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2021

### The Ouachitonian 2021

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# RESILIENCE

2021  
OUACHITONIAN



# RESILIENCE

2021

**OUACHITONIAN**

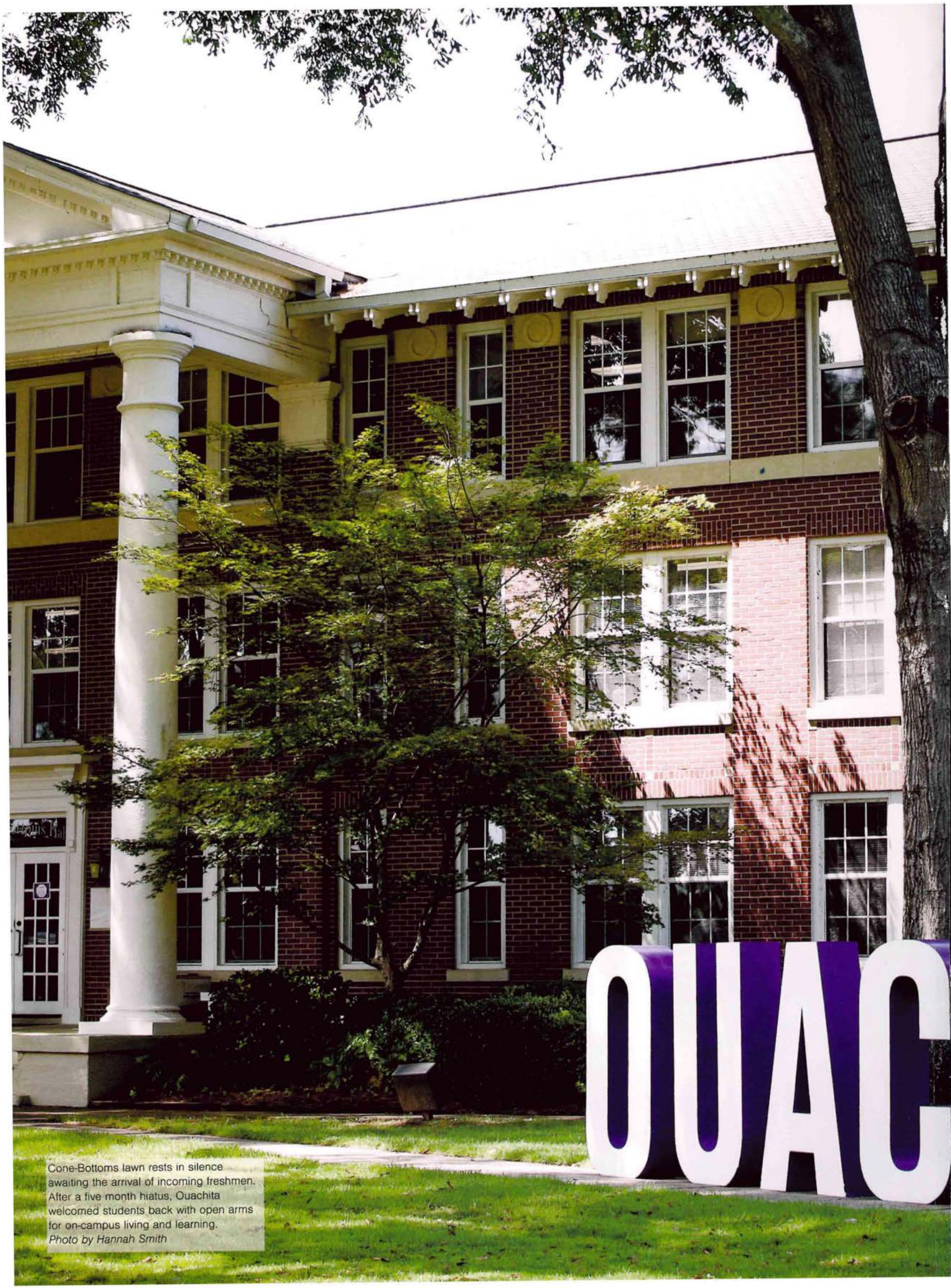
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Kendarious Smith, Jacob Street, and Leon Kalinic paint on Tiger Serve Day. Photo by Abby Blankenship



**2021 Ouachitonian**  
**Ouachita Baptist University**  
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# RESILIENCE



Cone-Bottoms lawn rests in silence awaiting the arrival of incoming freshmen. After a five month hiatus, Ouachita welcomed students back with open arms for on-campus living and learning.  
*Photo by Hannah Smith*




S

ilence...

Four seconds of silence is all a person needs to feel awkward amidst a social situation. Our Ouachita Baptist University campus experienced five months of deafening silence leading up to the 2020-21 school year. The spring of surprises turned into the summer of silence. Due to COVID-19, everything we knew, everything we took for granted, vanished from our grasp. For Ouachitonians, the silence, at times, seemed unending. We could not hug our friends. We could not hold our aging family members. We could only cling to the hope found in the Lord alone. The hope that every sea can be split, every storm can be subdued, and each passing second can be utilized for God's righteous scheme. One day, decades from now, each one of us will reach for this book on our shelf. It will be a time of remembrance. A time to embrace the trials. Our time, 2020 and 2021, was unlike any other. You made it through an unprecedented school year. You wavered on past the road blocks. Now, and forever, you prove the fight in the human spirit. You prove that light does shine amidst the darkness. You prove your unwavering **RESILIENCE**.



**T**he abnormalities turned the year into a fairy tale. Stories were molded, testimonies were mended, and memories were made. Stories, no matter the magnitude, make life worth living. Every story is written by the Creator of all. Written for a purpose. Purposes that echo in eternity. Every story is worth telling and every good story is worth the listen. So tune your ears, open your eyes, and remember our stories the Lord wrote throughout this unprecedented school year. Stories of snow days and GAC Tournament victories. Stories of flexible adjustment and perseverance. Stories about your brothers and sisters in Christ. Stories about life, love, and our bright shining light. Amidst the successes, though, there are always stories of sadness. Disappointments were of course woven within the year's story. Cliff Harris Stadium was not filled with fans cheering on the Tiger football team. Parents, family members, and friends could not revel at live Tiger Tunes performances. No disappointments, however, measured up to the magnified sadness that manifested throughout the world due to COVID-19 deaths. On Ouachita's campus we fought harder than we ever had to make it through a school year. We persevered and displayed extraordinary **RESILIENCE**. And as a result, let the aforementioned stories commence...



Sophomores Gary Storment and Wes Guerra sled down a snow-graced slope. February was home to a 16-inch snow onslaught increasing student morale.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*







Ouachita students play Spike Ball lake side. The Eubanks family has opened their property to student fun for years.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

# STUDENT LIFE

Living on campus, amidst a global pandemic, proved to be a tall task. But through the victories and struggles, the hills and valleys, Ouachita students displayed ***resilience.***



## A summer that required adjustments

# UNEXPECTED

Graduations, internships, and study abroad trips were just a few of the many pursuits that were canceled due to COVID-19. In what might have been an uneasy, fearful, and anxious time to some, Julianne Weaver, a senior biology major from Alexander, focused her efforts toward summer research.

Weaver spent June and July researching glioblastoma cells, the most aggressive form of brain cancer, to find drug treatments for them.

"I got to be [at Ouachita] when many people weren't allowed, doing something I love," Weaver said.

Even though she did not have to receive a coronavirus test before beginning her research, she was required to wear a mask and had routine temperature checks before each day began.

Usually, when summer research is completed, all the students come together to float the Caddo River on inner tubes, but they were unable to do that in the hectic year of 2020.

"Honestly, I was just glad to be able to be here and carry out my research," Weaver said.

For other students, coronavirus meant isolation in a room. Maggie Jackson, a freshman education major from Little Rock, was introduced to that quarantine feeling.

On the eve of the coronavirus tipping point, Jackson's dad began to feel sick. The day before the school shutdown, March 13, her parents hosted a dinner with family friends who had just returned home from Colorado. Jackson's family quickly realized that they might have come into contact with their friends who soon after tested positive. Once Jackson learned they had tested positive, she immediately locked herself in her room. For precautions, Jackson, her parents, and her brother were all administered tests.

"I already had an uneasy feeling, so I drove by myself to get tested," Jackson said.

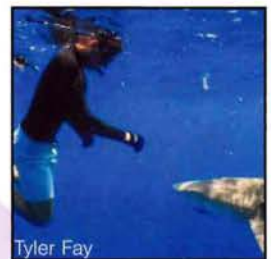
As she presumed, her parents and her brother tested positive, while Jackson's test returned negative. In the weeks to come, Jackson had friends and family bring her food while she stayed in her room.

"While in isolation, I turned 19 and was gifted a ukulele. All I did was play it," Jackson said. "After the 14-day isolation period, I was able to leave my room and my house."

Another unexpected worry because of COVID-19 was if international students would be allowed at universities for the fall semester. Fortunately, Carla Polo, a freshman finance major from Valencia, Spain, was able to come play tennis at Ouachita. Even though she is not able to go home until Thanksgiving, she says she is, "happy to have the opportunity to play tennis in the U.S."

Before leaving for Ouachita, Polo was not able to tell her grandparents goodbye because they are in the high-risk demographic, however her positive outlook did not waiver.

"I had to quarantine in Spain and had to stay away from my family because they were high risk," Polo said. "I've valued my health and time so much more now because in one moment it can all change."



Addie Woods



Blythe Epp, MacKenzie Hall, Jazmyn Parker and Austin Guymon stop at Target before a kamp day. All four worked at Kanakuk Kamps. Photo by Blythe Epp



Seniors Bailey Buettner, Ansley McDonald, Hannah Adair and Ben Adair pose in front of Yellowstone Grand Canyon. The group took a trip to Yellowstone National Park. Photo courtesy of Ansley McDonald



COVID Conduct

Many summer jobs and internships became virtual



Next to a horse and a camper, junior Maggie Pinkston takes a photo during a day at camp. Pinkston has worked at Brookhill for three summers. Photo courtesy of Maggie Pinkston

**LOOKING ACROSS** the landscape, senior Cameron Conner and junior Jacob Brown admire the scenery. The two traveled to Bear Lake at Rocky Mountain National Park. Photo courtesy of Jacob Brown



**LIFTING UP** a trophy, junior Abigail Blankenship prepares for the Women's Match Play Tournament. Blankenship interned at the Arkansas State Golf Association. Photo courtesy of Abigail Blankenship



## reporting **RESILIENCE** elizabeth steely

"The overall pageant with the Miss Lake Dardanelle, Petit Jean Valley, and Sweetheart of Arkansas took place entirely through Zoom. I did all three phases of competition in my living room. My family still watched me like a normal pageant, but they had to make sure not to get in the background of the camera. The experience was completely different than anything I ever, have or probably ever, will do again. It was a ton of fun and much less stressful than a typical pageant. Overall, my experience was awesome. It was definitely unique and something that I never expected to be a part of, but I am so thankful for the way it turned out. I always have to remind myself that God has a perfect plan for me, and I just have to have patience in seeing his timing."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*



With hats in the air, freshmen Scarlet Bates and Emilee Webb celebrate becoming Tigers for Life. The freshman ceremony took place on Benson-Williams Field. Photo by Hannah Smith

**WITH A** concentrated face, freshman Nick Yates plays volleyball with sophomore Wade Wilson. WOW included a lake day with Tacos4Life. Photo by Abby Blankenship



**SOPHOMORE** Emily Dodson shows off her Ouachita spirited glasses. Freshmen and WOW leaders celebrated the new school year with a tailgate at Cliff Harris Stadium. Photo by Abby Blankenship



# reporting **RESILIENCE** mason woolbright and holly shipp

"The changes that COVID-19 brought definitely made WOW different. Being a part of the student panel speaking to incoming freshmen allowed us experienced Ouachitonians the opportunity to give a sneak peak at what new students would have the chance to experience over their next four years." - MW // "WOW steering had to be creative in coming up with new activities for students to connect with one another and be introduced to Ouachita. COVID-19 added another component of planning, but the steering committee truly sought to ensure a fun WOW weekend." - HS  
As told to Gracen Goudy





Move-In Day



Lake Day



Tigers for Life



Tacos4Life

## Incoming students still experienced Tiger heritage

# TRADITION

In a semester with many unknowns, the freshman class began their college careers in the midst of a global pandemic. Welcome to Ouachita's World, better known as WOW, offered new students the opportunity to see what their new lives as Tigers would look like. Leaders from the student body volunteered to guide these new students through the weekend.

"The coronavirus pandemic completely changed the way we live our lives but being able to still impact a freshman's life for the better is a huge success," said Cameron Collins, a senior middle school education major from Scurry, Texas.

Students returned to and entered Ouachita's world extremely excited to be out of quarantine. Everyone was grateful to come together safely to make this weekend a possibility.

"I loved being able to encourage new students to get involved and make the best of their college experience. This year created many different challenges that had to be overcome, but the attitudes of my group never wavered," said Collins.

Students gathered in socially distanced groups to worship, play games, and get to know the campus while meeting fellow classmates.

"My favorite parts of WOW were the times of worship. There is no better way of introducing people to Ouachita's world than to show us the way this community loves God and loves people," said Nick Yates, a freshman Christian Studies

major from Hope.

There were several changes this year like masks and physical distancing. Under the leadership of Student Life Director Tim Harrell, the WOW Steering Committee had to be flexible and creative to comply with COVID-19 guidelines. Holly Shipp, a senior Christian Studies major from Arlington, Texas was a dynamic leader on the steering committee.

"Being on steering the past couple years has been an honor to participate in," said Shipp. "It was special to facilitate a student's initial welcome to Ouachita, a place so special to me."

The beanie ceremony, a long-standing tradition, was a special moment in which the class of 2024 all gathered together for the first time.

"My biggest worry coming into college was whether or not I would be able to make friends. Thanks to WOW, I have been able to make deep connections with my peers," said Olivia Dixon, a freshman from Arkadelphia.

Students were happily surprised and appreciative when they realized fellowship and community were still possible in a physically distanced campus.

"Being at WOW helped me know I wasn't alone in all the feelings I had about moving to college, which offered such a sweet community to me," Dixon said.

Emily Barton



Surrounded by bubbles, freshman Austin Roots enters the WOW tailgate party. Ice cream sandwiches and Chick-fil-a cookies were provided to celebrate the freshmen.

Photo by Abby Blankenship



Juniors Graycie Bohannon and Sarah Freeze greet freshmen at Frances-Crawford. Since WOW leaders could not help freshmen move in, they directed traffic and held open doors. Photo by Hannah Smith

## The crowning of the queen in unconventional manners

**H**omecoming looked different in 2020, but the one thing that remained the same was Ouachita made sure to celebrate and encourage the women nominated from their respective clubs. In a time of enough unknowns, tropical weather caused the postponement of the first attempt at the crowning ceremony, which led to the homecoming court taking place in an intimate ceremony setting inside the student center.

Kat Allen, a senior psychology and social justice double major from Texarkana, was in charge of planning the homecoming event. Allen also planned a Purple Plaza Party that would have hosted booths for social clubs, the cheerleaders, and the band, all approved by HMAT. However the party was canceled due to the inclement weather.

"We wanted to have an in-person Homecoming Queen crowning and presentation of the court. I felt that canceling the event after getting everyone's hopes up would not be respectful of the ladies on the court, nor of the efforts that everyone put into trying to make the event happen," Allen said.

The weight of the event sat on Allen's shoulders. Since the normal ceremony before the Homecoming football game was impossible due to a canceled fall season, Allen worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event safe while still being exciting.

This year Ouachita voted for and crowned Homecoming Queen Holly Shipp, a senior Christian Studies major from Arlington, Texas.

"Of course, being crowned Homecoming Queen would make anybody's OBU career, but it was a huge encouragement to me during a strange senior year. It definitely lifted my spirits and truly reminded me of the big blessing that Ouachita is," Shipp said.

"The ceremony this year, though small, was special. Being closer to my best friends felt a lot less formal and made it a lot more comfortable and special. I felt I could celebrate with my friends and classmates right then," Shipp added.

Women earned the opportunity to represent clubs and organizations they loyally dedicate so much of their time and effort toward. Ouachita celebrated these women even amidst a pandemic. Students were enthusiastically cheering on their friends as each woman was introduced on the stage in the student center.

"I was honored, and wasn't expecting to make the court," Jorie Beaumont said, a senior nutrition and dietetics major from Lockport, Ill., who was awarded second runner up. "Overall, it was a great experience and a sense of normalcy for my senior year."

Lindsey Crowder, the first runner up, a senior psychology major from Bentonville, shared her gratitude for being included in the event, and for all the people who made the event special.

"It was an honor to be chosen to stand among an amazing group of women who all love and serve Ouachita in some way," Crowder said.

Ouachita saw the student body come together to support other students in the hectic fall semester. It was a sight that Ouachitonians were often not able to see a lot of due to the cancellation of many special events. But thanks to tireless work, Homecoming still pushed on.

In addition to Shipp, Beaumont, and Crowder, the court included third runner-up Natalie Ward, a senior accounting major from Harrison and fourth runner-up Bethany Crawley, a senior instrumental music education major from Jonesboro.

Emily Barton



HO

Photo by Abby Blankenship



ME COMING



# TUNES



The Tiger Tunes hosts and hostesses perform a dance. Each song and dance was recorded then aired between each show.  
Photo by Hannah Smith

**SPEAKING TO** students, sophomore Karlee Kindy represents Tri Chi at the Tunes watch party. Clubs set up booths around campus on the night of Tunes.  
Photo by Hannah Adamson

**PLAYING HIS** guitar, sophomore Wade Wilson leads a song. The hosts and hostesses still had the same experience, except for a live audience.  
Photo by Hannah Smith



## reporting **RESILIENCE** brady barton

"We were all pretty sad when we learned there would be no way to have an in-person fall Tunes show, but we wanted to find a way to honor the legacy and spirit of Tiger Tunes for campus morale and alumni engagement. The most challenging part of planning Rewind was compiling all the old Tunes footage that we had for alumni to choose their show. The scholarly commons has Tunes shows going all the way back to the early 90's in some cases, so it was my job to watch through every show and see which ones would be viable options for voting."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





Madeline Martin



ETA



Autumn Romines

## Take a trip back to the classics

# REWIND

When newly revealed guidelines made it clear that a normal Tiger Tunes was not an option in the fall semester, Ouachita went to work trying to find the next best thing. Jon Merryman, director of Alumni Relations and OSF sponsor, brainstormed how to have some form of Tunes when he and Lori Mott, director of Admissions, came up with the idea for Tunes Rewind.

"The main preparation came with trying to keep the hosts and hostesses safe and prepared to be really the only 'normal' part of Tunes," explained Merryman. "They had distanced rehearsals and did a great job staying safe to be able to finish the recording."

Wade Wilson, a sophomore Christian Studies major from Springdale, was one of the hosts for the newly revised Tiger Tunes. All of their performances were filmed in advance, meaning they were able to watch as the student body viewed the premier in real time.

"I was kind of nervous when I watched it at first because I was nit picking myself and thought I looked or sounded weird," said Wilson. "When the watch party started, everyone was cheering and really just having fun, so all that worry just left my mind."

One of the ways Ouachita attempted to make this modified semester feel more normal was by hosting a campus watch party. Social clubs set up booths with snacks and games, Sodexo catered dinner, and a large screen was set up on the lawn of Cone Bottoms to allow for everyone to watch the livestream together. Students from Dr. Rebecca Jones'

Event Planning class were tasked with planning the event alongside Tim Harrell, director of Student Life, and paired up with members of the Ouachita Student Foundation to see it come to completion.

The main purpose of this event, aside from building community in the midst of an odd time, was to raise funds for OSF's annual student scholarships. Instead of the normal judging coupled with a people's choice award, spectators were encouraged to make donations toward their favorite group competing that would help in determining their place in the contest. The ultimate winner of Tiger Tunes Rewind was decided by the club with the most donations at the close of the final show. The inaugural Rewind champions were the Women of EEE with their 2016 show, Toy Soldiers.

Mason Woolbright, a senior business major from Benton and the President of OSF, was overwhelmed with gratitude as he saw the donations roll in throughout the night.

"Setting our goal at \$10,000—a number we weren't sure we would meet—the Ouachita community supported us more than we could have ever expected with over \$60,000 in gifts, silent auction purchases, and merchandise," said Woolbright.

"This goodwill and spirit of Tiger Tunes allowed students to stay at Ouachita; many of whom have testified that without the OSF scholarship, their return to OBU was unlikely," Woolbright added.

Addie Woods and Anna Roussel



Seniors Maddie Bayer, Katherine Fehlman, Gracen Seabaugh and Brooke Snyder sit on a picnic blanket waiting for Tunes to begin. The Women of EEE hosted a watch party. Photo by Abby Blankenship



Senior Molly Kennedy is recorded while singing a tune. The hosts and hostesses spent two days recording songs. Photo by Hannah Smith



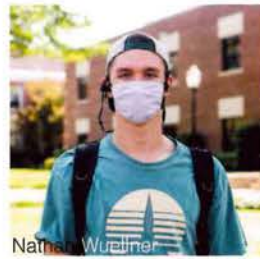
Paige Felt



Levi Dade



Claire Phillips



Nathan Wurtiner



Jazmyr Parker

## Hand in hand through a pandemic, metaphorically

# PREVENTION

In March of 2020, Ouachita students were sent home with no clear time line of when they might return to campus. It was in April that Dr. Sells, along with other university staff, made the decision to return to on-campus learning in the fall. Aided by a 600-item checklist for navigating college in a pandemic, Ouachita's faculty and staff began to prepare a safe living and learning environment for the 2020-21 academic year.

"What drove the decision to attempt in-person classes was that we believe the best way to have the traditional Ouachita undergraduate education experience is in person," Sells explained. "There were other universities who were also making that decision and we had some confidence that by learning from one another, we could do this as well."

**"We went this whole year without knowing how long we would be able to stay on campus, so we had to make the most of our time and be flexible with the circumstances put in front of us."**

**- Luke Falco**

Entering college as a freshman during the pandemic changed some expectations for Luke Falco, a freshman communications and sociology double major from Bismarck. Making friends was challenging in this context, and Falco was even quarantined at one point. Finding new ways to hang out with people by spending time outside or hosting friends in dorm rooms helped him to find those he connected with well and be more intentional in friendships as a result.

"A lesson that COVID taught me was that I have to be ready to adapt to change," Falco said. "We went this whole year without knowing how long we would be able to stay on campus, so we had to make the most of our time and be flexible with the circumstances put in front of us."

The year also presented challenges for upperclassmen who experienced Ouachita in a completely new context. With annual traditions such as Tiger Tunes and traditional rush being prevented due to the inability to gather in large groups, students, such as Jenna Whitlow, a senior studio art and history major from Jacksonville, Fla., found themselves disappointed. Without the normal social outlets available, Whitlow found new ways to make the most of her last year by focusing more on small gatherings and appreciating the time left with close friends.

"I'm so grateful for my apartment because I got to have small gatherings there with my good friend group," Whitlow explained. "My close friendships became so important this year and I learned to rely on my people to get through such stressful times."

Through improvised plans and creativity from all areas of campus life, Ouachita completed a full in-person year in the midst of a global pandemic. Out of the entire campus including students, faculty and staff, 2,755 tests were administered, resulting in only 339 total cases of COVID-19. Dr. Sells felt that the year's success was a result of the diligence of the staff to prepare and the willingness of the students to cooperate.

"When we could've panicked, we persevered," Sells said. "It would've been easy to panic, but those involved in planning knew what was likely to happen and were confident we could handle it because of all our preparation and protocols."

Anna Roussel

mar 2020

aug 2020

oct 2020

dec 2020

jan 2021

Ouachita faculty, staff, and students were all sent away from campus due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the United States.

Ouachita reopened for on campus living and learning. Countless guidelines and parameters were put in place in order to maintain safety.

As cases across the country began to rise, Ouachitians also felt the impact as positive cases and quarantines reached a peak.

Students left campus to return home for a long winter's break and returning to campus was certainly doubted by several.

Ouachita faculty and staff began to receive vaccines. An estimated 80-85% of faculty and staff received the shot.



