stick with me forever has to be when Coach D bought us tickets to the Grizzlies, Pistons game. After the game Andre Drummond gave me his game jersey."

- Jakyya Clay



"We dealt with many challenges this year with so few players, but we bonded through it and that's a moment that can never be replaced."

- Laura Spradlin





Eden Crow tries to find a teammate between two defenders. Crow has been a leading offensive force for the Lady Tigers over the past couple years.

Photo by Wesley Kluck

Maija Gertsone looks at the

offensive positioning at the top of the key. Gertsone is the team's only international talent as she hails from Latvia.
Photo by Justin Trostle



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM (front row) Heather Pryse, Makayla Miller, Maija Gertsone, Jessi Bennett, Student Assistant Kylie Jo Kilgore. (back row) Jakyya Clay, Madison Raney, Laura Spradlin, Head Coach Robert Dallimore, Madison Brittain, Eden Crow, Assistant Coach Maggie Proffitt. Photo by Wesley Kluck

SCOREBOARD

| NEWMAN | 53-55 |
|------------------------------|-------|
| SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ST. | 50-76 |
| TEXAS A&M COMMERCE | 54-69 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 58-80 |
| ARKANSAS MONTICELLO | 60-63 |
| CENTRAL BAPTIST | 65-58 |
| WILLIAMS BAPTIST | 76-52 |
| SOUTHERN ARKANSAS | 58-73 |
| HARDING | 61-71 |
| ROGERS ST. | 86-64 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 45-72 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 71-62 |
| SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 55-66 |
| NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 68-78 |
| HENDERSON ST. | 46-75 |
| ARKANSAS MONTICELLO | 59-69 |
| SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 46-70 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 71-78 |
| OKLAHOMA BAPTIST | 65-72 |
| SOUTHERN NAZARENE | 51-75 |
| ARKANSAS TECH | 64-73 |
| HARDING | 60-69 |
| HENDERSON ST. | 67-90 |
| SOUTHERN ARKANSAS | 65-67 |
| NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 59-67 |
| SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 63-72 |
| EAST CENTRAL | 51-62 |
| SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA ST. | 55-76 |
| | |

CHAMPIONS

MEN'S SOCCER Big Brainnnnnn

COED SOCCER Super Mario Strikers

MEN'S DODGEBALL Kids Next Door

COED DODGEBALL Team Name

MEN'S FOOTBALL Beta Black

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HardcorEEE

ULTIMATE FRISBEE
The Mighty Hucks

UPPER VOLLEYBALL
Sets and the City

LOWER VOLLEYBALL Best Sets Ever

MEN'S LOWER BASKETBALL Could've Gone Pro But My Knees Gave Out

MEN'S UPPER BASKETBALL Ball Alert

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL DrEEEam The Women of EEE take on the women of Chi Mu in a classic game of basketball. No matter who came out on top, the teams enjoyed the game. Photo by Maddie Cargile Junior Caleb Crow coaches up the Women of EEE. Every year there was a Battle of the Ravine intramural football game. Photo courtesy of Collin Battaglia







TRI CHI BASKETBALL TEAM The Tri Chi basketball team steps off the court after taking a loss. Despite the loss, the team still kept a smile on their face, embraced the moment and posed holding up "L's" to symbolize their loss.

Photo courtesy of Holly Shipp

KEYMoment



"Playing intramural volleyball was the highlight of my weeks. What my team lacked in skill we made up for in entertainment. We always made each other laugh."

- Olivia Yarbrough



"Being an intramural referee has been an awesome way for me to connect with other students. I've had tons of opportunities to build relationships with people between points or in a time out."

- Henry Hunley



"Intramurals has given me a great opportunity to play the sports I love. It not only helps me stay active, but I get to have fun with my friends while doing so.

- Preston Crowder



The university's intramural program provided an outlet for students who weren't athletes to become athletes. The ultimate goal of intramurals has been to create an environment where students can de-stress and create friendships through light-hearted competition.