Kinley Ritter



Brittany Surr



Tyson Tatum



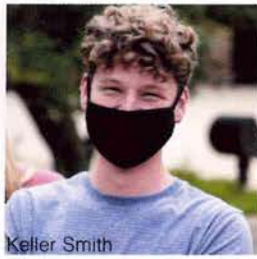
Sara Collins



Vanessa Vines



Holly Shipp



Keller Smith



Kavia Brown



Nicholas Herrington



Isabella Wood



Photo by Wesley Kluck

# COVID TESTING CENTER

TESTS ADMINISTERED  
**2,755**

CUMULATIVE POSITIVE CASES  
**339**

TESTING CENTER POSITIVITY RATE  
**7.2%**

VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS  
**≈75%**



## reporting RESILIENCE



The Lady Tigers basketball team battled through intense COVID-19 obstacles throughout the entire season. The year began with several team members testing positive resulting in the cancellation of the team's first six contests. Two weeks later, just as the season was expected to tip off, more positive test results canceled five more games. In a span of just three weeks, beginning on Feb. 6, the Lady Tigers rattled off four wins in eight contests and captured the program's first GAC Tournament victory since 2012.

As told by Ben Swanger

**mar 2021**    **apr 2021**    **may 2021**

As vaccines became more readily available, Ouachita students were able to receive the shot administered on campus. Around 50-55% of the student body were given the shot.

Clark County's COVID-19 count dropped to zero. The spread of the virus began to dwindle as more people received the vaccine.

Ouachita's school year ended successfully as outdoor and maskless large group gatherings returned.



Noah McCallum



Bailey Case



Olivia Yarbrough



Dr. Ben Sells



Raegan Pyle



Deep in the mud, sophomore Karigan Clay competes in Mud Madness. Each team member had to complete the slippery course. Photo by Abby Blankenship

**HANDS GRIPPED** onto the pole, senior Keller Smith plays human foosball with his team. Human foosball was set up as a bracket system for the teams to compete. Photo by Abby Blankenship

**SORTING THROUGH** shirts, juniors Kate Vernon and Mary Madison Tolbert prepare to check in teams. Teams' first activity was Trek, which was spread across campus. Photo by Abby Blankenship



## reporting **RESILIENCE** becca janke

"My job, along with Kate Vernon and Mary Madison Tolbert, was titled Traks Spirit Squad. We were tasked with keeping energy high throughout the day of events, and encouraging Traks teams who exemplified a great Traks spirit. We rewarded team players 'general Traks hype' with stickers, which acted as a type of point system throughout the day. I loved seeing the OSF and student community come together for a fun weekend amidst the weird hurdles and guidelines set in place. It's no secret that the weather was frigid and the effort to keep things COVID-safe was tedious at times, but to see a group look beyond the issues and see the purpose behind Traks is refreshing and encouraging."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





Pigskin Pass



Slip 'N Slide



Mud Madness



Tube Turbo

## A race to the podium

# EXHILARATING

Tiger Traks is a long-standing tradition that has been on Ouachita's campus for over 45 years. What started as a fun way to connect the student body blossomed into a weekend extravaganza. Normally the event would be held over the course of two days in the spring semester. Traks was forced to look a little different this year.

"I am the Special Events co-chair for OSF, which means I am Tiger Traks assistant director," said Maddie Bailey, a senior political science major from Bauxite. "Brady Barton is this year's director, so I get to lead and serve under her before directing next year."

Ouachita's Student Foundation did not let the restrictions weigh them down as they pushed through rigorous planning to make the experience as fun as possible.

"As a part of the spirit squad my job was to keep the energy up and motivate people throughout the day," said Kate Vernon, a Junior Elementary Education major from El Dorado, "Our job was to bring joy and make people smile. We had glitter, wigs, bows, silly string and more to keep everyone's spirits up."

It was important that OSF gave freshmen an opportunity to get more involved at Ouachita. Because of COVID-19, Traks was only one day as Ouachita wanted to minimize the amount of coronavirus exposure.

"My favorite part of Traks was probably the scavenger hunt. It was about deciding who had what strengths and

which challenge they should do. I also just enjoyed the competitiveness and teamwork involved in it," said Sloane Precure, a senior biology and psychology major from Canyon, Texas.

Tiger Traks was one tradition we could have this school year that looked close to normal. Precure was captain of her team, the Hermit Crabs, who won first place in the competition.

"My team got the spirit award and we were just focused on being encouraging and cheering all the time, for everyone," said Precure. "It was awesome to be hyped up that a group of people I only met a few days before."

COVID-19 did not shut down our campus doors in the fall, but rather pushed the student body to get more creative with safe ways to fellowship and get involved in the community.

"It was awesome to win Traks. I had no expectation to win, I was just doing it for fun, it was nice getting to know new people," said Precure.

Bringing together that many people to raise money for scholarships is something often hard to do on bigger campuses. The community at Ouachita is rarely found on larger campuses.

"Moving Traks to the fall gave students something fun to do this semester. This year has not consisted of many typical Ouachita traditions," said Vernon.

Emily Barton



Juniors Able Kusaloka and James Renshaw work the mud Traks games. OSF workers were required to get in the mud to supervise the event. Photo by Abby Blankenship



Racing around the Village Circle, freshman Madison Melcher competes in Tiger Traks. The tricycles are a Tiger Traks staple. Photo by Abby Blankenship

## A month-long party

# FESTIVITY

A normal week-long party filled with Ouachita women gaining courage to ask the Ouachita men to each club's TWIRP (The Woman Is Required To Pay) event turned into a full month of parties, thanks to constant change due to COVID-19.

Throughout the month of October, each female club held its event: Chi Mu's Mask-Querade, Tri Chi 80's Festival, EEE FiftEEEEs Fair, Chi Delta's Carnival, Gamma Phi's Angels in the Outfield, and Christian Ministries' Barn Bash.

Seth Hunter, a freshman psychology major from Russellville, was able to experience his first year of attending TWIRP dances.

"I went to the masquerade, 50's night, and Barn Bash. Fifty's Night was my favorite. There was a lot to do and there were lots of good places to take pictures, a lot of fun games, the Coke float was nice, and the show they put on was great too," Hunter said.

The EEEs had to change their normal plan of having a live show due to COVID-19 regulations. Sophomore Anna Hampson, a communications and media major from Little Rock, was asked to help with the dance. The EEEs decided to record their audio beforehand, rather than singing live, and danced along to the tune.

"My job was choreography. I made up half the dances, sent videos of me teaching it and explaining the moves, to the girls. I loved getting to teach the girls moves and help them out, and I loved getting to perform in front of all the freshmen and give them a warm welcome," Hampson said.

The Tri Chi's had to re-adjust their plans as well. They held their dance at the football indoor facility instead of their normal spot, the Tiger Den. Junior Nick Hazlet, an engineering major from Greenville, Texas, and also a Tri Chi beau, helped put together Tri Chi's dance.

"I was the loud voice for trivia and costume contests or when they needed people's attention," Hazlet said. "My favorite part was definitely the people. They made the time being there so much fun by all their dancing, joy, and excitement."

Toward the end of the month of October, Campus Ministries put on Barn Bash in front of Cone-Bottoms, where there was line dancing, barbecue, and 2020 graduate Clay Mobley came back to sing and showcase his deep, country twang. Barn Bash had never been held no campus, but CM decided that hosting the event outside on campus would be the safest option. Sophomore Gracie Vaughn from Little Rock, an elementary education major, helped teach line dances to the guests.

"This year we couldn't do square dancing like before," Vaughn said. "We got our [line dancing] songs and practiced teaching them to each other to make sure we knew how to explain them. One of them we even wrote part of it to make it more fun and we couldn't all go to the big field, but it was still an absolute blast."



Quantel Williams



Chi Mu Masquerade



Gamma Phi Picnic



Tri Chi 80's Night

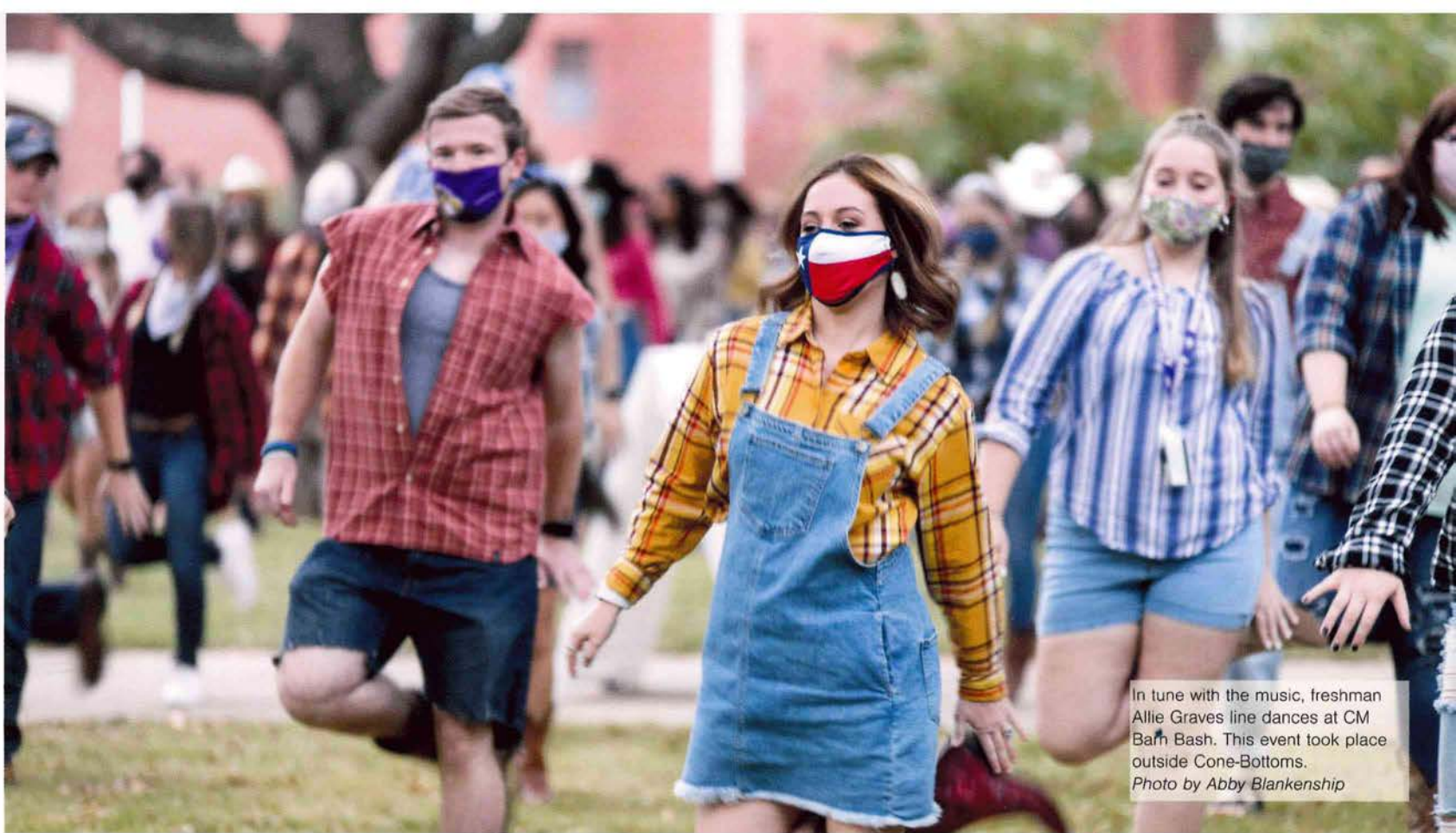
Meredith Medford



Senior Rachel David plays Connect Four at Chi Mu's masquerade. This TWIRP night took place outside in the middle of campus. Photo by Hannah Adamson



The Women of EEE PC '20 performs outside Cliff Harris Stadium at their 50's Night TWIRP. The lyrics of the song were pre-recorded and played while they danced live. Photo by Abby Blankenship



In tune with the music, freshman Allie Graves line dances at CM Barn Bash. This event took place outside Cone-Bottoms.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship

**DRESSED IN** 80's gear, sophomore Jack Webb and freshman Logan Talley pose for a photo at Tri Chi TWIRP. This event took place inside the football field house.  
Photo by Callie Rogers



**MARKING A** student's hand, sophomore Alex Henry works the ticket booth at Chi Delta's Carnival. Students dressed up in 70's attire for the Chi Delta party.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



## reporting **RESILIENCE** blythe epp

"I got the opportunity this year to teach the 'Footloose' and 'Boot Scootin' Boogie' line dance at Barn Bash put on by Christian Ministries. I loved how Barn Bash was still just as fun, if not more fun, as last year! I think the incorporation of line dances was a fun way to still be COVID safe, but also keep the tradition of dancing all night long. It seemed like people really enjoyed it and left wanting more. Despite the changes, Ouachita was still the same Lord-loving, upbeat, encouraging place and Barn Bash really brought that to the surface. TWIRP remains one of the best traditions here, not because of the activities that we do, but the people we get to do them with."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





**Our world grew farther apart, but from a distance, we thrived.**

**O**n March 12, 2020, Ouachita students were told that their semester was coming to an abrupt end. The fast-spreading coronavirus pandemic forced everyone to go home and begin a new chapter of life that utilized Zoom and online assignments.

"I remember waiting for the e-mail that was going to send us home," said Grace Oliver, a senior communications science and disorders major from Little Rock. "Not knowing what was going to happen was unsettling and leaving my friends was really sad, but I think Ouachita did a good job of handling the situation."

During the extended break and summer

vacation, students were restricted from travel, quarantined in their homes, and introduced to a new normal. Shaking hands was no longer the norm, you had to wear a mask in public, and family walks became a daily outlet to get out of the house.

Luckily for Ouachita students, the administration began working day in and day out to find a way to bring students back to campus in the fall.

"It had been the most work I had ever done in my life," said Dr. Wesley Kluck, Vice President of Student Development and university physician. "Around February, we started working on bringing students back even before we had to make those tough decisions in March."

After returning to school, students



Photo by Abby Blankenship

remained a safe six-foot distance from one another, attended class in spaced out rooms like Walker Conference Center and Jones Performing Arts Center, and understood the necessity to cancel or postpone normal fall events. Around campus, there were hundreds of sanitation stations installed for the

**“Quarantine definitely was not the most fun experience.”**  
- Cameron Conner

safety of students, along with signs establishing the allowed number of people in certain areas and rooms.

“All the rules put in place are necessary for us to be safe, but I miss all of the fun events we’d have every fall,” said Landen

Irby, a sophomore engineering physics major from Arkadelphia.

As students learned to adapt, Dr. Kluck reminded everyone that, “implementing social distancing and wearing a mask is what allows us to stay on campus

in Arkadelphia.”

The CDC guidelines did not require every student coming back to school to be tested for COVID-19, but those who did test positive or were in close contact with those positive students were required to be quarantined.

“Students with negative-tests had to quarantine in their rooms,” Dr. Kluck said. “So, we brought meals to these students, ran their errands and did everything we could to assist them.”

“Quarantine definitely wasn’t the most fun experience but it kept us on campus all semester, so be it,” said Cameron Conner, a senior music industry major from Little Rock.

Though the 2020-2021 school year was not particularly the year most students imagined, it will definitely be a year we will never forget.

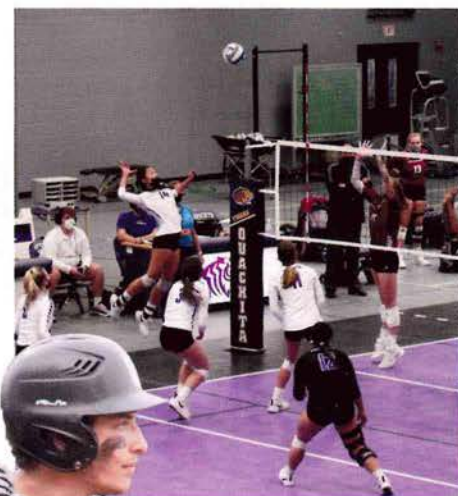
Madison Cresswell



Sophomore Heather Brown rounds the bases at the BOTR softball game. The team went 1-2 against Henderson.  
Photo by Callie Rogers

**LOOKING AHEAD**, sophomore Makayla Miller heads to the basket. The BOTR games had few fans in attendance due to COVID-19 regulations.  
Photo by Hannah Smith

**FRESHMAN EJ** Day jumps up to set the ball in a home match. The volleyball team went 1-1 with their hometown rivals.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship

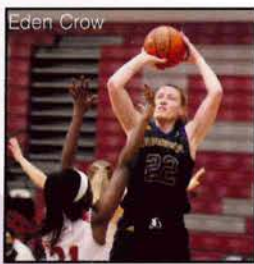


## reporting **RESILIENCE:** louis steen

"This year's Battle of the Ravine was a high scoring game with some mistakes that we fixed for future games. Henderson was right in front of us in the rankings so it was a great rivalry weekend. COVID-19 has made things a little different with less of a locker room life and wearing masks when needed, but all together baseball has felt like my one escape back to the normal life I knew before COVID-19. I was extremely excited to play this year especially since there was a lot of uncertainty. I am thankful to have the opportunity to play, and it showed me how quickly it can be taken away."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*

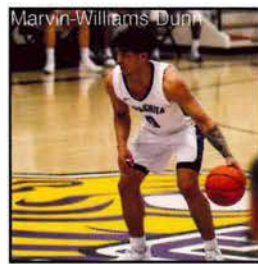




Eden Crow



Rebecca Holliman



Marvin-Williams Dunn



Lilla Clark

## The battle for bragging rights

# RIVALRY

The Battle of the Ravine between Ouachita Baptist and Henderson State has always been one of the biggest small-school rivalries in all of college football, but it is also an important rivalry for all of the sports on Ouachita's campus. Being across the street from one another, the Tigers and the Reddies share a unique hometown rivalry.

"Our other opponents we see once, maybe twice a year, just to play a match before we go our separate ways," said tennis player Claire Phillips, a senior business marketing and strategic communications major from Midlothian, Texas. "With Henderson though, these are the people we share a town with, we see them at El P, Wal-Mart, or even in some of the same classes as us. I mean, we can even see their courts from ours. This only adds to the excitement that comes with Battle of the Ravine because whoever comes out on top becomes the talk of the town for the next year."

Preparing for the competition against Henderson was not only a physical challenge but also a mental challenge full of personal goals. The thrill of playing a hometown rival creates a unique and unforgettable atmosphere that gives the teams bigger motivation to work harder and come out on top.

"The atmosphere at a Battle of the Ravine game is always through the roof. There are always lots of fans from both schools who attend and make it an incredible experience. It feels just like a rivalry between two SEC schools. Both schools thrive off of the rivalry, and it pushes us each time

we play. It's like it gives you an extra drive or determination to win at any given cost," Simmons Sowell, a senior baseball player and kinesiology major from Barr, Miss., said.

This year's Battle of the Ravine competitions helped to restore some life and energy back into the Ouachita campus and to the teams after losing a full semester of sporting events.

"The Battle of the Ravine meet we held was something that definitely brought back some of that energy we had lost not competing the whole first semester," said swimmer Jack Connor, a junior history major from Gunter, Texas. The energy we brought to the meet helped us bounce back and almost helped us learn how to compete again. It was fun to watch and see people get excited through swimming and cheering even if it wasn't our team's best performance."

Each team always comes prepared for a hard-fought battle and in search of a hopeful victory.

"When we beat Henderson, it was like winning the lottery because we were so hyped up and filled with joy," Parker Smith, a freshman basketball player and early childhood education and kinesiology major from Searcy, said.

No matter the sport or the outcome of the matchup, the Battle of the Ravine, is and will always be, an exciting tradition for the community and the schools.

Kathryn Totty



Senior Maija Gertson and junior Jessi Bennett discuss strategy during the game at Henderson. As leaders on the team, the girls knew the importance of the BOTR competition. Photo by Thomas Donley



The Tiger bench celebrates junior Ma'Darius Hobson's dunk. The Henderson and Ouachita rivalry was strong on the basketball court. Photo by Thomas Donley

Serving our city with ready hands and open hearts

# VOLUNTEER

Once a semester the Elrod Centers hosts the 24-year tradition, Tiger Serve Day. In 1997, the day was a scheduled event to serve the city of Arkadelphia, in traditional ways. The event took a different turn, though, after a tornado swept through parts Arkadelphia and left neighborhoods and businesses destroyed. Tiger Serve Day arrived early as Ouachita students and faculty came together to clean-up and serve the heart-broken community the tornado left behind.

This year's fall Tiger Serve Days was unique much like the first day. Although there was no tornado, there was a pandemic. The day was adapted to follow and comply with COVID-19 guidelines. Masks were worn, social distancing was in place, and trash pickup replaced visiting homes. Despite the adaptations, the heart behind the day remained the same.

"I love everything about this day," said Judy Duvall, associate director of the Elrod Center. "Tiger Serve Day is when our campus gets to live out our Christian faith in very practical ways; both practically and relationally. We get to move outside our bubble and see places and people that we wouldn't have seen and genuinely make a difference. It provides an impetus for many of our students to discover the joy of serving that ignites a fire to serve in other ways long after the day is over."

When spring semester rolled around and restrictions began to lift, the day returned to what it was pre-pandemic. Volunteers were able to gather for breakfast and lunch, masks were not worn outside, and teams were able to safely visit homes.

When reflecting on spring semester, Kady Johnson, sophomore from Mountain View said, "It was nice, second semester, to have the restrictions lifted and have a normal Tiger Serve Day. It allowed us to spend more time in community and grow more relationships as we served Arkadelphia."

The day was planned by 33 student leaders. Six weeks leading up to the big event, the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team met to plan the details. The team made sure volunteers were signed up, tools were in stock, and posters were made.

Jacob Brown, a junior from Carrollton, Texas, served on the Leadership Team. The team taught him the importance of serving others wherever he is.

"I learned that it is important to be engaged with the community you are in," Brown said. "That can go as far as being willing to have conversations with those who are older, they can be beneficial to your life. We are called to minister to the elderly and show them Christ in those conversations and acts of service."

Tiger Serve Day could not happen without the volunteers. They directly impacted those whom they serve as they are the hands and feet of Jesus, truly servants of Him.

Keaton Goodrum, a junior from Arkadelphia, said that serving allowed him to do the Lord's work.

"Jesus did a lot of things, and one of those was help people and perform miracles. To be able to go out and serve in the name of Jesus is a neat aspect of Tiger Serve Day. He is doing His work through us," Goodrum said.

Tiger Serve Day was far more than a day of service, it was a day of bringing hope to a community in need.

"Those served are especially touched by the kindness and care given on this day. Driving around town after the day you will notice a freshly painted school, clean streets, painted guard rails and flowers planted by the entrance to our city. Tiger Serve Day brings hope to our city and reminds the residents that there are those that care and want to make a difference. Volunteers are reminding that there is more to life than living for oneself. That to give their lives away is the best way to live," Duvall said.

MacKenzie Hall



Blythe Epp



Scott Duvall



Trash Pick Up



Josiah Elm



The men's basketball Tiger Serve Day team works together to repaint a gate. Several teams did maintenance work across campus. Photo by Hannah Smith



Senior Gregory Junior picks up his supplies for his Tiger Serve Day team. The majority of teams collected trash on popular Arkadelphia streets. Photo by Levi Dade



**COVID Conduct**  
Projects outside dominated the itinerary



Sorting through flowers, sophomore Ana Oelenberger serves by gardening. Different organizations and groups formed teams together.  
Photo by Hannah Adamson

**UP ON** a ladder, junior Kennedy Stringfellow cleans out gutters. Teams served at local houses within the community.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



**TEAM LEADERS** pick up supplies to distribute to their group. Tiger Serve Day leadership team collected specific supplies for each team.  
Abby Blankenship



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** kayla whittington

"I think something challenging this year has been changing how we do things because of COVID-19. Normally, most teams are going to people's homes in the community. This year, we really had to change that. Perhaps the big lesson learned here is that there is always some capacity in which we can be serving others and loving people well, but we have to be willing to change how we have done things and adapt. For me, getting to serve on TSD team under Judy Duvall and Ian Cosh is one of the greatest privileges. The biggest thing though, is getting to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I don't think there is anything more important than loving and serving others in our community!"

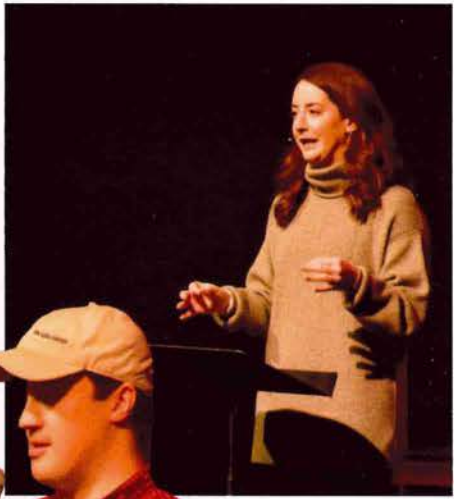
*As told to Gracen Goudy*



Senior Bri Penn leads worship during one of the CFW worship nights. Each night included a guest speaker.  
Photo by Hannah Adamson

**AFTER A** time of worship, speaker Justin Bilson shares a touching message. Bilson was the speaker to kick off the week and introduce the theme "One on One."  
Photo by Hannah Adamson

**DURING A** worship night, Mary Farley shares a message on the JPAC stage. Farley serves as a graduate counseling intern as she is pursuing her masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.  
Photo by Hannah Adamson

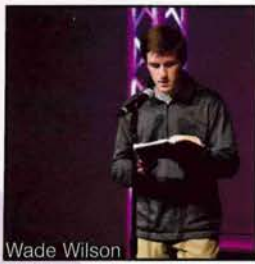


# reporting **RESILIENCE:** **ben lewis**

"While on the CFW leadership team I gave one of the morning devotionals, introduced the Refuge speakers, and volunteered at several of the events. The team was full of creative people, and I was lucky to be a part of it. We began having Zoom meetings as early as September and October to begin planning. By November, we decided on a theme to emphasize relationships, which is something the pandemic affected. One challenge we faced was the classes in JPAC during the day when we would normally have worship. Due to this, we moved the worship to the evening like Refuge, and we had breakout sessions over Zoom. I know looking back after I graduate, CFW will always be a favorite memory."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





Wade Wilson



Katie Bonge



Buck McKnight



Ryan Scantling

## Prioritizing one-on-one time with Christ

# INDIVIDUAL

Christian Focus Week is a staple event on Ouachita's campus every year. The theme for 2021 was One on One. The mission set forth throughout the week was to equip students, faculty, and staff to be more faithful disciples of Christ. Though 2021's CFW event was a little different due to COVID-19, it did not stop the work of God's hands in the hearts of people.

Student leader Faith Moore, a senior political science major from Rogers, defined Christian Focus Week as a week of both collective and individual growth in Christ.

"The week provided a time for students, regardless of the current state of their spiritual journey, to learn new ways to encounter God, and to do so with their fellow students, thereby strengthening individual relationships with the Lord while also lifting up the community. Since I first experienced CFW my freshman year, I have always thought that I would enjoy leading in this area. I became inspired to take on this position not because of any specific experience, but just because of what the week actually is and the role that it plays on campus."

Wade Wilson, a Christian studies major from Springdale and fellow student leader, explained that his favorite part of this year's CFW was being a part of the Art and Worship event.

"During Art and Worship, one can do an art project while they listen to a live worship band, talk to friends, or just sit in

silence. It's a really chill time where someone can leave the schoolwork and come and worship God however they want to," Wilson said.

Wilson reminisced that he needed to be reminded of prayer in leadership.

"I think it's easy to get caught up in helping plan CFW and volunteering that you forget about prayerfully trusting God to work in hearts and minds," he said.

One of this year's speakers, Hannah Pilcher, the Resident Director for Francis Crawford Hall, reflected on her CFW experience as a staff member.

"I was reminded throughout the week that it is so often in the small moments, at the most unexpected times, when Christ encounters us," Pilcher shared. "My favorite memory was watching my best friend speak during one of the main worship sessions. We went to college together and attended many CFW events as students, so it was special to see her using her gifts as she shared about encountering Jesus."

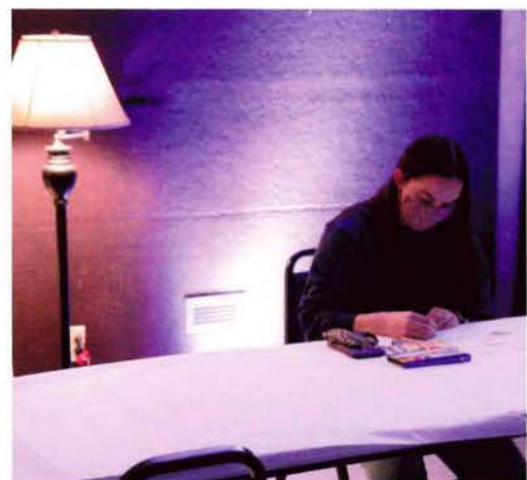
Freshman Gracee Drake, a kinesiology major from Dallas, Texas, explained, "I grew spiritually during the worship break out session and now realize when worship songs are God-centered versus when they are self-centered."

Despite the odd year, Christian Focus Week pushed on and the result was growth within the hearts of many.

Angela Webb



Junior Lucie Shepherd leads worship on the JPAC stage. Worship was held four nights of the week. Photo by Levi Dade



Junior Kaitlyn Campbell takes part in Art and Worship in the Tiger Den. A Spotify playlist and art supplies were provided for students to worship and create on their own. Photo by Levi Dade



## A trip into the great outdoors

# ACTIVITY

Despite the pandemic, ReLife was one of Ouachita's staples on campus. ReLife was responsible for outdoor events, intramurals, the climbing center, and much more. Though ReLife had been affected by the coronavirus, the program had adapted to the newly made changes, such as wearing masks and social distancing.

Shane Seaton, the director of ReLife, has served as director since August of 2015. Seaton took the position as director because of his calling.

"I connected well with the college students and this position combined my passion of using recreation to help people grow with a group of people I enjoyed working with," Seaton said. "Ouachita ReLife gives students an opportunity to be physically active through intramurals, outdoor recreation, and fitness. However, I believe that the benefits go beyond just physical activity. Through these activities students learn about themselves and grow closer to God and others in the Ouachita community."

Seaton shared that the pandemic has greatly affected normal operations.

"COVID-19 has greatly affected ReLife's operations. Regarding intramurals, we have been limited on the number of traditional sports we can host. Our outdoor recreation events have been limited by transportation and food service," he said.

Seaton described that ReLife had overcome COVID-19 because of extreme flexibility.

"We have had to adapt and be creative with our choice of activities. Our entire department, from our student workers to our assistant director and director, has given input and been willing to change our perception of what ReLife looks like. It looks a little bit different, but we have still provided students with opportunities to be active and engage with one another. Some events we had to cancel completely, but others we just had to change. For instance, the Rockfest Climbing Competition was a month-long instead of one day because we could not put that many people in the CRAG."

Kiki Swanson, a freshman major in nutrition and dietetics from Spring Branch, Texas, had briefly worked in the CRAG.

"Never have I felt closer to the Lord or seen similarities of the Lord than when I am outside, enjoying His creation," Swanson said. "I love how ReLife allows us, as students, to slow down, get outside, and just truly enjoy all that He has created for our pleasure."

Josiah Elmore, a senior education major from Arkadelphia, served as a referee for ReLife events. Elmore shared that his favorite ReLife event from this year was the archery tournament.

"Archery is a fun sport that most people can pick up," Elmore said.

Hannah Martin, a junior double major in psychology and business management from Conway, has participated in many intramurals and outdoor events.

"ReLife has brought me many opportunities to create a fun environment for my friend group and helped us create that community outside of school," Martin said.



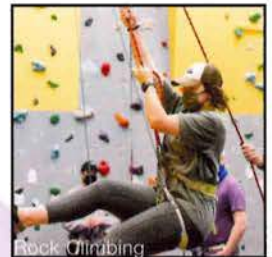
Lake Day



Basketball



Yoga



Rock Climbing

Angela Webb



Freshman Scarlett Bates relaxes while taking part in ReLife's afternoon yoga. Students gathered outside the Village Circle to take lessons. Photo by Abby Blankenship



Assistant director of ReLife Matthew Cook explains the course for the disc golf tournament. Teams of four competed against one another for bragging rights. Photo by William Read



**COVID Conduct**

New activities and competitions were introduced



Freshmen Gracee Drake and Jenne Wilson roast hot dogs over a fire. RecLife hosted several outdoor events at the Eubanks' pond.  
Photo by Sarah Dean

**FOLLOWING THROUGH** on his throw, sophomore Ethan Marshall releases his disc. Marshall competed with a team representing his social club, Eta Alpha Omega.  
Photo by William Read



**COMPLETING HIS** throw, junior Andrew Boatman watches his disc fly. Boatman competed on a team consisting of four BETA BETA brothers.  
Photo by William Read



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** trexler proffitt

"RecLife was different this year, for one, because we had different sports than usual. No football, soccer, or basketball, but instead foosball, kickball and archery. Even though we had to wear masks and be mindful of distancing, the RecLife team did a good job of doing as much as they could, and the new games were awesome to play. I did foosball, kickball men's league with Eta, as well as archery and disc golf. I really enjoyed being able to get out and be active, as well as getting to interact and still be around other people was nice. Of course winning the foosball league was awesome as well!"

*As told to Gracen Goudy*



Juniors Carlee and Caleb West share their experiences with the Elrod Center at the Elrod Center Foundation meeting. The couple spoke at Noonday during Healthy Relationships Week, also.  
 Photo by Abby Blankenship

**OPENING UP** for Refuge, sophomore Kinley Ritter speaks on unreached mission groups. Ritter served on Campus Ministries in the area of missions.  
 Photo by Sarah Dean



**LEADING THE** crowd in worship, Ouachita Worship continues the night at Refuge. The night focused on the theme of healthy relationships.  
 Photo by Sarah Dean



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** anna black

"I participated in TranServe, Elder Serve, after school tutoring and Tiger Serve Day. Due to COVID-19, in-person tutoring was canceled, so I was not able to go to the elementary school to tutor or participate in after school tutoring. With the changes, I had to hold Zoom tutoring sessions. Zoom is a nice tool to help people connect, but it is also difficult when trying to teach algebra. My favorite part of this past year serving through the Elrod Center would be meeting my new friend, Ms. Lindsey. I met her one day doing yard work for her. Ms. Lindsey wanted to get to know me personally, and she has continued to do so over several months."  
 As told to Gracen Goudy





Gift basket



Judy Duvall



TSD



Thanksgiving baskets

## Shining the Lord's light through loving deeds

# SERVICE

The Elrod Center's service looked different this year, but students were still able to volunteer and uplift the community in a multitude of ways. Significant programs like Elder Serve and school tutors came up with creative ways to stay in touch.

"The tutors couldn't go in the schools, so we switched gears and focused on encouraging teachers and administrators. Tutors have written handwritten notes and small gifts to show appreciation," said Judy Duvall, the associate director of the center.

While some tutors got to continue their work by meeting students at the Elrod center, most tutors were no longer able to help their students like they were used to.

"It warms my soul when I get to see the little impacts that my serving has on others. The proud look that a student may get when they get a tricky concept, they have been working on with me is what serving is all about. You don't know how much joy someone has in their life and being able to give even the tiniest bit to them is an honor," said Tehya Hinkson, a junior studio art major from Benton.

ElderServe volunteers wrote letters, called, and visited outside of windows. Students brought special gifts for residents on Christmas, Valentines and Easter. Marlie Moix, a sophomore accounting major from Conway, took her service dog, Essie, with her to visit outside residents' windows and in person after regulations were lifted.

"My favorite part of volunteering is the relationships I

make. I love when Essie and I get to walk in a room, and all the residents are overjoyed. It brings me great pride that Essie and I can shine a light on their day. I recognize that God gave me an amazing gift through this dog, and I love sharing that with anyone I can," said Moix.

The Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team was able to facilitate a safe and successful event. Without going to older residents' homes, the university focused on honoring our city workers. Will Guerra, a senior finance major from Benton, served on the leadership team in a very impactful year.

"We knew that our job was just as important during abnormal semesters, so it was our responsibility to make sure TSD was as great as it has always been. Everyone was focused on making TSD great, and on serving the community and OBU students well. It's really been an incredibly rewarding experience overall, and it's helped me to lead in ways I wasn't able to before joining," said Guerra.

The Center was able to serve the community in a hard year when people needed it most.

"Our theme for this year was to be flexible, creative and to pivot when we needed to, and we kept these in mind all year. We are going to look back on this year and see all the blessings that came out of it. We have seen God exceed our expectations during this season of COVID," said Duvall.

Emily Barton



Sophomore Keelan Stanley helps clean a yard on Tiger Serve Day. Stanley and the wrestling team formed their own TSD team to help the community. Photo by Hannah Adamson



Senior Luke Scaggs speaks with sophomore MacKenzie Hall about his Tiger Serve Day duties. Scaggs and the Tiger baseball team committed to serving the community in the offseason. Photo by Abby Blankenship

## The time that Noonday was not at noon

**F**or the first time in Ouachita's history, Christian Ministries, better known as CM, determined Noonday would no longer take place at noon – at least for two days out of the week, to start the fall semester.

Enter the birth of Moonday. While the classic Noonday was still held on Fridays, students gathered under the moon, stars, and Lord's glory in front of Cone-Bottoms following Ouachita's physical distancing guidelines while enjoying cooler weather.

Moonday integrated nighttime nature with safe group gatherings. Within Berry Chapel, where Noonday was traditionally held, constraints were placed on attendance. However, under the moon, on the grassy lawn, students gathered with a safe distance between peers.

With every new journey, however, especially amidst a pandemic, growing pains were to be expected.

"It had been an adjustment this year to try to make the mission of Noonday still work in student's lives," James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries, said.

Noah McCallum, a Noonday leader and sophomore Christian Studies major from Jonesboro, described Moonday as, "an opportunity for students to get to share their testimony or something that God has put on their heart to other students, so others would be encouraged to share what God is speaking to them."

For one Noonday leader, growth was the theme for the year.

"Though I am not really a public speaker and get nervous and shy speaking in front of others, I think just communicating with people and introducing speakers every week has given me a chance to become more confident in who God made me to be and what he has led me to do," Kayla Brown, Noonday leader and senior kinesiology and Spanish double major from Hot Springs, said. "Even though I am not able to do everything, such as public speaking, I can still serve the Lord by granting people the opportunity to share their passions and their stories."

Students were the backbone of Moonday. Hearts were opened, stories were shared, messages were communicated, and the Lord moved, in a pew and under the moon.

"This past summer, God really laid on my heart a message about faith and how as Christians when we have our faith we need to use it and that we should want to use it and share it with others," Mitchell Waite, a junior communications major, from Van Buren and one of Moonday's first guest speakers, said.

The theme of 2020 seemed to be change. Changes wide and narrow. Moonday was a change met with open arms. Whether students gathered within walls and in a pew, or within the confines of the Lord's nature and under the moon, where two or three are gathered, the Lord is there, too.

Angela Webb



Photo by Abby Blankenship



## Calling awareness to cultural treasures

# CELEBRATION

Clubs La Fuerza and MORE gathered together during months of celebration in order to bring awareness to their culture all across campus. La Fuerza hosted events during September for Hispanic Heritage Month, while MORE brought awareness during February for Black History Month.

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, the cafeteria featured Hispanic foods and La Fuerza hosted a game night. To conclude the month, La Fuerza set up a Fiesta Mesa that had Hispanic snacks and a photo booth.

"My favorite event has to be the Fiesta Mesa because I loved interacting with everybody and explaining what everything was," said Karla Montiel, a sophomore Spanish major from Fayetteville. "I got involved with La Fuerza my freshman year because I loved being with a group of girls who looked just like me and were wanting to reach out and talk about what it is like to be Latina or Hispanic in the U.S. I love seeing people's enthusiasm on the events and how they get so intrigued by what really goes on during that month. It means to me that they are willing to help bring awareness and are encouraged to participate and learn about our culture."

During the month of February, MORE hosted events including a game night, choir night, and a flag prayer. They also provided Val-A-Grams for purchase to celebrate Valentine's Day and participated in a food drive for Percy and Donna Malone Child Safety Center.

A group of students, including sophomore communications major, Jomari Bailey from Prescott, sang at Dr. Jack's coffeehouse to conclude the month of celebration. Singing at this event was something that Bailey never thought he would have the opportunity to do. Being able to take part in this event during Black History Month made it memorable.

"Having the opportunity to sing alongside some of the most gifted individuals I have met here at Ouachita was truly amazing," Bailey said. "Singing a 'Reckless Love' duet with Dayja James was the highlight of the moment. Coming together in the end with 'A Change is Gonna Come' was really special as well."

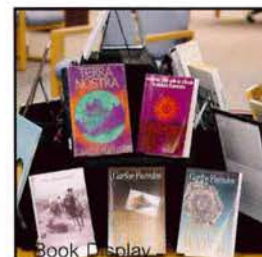
Senior Studio Art major Bri Benton from Bryant was thankful for her past years at Ouachita getting to celebrate Black History Month, and was eager to see what all MORE will become.

"The events have made me feel like I actually matter and that I'm actually seen as a person," Benton said. "It makes me proud when I see the Black and other minority students on campus celebrated for a month even though they should be celebrated every month. I love MORE and all that it stands for, and I pray that it continues to flourish and make a positive impact on Ouachita's campus."

Gracen Goudy



Aryana Gardner



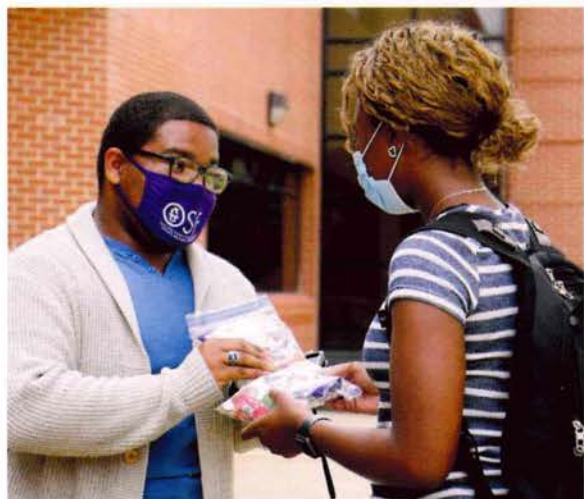
Book Display



Valagram



MLK March



Senior Tyrese Allen hands a student a gift bag from the Fiesta Mesa. Students were able to experience a variety of treats. Photo by Callie Rogers



President Ben Sells hands senior Breanna Parker a cupcake in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. The party table featured a variety of Hispanic snacks. Photo by Callie Rogers



Sophomore Dayja James speaks with students during the BHM Flag Prayer. Students gathered around the flag plaza to pray as part of Black History Month activities. Photo by Callie Rogers

**FACULTY POSE** for a photo at the Fiesta Mesa photo booth. Students, faculty and staff were able to take a photo and grab a bag of Hispanic snacks and treats to celebrate. Photo by Callie Rogers

**DURING COFFEEHOUSE**, sophomore Jomari Bailey sings alongside others for Black History Month. The group sang worship songs and ended with "A Change is Gonna Come." Photo by Wesley Kluck



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** **javonte brown**

"The Black History Month events were different because there wasn't the chance for a lot of student involvement. Due to COVID and the constant practice of social distancing, not having people attend took the element of engagement away. However, the events provided by MORE were still enjoyable. Singing at Dr. Jack's coffeehouse was thrilling and took me back to singing at church before COVID. I sang 'Blessed' by Daniel Caesar because although he talks about a relationship with a woman, I performed it talking about my relationship with God. It gives me a sense of pride to truly know that Black History Month is being recognized and seeing students engage in the activities."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*







Hunched over, senior Emma Lawyer addresses a fellow cast member during dress rehearsal. The musical was performed in Jones Performing Arts Center. Photo by Levi Dade

**ARMS SPREAD** wide, senior Paige Price plays the role of Jo March. Price's performances took place Thursday and Friday nights. Photo by Levi Dade

**EYES FIXATED** toward the crowd, senior Emma Lawyer embraces her character in "Little Women." Lawyer played Marmee March. Photo by Levi Dade



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** sam campione

"I played Laurie in both casts. I loved his spark. Nothing compared to Jo's fire, but when you put those two knuckleheads together, it's always a blast. There was one note near the beginning, and every night it was always fun to see if I was going to hit it or not. My most enjoyable part was the bond I made with the Five Forever! I love the March sisters!"

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





## The student bond created greatness

# DEVOTION

The lights dimmed as students got in place in Jones Performance Arts Center, and the characters of "Little Women" took their places. These students and directors worked for months, not only on character development but, on how to make the show COVID-safe. "Little Women" took place April 15-18th, as the show varied in its performance and execution more than past spring musicals.

Landon Denman, a sophomore theatre and history major from Fort Worth, Texas, has done a variety of shows in his time at Ouachita. He had experience in the theatre department back when life knew nothing of the coronavirus times.

"As a result of COVID, my time spent during 'Little Women' was very interesting because of regulations such as social distancing and mask requirements. These systems that were put into place caused our rehearsal process to be altered and changed so that we could keep the entire cast safe, while also putting on the best production we can," Denman said.

One of the challenges that the cast and crew of "Little Women" faced was during the time period that "Little Women" was written, there were no masks. Ryan Lynch, a senior BFA musical theatre major from Bryant, Ark., has been in the theatre department for the past four years, and noticed the challenges of doing a period piece musical during a pandemic.

"There were definitely sacrifices to the story because of the mask but it was worth it if it kept everyone safe," Lynch said.

Even Shelby Tripcony, a freshman BFA musical theatre major from Little Rock, Ark., acknowledged that the show was difficult to do because of regulations. However, she spoke on the fact that the casts were still able to bond as they do for every show.

"It's a bit hard to show emotion through the masks, but showing how we felt through our motions helped the show come to life. I have only been in one other show at OBU, but 'Little Women' seemed so much more family oriented. The closeness of the March family definitely had an impact on the cast and made all of us closer as a result," Tripcony said.

Payton Mixon, a sophomore BFA musical theatre major from New Caney, Texas also saw the closeness of the casts, and how much the cast was able to bond despite the use of masks.

"I could write a novel on how special and exciting it is to be in a show playing a character you love, and the best part about being on stage and off was the time I got to spend with my cast. We spent many hours together in rehearsals which definitely bonded us and made the on stage relationships that much better," Mixon said.

Meredith Medford



The March sisters dance around the stage during a musical number. Within the play, these sisters shared a strong bond. Photo by Levi Dade



Sarah Franklin and Sam Campione take part in a dramatic scene during dress rehearsal. By having a double cast, more students were able to participate in the production. Photo by Levi Dade

## A gateway into fantasy

# ESCAPE

Students involved in theatre productions overcame the challenge of performing and relaying emotions while having to wear a mask on stage. The theatre productions this year included "The Old Man and The Old Moon," "Hay Fever" and "Puffs."

"There were a lot of comedic things that require close contact and we had to find ways around those and still make the moment funny," said Ryan Lynch, a senior musical theatre major from Bryant, "It has been a challenge but definitely worth it if it keeps everyone safe."

The student body embraced these productions and felt fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be a part of something positive in a difficult year.

"I would describe our productions this year as just a lot of fun. Even the more depressing moments were more heart felt rather than sad. I think our professors knew that during this crazy time we wanted to keep our audiences smiling," said Lynch.

Even though they were back on stage, many things had changed, and the entire cast and crew had to display flexibility in how they managed rehearsals and the show nights.

"My favorite part of being involved was getting to see the creativity with our director as well as our cast members in telling this story in a believable way that maintained the playwright's intent while still keeping actors and audience members safe," said Paige Price a senior musical theatre major from Plano, Texas.

Molly Kennedy, a senior musical theatre major from Melissa, Texas, was chosen to direct this year's Muse Project, "The Old Man and the Old Moon." Kennedy was so passionate and thankful for the opportunity to lead a show in her time at Ouachita.

"I am so appreciative for this production because I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder that limits my mobility and this show gave me the opportunity to be involved in a production even with my mobility limitations and I am so grateful for the cast and crew for giving me this opportunity to make this show more than anything I could've imagined," said Kennedy.

The theatre productions were a chance for students to escape into the story they were telling while inspiring others who had the privilege of seeing a story come to life. While theatres ran at limited capacity all year, all the productions were live streamed. Theatre students overcame canceled shows, lost contracts, closed theatres and felt immense gratitude for the chance to be back on stage in front of an audience.

"Performing a live production of a show during a year where this was a rarity and a privilege, was one that we didn't take lightly. We followed all of Ouachita's COVID-19 safety protocol and made modifications to blocking and other performance aspects, but we were still able to keep many aspects of the show intact that would be present regardless of a pandemic," said Price.