"Intramurals is really about having fun and being with your friends," said Collin Battaglia, assistant director of Rec Life. "It's about having an outlet to stay active. All of these sports are free, and we try to make it as accessible as possible to anyone in the student body. They help people learn life skills such as communication and leadership. It's great seeing over 50% of the student body come together to establish friendships and play sports."

Battaglia oversees the intramural sports to make sure the program is running smoothly, from finding, training, and scheduling referees to all the other organizational aspects of intramurals.

"Intramurals have shown me how to be competitive and find the fun in the game whether the team lost or won," said Hailey Houghton, a freshman Christian studies major from Stuttgart, Ark. "I've made so many new relationships through intramural sports which was a huge help since I came from high school to college. You don't have to be an athlete to find the fun in intramural sports. It's all about staying active, enjoying the game, and meeting and competing against the people we go to school with."

In the fall, the intramural program offered soccer, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee, and volleyball. Spring sports include basketball, inner tube water polo, softball, and ultimate frisbee. The program also provided team competition in gaming, although not all championships were played before students left campus.

"I've played as many intramurals as I could every year, which is all of them except flag football," said Lee Grisham, a senior math and education major from Augusta, Ark. "I've won volleyball, ultimate Frisbee and softball championships through playing intramurals. This year I began working as a referee with the Rec Life staff. While intramurals can get competitive, it's still just a game whether your team wins or loses. The outcomes don't matter as much as long as you've had a good time playing the sport."

These sports have provided opportunities for students to stay active and meet new people. The games didn't focus on one's athletic ability, rather than the ability to have a good time and enjoy the game.

by Spencer Benway

ONIFIED

Because of intramurals, we are all college athletes

















Every great team has a great cheer squad

DEVOTED

As one of the largest squads Ouachita had ever seen, the cheer team consisted of 26 girls and three boys. From cheering on the football team that was undefeated in regular season, to cheering multiple times a week for the men's and women's basketball teams, this year gave the cheerleaders a full schedule.

Brooke Bearden, a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Camden, Ark., led the team as captain. Bearden described her experience serving as captain as a blessing. Being uplifted and encouraged by her teammates made this year significant for her.

"I have been able to work with some of my favorite people while doing what I love best: cheer," said Bearden. "I couldn't have done it without the support and uplifting words from my teammates."

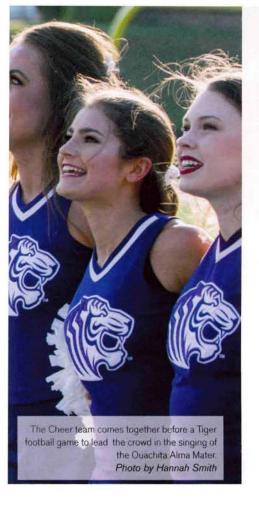
To cheer coach Cris McGough, who is fairly new to this side of the street, this year was a significant one. After working in advising at Henderson, McGough became a full time Tiger, working as director of graduate studies at Ouachita. McGough enjoyed coaching because it gave him the chance to get to know a wide range of students.

"It's a really positive experience and it's just another chance for everyone to get to spend time with friends and have fun while doing something they love doing," McGough said. "This year's group is loaded with both talent and leadership and they care about each other."

For Abbie Jolly, a freshman nursing major from Magnolia, Ark., Ouachita's cheer squad was different than any other team of which she had been a member.

"We just have fun as a team and we truly enjoy being together," Jolly said. "Every girl is doing it for the same reasons... because we love to cheer and we love the Tigers!"

by Abby Turner



"I had always looked forward to cheering the Battle of the Ravine football game. The atmosphere was like no other game we had cheered. When the Tigers pushed through and came out with a win, that game become even more memorable."

- Allison Tubbs



"Being able to cheer during the Battle of the Ravine, and especially when we scored a touchdown with less than a minute to play, was a special moment and the most fun I've had cheering yet." - Jasper Sanford



"Leading with grace and being patient with teammates, and even the fans when they weren't always supportive, has contributed to me becoming a more patient person."