Emily Barton



Madeline Martin



Sam Campione



Bella Owen



Avery Stall



Deep in the scene, junior Cross Brandon performs his One Act. One Acts allowed multiple students to be involved in both acting and production crews. Photo by Levi Dade



During the performance of "Hay Fever," cast members adopt the 1920's London environment with their characters. The play was produced and performed in the fall semester. Photo by Sarah Dean



**COVID Conduct**  
Performances were in person and livestreamed



Senior Logan Dooley leaps from the set during the performance of "Puffs." Dooley played two characters in this play.  
Photo by Hannah Smith

**ON SET**, two cast members run through the play, *The Old Man and The Old Mood* at dress rehearsal. This play took place in Verser Theater.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



**PLOPPED ON** the couch, senior Paige Price plays her role as Sorel in "Hay Fever."  
Photo by Sarah Dean



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** **payton mixon**

"At the beginning of the semester, it was definitely difficult to adjust to doing theater six feet apart with masks. Eventually you got used to it, but only being able to use half of your face for expression, trying to give more diction to make sure you're understood under the mask, and not being close to people was something we all had to learn to get through together. I think the most important thing through all that was trying to keep a positive attitude and being grateful that we still got to perform live. This trial also opened up a new opportunity of live stream theatre so we could show our art to more people, which is always a great thing."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*



Freshmen Ainsley Rottinghaus and Maggie Jackson watch Chapel in their dorm room. Students received new videos each Tuesday during 10 a.m. Chapel hour.  
Photo by Madison Melcher

**ON THE** keys, senior Stuart Sowerbutts leads worship during Chapel. Both worship and speaking segments were pre-recorded.  
Photo by Levi Dade

**VIEWED ON** a laptop screen, KaNeil Purifoy speaks during Chapel. Students had the flexibility to view Chapel on their own time during the week.  
Photo by Faith Webb



## reporting **RESILIENCE:** cameron conner

"Recording worship was a really cool aspect of leading the worship team. The biggest challenge we faced was probably leading without a congregation and having a camera in our face throughout the entire thing. The way we moved past it was focusing in on worshipping the King and leading ourselves into a personal time of worship. Having been the leader of Ouachita Worship, I had such a big vision for what Ouachita Worship could be. This year we released our first single on all streaming platforms. Seeing the team come together and lean into this project was probably the most beautiful thing I've experienced in a long time."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*





Janvel Lall



Ouachita Worship



Bethany Duncan



Hayden Waller

## Amidst uncertainty, we still praise Him

# WORSHIP

For the past 135 years Chapel at Ouachita was a staple of campus life for all Ouachitonians, and for the first time in all these years, Chapel was converted into a virtual credit for the safety of the University's students. The main components of Chapel such as coordinators, leadership, and students, found themselves adapting to a whole new world.

Due to the increasing effects of COVID-19, the Tuesday mornings previously spent in Jones Performing Arts Center were switched to an easily accessible online version to continue the completion of Chapel credits. However, creating the virtual version of this OBU legacy took careful consideration.

James Taylor, director of Campus Ministries and coordinator of Chapel, stated that once Chapel was placed online, the team set out to record quality videos of worship, speakers, and form a simple three question quiz due each Thursday night to ensure student viewership.

The Ouachita Worship team was one of many crucial components of online Chapel.

Lucie Shepherd, junior worship team member and communications major from Rockwall, Texas, mentioned that she "saw the vision and room for improvement so I wanted to use my talents to serve." However, when filming these online worship sessions, it was difficult to feel less like a performance and more like a worship guide. For Shepherd, it became hard to adjust to the lack of physical students worshipping alongside the band. Despite these changes,

the team of professionals banded together to make online Chapel as personal as possible.

According to Erica Wilmath, junior communications student from Hot Springs, online Chapel gave her, "a chance to remove the normal JPAC distractions and really lean into what the guest speaker has to share."

While the routine of Tuesday mornings spent together was a vital piece of the OBU experience, it seemed as though students were able to receive the same benefits from the online platform.

Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement, served as the Chapel coordinator for 33 years. He said that online Chapel was an obvious option from the beginning, and the process to officially make the decision was quite expected. As for the future of Ouachita Baptist Chapel, Cosh made it clear that the goal was to re-establish in-person Chapel when the time is right.

Both Taylor and Cosh wished to bring in-person Chapel back to OBU's campus and believed the moment of online Chapel to be a way to provide an accessible option. While many students have preferred the virtual option for Chapel, it can be said that there is nothing quite like the gathering of all students in one place on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The Ouachita experience was not quite the same without in-person Chapel, as it left many students excited for it to be reinstated.

Katie Moore



LET OUR HEARTS RECEIVE YOUR GRACE

Junior Lucie Shepherd leads worship alongside sophomore Chloe Schnaitman. Different students rotated throughout the year leading worship.  
Photo courtesy of Ouachita Baptist YouTube



Ouachita Worship released its first original song "Holy Fire" on multiple streaming services Jan. 22.  
Photo courtesy of Ouachita Worship

## Graduates embody resilience on way to diploma

# FULFILLED

As the Ouachita Baptist graduating class of 2021 walked across the stage, minds throughout the crowd were reminiscent upon the good, the bad, the trying times, and the successful ones throughout this historic school year.

In March of 2020, everything the world seemed to know, changed. Families hunkered down into quarantine. Masks, hand sanitizer, and even toilet paper, disappeared from stock rooms. No longer could grandparents receive the hugs they have grown accustomed to. No longer were group gatherings permitted. Everything we had taken for granted throughout our entire lifetimes had just been stripped from our fragile grasp.

The class of 2021 battled COVID-19 and won. The class of 2021 battled harsh adjustments to their final school year and prevailed. The class of 2021 fought harder than ever to lead the way for the student body through a pandemic school year and triumphed.

For Olivia Yarbrough, treading through student teaching proved to be a battle worth fighting.

"Starting my student teaching semester during a pandemic was not the ideal experience I had been dreaming of for three and a half years," Yarbrough, senior elementary education major from Rogers, said. "However, looking back on my time with my sweet second and fourth grade students, I wouldn't have changed a thing. The relationships I made, even through masks, were ones that will remain in my heart forever. I am extremely grateful for the semester God had in store for me, pandemic and all."

Yarbrough came out on the other side of student teaching as the recipient of the Charles Chambliss Distinguished Educator Award honoring the most outstanding student teacher.

For the communications department, adjustments were necessary and for Preston Crowder he found himself engulfed within the change.

"For myself, during the fall semester, I was quarantined for a month straight but still did my best to stay on top of my classes," Crowder, senior communications major from Arkadelphia, said. "Not many universities had full in person learning this year, and for the communications department to still be able to do so many broadcasts of games and studio shows, was a tremendous accomplishment."

Crowder was most commonly found assisting the Ouachita Sports Digital Network in the broadcasting of live stream sports. Because of the nature of the pandemic, live streams have never more be crucial.

Within the science department, the year was centered around future success, even amidst all the abnormalities.

"One thing that OBU and the science department did really well during COVID, especially for the upperclassmen, was helping us adapt and prepare for an irregular grad school admission process," said Luke Livingston, senior biomedical science major from Batesville. "Whether it be with virtual interviews or strengthening essays, the OBU science faculty helped me adapt to changes and pursue my future with even great intensity."

The year was about adapting and through it all the senior class displayed resilience. As another class has come and gone, more Ouachita legacy lives on beyond the walls of campus.

Ben Swanger



Hannah Smith spots the photo staff during commencement. Smith was co-editor of the photo lab during her senior year at Ouachita. Photo by Levi Dade



Zhang Xinwen celebrates with family and friends following commencement. Xinwen graduated with honors as a finance and business management major. Photo by Abby Blankenship



**COVID Conduct**

Only eight tickets were reserved for each graduate



Landon King and Mara Gillispie show off their diploma cases. King and Gillispie were great friends throughout their time at OBU. Photo by Levi Dade

**SUITE MATES** Nathan Wuellner and Blaine Miller celebrate on the turf. Wuellner left Ouachita with a degree in business and Miller with a degree in Christian ministry. Photo by Levi Dade



**OLIVIA YARBROUGH** shows off her diploma on her way back to her seat. Yarbrough graduated with magna cum laude honors. Photo by Abby Blankenship

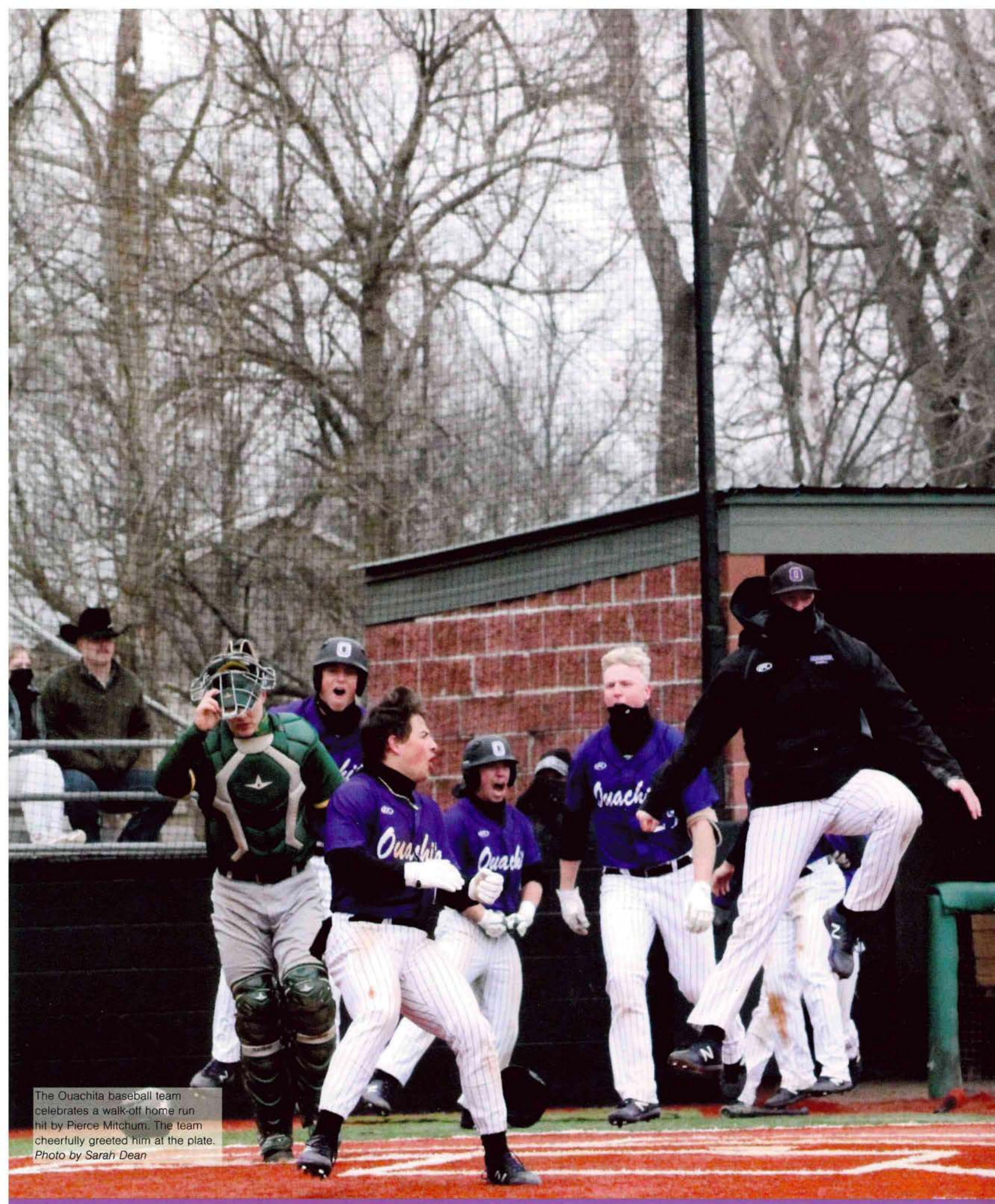


## reporting **RESILIENCE:** **julius pruit**

"I left Ouachita for the NFL in 2009 for a dream opportunity with the Miami Dolphins. In the process I left Ouachita without honoring my commitment of completing my degree. I promised myself, my parents, and coaches that I would return one day to finish my degree. God had other plans for me and a path laid out for me to walk. My wife Marylen was so instrumental in my transition out of football and my light during dark times along my journey. She pushes me daily to be the best version of myself, so honestly through prayer, my wife's motivation, and my kids being of age to see their dad doing homework and studying with them during their virtual learning was all the push I needed to see it through to the end. It meant more finishing now than it would've 11 years ago because I was able to complete my degree with the support of my wife and kids. God has a way of making us understand things in a different light along our paths once we allow Him to guide us."

As told to Ben Swanger





The Ouachita baseball team celebrates a walk-off home run hit by Pierce Mitchum. The team cheerfully greeted him at the plate. Photo by Sarah Dean

# SPORTS

An uncertain fall made all student-athletes feel uneasy. However, the light eventually shone through the darkness and spring competition resumed, rewarding the athletes'

***resilience.***



# SCOREBOARD

Winning seasons streak	12
Graduates	12
2021 Signees	27
Fall scrimmages	3
Spring scimmages	3
vs. NE Okla. State	W



**A. HAYDEN LASSITER** intercepts a fluttering pass from Northeastern Oklahoma State's quarterback. Lassiter was a staple in the Tiger's defensive backfield for four years.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*



Pocket presence

**B. AN ONCOMING** snap arrives in the hands of Gabe Goodman. Practicing snaps and holds was a point of emphasis for the Tigers special teams.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*



Mesh point



A.

The pandemic hasn't been easy on our team, but we have managed to come out even stronger than when we first encountered COVID-19.  
*Carsten Johnson*

It was really great still having practice and scrimmaging each other. It was a great opportunity to strengthen our weaknesses in football and grow stronger in our relationship as a team.  
*Nathan Turner*

Last fall when we found out that we wouldn't be playing we were devastated. Even with the sad news we never missed a beat. We showed up every single day and got better.  
*Jack Pillow*

# TIGER STRENGTH



**COVID Conduct**  
The Tigers saw action against just one opposing program

# UNPRECEDENTED

## Tigers grind through school year without season

On August 14, 2020, the Great American Conference suspended all sporting events through December 31, 2020. As a result, the fall football season was obviously canceled and playing in the spring became the next big question.

The logistics of playing a full slate of spring football was puzzling. On one hand, the athletes who worked so hard for a season would get to have that season come into fruition. However, a spring season followed up by a regularly scheduled fall season, just a few short months later, could be extremely taxing on a football player's body.

The Great American Conference decided against a spring season, and the Ouachita Tigers will go nearly two full years between football games.

Junior tight end Hunter Swoboda struggled through the layoff, but felt as if his physical health greatly benefited from these unprecedented times.

"It has been really tough to maintain an aggressive mindset whenever you are unable to play football games," Swoboda, a political science major from Bentonville, said. "Physical health is probably the biggest positive coming out of the layoff because we have had so much time to make sure that our bodies are right for the next time that we play. At the end of the day, our coaches have done a really great job at keeping us busy and preparing us even when we were unable to play games."

Once the season was officially canceled, turning the page onto 2021's fall schedule was priority number one.

For senior offensive lineman Peyton Stafford and senior wide receiver Hayden Waller, returning for their fifth years was an easy decision. The two fifth year players will strive to set the pace on the field and lead the team to another conference championship with a deep playoff run.

"The main goal is we want to win every game and come out as conference champs," Waller, a kinesiology major from Telephone, Texas, said. "As a team we want to have the top offense and defense in the conference: scoring the most points and the defense holding the opponent's to around 10 points a game. As well as not just getting to the playoffs, but also making it past the third round in the playoffs, which OBU has never done before."

Stafford reiterated his teammate.

"Most importantly, as a team we plan to attack next season with an attitude of taking it one game at a time," Stafford, a finance major from Amarillo, said. "I believe that we have a very special group, and I can't wait to see what we can do this fall. Personally, I am going to strive to become the best teammate and player I can possibly be."

Ben Swanger

Keemontrae McKnight carries the football and beats the defender Austin Guymon. This was Hayes' second year with the Tigers.  
Photo by Levi Dade



The Ouachita O-Line and Northeastern Oklahoma State D-Line prepare for collision / Photo by Abby Blankenship

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19.

Roster: Jakobe Alexander. Grant Allen. Brett Barbaree. Jacob Barker. Joey Benson. Malachi Bingham. Connor Bisswanger. Brayden Brazeal. Nick Bridges. Will Broussard. Jaraylon Burks. Jack Burnham. Josh Burnham. Rovell Carter. Anthony Chairez. Dylan Clayton. TJ Cole. Ty Compton. Tommy Crumpton. Justin Dean. Bryce Dixon. Cole Edrington. Isaac Edwards. Xaylon Falls. Connor Flannigan. Trey Flint. Anthony Freeman. Carson Gagnon. Ethan Gasaway. Jax Gasaway. Kyle Gasaway. Dhante Gibson. Terrell Gibson. Taylor Gillham. Kendel Givens. Mikey Gonzalez. Rico Gonzalez. Gabe Goodman. Jarvis Gullely. Austin Guymon. Andrew Hayes. Zacary Henson. Darius Hopkins. Gabe Huskey. Hunter Jackson. Jason Jackson. Carsten Johnson. Kenta Jones. Gregory Junior. Trenton Kolb. Melvin Kumwenda. TJ Lewis. Jacob Marshall. Mason Martin. Hunter Mason. Hunter McCord. Christopher McDaniel. Dameyun McDonald. Seth McDowell. KeeMontrae McKnight. Zach McWhorter. Dawson Miller. Jax Miller. Clayton Nelson. Nathan Nethers. Charlie Parkinson. Cole Pennock. Ryan Perdue. Jack Pillow. Iriyah Price. Trey Proctor. Noah Pruitt. Rickey Rogers, Jr. Jordyn Rosborough. Calab Scott. Lavery Shepherd. Eithan Sluyter. Peyton Stafford. Zane Stephens. Hunter Swoboda. Tucker Swoboda. Chance Taylor. Perry Taylor. Cole Turner. Jeremiah Turner. Nathan Turner. Josh Wallace. Hayden Waller. Ja'Merrick Waller. Josh Watson. John Williams. Caleb Woodfield. Clark Yarbrough. Coaching Staff: Todd Knight. Jay Derby. Brett Shockley. Roy Thompson Jr. Spencer Knight. Kane Bryan. Dionte Dean. Dakota Flash Wilson. Payton Morris. Brady Carson.

# PROGRESS

## Tigers fight through abnormal year

Due to COVID-19, the normal fall season was moved to the spring for the Lady Tiger Volleyball team. Along with the postponement, masks had to be worn during the matches and sanitization efforts were heightened.

"We were bummed about it being postponed to the fall, but we looked at it as an opportunity to work hard and work on the team connection," head coach Allison Frizzell-Kizer said.

Building the team connection was vital for the Lady Tigers as they worked to acclimate nine new freshmen to the team.

"Because so much of the team was new, we've had to learn how to support each other from the top to the bottom and learn new roles for ourselves and others," said Joni Schneider, a sophomore kinesiology major from Garland, Texas.

Learning how to operate with a young team was not the biggest challenge of the year.

"One of the biggest challenges this season was having our team quarantined from a range of 28 to 42 days. It was really hard to have a consistent offseason with half the team missing at any given point," said Coach Frizzell-Kizer.

Despite the struggles of quarantine and COVID-19 protocols, the team was able to have two intra-squad scrimmages during the offseason. These scrimmages helped to prepare the team for the delayed spring season.

The hard work during the offseason paid off for the Tigers with their success during the regular season.

"A big high in the season was beating Henderson State at home with fans for the first time. The atmosphere was great, and it felt awesome to have so much support," said Lexie Castillow, a senior kinesiology major from Greenwood.

The Tigers had to play a shorted season due to COVID-19. They were only able to play the Arkansas universities within the Great American Conference. The ladies played a 10-game season and entered the GAC Tournament 3-7. Unfortunately, the team dropped its first match to Arkansas-Monticello in the first round to close the season.

The Lady Tigers will look to grow in the offseason and come back in the fall for, hopefully, a normal, full-length slate of games.

Caroline Johnson



Riley Fielder hits the ball over the net against Harding. Fielder recorded five kills during this match.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



Temi Fayiga



Shannon Hogan



A.

**VOLLEYBALL TEAM** **Front row:** Abigail Roberts, Lexie Castillow, Bethany LaTorno. **Second row:** Avery Howard, Temi Fayiga, Julianna Mack, Sydney Ellason. **Third row:** Assistant Coach Jalissa Trotter, Brooke Jones, Shannon Hogan, Joni Schneider, Abby Cagle, EJ Day, Kellen Church, Head Coach Allison Frizzell-Kizer. **Back row:** Riley Fielder, Audrey Gallagher, Jazmyne Dorton, Kayla Steinmeyer, Emily Low, Zhara Thomas, Karli Ferguson.



# SCOREBOARD

ARKANSAS TECH	0-3
SOUTHERN ARK	3-2
MONTICELLO	1-3
HENDERSON ST.	3-1
ARKANSAS TECH	1-3
HARDING	0-3
SOUTHERN ARK	3-0
MONTICELLO	1-3
HARDING	1-3
HENDERSON ST.	1-3
MONTICELLO	1-3

3-8



**A. BETHANY LATURNO** serves the ball to Harding. This was Laturno's first season with the Tigers.  
*Photo by William Read*

**B. COACH FRIZZELL** passes out hand sanitizer during volleyball practice. The Tigers followed multiple protocols to guard against COVID-19.  
*Photo by Mikaela Monahan*



Between weekly COVID tests and a shortened season, we proved to be resilient through this unusual year. I am thankful for my teammates and their constant encouragement.  
*Kellen Church*

Even during games that we didn't come out with a win, I feel like we started to play as a team and set aside our selfishness and instead focused on the team as a whole.  
*Karli Ferguson*

We have shown that we are able to overcome any challenge together as a unit, and I can't wait to see where it takes this team in the coming years.  
*Shannon Hogan*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# SCOREBOARD

HARDING	2-0
TAMU TEXARKANA	2-1
OZARKS	1-0
S. NAZARENE	0-3
FORT HAYS STATE	0-3
ROGERS STATE	2-4
NEWMAN	2-1
NE. STATE	0-7
HARDING	0-1

4-5



**A. KOBE COLEMAN** prepares to throw the ball into play. Coleman was a junior defender for the Tigers. Photo by Levi Dade

**B. ARMANI ATILANO** swats away an attempt from Ebon Jordan. Ouachita held inter-squad scrimmages to help prepare the team for the regular season. Photo by Levi Dade



We showed resilience by always abiding by the new protocols we were given. We did our best to stay positive and work hard in the fall despite the uncertainty of the spring.

Morris Tsuma

We didn't know if we were going to have a season when we were training in the fall, but we practiced like we were and with our sights on another GAC championship.

Matt Day

My favorite memory from this year was scoring two goals against Newman on senior day. It was a big day for people that encouraged me and pushed me to be a better player.

David Stankovic

# TIGER STRENGTH



**COVID Conduct**  
The fall season was delayed till spring

# PREPARATION

## Constructing community and prepping the program

The men's soccer team displayed great flexibility, discipline, and resilience this year. COVID-19 affected their season greatly. The number of games was reduced which made each game that much more important. The obstacles they had to face did not stop them from succeeding and making memories with their team.

Armani Atilano, freshman finance major from Maumelle, said that the team had a productive season despite the circumstances.

"We had to follow all of the COVID-19 restriction rules," Atilano said. "It was very tough, but we were able to push through. We were not able to have a full season, played every team once, and used those games as seedings for the NCAA tournament held at the end of the season."

Being a student athlete was not easy. Training hours, games, school work, and classes were very time consuming. Javi Sanchis Fito, a senior finance major from Valencia, Spain, found it difficult to balance it all.

"The biggest struggle that I face is time," Fito said. "When practicing and competing every day, it is difficult to find the time that you need to perform well in class and also enjoy some free time."

The team and coaches were a big family and they cared for each other. Everyone's performance was important, not only on the field but also academically.

"Coaches are really concerned with our academic performance, and they do everything they can to help us succeed both on and off the field," Fito said.

The team impacted many lives during its time at Ouachita. It has welcomed players in, given them lifelong friends, and has fostered leadership skills for the future.

"I'm an introverted person. The team is a large majority of my social circle. If I wasn't on the team, my life would be a lot different," James Jolly, a sophomore Christian studies major from Pflugerville, Texas, said.

The team did not have the season it was hoping for, however the players and coaches are already planning big for next season and have big goals for the GAC Tournament.

"Winning the GAC Tournament is what we plan to do next season. We've got an amazing team and a great group of guys. I look forward to putting in the work to hopefully achieve this goal in the fall of 2021," Kyle Kelson, a junior secondary education major from Frisco, Texas, said.

The Tigers are prepping for the future and ready to overcome any challenges that may come their way.

Valeria Gomez

Natnael Abeje prepares to take a shot around the defender from the University of the Ozarks. The Tigers won 1-0.  
Photo by Sarah Dean



B.



Team members huddle up prior to kickoff / Photo by Sarah Dean

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19.  
Roster: Kyle Kelson, Armani Atilano, Matt Day, Henry Terry, Max Kenyan, Joseph Lattier, Ryan Wilson, Natnael Abeje, Bobby Boone, David Stankovic, James Jolly, Kobe Coleman, Jasper Capaciete, Caden Pulliam, Marshall Prather, Hagan Sanchez, Parker Apicella, Collier Byrd, Giovanni Chavarrí, Stephen Barreiro, Ebon Jordan, Javi Sanchis Fito, Alex Brown, Morris Tsuma, Eli Jenkins, Julian Fernandez, Nikolas Marzullo, head coach Chris Lawson, assistant coach Killian Gorman.



# CHAMPIONS

## Tigers take conference trophy in whirlwind season

This season was like no other for the Ouachita Lady Tigers soccer team. With their normal fall season pushed to the spring, all of the COVID-19 adjustments, and a shortened season, there was a lot of pressure in the unknown. However, they still managed to pull off a winning season, beating all odds to become the Great American Conference Champions.

Due to COVID-19, the women's normal season was postponed to the spring.

"COVID-19 really changed our season," said sophomore Gracen Turner, a biology major from Cabot. "We practiced all of the fall semester, unsure if we were going to even get a season in the spring because it was not a guarantee."

The safety measures and threat of quarantine or illness were a big challenge to the team, and it took a lot of sacrifice. Head Coach Kevin Wright elaborated.

"The biggest challenge was just keeping the group intact and on campus. Really having everyone do their part in staying aware of COVID-19 precautions and willing to sacrifice some to the social normality to make sure we had a full team and could get through the season."

The Lady Tigers had a very successful season. Entering into the Great American Conference Tournament, they were ready to win. After last season's loss to Oklahoma Baptist in the GAC tournament, the Tigers were ready for revenge. Taking down Northwestern Oklahoma State after double overtime and a winning penalty kick, then Southern Nazarene with a 3-0 victory, the girls advanced to the championship game hungry for a win. After two regular halves, the score was still 0-0. The teams advanced into overtime. In the last minute of overtime, freshman Frankie Nine sealed the win with a successful corner kick. Senior Captain Meagan North, a communications major from Fort Worth, Texas, described how much that moment meant to her.

"Everyone freaked out. The bench stormed the field. I instantly hit the ground. So many emotions came over me. Four years of Ouachita soccer just came to an end. Putting in four years of work for it to end with a championship win was surreal. I could not stop crying. These girls wanted it just as much as I did. We came together and pulled out what felt like the impossible," North said.

This moment was so special for the team to see how far they have come despite the setbacks of injury, change, and the unknown.

"The entire team was all so emotionally invested in the lead up to playoffs," said freshman Alexis Perry, a biology major from Yorba Linda, Calif. "Each game was a battle and we were constantly pushing each other so hard at every training. Through all the countless hours of long practices and watching film, all of that work paid off in the end!"

For the first time since 2014, the Ouachita Lady Tigers took home the Great American Conference Tournament Championship. Without giving up a goal throughout the whole tournament and being the first team in GAC tournament history to win three games, this was truly a record-breaking season.

Hanna Williams



Brianna Lozano fights for possession of the ball. Lozano was named GAC Newcomer of the Year.  
Photo by Callie Rogers



Grace Hunter



Madison Humbard



A.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM** Front row: Michele Snow, Brianna Lozano, Madison Humbard, Alexis Perry, Carley Ho, Ashlyn Lynch, Olivia White, Meagan North, Ashlyn Heckman, Jamie Fowler, Josilyn Kispert. Back row: Grace Hunter, Makenna Kager, Hope Pennington, Mia Paladini, Frankie Nine, Asha Samson, Gracen Turner, Ashton Long, Erica Gaddie, Jaymee Dotson, Hanna Thompson



Team members celebrate following the GAC Championship victory / Photo courtesy of GAC Twitter



COVID Conduct

Social sacrifices were made enroute to a title



# SCOREBOARD

OZARKS	5-0
TAMU TEXARKANA	2-0
DELTA STATE	1-2
S. NAZARENE	3-1
SWOSU	2-1
EAST CENTRAL	2-1
HARDING	0-1
NWOSU	3-2
OKLA. BAPTIST	0-2
NWOSU	4-2 PK
S. NAZARENE	3-0
OKLA. BAPTIST	1-0

8-3-1



**A. ASHLYN HECKMAN** dribbles past the goalkeeper. Heckman scored two goals on the season.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*

**B. JAYMEE DOTSON** maneuvers around a defender from East Central. Dotson was a midfielder for the Tigers.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

One of my favorite memories from this season was during the snow week, the whole team walked to practice in the snow every day.

It was so fun!  
*Gracen Turner*

We never once gave up on the team! We won the championship because we were so close on and off the field. It created a special unity that I've never experienced before.

*Ashlyn Heckman*

My favorite moment was when we won in penalty kicks against NWOSU to secure our spot in the GAC tournament. We dog piled Michelle Snow because we were so excited!

*Jaymee Dotson*



# TIGER STRENGTH



# POST

**The bleachers  
were empty,  
competition  
was void.**

**S**tudents settled into their dorm rooms but the 2020 fall semester on campus did not feel normal. Cliff Harris Stadium was not lit up on Saturday nights for Great American Conference competition, Waggoner Pool was not full of competing Tiger Sharks, and Vining Arena was void of contests. Varsity sports is an integral part of life at Ouachita, but carrying over from the spring of 2020, competition continued to be halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

"We had to postpone fall sports due to NCAA guidelines. We had to keep our athletes safe," Athletic Director David Sharp said.

The NCAA guidelines Sharp referred to required every student athlete, coach, and trainer to be tested before and after each

competition. It simply was not realistic to think Ouachita and the GAC could pull off such a feat.

"This was not financially feasible for us," Sharp said.

Due to the change in schedule, coaches and student-athletes began to monitor and adjust to what athletics looked like during the COVID-19 pandemic. For athletes at Ouachita, this meant a transition from what should have been a competition season to an offseason.

Keeping student-athletes safe from the virus was the top priority but, this did not change the shock or relinquish the pain by the late decision to postpone fall sports. "I found out on move-in day that our season was [postponed.] It was heartbreaking. I know they tried to make it happen for us and

# P O N E D



Photo by Abby Blankenship

I appreciate that but, it was still heartbreaking. Being a senior, this was my last chance [at a normal season]," Shannon Hogan said, a senior Business Marketing major from Plano, Texas and member of the volleyball team.

The unprecedented situation was full of confusion and hurt for those teams that compete in the fall, but also

**"This is new for all of us, but we push each other every day to get better despite the circumstances."**

**- Dawson Goodwin**

hope and determination became a theme for some teams as they began preparation for a season in the spring.

"Improve, improve, improve. This is new for all of us, but we push each other every day to get better despite the circumstances," Dawson Goodwin, a junior psychology major from El Dorado, said.

Goodwin ran cross country for the Tigers and has quickly stepped into a leadership role, not only during this pandemic, but in the inaugural season for the men's

cross-country team. Goodwin was dedicated to using this time to help make the team better.

A postponed season was not the NCAA's or the GAC's first choice. Despite the disappointment, coaches utilized this time to get ahead for the next upcoming season.

"We make our living off of Arkansas High School football players. High schools still played so we were able to go watch them play and also get to see them at practice," Jay Derby, the Offensive Coordinator for the Tiger football team, said.

This unique time gave coaches more opportunities they have not had in the past to invest in the present and future collegiate athletes. While the fall semester was devastating for countless fans, coaches, trainers, student-athletes, and more, the spring semester saw a resume to play for all sports teams except for football.

Caroline Johnson

# SCOREBOARD

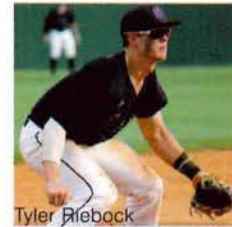
ARKANSAS TECH	4-3,1-7
SOUTHERN ARK.	4-16
OKBU	8-13, 1-2, 5-16
HARDING	8-3, 17-5, 7-8
SOUTHERN ARK.	2-3, 7-3, 2-5
HENDERSON ST.	8-12
SWOSU	2-7, 1-5, 0-10
TAMU TEXARKANA	11-0
NWOSU	3-7, 6-11 3-5
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	4-3,7-0
MONTICELLO	11-9, 3-17 5-3
SEOSU	9-2,6-4 10-7
EAST CENTRAL	2-0,7-3 8-2
HENDERSON ST.	3-10, 2-3 3-1
SOUTHERN NAZ.	0-1, 7-5 9-3

18-22



**A. PIERCE MITCHUM** jumps on home plate as the team celebrates his walkoff homerun. The Tigers relied on Mitchum's bat throughout the season.

*Photo by Sarah Dean*



Tyler Plebock

**B. MICHAEL SOISSON** throws a pitch. This was Soisson's first year pitching for the Tigers.

*Photo by Levi Dade*



One thing I've learned this year is to approach this game with a childlike mentality and just have fun playing the game I have for so many years.

*Cole Kelly*

I think our team showed great resilience toward the second half of the season. At about the halfway point, we flipped a switch and really took off running from there to finish strong.

*Cooper Timmons*

Every day we just kept rolling into practice ready to go. The amount of pure resilience this team has is something I will remember forever.

*Jaxson Chaney*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# FORTITUDE

## Tigers display unwavering fight through season

The 2020-2021 Ouachita baseball team was nothing if not resilient. This year gave the Tigers challenge after challenge, but they worked together to overcome each one. Since their first scrimmage last fall, the guys faced fifth year seniors, wild weather, and injuries for an especially memorable season. From grand slams to sweeps, this group of Tigers proved to be a special one.

Since the 2019-2020 season ended abruptly, the Great American Conference (GAC) extended an extra year of eligibility to seniors who were supposed to graduate in 2020. Most of the teams in the GAC had players that returned for a fifth year, but all of Ouachita's seniors chose to graduate. The Tigers found themselves facing teams with more experienced players in a conference with an elevated difficulty level.

"When you've got guys that are 23 and 24 years old still playing college baseball, it's some seriously talented guys," senior captain and third baseman Tyler Riebock said. "The GAC has been better this year than it normally is."

On top of facing tougher teams, the Tigers had several series rescheduled or moved around due to weather. The snowstorm that hit Arkadelphia in February meant that the team had to push its series against Southern Nazarene University back to the first week in May. While the Tigers didn't play any games in the snow, they continued to prepare for their matchup against Oklahoma Baptist University the next week.

"We tarped the field and then we did not touch the field until it all melted, pretty much," sophomore second baseman Colton Schrader said. "But we hit in the cages and we practiced in the indoor some."

As if the snow and more challenging opponents weren't enough for the Tigers, two of their key players were injured during the season. Senior pitcher Hunter Gautreaux and senior catcher Cade McBride sustained injuries during the Northwestern Oklahoma State University series in late March. The Tigers lost their footing for a couple of weeks following those games, but they found it again when senior right fielder Louis Steen hit two grand slams in game one against the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

The Tigers honored their seniors during the last home series against Henderson, and Riebock's cohort has been especially close since they stepped onto Rab Rodgers Field as freshmen.

"It's just the closest group of guys I've ever been around," Riebock said, "and no matter what's happening on the field, what's happening off the field, you know what you're going to get out of them every day and I just love them."

The seniors had been an instrumental part of the team for the past four years, but the rest of the team was ready to carry on their legacy.

"They paved a pretty good path for us," Schrader said. "They're really important, and they're going to be missed a lot."

Caity Hatchett

Simmons Sowell makes solid contact. Sowell started every game for the Tigers.  
Photo by Levi Dade



The outfield looks on as the Tiger infield takes in-and-out. / Photo by Rachel Sansano

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19. Roster: Louis Steen, Tyler Riebock, Zach Kuykendall, CW Schrader, Pierce Mitchum, Jud Arrington, Jared Free, Simmons Sowell, Cooper Timmons, Blake Tubbs, Carter Wade, Beau Burson, Garret Hermes, Cole Kelly, Hunter Gautreaux, Caleb Donoho, Jacob Bowman, Michael Soisson, Cade McBride, Cade Burris, Colin McWhorter, Jaxon Chaney, Hayden Childers, Luke Scaggs, Ben Miller, Andrew McDonald, Noah Fowler, Bryce Smith, Caleb Robbins. Head coach Luke Howard, assistant coach Tanner Rockwell, pitching coach Dave Brown.

# MUDITA

## Cultivating joy en route to victories

Like most every other organization and sports team on campus, this season was far from normal for the Ouachita Tiger softball team. Under the circumstances and regulations of COVID-19, the softball team had to sacrifice a lot. In order to keep their season, they had to be careful with who they exposed themselves to. Amidst the changes and difficulties of this unusual season, the Lady Tigers played with determination throughout the whole year.

Even though this season looked different, flexibility was key for this team. Coach Grimes gave each team member a rubber band on the first day of practice as a reminder of being flexible.

Sophomore Christian Studies major Lacey Pettigrew, from Bentonville, said, "The rubber band is worn by every girl and coach on the team." This team effort of staying positive despite the adversity had brought the team together in many ways. "The rubber band is meant to remind us of our need to be flexible, not necessarily physically, but mentally, emotionally, and even spiritually."

Senior kinesiology major Kendyl Dockter, from Rowlett, Texas, said that the biggest lesson she learned this season was "mudita," a term the team applied to every practice, every game, and every pitch, meaning to "have joy for one another."

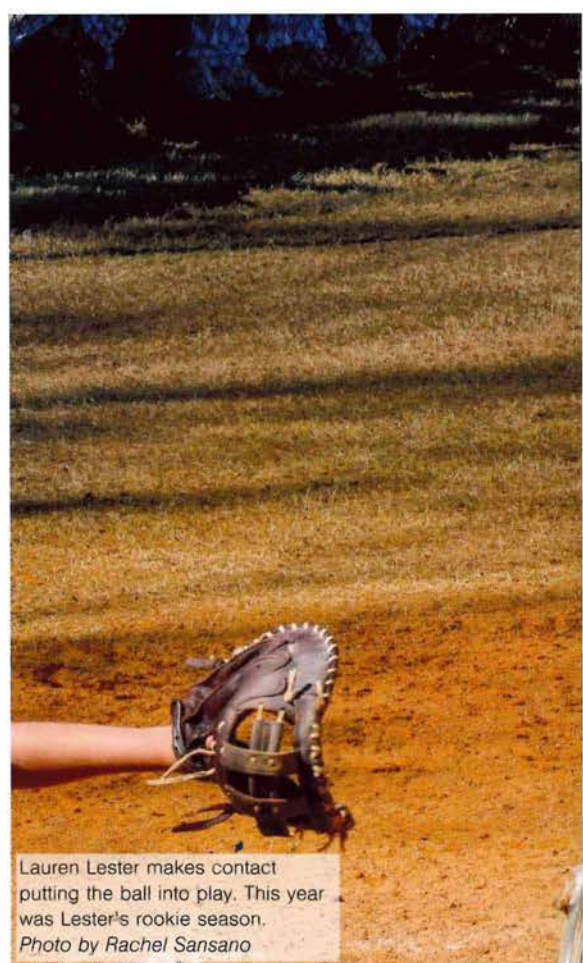
Continuing out the season with flexibility and joyful spirits allowed the softball team to make memories they will always cherish. "This lesson will also help us in life after softball," said Dockter.

Even through an unpredictable year, the Lady Tigers managed to keep their season by staying safe and doing their part to keep the cases low. Junior accounting major Kyndal Moyer, from Lampasas, Texas, said, "My favorite memory was beating Oklahoma Baptist University 17-6. This win was a good start to the season because it showed the team's potential."

COVID-19 changed most things this school year, but it did not affect the players' abilities and talents this season, finishing 20-18. Over the course of the 2021 season, three Lady Tigers were named GAC Player of the week; junior Sloane Precure, junior Madison Miller, and sophomore Hope Waid.

On top of having a strange season in the midst of COVID-19, the Lady Tigers were led by a new head coach at the beginning of the year. Coach Derrick Grimes made a big impact on the season as he encouraged, supported, and cheered on the Lady Tigers. Pettigrew stated that in the huge win against OKBU, "Coach Grimes ran out of the dugout and threw his hat in the air as he made his way over to the fan section and screamed 'HOW 'BOUT THEM TIGERS.'"

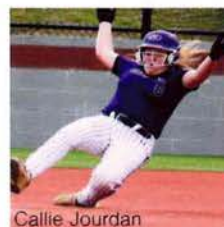
Lucie Shepherd



Lauren Lester makes contact putting the ball into play. This year was Lester's rookie season.  
Photo by Rachel Sansano



Jillian Jones



Callie Jourdan



**SOFTBALL TEAM Front row:** Tori Herbert, Kendyl Dockter, Hannah Stuart, Emma McCorkle, Sarah Tuller, Kirsten Shaw, Madi Terry, Sloane Precure, Erin Williams, Kyndal Moyer. **Back row:** Heather Brown, Lacey Pettigrew, Maci Hill, Hope Waid, Jillian Jones, Madison Miller, Kellen Church, Rebecca Holiman, Nicole Arreola, Addyson Miller, Nikki Schneider, Lauren Lester, Callie Jourdan, Lacy Ornelas, Lexie Foreman, Tally Turnbow.



**COVID Conduct**

Two invitational tournaments were canceled

# SCOREBOARD

CAMERON	2-14
CENTRAL OKLA.	3-4
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	3-2, 8-0
OKLAHOMA BAPTIST	4-1, 0-5 17-6
HARDING	5-2, 9-3 1-10
HENDERSON ST.	4-5, 6-5
SOUTHERN ARK.	0-2, 2-1 0-9
SWOSU	0-5, 5-4 3-2
NWOSU	15-5, 6-4 4-1
ARKANSAS TECH	1-5, 1-4 1-2
HENDERSON ST.	0-1
MONTICELLO	8-7, 3-7 11-3
SEOSU	1-4, 0-1 2-3
EAST CENTRAL	2-0, 5-4 12-3
SOUTHERN NAZ.	4-9, 5-2 8-0
SEOSU	2-9

20-18



**A. NICOLE ARREOLA** pitches the ball. Arreola was a senior leader for the Lady Tigers *Photo by Abby Blankenship*

**B. HOPE WAID** rounds third base as Kendyl Dockter crosses home plate. The Tigers were playing Henderson State during the annual Battle of the Ravine game. *Photo by Sarah Dean*

If I could choose one word to describe OBU softball it would be 'perseverance.' We have never backed down from a challenge but have used it to fuel our energy and love for the game.

*Sarah Tuller*

My first year on the softball team has exceeded my expectations. All of the girls are so sweet and supportive. They feel like family to me. I'm blessed to be a part of this team!

*Lauren Lester*

These are the people I'm closest to and we know each and every one of us are going to back each other up on the field and in life. We're just a big family who likes playing softball together.

*Maddi Terry*



# TIGER STRENGTH



# SCOREBOARD

TEXAS WESLEYAN	3-42
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	6-43
INDIANAPOLIS	9-28
DRURY	9-34
KY. WESLEYAN	39-0
EMMANUEL	38-4
CENTRAL OKLA.	0-44
LINDENWOOD	6-42
MARYVILLE	9-45
HUNTINGDON	41-10
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	22-21
LYON	53-0

5-7



**A. CODY CAGLE** manipulates his opponent on the floor. Cagle was a veteran and team leader for the Tigers.

*Photo by Wesley Kluck*

**B. JESSIE HODGE** pins his opponent during a match. This was Hodge's first season competing for the Tigers.

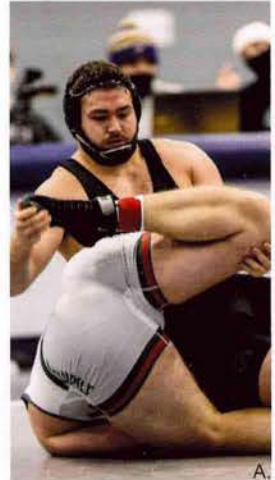
*Photo by Wesley Kluck*



Jaylon Hero



Brady Marple



A.

What really set us apart this year was our dedication. We knew that if we were fortunate enough to get to wrestle this year, we would have to make it count.

*Cody Cagle*

A big high for me was getting my first college win in my hometown. All of the people who supported me and helped me get to this point were there.

*Terrence Murray*

What seems different with this group of guys is we're all committed, we're fully bought in to the program, and we are moving this program forward.

*Christian Carney*

# TIGER STRENGTH



 **COVID** Conduct  
Extreme sanitation measures were taken during matches

# BATTLE

## Tigers show no waver in a season of ups and downs

While the typical wrestling season began in November in years past, this season began in January due to COVID-19. Improving from last year, the Ouachita Tigers went 5-7 for their season, highlighted by a landslide win against Kentucky Wesleyan.

The team started off slow but finished off January and started February with a three match winning streak, which started in Bossier City, La.

For Zeke Smotherman, a finance major from Huntsville, Ala., wrestling on the ice hockey rink in Louisiana was the highlight of his season.

"As a team we pushed through by keeping our heads up and continuing to give effort into the season," Smotherman said. "No matter what happened at the end of the match, I knew I would have my teammates beside me to cheer me on."

While many of the matches were canceled or postponed due to quarantines or snow, redshirt junior Cody Cagle, a Christian studies major from Wheatland, Wyo., was just happy to be able to wrestle amidst the global pandemic.

"Each day we were able to wrestle was a gift because there were so many across the country who didn't have the chance to do what we did here," Cagle said.

Cagle praised the many freshmen who came onto the team this year, many of which filled starting positions. There were 17 true freshmen alongside the 11 upperclassmen.

"We welcomed many freshmen to starting positions across several weight classes and although a lot was expected of them, they delivered," Cagle said.

The men found success in February in their last match at Walnut Ridge. The matches were against Williams Baptist University and Lyon College where the Tigers picked up two wins.

The Tigers finished eighth at NCAA Super Regional in Edmond, Okla. A freshman kinesiology major from Waxahachie, Texas, Jackson Carter, posted a 2-2 record at the 157 weight class, which was a solid showing. Carter picked up back-to-back victories to finish out his freshman season.

"It was so surreal to compete at the college level and finish feeling like I contributed to the team," Carter said. "I think this year I learned the true importance of giving as much as you can."

As a team, Ouachita finished ahead of Central Missouri and Kentucky Wesleyan in the final standings. The Tigers look to improve even more next year.

Addie Woods

Evan Kennedy takes down his opponent during a home match. Kennedy had a record of 4-4 on the year. Photo by Hannah Smith



Team and family members celebrate following a match / Photo courtesy of Head Coach Kevin Crutchmer

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19. Roster: Brandon Anderson, Cody Cagle, Christian Carney, Jackson Carter, Ryan Cochran, Chandler Cooley, Preston Fiser, Johnny Green, Jessie Hodge, Chase Howerton, Brody Jacks, Evan Kennedy, Brady Marple, William Martin, Cole McCartney, Tanner Melendrez, Marcel Molu, Terrence Murray, Jaylon Otero, Robert Otero, Donald Paul, Rey Reyes, Rickey Rogers, Jr. Patrick Rudd, Adrian Salazar-Rivera, Zeke Smotherman, Trey Taylor, Alex Thyas, Austin Weldon, Noah Yeamans. Head Coach Kevin Crutchmer, Assistant Coach Kyle Ash, Graduate Assistant Joseph Presley, Student Assistant Keelan Stanley.

# PEDIGREE

## Tigers continue to display top-notch talent

For the third straight season the men's tennis team posted a winning season. At 9-6 the men consistently showed up to the court ready for success.

At the conclusion of the season five Tigers were named to the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association all-conference teams. Francisco Oliveira led the way as the No. 10 singles player in all of Division II and was named to the Second Team at No. 1 singles. Santiago Kearny was named to the Second Team at No. 1 doubles. Alex Blanchar, Tobias Fuerschuss, and Fernando Docters all earned Honorable Mention accolades in singles.

Oliveira finished his regular season at 12-3 in singles and teamed up with Kearny to go 7-4 in doubles matches and was most proud of the team's resilience at the beginning of the season.

"We showed a lot of resilience when we started the year with only four players because COVID had the other four in quarantine," Oliveira, a junior business major from Porto, Portugal, said. "We all came together when we needed to the most."

Oliveira's doubles partner, Kearny, a junior business major from Buenos Aires, Argentina, said, "We are not a just tennis team, we are brothers that go to war together. It's such an honor to compete with these warriors on my side."

The team started the season with two straight losses to Delta State and Southwest Baptist, however bounced back with back-to-back 7-0 victories to jump start their season.