- Brooke Bearden





Taylor Brown fires off a t-shirt cannon into the Ouachita crowd. Brown was a first year member of the Ouachita Cheer Team. Photo by Justin Trostle

Abby Turner cheers on the Tiger football team as they march toward an undefeated regular season. Turner has been on the cheer squad for three years. Photo by Justin Trostle



CHEER TEAM (front row): Kelsi Coleman, Grace Tidwell, Allison Tubbs, Brooke Bearden, Kyla Soden, Caroline Sweet, Hayley Smith, Courtney Davis, Madison Creswell. (second row) Abby Jolly, Emmy Hipps, Taylor Brown, Brady Barton, Jaelle Morrison, Jennifer Wallace, Kristen Holyfield, Julianne Weaver, Aileena Schlauch. (third row) Julia Shands, McKenzie Smith, Athen Wilkerson, Lauren Williams, Sydney Donaldson, Allie Tarnowsky, Kara Delaune, Abby Turner. (back row) Landon Denman, Jasper Sanford, Wyatt Ashlock, Cannon Fisher. *Photo by Wesley Kluck*



The clarinet and saxophone sections play to the tune of "Bohemian Rhapsody" during halftime. The band was an important part of the Tiger spirit.

Photo by Wesley Kluck
Braden Crawley plays the drums during
Tiger Blast at Tiger Tunes. The band has always been a fan favorite in Tunes.

Photo by Ashley Stracener
Josh York plays the trumpet in the afternoon sun on Benson-Williams Field.
York loved every moment of playing on the football field.
Photo by Abby Leal







Kayla Whittington is locked in as she plays the flute during halftime of a football game. Whittington has been a member of the Tiger band for two years. Photo by Wesley Kluck

Dalton Heinsohn and the other members of the trumpet section perform during Tiger Tunes as a part of Tiger Blast. The band played "Bohemian Rhapsody," which was an excerpt of their 2019 football halftime show. Photo by Danielle Sourber









"Some of the greatest moments come from the community the band forms. Before every halftime show a senior usually gives a pep talk before we perform to lift our spirits."

- Kailee Morehart



"Being an incoming freshman making great friends quickly made starting college a lot easier. My favorite moment was getting to play at Tiger Tunes and at the Murphy USA Classic."

- Josh York



"I am so very grateful for band and the opportunities it gave me. Thanks to Dr. Hamilton and two girls in my section, I had the best experience in the band and wouldn't trade it for anything." - Betsy Patterson



The band welcomed new direction from a Ouachita alumnus. After 28 years as a marching director in public schools, Jim Lloyd returned to his alma mater to become the new athletic band director.

"I feel like he handled that transition really well and he also was able to make it fun for us and let us know that what we're doing is important to some people, if not everyone," said Cayli Campbell, a senior instrumental performance major. "He definitely helped us keep that positive energy."

The marching show featured hits from the band Queen. Lloyd incorporated several fun elements learned from his days as a competitive high school band director. This included using real bicycles during the song "Bicycle Race' and a Freddie Mercury bit performed by Connor Howell, a junior accounting major from Wake Village, Texas.

Lloyd attributed the band's success to the type of the students involved. "The caliber and quality of not only their talent level but the kind of people they are is just so different than what you get out in the public," according to Lloyd. He did not recognize the unique quality of Ouachita students when he was one, but Lloyd's new position gave him a fresh perspective. Like their director, band members accredited their peers with the band's success.

"The experience of marching band is not mainly about instruments-it's not mainly about what you play, but it's about who you're playing with and becoming a family with these people," said Craig Crawford, a sophomore instrumental performance major from Texarkana, Texas. "I think our band has a lot of character because of the people who put the uniforms on."

Rachel Mills, a mass communications major from Longview, Texas, was a four-year member of the band and was a majorette. "Participating in the band over my four years was a valuable experience. It allowed for me to gain different opportunities, taught me life lessons, and gave me friendships I would not have made," she commented.