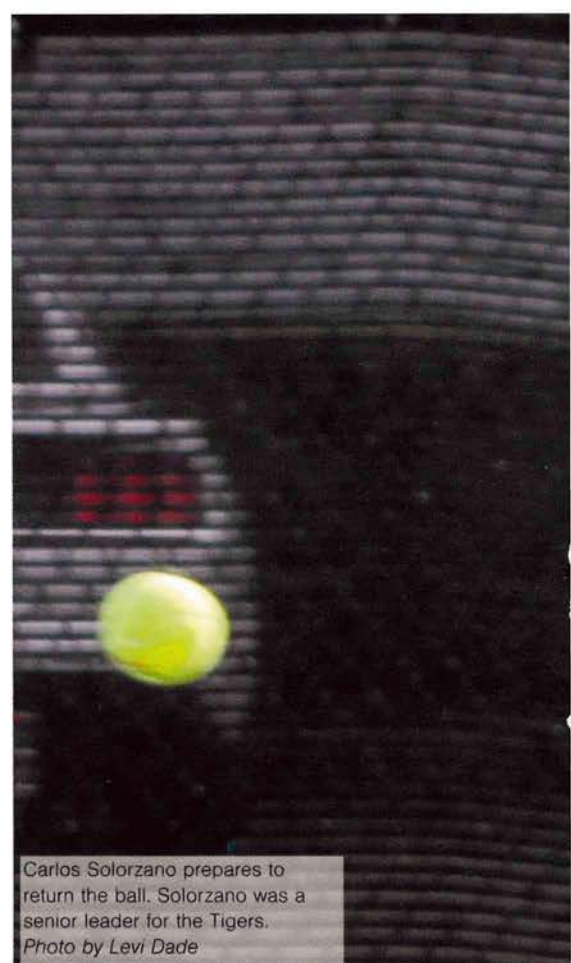
Southern Arkansas, residing at No. 25 in the country, was the team's next opponent, but the Tigers were unable to conquer the Muleriders. Between February 28 and March 26, though, the men went on to win five of six matches. Coming down the stretch the Tigers had four MIAA competitions and concluded the year at 2-2 in conference.

Not too many changes to the tennis team's routine were changed due to COVID-19. Within the indoor complex, fans could not watch, but most matches were outside. The team stayed disciplined all season long and not a single match was canceled or postponed due to coronavirus protocols.

"I think our team really showed resilience every single day on and off the court," Carlos Solorzano, a senior business major from Morella, Mexico, said. "We always pushed each other to do our best in everything we did."

The Tigers will look to continue their successes next season and will continue to reminisce on the resilience and growth displayed this season in order to supplement the team's future success.

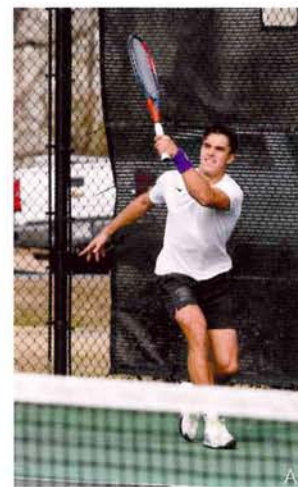
Ben Swanger



Carlos Solorzano prepares to return the ball. Solorzano was a senior leader for the Tigers.  
Photo by Levi Dade



Tobias Fuerschuss



Francisco Oliveira

**MEN'S TENNIS TEAM Front row:** Santiago Kearney, Javi Sanchis Fito, Francisco Oliveira, Head Coach Craig Ward. **Back row:** Fernando Docters, Carlos Solorzano, Tobias Fuerschuss, Matias Parzajuk, Alex Blanchar, Seth Hernandez.



# SCOREBOARD

DELTA STATE	2-5
SOUTHWEST BAPTIST	3-4
TEXAS A&M TEXARKANA	7-0
ARKANSAS FORT SMITH	7-0
SOUTHERN ARK.	2-5
HARDING	4-2
WEST ALABAMA	5-2
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE	6-1
NEWMAN	6-1
NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE	2-5
TEXAS A&M TEXARKANA	7-0
SOUTHERN ARK.	2-4
HARDING	5-2
SEOSU	1-4
OKLAHOMA BAPTIST	7-0
9-6	



**A. SANTIAGO KEARNEY** hits the ball over the net. Kearney picked up wins in both doubles and singles for the Tigers.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

**B. TOBIAS FUERSCHUSS** and Carlos Solorzano celebrate during a match. The pair played doubles for the Tigers.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

My favorite moment was beating Harding in Searcy with more than 400 people watching. It was one of the best moments in my career.

*Francisco "Chico" Oliveira*

We are not only a group of tennis players, we are a family that supports each other and pushed each other to give our best. That's what helps us to get better and to win.

*Alex Blanchard*

It's such an honor to compete with these warriors on my side - I feel like a beast out there competing against the other teams because of the energy that we all bring to any tennis court.

*Santiago Kearney*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# SCOREBOARD

SOUTHERN ARK.	0-7
ARKANSAS TECH	0-7
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	2-5
ANGELO STATE	0-7
HARDING	0-7
UT TYLER	0-7
SOUTHERN ARK.	1-6
DELTA STATE	3-4
ARKANSAS TECH	1-6
HENDERSON ST.	3-4
HENDERSON ST.	1-6
SEOSU	0-4
OKLAHOMA BAPTIST	5-2
ARKANSAS TECH	1-4

1-13



**A. TAYLOR HANSARD** serves the ball. Hansard played singles and doubles for the Tigers.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*

**B. MAKEILAH TURNER** lunges to make a play. Turner was a senior leader for the Tigers.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*



Taylor Hansard



Clarisa Valenzuela



A

As a team, we were always able to build on the little things and build each other up that led us to a big win against OKBU, qualifying us for the conference tournament.

*Clarisa Valenzuela*

We're unified, both on and off the court, and the relationships that have been cultivated in the past two semesters have allowed us to reach the goals we set for ourselves.

*Claire Phillips*

My favorite moment from this season was when we saw all of our hard work result in a win over OKBU. We charged the court jumping, cheering and really cherishing that moment together.

*Makeilah Turner*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# RETURN

## Lady Tigers win first GAC match in eight years

The women's tennis team went back to the Great American Conference Tournament this season for the first time since 2017. Ouachita clinched the tournament berth with a 5-2 win over Oklahoma Baptist and was the program's first conference victory since 2013.

In route to 2021's successful season, growing pains were present within the program. On September 21, 2020, Kourtney Chumbley was named head coach after the former head coach left the program to stay home with her and her husband's two children.

"When a program gets a new head coach, nobody really knows what to expect," Haylee Cannon, junior double major in English and secondary education, from Denison, Texas, said. "Fortunately, we were met with a genuine hard-working coach who wanted the best for us both on and off the court. We put in the effort all season, and we finally saw our diligence pay off by qualifying for the conference tournament at the end of season for the first time in four years."

Chumbley concluded the season being selected to participate in the ITA USTA College Coach Mentorship Program for the 2021-22 season. The program will pair Chumbley up with a veteran collegiate coach for the upcoming season. She was only one of 15 coaches selected.

Chumbley was able to lead a team that had a bond not many other teams have. It is difficult to build a positive culture, but even amidst the pandemic, the team displayed a connection unlike any other.

"One of my favorite memories from this semester was when we would all get in circle after practice to stretch and we would say what we admired most about each person on the team," sophomore accounting major from Grand Prairie, Texas, Clarisa Valenzuela, said. "I loved doing this because it allowed us to be able to express to each other how much we appreciate one another and bond us more as a team."

For the first time since 2013, the women's tennis team placed multiple players on the All-GAC teams and Valenzuela was one of them. Freshman communications major from Little Rock, Austynn Crocker, was also named to the team. Senior business major from Allen, Texas, Makeilah Turner, was named the GAC's Distinguished Scholar.

Not too many changes to the tennis team's routine were changed due to COVID-19. Within the indoor complex, fans could not watch, but most matches were outside. The team stayed disciplined all season long and not a single match was canceled or postponed due to coronavirus protocols.

Unfortunately, the Lady Tigers' season came to end in the first round of the conference tournament. However, the resilience this group displayed and the growth that was made will only continue to supplement the program's success for years to come.

Ben Swanger

Olivia Gaston returns the ball during a match. This was Gaston's rookie season.  
Photo by Callie Rogers



**WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM** Front row: Olivia Gatson, Claire Phillips, Shelly Davilus. Second row: Austynn Crocker, Haylee Cannon, Clarisa Valenzuela, MacKenzie Wade. Back row: Keelan Williams, Makeilah Turner, Taylor Hansard, Carla Gallart, Head Coach Kourtney Chumbley.

# TOUGHNESS

## Tiger Sharks soar toward ascension

This season for the men's swim team was memorable. The Tiger Sharks had their fair share of obstacles this season as they trained, practiced, and competed all while dealing with the coronavirus pandemic.

The pandemic brought along many changes for the Tigers. The team was not allowed to compete in meets until January, so the first semester was very difficult. Not even their practices were normal, as they had to split into two groups and swim separately in order to properly social distance. It was taxing on the team to be in the unknown for a majority of the season. Freshman Noah Smith, a kinesiology major from Pearcy, put it best when he said, "COVID made inconsistency the only consistent thing in our season."

Constantly wearing a mask and having to distance from teammates made forming connections and friendships slightly more difficult. However, the team faced this challenge together, deciding they would not let COVID get in the way of their season.

"Some of the most memorable moments have been pushing through the difficulty of trying to have a season with COVID," said Keith Matthews, a sophomore finance major from Carrollton, Texas. "We had to rely on each other and come together to stay motivated in the midst of a pandemic."

There has been a common theme of camaraderie within the group, as Peyton Stone, a senior business major from Garland, Texas, had similar words to share about his team.

"I think trying to have a positive mindset while keeping the rest of the team in good spirit through the season has helped me to stay positive," he said.

Even though the pandemic made it harder to remain in optimistic spirits, this team chose to remain positive and not let the pandemic get in the way of their goals. The men's team had one of the fastest seasons the team has seen in years. Constantly dropping times as well as shattering personal and pool records, the Tiger Sharks continued to see their hard work pay off.

"The biggest lesson this year that I felt everyone had to learn was to be flexible and go with the flow. All of us started this season without the assurance that there was even going to be a season. But we all committed to the work that needed to be done and it all ended up working out well in the end," said Smith.

Everything did end up working out, as the men's team came in fifth at the New South Intercollegiate Swim Conference Championships with a majority of the team making it to finals and besting previous team records.

The Tiger Sharks learned a lot about perseverance and determination this season.

Matthews put it best when he said, "I've learned that relying on each other to motivate everyone is better than trying to do it on your own. I've also learned that there's no way to improve without putting in the hard work."

Hanna Williams



Keith Matthews slices through the water. Matthews competed in eight events during the season.  
Photo by Levi Dade



Trent Reeder



Noah Gerfers



Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19.  
Roster: Trayton Armstrong. Sebastian Bustillo. Jack Conner. Chase Foiles. Nolan Gerfers. Chad Gscheidle. Jayden Herron. Keith Matthews. Jeff McCoy. Alex Noel. Jacob Ragsdell. Joe Ragsdell. Trent Reeder. Lucas Riley. Joao Rodrigues. Noah Smith. Peyton Stone. Vaughn Stresow. Head Coach Steven Bostick. Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Dawson Pritchard.



Team members watch for official results / Photo by Abby Blankenship

# SCOREBOARD

MONTEVALLO	111-144
HENDERSON ST.	49-78
DELTA STATE	85-185
HENDERSON ST.	93-109
HENDERSON ST.	68-137
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	173-72
NSISC	5th
0-5	



**A. JAYDEN HERON** waits on the side of the pool for practice to begin. This was his first season on the swim team.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship

**B. LUCAS RILEY** dives backward off the pool deck to begin his race. Riley was a senior leader for the team in and out of the pool.  
Photo by Levi Dade

It has been incredible to see the team's response to the many obstacles this season. We never lost focus or confidence in each other.  
*Trent Reeder*

This team's atmosphere has been full of hard work and dedication to progress the Ouachita swim team to the next level.  
*Nolan Gerfers*

What seems different with this group of guys is we're all committed, we're fully bought in to the program, and we are moving this program forward.  
*Vaughn Stresow*

# TIGER STRENGTH

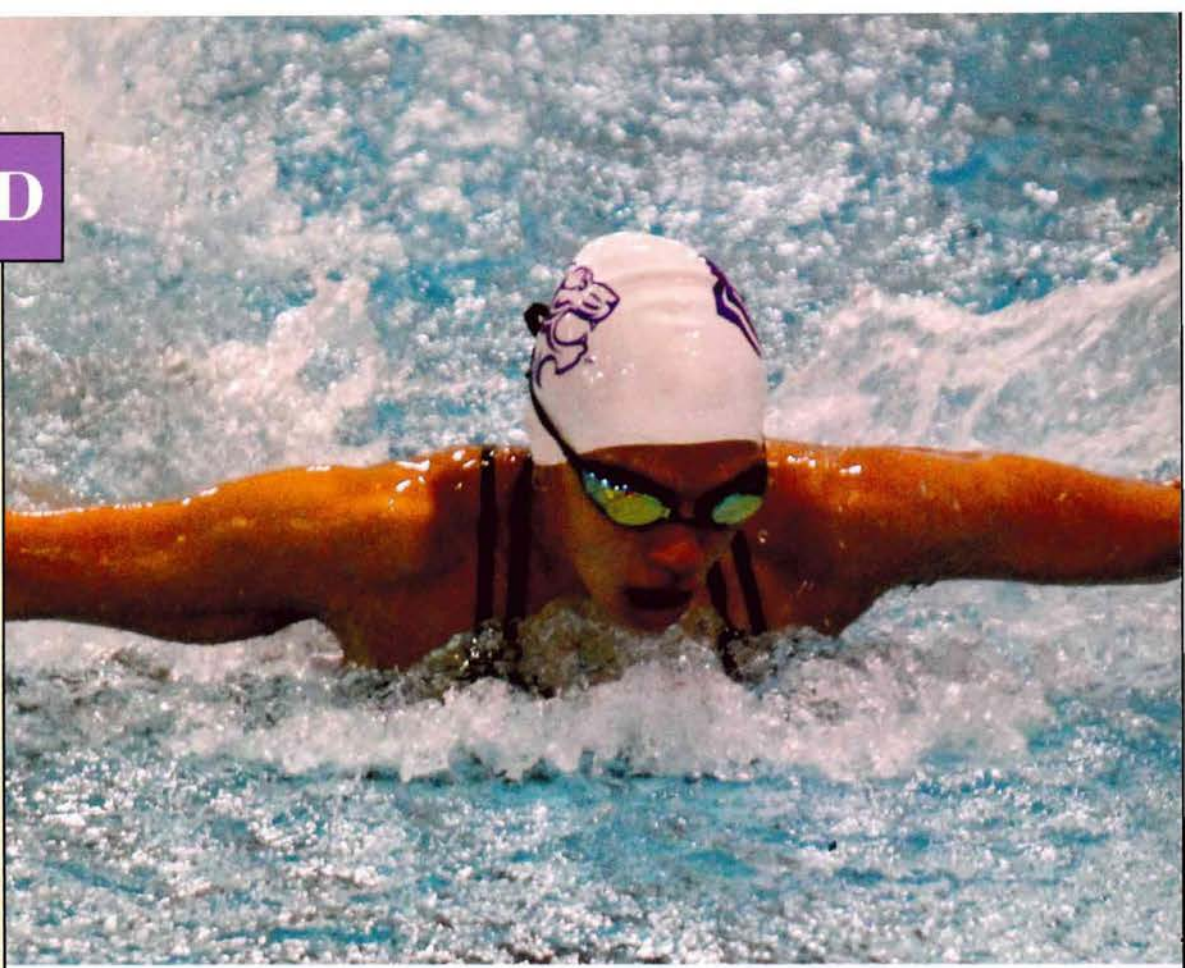




# SCOREBOARD

MONTEVALLO	166-95
HENDERSON ST.	79-69
HENDERSON ST.	128-75
HENDERSON ST.	128-75
LITTLE ROCK	72-173
WILLIAMS BAPTIST	173-72
NSISC	3rd

4-1



**A. ERIN RUSSO** plunges into the water to start her race. She made her college debut this year with the Lady Tiger Sharks.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

**B. LILIA CLARK** competes in the breast stroke event. Clark was a veteran swimmer for the Tigers, swimming 11 events.  
*Photo by Mikaela Monahan*



Hannah Mickman



Anna Kate Velasquez



A.

My favorite moment of the season was watching the women's relay break the pool record. Everyone was jumping and cheering.  
*Ariana Rizo*

We were extremely resilient this year. The entire women's team got quarantined and two months later we were Ouachita's first athletic competition in over 300 days.

*Bailey Hunter*

Through the most inconsistent year, the one thing that stayed consistent is the people on this team. Without them I would have never been able to enjoy my last year as a Tiger Shark.  
*Camilla Howarth*

## TIGER STRENGTH



# STARDOM

## Lady Tiger Sharks display top-notch talent

Despite facing challenges from COVID-19, the Lady Tiger swim team united together to push through the season's obstacles and achieve new team and personal goals. Social distancing, wearing masks, and mandatory testing became the new normal as the team had to adapt and adjust to the sport's COVID-19 protocols.

"In October, we all got sent home from COVID, and when we came back it seemed like we all had each other's backs. We built each other up and encouraged each other. It was kind of a turning point for the team," said Lauren Gaharan, a sophomore elementary education and Spanish major from Frisco, Texas.

The Lady Tiger Swim team competed in only five meets due to conference guidelines with a delayed start to the season. The team focused on maintaining morale and hopes while also getting stronger and faster. The coaches focused on being flexible and on encouraging the team to push harder so that they were always ready for their next competition.

"COVID-19 seemed to give the team a common enemy, something that the entire team was working to beat," said Dawson Pritchard, the Lady Tiger swim team assistant coach. "COVID was not going to be an excuse for us as coaches or for our athletes to slack off for a year. It gave the team a way to bond together to overcome something that was affecting everyone."


Not only was swimming a physical sport, but it was also a mental sport, especially during a season of uncertainty.

"Whenever you get to the big meet, it's going to be whoever is the mentally strongest who wins. We all had to learn how to overcome and persevere this year as a team," said Lilia Clark, a junior business administration and management major from Hillsboro, Texas.

At the end of February, the team traveled to Cleveland, Miss., to compete in the New South Intercollegiate Swim Conference (NSISC) Championships. The team earned third place and beat their score from last year's conference championship. In addition to placing third as a team, Kaitlyn Montgomery finished second in the 200-yard backstroke and the 400-yard relay team took third place. Pushing past the obstacles that stood in their way during the season, the team came together as one and created a bond that would last forever.

"I love what Ouachita stands for and its environment, but I think that the swim team just adds a whole other aspect. It gives me this second community, a second family that I see every single day," said Anna Kate Velasquez, a freshman Christian studies major from Pearland, Texas. "I feel like there is this extreme physical bond between the team, whereas Ouachita is more of a spiritual bond. It's really special, and I am really thankful to be a part of it."

Kathryn Totty



Sofia Rizo starts the 200 individual medley. Although Rizo was a rookie, she was a huge asset to the team. Photo by Levi Dade



Lauren Gaharan and Rachel Sansano celebrate a successful practice / Photo by William Read

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19. Roster: Jade Ashley, Christina Beger, Bella Bevel, Lilia Clark, Lauren Gaharan, Hannah Hickman, Camilla Howarth, Bailey Hunter, Victoria Kunselman, Elysian Majeske, Samantha McCarty, Kaitlyn Montgomery, Courtney Myers, Sydney Parker, Arian Rizo, Sofia Rizo, Erin Russo, Rachel Sansano, Avery Sewell, Madison Shankle, Emma Starkman, Erin Strautman, Anna Kate Velasquez, Head Coach Steven Bostick, Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Dawson Pritchard.

## Students take up club and leisure sports to rev competitive engines

**O**uachita students were seen all over campus taking a break from academics by spending time outside. Students enjoyed a variety of leisure activities such as golf, disc golf, corn hole, fishing, and hunting. These activities allowed students to have a little fun, stay active, and enjoy the beautiful campus.

Jillian Woodruff, a sophomore business administration major from Hope, has played golf since she was a child. This hobby followed her to college and was a “great way for me to take a break from studying and just clear my head,” Woodruff said.

Breanna Parker, an elementary education major from Clarksville, picked up the hobby of disc golf from some of her college friends. Even though it hadn’t been a passion for years like Woodruff, Parker built great relationships through playing.

“I first started playing because my friends did and I wanted to spend time with them and get involved in what they loved to do,” Parker said.

Golf and disc golf were not the only ways to clear your head after a hard week of class. Blaine Miller, a senior Christian studies major from North Little Rock, used corn hole to take his mind off of classes. Not only was it a hobby, but Miller used his talents to compete for cash.

“I like playing against others just see how to get better,” Miller said. “An organized tournament with something at stake is more competitive and people take it much more serious.”

Miller wasn’t the only one turning a hobby into competition. The Ouachita fishing team also competed on a regular basis. Jared Wright, a senior finance major from Glenwood, was the captain for the team.

Wright described a fishing tournament as “the opening kickoff of a football game and then after that it’s like golf.”

The beginning of fishing tournaments were fast paced with lots of adrenaline rushing. After the initial excitement, the team relaxed and focused on fishing.

Baker Kendrick, a sophomore biology major from Conway, mentioned the same adrenaline rush when he found the perfect hunting spot near campus. Kendrick has enjoyed bow hunting since he was a small child, and he did not want to give up the hobby when he came to college.

“I had to find an alternative. I found a gorgeous clearing right next to the river and decided that this would be a great place to hunt,” Kendrick said.

But that was not all, Kendrick put in a lot of work in to be ready for hunting season.

“I brought in my portable tree stand, cut some shooting lanes, set up a game camera, and planted a food plot,” Kendrick said. “This was a perfect place to go hunt on Tuesday mornings right before watching Chapel.”

Whether it was on a boat, on the greens, or anywhere in between, Ouachita students found themselves staying active within competition, surrounded by fun.

Caroline Johnson



Fishing team captain Jared Wright shows off his catch. Photo courtesy of Jared Wright.



Fishing team's new wrap. Photo by Tyler Wosenthal.



Ben Hodde tosses his frisbee. Photo by Hannah Adamsen.



Baker Kendrick poses with his prize.  
Photo courtesy of Baker Kendrick



Gary Stormant eyes his target.  
Photo by Hannah Adams



JOYMENT



Jillian Woodruff strikes her iron.  
Photo courtesy of Jillian Woodruff

# PROCESS

## Tigers set foundation for future success

Although the season was no normal task, the Tigers made the most of the year securing a GAC Tournament victory. Fighting to prevent COVID-19 both on the court and within the locker room, weekly testing of the team never produced a positive case for the men's basketball team; a feat the players and coaches were proud to stand by.

Despite the added precautions, the team was still forced into quarantine due to possible exposure from an opposing team just as they were hitting their stride.

"At any time, we could've been sent home from a close contact," said Larenz Nero, a senior guard and computer science major from Hot Springs, Ark. That added layer of possible quarantine motivated Nero and the team to stay as safe as possible throughout the season.

Despite the unexpected quarantine, the team continued to improve.

"The team dynamic grew stronger as the season went on. We started trusting each other more and I believe that was mainly Coach Nutt and Coach Bailey pulling to bring us closer together," said Stephfan Tabe, a freshman biology major from El Dorado Ark.

The dynamic of the team was important for the Tigers success as they struggled to mesh in the offseason and to begin the regular season.

"After we got seven new guys, the chemistry was off," said Matt Stanley, a senior business administration major from Cabot, Ark.

"The back half of the season we noticed we looked like a different team playing wise compared to the first half. We all got pretty close outside of basketball which helped us late this season," Stanley said.

The team chemistry that continued to foster throughout the season permitted the Tigers to make a post season run. The Tigers traveled to Arkansas Tech coming off a loss to the Wonder Boys just two days earlier to end the regular season.

Winning a road game is no easy task within the GAC, let alone a road tournament game. Led by All-GAC guard Kendarious Smith's 17 points, the Tigers defeated the Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys 70-69.

"It was good to get by the first playoff game against Arkansas Tech. It was a hard fought game that came down to the wire. I thought we played extremely hard and survived to advance," Coach Nutt said.

The Tiger basketball season would come to a close at #24 Oklahoma Baptist in the second round of the GAC Tournament, but a foundation was set for future success and the road back to the top of the GAC had begun.

Caroline Johnson



Marvin Williams-Dunn dribbles the basketball looking to pass. Dunn was a rookie, but still made vital contributions to the team.

Photo by Levi Dade



KDI Smith



Jacob Street



A.

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19. Roster: Marvin Williams-Dunn. Xavier Hall. Larenz Nero. Ma'Darius Hobson. Alex Scariolo. Jacob Street. Kobe Dunlap. Kendarious Smith. Daveon Bankston. DJ Kane. Leon Kalinic. Matt Stanley. Stephfan Tabe. Head Coach Dennis Nutt. Assistant Coach Jordan Bailey. Student Assistant Sam Scott.



Team members huddle during a time out / Photo by Sarah Dean



COVID Conduct

The team had zero positive cases all season

# SCOREBOARD

HARDING	77-84
SOUTHERN ARK.	58-69
HARDING	78-74
HENDERSON ST.	67-96
SOUTHERN ARK.	62-83
MONTICELLO	79-81
SOUTHERN ARK.	57-68
HARDING	71-62
HENDERSON ST.	55-59
ARKANSAS TECH	81-59
MONTICELLO	68-88
SOUTHERN ARK.	73-59
HENDERSON ST.	75-82
MONTICELLO	52-55
ARKANSAS TECH	66-68
ARKANSAS TECH	70-69
OKLA. BAPTIST	78-97

5-12



**A. LARENZ NERO** gets a fast break and goes up for a lay up. Nero shot for 42% from the field for the season.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

**B. DJ KANE** shoots a three point shot over the defender from SAU. Kane shot for 26% on three point attempts for the season.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

I think the big high was when we beat Arkansas Tech to advance into the quarter finals. They had previously beat us in a close game but we beat them when it mattered.

*Stephan Tabe*

All of the guys are amazing people off the court, so that really does help the team dynamic on the court.

*Matt Stanley*

The team's dynamic is something different than any team I've been a part of. We handled adversity and stuck with each other until the end.

*Deaveon Bankston*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# SCOREBOARD

HARDING	63-66
HENDERSON ST.	61-71
ARKANSAS TECH	89-94
SOUTHERN ARK.	102-86
HENDERSON ST.	69-66
MONTICELLO	77-51
ARKANSAS TECH	76-89
SOUTHERN ARK.	85-84
SWOSU	66-89

4-5



**A. EDEN CROW** tips off against Southern Arkansas. Crow served as the team's captain.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

**B. MAKENZIE SCHILMOELLER** celebrates with Eden Crow after her buzzer beater against SAU. This win gave the Lady Tigers their first post-season win since 2012.  
*Photo by Wesley Kluck*



Ray Osborn



Makayla Miller



A

A moment of true resilience was when Eden Crow hit a game winner against SAU. The atmosphere was electric. I will never forget that moment.  
*Lauren Wright*

We overcame quarantines, injuries, illnesses, and snow storms, not by our power, but by the grace of God, because he has big plans for the OBU women's basketball program moving forward.  
*Eden Crow*

My teammates and I have had to be physically and mentally tough to get through this season due to COVID-19 protocols.  
*Ray Osborn*

## TIGER STRENGTH



 **COVID Conduct**  
14 games were canceled due to COVID-19 protocols

# GRIT

## Lady Tigers display resilience en route to victory

The Lady Tiger basketball team struggled through a rough start to its season, but not because of losses or poor play.

"We were quarantined three separate times this year and with Christmas break we were off campus 40 out of 49 days before we played our first game on Feb. 6," Head Coach Robert Dallimore said.

The Lady Tigers were scheduled to begin their season on Jan. 7, however the season failed to tip off till an entire month later.

Not only did the team have to work through multiple quarantines, but they also had to establish chemistry within the locker room. The Lady Tigers only returned four players from 2019-2020 season as eight new faces were welcomed on board Dallimore's ship. Despite a fresh look, the team began to mesh as the season progressed.

The time spent off campus meant the Lady Tigers were not in the gym to prepare for the start of their season. Because Ouachita began the season one month after the expected date, most teams in the Great American Conference established a rhythm and, of course, a record that displayed more than 0-0.

Despite the setbacks, the Lady Tigers kept pushing forward.

"We kept working hard in practice and we knew that eventually we would get to play in front of our fans," said senior Guard Majja Gertstone, a nutrition and dietetics major from Liepajas, Latvia.

That hard worked paid off. The Lady Tigers fought through the regular season and, in comparison to last year, the team "increased their conference win percentage by 40%," said Coach Dallimore.

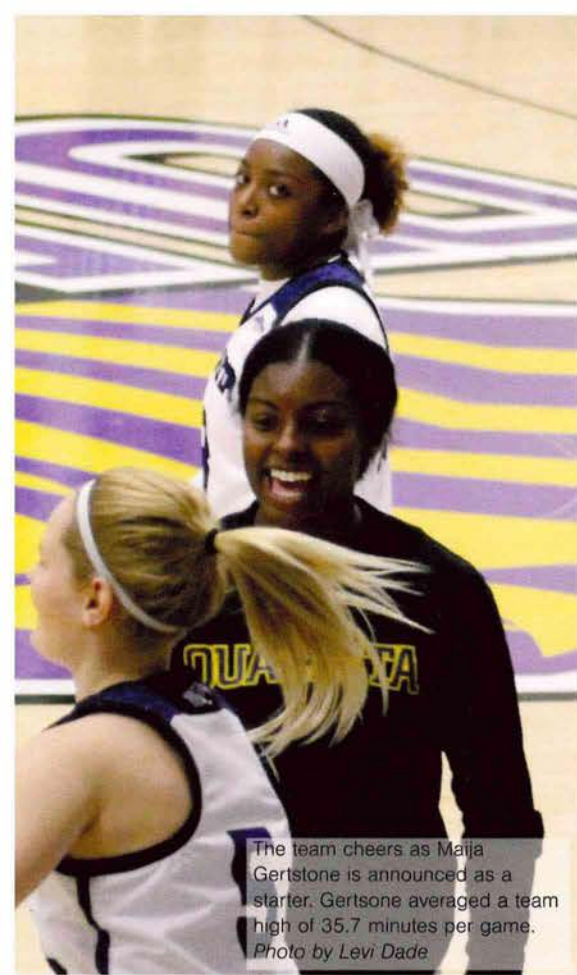
The Lady Tigers earned a home GAC tournament game and went on to win their first conference tournament game since 2012. The feat was a huge milestone for the organization as the GAC was very competitive containing multiple nationally ranked teams.

"I believe this year has laid the ground work for the teams to come," said the senior captain Eden Crow, a kinesiology and education major from Texarkana. Crow hit the game winning mid-range jump shot at the buzzer to seal the victory over Southern Arkansas in the first round of the GAC Tournament.

Parker Smith, a freshman English major from Searcy, agreed with Crow on how impactful the post-season run was for the future of Lady Tiger basketball.

"I think the post-season run and first round win will help us in the future because we know what it feels like to win and lose. The feeling of winning in a post-season tournament is a feeling you can't explain," said Smith.

Caroline Johnson



The team cheers as Majja Gertstone is announced as a starter. Gertstone averaged a team high of 35.7 minutes per game. Photo by Levi Dade



B.



Team celebrates after post-season win / Photo by Wesley Kluck

Official team photos were not taken due to COVID-19. From left to right, front row: Makayla Miller. MaKenzie Schilmoeller. Jessi Bennett. Dai Brown. Kailen Wright. Back row: Parker Smith. Eden Crow. Lauren Wright. Majja Gertstone. Haley Day. Brittney Williams. Ray Osborn. Not Pictured: Head Coach Robert Dallimore. Assistant Coach Amber Reeves.



# RECORDS

## Runners push through boundaries and set personal bests

Despite the challenges that COVID-19 brought, the Cross Country and Track and Field teams had successful seasons. The fall cross country season was pushed to the spring along with track. This was difficult for the athletes because it made it harder to find motivation to train, but the team encouraged each other and pushed through.

The track team made history by being the first OBU women's track and field team to attend a conference meet. Most of the team members were able to set personal records and came home with recognitions.

"The conference meet was the highlight of this year. Since I started the semester with COVID-19 and going over a month with no physical activity until I was cleared, I had to work extremely hard to catch up and get in shape, but our amazing coaches worked with me. I was able to get all conference with both of the relay teams and only missing all conference by one place in my individual event," Rebekah Wendt, a sophomore biology major and chemistry minor from Haworth, Okla., said.

Track was a new sport this year at Ouachita and the team was already thriving. The coaches and team had been working hard and they feel they have a great future ahead.

"With our amazing coaching staff, I'd say we have a bright future. Coaches are working extremely hard to build up this program, bringing in some really good recruits for next year as well as building our current team up as runners and making us better. Hopefully in the next few years we will even see our own OBU track," Wendt said.

Time management and discipline were just the many things you need to succeed as a student athlete. It is not easy to balance it all, but it is possible.

"As an athlete, I struggled with finding time to hang out with people or even going home for the weekend. Our practices would sometimes clash with other events on the campus. However, over the years I learned to balance everything out," Elizabeth Costner, a senior kinesiology major and dietetics minor from Fayetteville, said.

Both teams grew closer together and became a family for many.

"I have never met a group more accepting of each other and reflective of Christ and His unconditional love. The way each teammate supports another and would do anything for each other as soon as a need is spoken, is so encouraging and comforting," Grace Loftin, a junior kinesiology major, from Shreveport, La., said.

This season might have looked different, but the team was still able to make memories and train hard.

"Athletically, because of being older I haven't competed in a long time. I was doubting my abilities but with training and dedication I beat my high school personal best by seconds. I trusted the coach, and realized that I still have capabilities and potential," Kirsten Swanson, freshman nutrition and dietetics major, from Spring Branch, Texas, said.

Both the cross country and track and field teams displayed strength and refused to let anything stop them. The teams had a great bond. They pushed each other and lifted each other up. Their unity made them stronger.

Valeria Gomez



Taylor Koeth and Kristen Holeyfield run to the finish line. This was Koeth's first year on the team.  
Photo by Levi Dade



Emily Castilaw



Lauren Williams



### CROSS COUNTRY & TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

**Front row:** Sydney Delgado, Becca Beard, Kristen Holeyfield, Nataly Nailling, Taylor Koeth, Kyndal Moyer, Meighan Mears, Elizabeth Coster. **Second row:** Dawson Goodwin, Taryn Bewley, Alyssa Reece, Analyse Hamlett. **Back row:** Ben Blocker, Nic Gonzalez, Jorie Beaumont, Grace Loftin, Kirsten Swanson, Rebekah Wendt, Sam Vickers, Gabe Chandler, Neil Cole.



COVID Conduct

All meets took place in the spring semester

# SCOREBOARD

## CROSS COUNTRY

SAU INVITE 3rd

OBU INVITE 3rd

GAC CHAMPIONSHIP 5th

## TRACK AND FIELD

HENDRIX INVITE 6th

RHODES INVITE

BISON INVITE

DAN VEACH INVITE

GAC CHAMPIONSHIP 10th



**A. RACHEL FREEMAN**, Ouachita Cross Country signee, passed away in February of 2020. The team ran in remembrance of her throughout the season.

*Photo via OBU Cross Country - Twitter*

**B. SYDNEY DELGADO** jumps into the water during a race. Delgado competed in the steeplechase event for the Lady Tigers.

*Photo by Levi Dade*

My favorite memory from the season was the day we had practice at Coach Guymon's house and they made us breakfast. That day I really felt like we were not just a team but a family.

*Nataly Nailing*

This fall we didn't get a season because of COVID, so Coach Guymon & Coach Jones set up a time trial for us to run. There were several girls who beat their personal record.

*Jorie Beaumont*

My experience on the team is something that I will hold in a very special place in my heart forever. It's become a huge part of who I am, and who I will become.

*Kristen Holeyfield*

# TIGER STRENGTH



# CHAMPIONS

## HUMAN FOOSBALL

ETA Big Dinner

## KICKBALL

Men's: BETA Black

Coed: New Kicks on the Block

## INDOOR PICKLEBALL

Men's: Dream Team

Coed: Get Paddled

## BASKETBALL DRILLS

Chris McCuiston

## NBA PICK 'EM

Overall: Valery Cotton

Weekend: Sophia Ward & Audrey Gallagher

## BIG FOOTBALL GAME PREDICTION

CHALLENGE

Karlee Sanders

## DISC GOLF SCRAMBLE

B(Eta) Black

## ARCHERY

Rambow and Arrow

## TRIVIA

Basketball: Kendall Jones

Football: Grant Allen

## PING PONG

Men's: Luke Black

Women's: Savannah Staggs

## DISC GOLF SINGLES

Beginner: Nicolas Gonzalez

Advanced: Chris Couch and Connor Bjerke

## NCAA MARCH MADNESS BRACKET

Men's: James Lasley

Women's: Jason Greenwich

## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Ben Swanger and Blaine Miller

## REC NIGHTS

Spikeball: Parker Apicella and Hagan Sanchez

Kan Jam: Micah Hitt and Isaac Johnson

## PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Doubles: 2 Cent Pickle

Singles: Ben Blocker

## SOFTBALL

Men's: BETA Black

Coed: Friends on the Field



**A. SARAH COLLINS** runs to first base during a softball game. She participated in intramurals every semester she has been in college. Photo by Sarah Dean



**B. ASHLEY DRENNAN** and Issac Crow celebrate with a high five. Drennan and Crow were both freshmen playing on a human foosball team. Photo by Madison Melcher



It was different not being able to play the same intramurals we were used to, but overall I think Rec Life did a great job coming up with different sports that we could play.

Mitchell Waite

COVID made it hard to meet people, especially as a freshman.

Intramurals provided a way to form good friendships and get to know people on a deeper level, while also having fun!

Vivian Pryor

Intramurals has been a great way to be social, do something that I absolutely love, which is playing sports.

Halley "Lou" Bryant

# TIGER STRENGTH



**COVID** Conduct

Games like human foosball accommodated to safety measures

# RECREATION

## New competitions proved worthwhile

Intramurals were an integral part of Ouachita's community and Rec Life. This year was different and normal competitions were challenged due to the adjustments the directors had to make to abide by campus wide restrictions. New games were created to provide ways the student body could get involved.

"This year, Rec Life offered more individual sports than team sports, like archery and ping pong, or sports with two to a team like pickleball," said Halley Bryant, a sophomore kinesiology major from El Dorado. "My favorite memories from being involved in Rec Life is always the time I get to spend with friends through intramurals."

Students focused on having a good time with their friends through the new games which allowed them some normalcy back in such a difficult semester. Games like archery, disc golf, ping pong, pickleball, virtual football and basketball leagues were introduced.

"I feel like students really came together in different ways because when I think about the different teams, especially in the fall semester, there were a lot of freshmen teams put together," said Bryant.

Some of the new games were loved so much that the Rec Life directors plan on keeping these competitions for later years. While not much on campus remained the same, Rec Life worked hard to encourage fun competition and raised morale for the student body and the community on campus.

"It has been a challenging year to be the one in charge of intramurals, but we are really pleased with how things have turned out! As a result of having to cut several of our normal sports leagues, we have been able to try several new things that I think we will keep around for years to come," said Matthew Cook, Rec Life's assistant director.


Ben Blocker, a junior engineering physics major from Little Rock, thought that, although intramurals were different, he advocated that these changes were not necessarily bad but displayed rec life's ability to be flexible and creative.

"I have been involved with most of the intramural sports offered on campus, including soccer, which I missed the most," said Blocker. "Intramurals were always the highlight of my week. Each sport was always a healthy mental and emotional break for me, and they always seemed to give us hope as students that the hard times would not last forever, and that things would get back to normal soon."

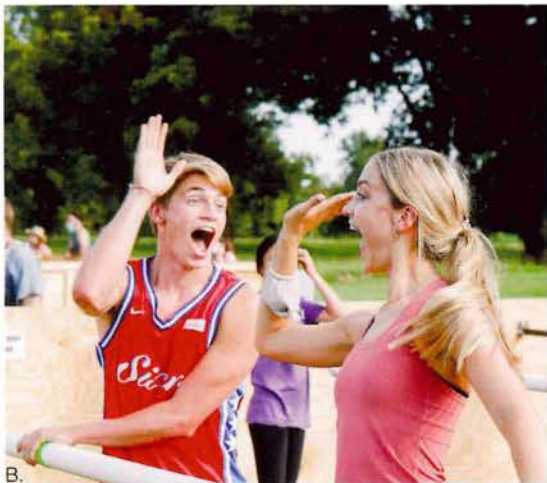
At the heart of intramurals are the students who come together and laugh during their games. This is a lighthearted time for students to step away from schoolwork.

"I got involved in human foosball in the fall when there wasn't a lot going on. It gave me more structure and the opportunity to meet more people while playing sports I loved," said Addyson Cassell, a freshman middle school education major from Fayetteville. "Intramurals encouraged me throughout the year to continue to get involved and opened my eyes to new things that I am so thankful to have."


Emily Barton



Ethan Marshall throws a frisbee while Broc Ingold watches. Ouachita hosted a frisbee golf tournament for students. Photo by Sarah Dean



B.



**KALLEN SMITH** runs home to score during a kickball game. Kickball was a great way for students to connect in a normal way despite COVID-19. Photo by William Reed

## Tiger cheer rallies through a year without sporting event appearances

**D**uring the season of COVID-19, the Ouachita Tiger cheerleaders found creative ways to support fellow Tigers and each other. At the beginning of the cheer season, hopes were high concerning what sports the cheerleaders could attend. Even when it began to look like the cheer squad would not be able to attend any games, they still began social distanced practices once a week.

Anna Claire Newman, a freshman biomedical sciences major from Greenbrier, became a Ouachita cheerleader via the online tryouts last spring. She was one of the three freshmen on the team.

"When I first made the team, I was so excited to get to cheer for OBU, and now, even though we were not able to cheer at games this year, I'm still excited for what's to come," Newman said.

While the cheerleaders were not able to cheer for games, they were still able to attend pep rallies and band events throughout the year that were hosted outside of the Student Center. Julia Shands, a sophomore communications major from Searcy, was particularly excited about the annual cheer banquet that Dr. Kluck sponsored.

"Because of the pandemic, the cheer team wasn't able to be all together at once much, but the banquet enabled us all to be at the same place at the same time," said Shands.

Even though the season looked nothing like she had imagined, Jaelle Morrison, a junior communication sciences and disorders major from Rison, was just happy to have the community that surrounds the team.

"I love being a Ouachita cheerleader, and I love the friendship and community our squad has. Not having meetings, practices, and not cheering for games this year was definitely not something any of us wanted, but we stayed in touch through our Group-Me and visited Coach Chris in his office," said Morrison.

Morrison enjoyed reminiscing on the "normal times" and planning for when life would be back to the way it was. She also attended many of the football scrimmages to show support for the boys with or without a cheer uniform.

Julianne Weaver, a senior biology major from Benton, was particularly upset about not being able to cheer her senior year, however she looked forward to continuing her support of the Tigers.

"As a senior, it was difficult not getting the last year I was expecting to get to cheer at football and basketball games, but that will make next year even more exciting to be able to come back and watch them play," Weaver said.

Addie Woods



Madison Cresswell and Emmy Hipps cheer at the pep rally.  
Photo by Callie Rogers



Kara DeLaune defies gravity.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



Courtney Davis and Kristen Holyfield cheer on the Tigers.  
Photo by Callie Rogers



Cannon Fisher split leaps into the air.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship

# MELODY

## Tiger marching band jams amidst adjustments

Empty stadium bleachers and JPAC seats due to a canceled football season and scrapped Tiger Tunes brought change for the Ouachita marching band. Students went into the semester unsure what the band would look like and whether they would get to even play for others to enjoy.

"My emotions toward marching band this year seemed slightly optimistic, even though I knew we would not have the regular routine of actual marching band in the stands and on the field," Brock Wade, sophomore music education major from Plano, Texas, said. "One great aspect I learned this year through marching band is the ability we can all adapt no matter the situation."

Instead of learning a typical marching show, Ouachita band learned the music they would have performed for a show without the marching sets. They performed these songs at multiple outdoor concerts throughout the semester for the student body.

"Overall challenges within band this year had to be with the challenge of the overall ensemble's health," Wade said. "Each person plays a significant part within an ensemble, as if one or more people are out due to COVID-19, it can be hard to carry on. In this, we were still able to be flexible during these situations, such as doubling parts on another instrument."

Ouachita band had to navigate through many challenges throughout the semester. Students like sophomore graphic design major Lindsay Fulton, from Cabot, mourned the beloved marching season while also remaining optimistic about other opportunities.

"I had mixed emotions toward band this year," Fulton said. "I was glad we got to perform our band music for people on campus, but I missed the marching aspect of it all. I'm really glad Ouachita gave us the opportunity to play our instruments this year."

While students eagerly waited for normality to return so that marching band could continue, senior Mason Holder, a middle school education major from Camden, reflected on the experiences he gained from being a part of Ouachita band.

"There is nothing like playing in the stands on game day," Holder said. "The atmosphere is unrivaled. I have the most fun dancing in the stands before, during, and after games, both while playing a song and just chilling. I cannot seem to stand still. I love the experiences I have because of the OBU marching band."

Gracen Goudy



The drum line works together to play a cadence. The drum line was important to keeping the Tigers on beat. Photo by Abby Blankenship



Katelynn Bayless



Taryn Toles



A.



The band plays at the Christmas program. The program helped students get in the holiday spirit. Photo by Abby Blankenship



**COVID Conduct**  
Despite no football season, band performances marched on



**A. GRACE ROARK** strikes a pose at the end of the performance. Despite COVID-19, the band was still able to lead a pep-rally on campus.

*Photo by Sarah Dean*

**B. ASHLEY HARRISON** twirls a purple Tiger flag. The flag line worked hard to perform along with the band.

*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

Band has provided me a circle of good friends that I can rely on. It has allowed me to grow to be a better musician and it has provided me with wonderful professors that support me.

*Graham Scarborough*

I have seen my growth as an individual musician shine through in the band and lead others to improve musically. Through the band, I have seen my passion for music only grow.

*Holli Barger*

Being in several ensembles as well as the band has strengthened me as a professional. I have developed a solid sense of commitment, which I believe will serve me well in the future.

*Andrew Coop*

# TIGER STRENGTH







Seniors Katherine Fehlman and Brooke Snyder conduct teletherapy. Speech path majors held therapy sessions over Zoom. Photo by Abby Blankenship



# ACADEMICS

Desks became distanced and academic trips were canceled. Plexiglass separated student from teacher and Zoom continued to be utilized. However through it all, Ouachita exhibited ***resilience.***

In a season of many unknowns, the Hickingbotham School of Business remained one of the most popular and successful majors on Ouachita's campus. Hickingbotham's Dean, Bryan McKinney, worked incredibly hard, along with many other faculty members, to ensure the success of all business students.

"I have worn a lot of hats at Ouachita, but being in this position has been a great opportunity to get to know students. This has become my home, and the faculty I work with are among the best people," said Dean McKinney.

Dealing with COVID-19 repercussions was challenging. Professors struggled to connect with students as well as vice versa. The school of business tried very hard to keep things as normal as possible even with all of the restrictions that were in place.

One aspect of the business department did not change: Ary Fund. Will Guerra, a senior finance and political science double major from Benton, said, "The Ary Fund was a \$1.6 million stock portfolio of Ouachita's endowment funds and was managed by 12 senior finance majors. We met weekly to discuss everything that goes into the Ary Fund."

These students worked closely with Dr. Chris Brune, associate professor of finance in the school of business, to ensure the success of the Ary Fund. The organization was one of the many opportunities the school of business provided to allow for student success, education, and enjoyment.

"The Ary Fund was started years ago and is one of the most instrumental parts of our students' educational journey," said Dean McKinney.

Other than the Ary Fund, there was a few changes due to the unique year.

"The main thing that changed was mask-wearing and teachers changing classrooms across campus due to the class size. We also tried to do mostly virtual quizzes and assignments," Dean McKinney stated.

All of these endeavors added minutes to a normal day, but the school of business faculty tried their hardest to make the transition as easy as possible in order for students to participate in normal school clubs and activities.

Dean McKinney mentioned how proud he was of Ouachita as a whole because of how responsible everyone was in wearing masks everywhere on campus.

"Our faculty and students have impressed guests and many others because of how diligent they are in everything," McKinney said. "We had to adapt to new technology and schedules and it was not easy. Everyone tried to make the most of this environment and that is what makes, not only the school of business but, Ouachita as a whole so special."

Madi Darr

**"Our faculty and students have impressed guests and many others because of how diligent they are in everything."**

**- Dean Bryan McKinney**

**DILIGENCE**

Attentive ears result in earned success



A.



B.



C.