Whether it was the on-field performance of the favorite hits by "Queen," or the high-energy performance of Tiger Blast at Tunes, the band brought excitement and talent to the Ouachita audience.

by Katie Kemp

PASSIONATE

Hours of practice in the heat transformed into powerful performances

















Running toward success never felt so simple

NDURANCE

Though the competition was tough, Coach Steve Guymon saw potential in every one of his runners. As Cross Country started to gain its reputation on campus, Guymon became more motivated to have a successful team and coach effectively. Coach Guymon believed that this had been one of best years of his coaching career.

"These girls want to learn and want to get better," said Guymon. "We have 15 on the team this year and hope to build it up to 30 next year."

Coach Guymon had coached at almost every level and enjoyed learning how to train each team differently depending on age and ability. He realized that what makes a coach successful was the heart and intentions behind it all. He strived to win, but wanted to see people succeed and have a good time while doing it.

"God spoke to me and made me evaluate whether I was doing it for me or for the people, and my philosophy changed," said Guymon.

Jorie Beaumont, a junior dietetics major from Lockport Ill., and captain for the cross country team, was also passionate about how much the cross country team and community meant to her. She had loved Coach Guymon as her coach and loved the opportunity she had through being on the Cross Country team. She had gathered new skills and made new friends that she would not have otherwise met had she not been on the team.

"Our team is so amazing and I have learned how to serve the team well," said Beaumont. "I have never been surrounded with such godly women and everyone's personality is so different."

For Emerson Turner, a freshman biology major from Haskell Okla., getting into a college sport had been new and challenging, but very rewarding. She expressed how enjoyable and fun cross country was, especially at Ouachita. She had been excited that the program had been able to grow and prosper. Turner was passionate and excited to talk about her experience with cross country and Ouachita.

"I have learned how to have a good balance of school and athletics throughout this process," said Turner. "It has help me grow as a person and allows me to appreciate the Ouachita Cross Country program and Ouachita as a whole."

Turner believed that more people needed to get involved and realize how fun Cross country can be. She wanted more supporters to come out and cheer them on for their season. She was excited about the future of the Cross Country program and Ouachita as they both continued to grow together to become the most successful that they could be.

by Madi Darr

Junior Elizabeth Costner runs during the Bob Gravett Invitational. The women were able to earn fourth place in this year's event. Photo by Hannah Smith

KEYMoment



"I knew Coach
Guymon could do
an amazing thing for
our program, but I
didn't know he could
do it so quickly. In
just one season we
had so many PR's,
and overall our team
strength was just
amazing."

- Alyssa Reese



"Almost every girl, including me, on our team that raced at SAU beat their 5k personal record. It was such an awesome moment to share with each other to celebrate one another's successes."

- Jorie Beaumont



"The key moment I recall is my personal record at SAU. Before that race I struggled with anxiety and stress before racing. When the race was over I was shocked and proved a simple change in mindset can change a lot."
- Kristen Holeyfield





The women enjoy dinner and fellowship at the Great American Conference cross country banquet. The team ran fast and ran proud this season. Photo by Danielle Sourber

Sophomore Kyndal Moyer leads the pictured pack at the Bob Gravett Invitational. Moyer's two mile time was recorded at 12:52.

Photo by Hannah Smith

SCOREBOARD

| UCA INVITE | 7th |
|-----------------------------|------|
| BOB GRAVETT INVITATIONAL | 4th |
| SEWANEE INVITE | 2nd |
| SAU INVITE | 4th |
| | 1 10 |

CHAMPIONSHIP



CROSS COUNTRY (front row) Kyndal Moyer, Grace Loftin, Eden Putterill, Rebekah Wendt. (second row) Kristen Holeyfield, Kennedy Stringfellow, Elizabeth Costner, Taryn Bewley, Emerson Turner. (back row) Izzy Baughn, Blanca Rodriguez, Abigail Costner, Jorie Beaumont, Audrey Funk, Alyssa Reece.