A. **Dr. Brune** takes the JPAC stage to teach Personal Finance. This unique classroom was the setting for students to develop budgeting skills. *Photo by Sarah Dean*

B. **Lily Maxwell** presents at an Ary fundraising meeting as technology sector analyst. She presented stocks for the tech sector holdings. *Photo by Jomari Bailey*

C. **Brooks Brown** attends Microcomputer Applications taught by Dana Dixon on Zoom. Zoom classes have now replaced cancellations, such as snow days. *Photo by Madison Melcher*



Business Ethics



Ary Fund

Global Business students listen to a lecture in Verser Theatre. Students expanded their knowledge on world markets. Photo by Levi Dade

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*

The members of the Ary Student Investment Fund met each week to discuss their respected sectors. The fund was a stock investment portfolio managed by a team of senior finance students in the School of Business. They met regularly to review current holdings and discuss needed changes. Two of those students were Carlos Solorzano and Javi Fito, who are seniors from Morella, Mexico and Valencia, Spain, respectively. "I think that flexibility is a strength in our group because, although there is always a wide variety of opinions in our discussions, everyone was willing to listen to other people's point of view and be flexible while making team decisions if necessary," Fito said. "The Ary Fund is a valuable experience for all business majors as it prepares them for managing an investment fund."

*As told by Emily Barton*





Ben Inmon and Aaron Koen have an intentional conversation. Christian Studies students were seen throughout campus conversing and growing community.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



"My favorite part of the Women's Ministry class was that it never felt like a class. We had great discussions. Mrs. Shari [Edwards] was so kind and helpful at all times and wanted us to actually understand her teaching, and not just to be on a syllabus schedule. I really enjoyed all of the discussions in class. I was surrounded with a lot of amazing women. We learned about the women in the Bible and their key roles in leadership. Learning about this was so powerful and inspiring. We emphasized principals in ministry from our special perspective as women," said Sarah Collins, a sophomore communication major from Lucas, Texas. "The Christian Studies department has done an excellent job with keeping students safe by spreading us out. I am a very social and physical touch person, so it has been hard to not express myself in those ways. I am still so grateful to be with people again."  
*As told to Emily Barton*

# DIVINITY

Studies with eternal implication

The Pruet School of Christian Studies equipped Ouachita students to be followers of Jesus who disciple the Church as well as local, university and global communities. Through teaching that broadens students' world view and challenges them to develop their own theology, students understood and could effectively communicate God's Word, all pointing back to discipling the Church. Despite COVID-19, the school creatively adapted and persisted in their mission.

Dr. Scott Duvall, chair of the Department of Biblical Studies and Theology, said the school implemented detailed procedures for faculty and staff.

"Dean Danny Hays is an engineer by training. All of his training kicked in and we had air filters, the latest masks, procedures and policies. He took good care of us by really keeping up with all the little details of the pandemic," Duvall said.

Along with all these little details came managing Moodle and Zoom, a curve for both students and faculty. Although the school year was quite different, the department kept a hands-on learning approach. The department required all students to have an internship or service opportunity, an important aspect of the major.

"Students have all the standard opportunities in the church. They can help with worship, youth, or as a pastoral assistant. You also have camp opportunities and other ministry organizations," Duvall said. "It is up to the student to think creatively about what would be good."

The department cultivated an environment that is both gratifying and challenging for students. Bailey Buettner, a senior from Garland, Texas, said this environment grew her.

"The department has allowed me to question what I believe in a safe space. Whether it is doubts I might be having in my personal life or with my own theology, I know that I have the freedom to doubt and question," Buettner said. "The professors definitely encourage that and allow you to come into their office and pour out questions about life, Jesus, Scripture, theology, and how it all applies to our life and why."

This challenging environment encouraged students to broaden their world view and see their greater need and purpose. Ben Inmon, a junior from Bentonville, said this allowed him to see the character of God and his role in God's grand story.

"I see a greater need and purpose behind ministering to the Church. Through the Christian studies school, I have seen more of who God is and His character throughout all of Scripture and what this means for us," Inmon said. "Knowing we get to be a part of this awesome story of how God made us, and we get to respond to this in faith and desire to live for Him and tell others about Him."

The PSCS sought for all students to deeply love the Lord and have a heart of devotion to Him. Kaylie Green, sophomore from Fort Worth, Texas, said this looks like seeing God in the mundane.

"I think loving the Lord with all heart, soul and mind means thinking about Him prayerfully. Praying without ceasing and doing it in your everyday life. Praying with God and have communion with Him in the everyday aspects," she said.

**"Through the Christian Studies Department, I have seen more of who God is and His character throughout all of scripture."**

**- Ben Inmon**

MacKenzie Hall



A. **Visiting a cemetery** allowed the Death and Dying class to focus on those who had passed away. The class was taught by Dr. Byron Eubanks. *Photo by William Read*

B. **Students lead** an active discussion while presenting in World Religions. The class introduced students to other major religions around the world. *Photo by Ashley Harrison*

C. **Noah McCallum** takes notes in his Intro to Christian Ministry class. This class prepared students with practical applications for their theological foundations.

*Photo by Levi Dade*

The Huckabee School of Education prepared students called to the ministry of education to be next generation leaders. The program was built on strong foundations of Christ-centered teaching and the love of learning. It sought to prepare students by equipping them to fulfill their calling in the mission field. Despite COVID-19, the department adapted and still held a high expectation for its future teachers.

Dr. Kathy Collins, chair of the Education Department, said, "The biggest change was with how we do field experience and practicum. Student teachers were allowed into schools, but our field experience kids, who were just going for observations, and then our practicum students, were not allowed to go into the schools due to COVID."

Although this was not the same, students adapted and taught each other rather than going into schools. Some tasks did remain the same amid the pandemic.

"The main thing we maintained was our system of integrity and our student responsibility," Collins said. "The kids still dressed professionally when teaching each other. We kept the standards high regardless of the fact that we did not actually work with children. I still wanted them to treat it as if they were actually in the field and take it seriously."

**"The professors model good teachers by balancing instruction along with getting to know students individually."**  
- Josiah Elmore

For Josiah Elmore, a senior from Arkadelphia, these high standards prepared him for student teaching in the third and fifth grades.

"The professors model good teachers by balancing instruction along with getting to know students individually. They provide a real catered learning experience, which drew me to Ouachita in the first place." Elmore said. "The student to faculty ratio was nice because they spend time with us and that's something I want to translate into my classroom."

The education department focused not only on preparing students to teach, but to also be the next generation leaders who shape societies. Victoria Mayfield, a junior from Jonesboro, said this responsibility makes her call all the more important.

"We're the ones put in charge of making sure that students get a good, quality education. If we felt called to do it, we have to step up and do it because it's our call," she said.

The department also had an emphasis on spiritual growth. Professors wanted students to know that Jesus is the master teacher and learn from His ministry. Anna Katherine Green, a freshman from Little Rock, said the emphasis on spiritual growth prepared her to teach.

"In Foundations of Education, we start every class period with a devotional. We open with scripture about Jesus and how He was the ultimate teacher and how we can learn from Him and apply it to the classroom," Green said.

The Huckabee School of Education students sought to make an impact on future generations by diligently preparing to teach.

"Our students are exceptional. They have a strong work ethic and really care about kids," Collins said. "They really want to be good teachers. They're so easy to work with. It's wonderful to have not just that faculty that I work with, but students that are just outstanding."

MacKenzie Hall

# EQUIPPED


Experience leads to success

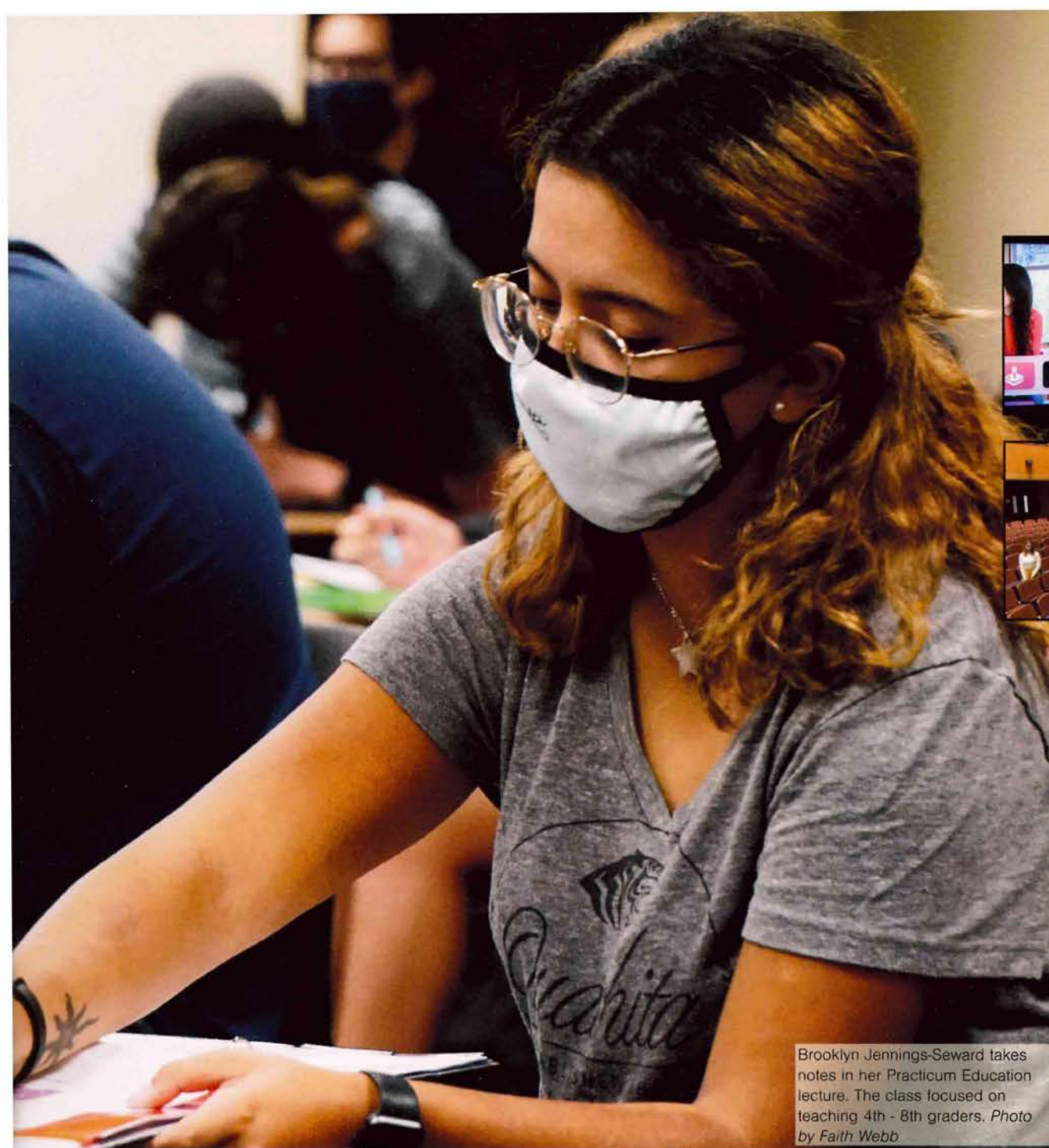


A. **Students jot** down notes over special education law. Their class focused on teaching exceptional learning experiences. *Photo by Sarah Dean*

B. **Celebrating** World Read Aloud Day, education majors gather to read to each other. Students honored and expanded their knowledge on children's literature. *Photo courtesy of Education Facebook*

C. **Chloe Workman** teaches a phonics lesson to first graders. Students were able to fulfill their student teaching internships in person, but were not able to do observation hours in schools. *Photo courtesy of Education Facebook*

 **COVID Conduct**  
Students were unable to observe Arkadelphia schools



Anley M...  
2023



Student teachers

Brooklyn Jennings-Seward takes notes in her Practicum Education lecture. The class focused on teaching 4th - 8th graders. Photo by Faith Webb

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*

"The Education department has done everything possible to keep classes running smoothly," senior Michael Burer said. "Every time something crazy happened, like the snow [in February], they were flexible and understanding in adjusting the schedule to give us time to finish our work well. With everything that's happened in the last year, COVID and non-COVID related, professors worked with us and supported us every step of the way." Amidst pondering his future plans, Burer's passion was ignited when observing a high school band rehearsal. Seeing the director interact with students and hearing the music got Burer excited about teaching. "My Learning Theory class helped me understand all the theories related to education and I saw how I can use them to help students learn to the best of their ability," Burer said.

*As told by Emily Barton*







Wellness



Yoga



David Rainwater and the kayaking class enjoy the water in beautiful weather. Students received hands-on experience as nature was their classroom.

*Photo by Madison Melcher*

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



The Care and Prevention of Injury class participated in Dr. DeWitt's CPR training. "The kinesiology program has held several labs such as the CPR one outside. The program has been affective in making the adequate accommodations, and we have all worked together to make the most of it all. Kinesiology is such a diverse field and the program here has broadened my understanding of the human body, how every part of it works together, and how everyone here can work together through it all," said Grace Loftin, a junior kinesiology major from Shreveport, La. The event was open to all students where they could stop by and learn cardiorespiratory emergency first aid tips. *As told by Emily Barton*



**COVID** Conduct  
The Special Olympics was unable to take place

# APPLIED

Working out and working toward fruition

The Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies focused on equipping students through hands-on experience that prepared them for a successful career. Most years the department hosted events such as the Special Olympics, Exercise is Medicine, and invite people to campus for various clinical exercises. This year, due to COVID-19, professors implemented more hands-on experiences that could be accomplished in the classroom.

Brunson McDonald, a junior kinesiology major from Arlington, Texas, believed the department has given her many opportunities to gain experience in her specific subject area.

“Dr. Chelette is very good at coming up with hands-on opportunities in the classroom. Normally, we are put into groups where we interact with kids and teach them skills. With COVID-19, we have taught our classmates,” McDonald said. “With many projects I am able to choose the direction of my lessons to fit my subject area.”

Dr. Amber Chelette believed hands-on experiences were vital for students and encouraged her students to think of new ways to involve the community this semester.

“We did try a Zoom exercise class for Group Living, and that went better than I thought it would. Addison Bates and Halley Bryant helped with that, and participants actually did really well,” Chelette said. “We try to do hands-on with everything we do. Having that hands-on opportunity makes students understand better and makes them better potential employees.”

Beyond group projects that allow for hands-on opportunities, professors also provided experiences weaved into class curriculum.

Johnathon Callum, a junior kinesiology major and biology minor from Pine Bluff, felt that his professors, and the department as a whole, have prepared him for graduate school and his future career.

“In Care and Prevention class with Dr. Dewitt, we did not have to learn how to tape an ankle, but Dr. Dewitt went out of his way to give us tape every class and learn on our own,” Callum said. “Our kinesiology program pushed so much for us to be hands-on and comfortable so that when we get out into the field we are not just confident in our knowledge, but we can actually apply it.”

Lexi Castillow, a junior kinesiology and education major from Greenwood, also felt prepared for the future and complimented her professors for the effect they have had on her college experience.

“[The professors] are all readily available and flexible, especially right now,” Castillow said. “They have all done a lot to help me and get me a plan of what I want to do.”

The Kinesiology and Leisure Studies Department had to change many traditional activities due to COVID-19, but they continued to adapt and help their students gain experience and learn in new ways through each challenge.

**“Our kinesiology program pushed so much for us to be hands-on and comfortable.”**

**- Johnathon Callum**

Michaelyn Ferrell



- A. **Outdoor Adventure** class students examine a knot tying technique. Students explored various outdoor activities throughout the semester like rock climbing. *Photo by Abby Blankenship*
- B. **Dr. Eubanks** discusses the intricacies of kayaking with a student. Students were able to learn and apply at the same time throughout the semester. *Photo by Madison Melcher.*
- C. **Virtual exercise** program is hosted through the leadership of kinesiology students. New ways were created to keep people in the community active. *Photo courtesy of Group Living Facebook*

**Classrooms  
received a face  
lift in order to  
provide safety.**



**O**ver the summer, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ouachita's classrooms received a social distancing makeover.

The university desired for its students to attend class on campus, so the Health and Monitoring Action Team, or HMAT, along with Academic Affairs, went to work in order to find a way to host students for on campus learning and living.

The Academic Affairs recruited Dr. Matt Douglas, Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, to determine each classroom's COVID capacity on campus.

"The first thing I did was go to each

classroom and pace out the seats so it would give enough room for students to maintain a six-foot distance while keeping the professors safe," said Douglas.

After surveying every classroom, a spreadsheet was created to determine how many students could fit in a room safely.

After the spreadsheet was made, the deans held a meeting with Douglas and Academic Affairs to discuss their plan of action.

There the team discussed the placements of each class and which classes had top priority. For Dr. Tim Knight and the School of Natural Science, figuring out a way to lecture and perform labs was one challenge they faced.



Photo by Hannah Smith

"When it comes to lectures, some classes have gone to different buildings which is good. However, labs were different. I got with my lab instructors and I had a plan, and I didn't get any resistance," said Dr. Knight.

**It's like one big sleep over, and that's how I feel about sharing the building."**  
**- Dr. Gary Gerber**

As the school year inched closer, progress was being made, not only in the School of Natural Sciences but also in the School of Fine Arts. Mabee was receiving its own transformation.

"Plexiglass dividers were installed in the band rooms and neoprene covers were bought for instruments," Dr. Gary Gerber, Dean of the School of Fine Arts, said.

Instead of beautiful melodies filling the empty hallways, the music building has become a place of

versatility.

"It's like one big sleep over, and that's how I feel about sharing the building. I want everyone to have enough space and have what they need," said Dr. Gerber.

The fall semester was unprecedented, but students expressed feelings of safety in the classroom because of new guidelines.

"Even with all the restrictions, I felt safe. I appreciate our professors and student body for making my freshman year such a positive atmosphere," said Sydni Watts, a freshmen middle school education major from Lindale, Texas.

"Being able to attend class in person shows how much faculty and staff love the students," Watts concluded.

Lydia Dean

**D**espite challenges and changes, the art and theater departments continued to create and perform throughout the year.

"During COVID-19, all of our productions were changed to be socially distanced and to wear masks," sophomore Wyatt Ashlock said, a theater arts and communications double major from Royse City, Texas. "With these changes we had to livestream shows since we closed our campus to visitors. I was able to head up the livestreaming process for the theater and actually won an award for live-streaming 'Hay Fever.' It definitely made things way more difficult, but I am grateful for the chance to learn the live-streaming process to be more versatile in my field."

The biggest challenges the art department faced was moving online last year. Being in person this year was a blessing to students to get to still take part in many projects alongside students.

"We can't have as many people in classes so our classes are smaller, we maintain social distancing so little things like typing on someone else's computer to help them, or passing around an artwork example aren't possible anymore," junior Tehya Hinkson said, studio art major from Benton. "It's the little things like that really remind me how big of an impact COVID-19 has had on us as a department but also us as a school. But even with all of these limitations, the art department has managed to make classes feel as normal as possible and I'm still learning as much as I can."

**"These classes let me interact with so many different artists and it has helped me realize just how different each person is creatively."**  
**- Tehya Hinkson**

While being a studio art major, Hinkson enjoyed the diversity that is provided in the types of classes offered. A wide range of classes are provided which include print making, ceramics, painting, typography, and much more.

"These classes let me interact with so many different artists and it has helped me realize just how different each person is creatively and how seeing others creative solutions can help inspire you to make your own," Hinkson said. "These trends of mutual inspiration has bled over into my day to day life as well. I see someone volunteering for a project and working hard and it makes me seek out ways I can do the same. And this mindset I owe to the many different opportunities and encouragements I have received from the art department and the people in it."

Senior graphic design major Brady Barton, from Russellville, also expressed this thankfulness for the art department. Being a senior, she was able to display her work for peers and family to see.

"My senior exhibit featured mostly design work that I've done over the past year and a half," Barton said. "I really love working on branding projects, so I was excited to get to display several of those for my peers to see. My favorite part was watching my friends as they discovered the personalized logos that I made for each of them; it was a complete surprise to them! The day after that, I invited faculty and staff who have been very important to my Ouachita experience to come see my show. It was so encouraging to see all of them come look at my work."

Gracen Goudy

**CRAFTSMANSHIP**

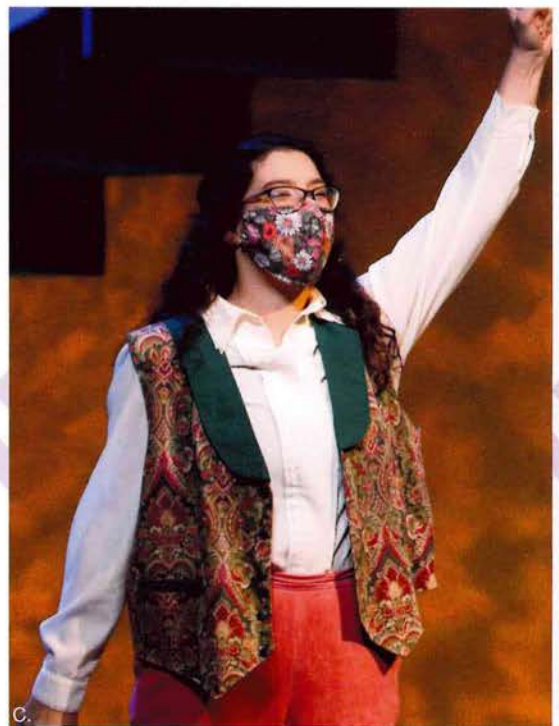
**Projects with a purpose**



A. **The cast rehearses for** their roles in "The Old Man and The Old Moon." The production was this year's Muse project and was put on entirely by students with Molly Kennedy as director. *Photo by Abby Blankenship*



B. **Saboot Esho** describes the inspiration for her art work at the Musical Art Gallery. Students posted their art on easels to present to their peers. *Photo by Callie Rogers*



C. **Emma Lawyer** performs on stage in the whimsical show, "Puffs." Lawyer was the narrator for the one act fall production. *Photo by Hannah Smith*



Jorie Beaumont sculpts in her ceramics class. She constructed a plate with 3D waves.  
 Photo by Abby Blankenship



MLK Painting



Gallery

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*

Danielle Hall, a senior musical theatre major from Prairie Grove, used her time on stage to jump into the world of fun and witty characters throughout the year. "It was difficult to put on the show during COVID times, but I think it really pushed us all as actors," Hall said. "We had to maintain social distancing and wearing masks. We couldn't convey certain actions that require closeness. We had to be flexible and learn how to act without using the lower half of our faces. It is a challenge when we are portraying larger than life characters. It made us work so much harder to convey the story, since we were deprived of some of our acting tools. My favorite part of 'Hay Fever,' where I played Judith, was the sheer ridiculousness of the characters. This comedy let me portray a hilarious character that was just being completely herself."

*As told to Emily Barton*





Opera



Live music



Josh Sutton plays his saxophone on the McBeth Recital Hall stage. Sutton performed in the SAI recital. Photo by Hannah Adamson

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



“Being involved in choir this year has been so different, it’s hard to feel like a unified group when everyone is all spaced out. Of course, singing with a mask took a lot of adjustment, but even after we got used to that everyone still felt isolated. But I so admire everyone’s attitude to adapt. Performing outside was honestly one of my favorite parts this year. It was certainly a challenge to sing well both outside and with mask, but all our concerts have been so much fun. It has been great to still have the opportunity to perform. From being involved in choir I have learned how to deepen community even when it is not the easiest to do. I have had to always be prepared and hold my own if the rest of my section was quarantined. Most importantly I learned to never take for granted the privilege of singing together,” said Kyleigh Stevens, a sophomore performance voice major from Hot Springs. As told to Emily Barton

# REFINEMENT

A remodel leads to fresh innovations

Ouachita's Division of Music within the School of Fine Arts worked to provide students with ample opportunities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The department had to change the way musical productions and performances were done which ended up being a positive change. Clara Taylor, a junior choral music education major from White Hall, explained many of the concerts have moved to outside venues.

"I really enjoy the outdoor concerts," Taylor said. "It has pushed them to be more creative and has been a really good experience."

Before COVID-19, students participated in Festival of Christmas in the fall and a spring musical, but this year the department put on four outdoor concerts throughout both semesters.

Craig Crawford, a junior saxophone performance major from Texarkana, Texas, explained that the outdoor concerts feel more organic and relaxed. The music division has given students the opportunity to try new things and take advantage of the unique opportunities COVID-19 has given them. The division has also taken advantage by teaming up with other departments during concerts.

"I'm hoping we make regular outdoor events for the OBU community to enjoy," Crawford said. "The percussion ensemble teamed up with the art department to do a crossover exhibition. It was incredibly fun, and I thought being outside added a lot to the effectiveness of the event."

Along with the outdoor concerts, the division also incorporated more livestream and digital options. Hannah Anderson, a senior musical theater major from Austin, Texas, described that many concerts have been recorded and posted on YouTube, which was not an option before the pandemic.

"Technology has opened up a lot of new possibilities for the department," Anderson said. "We have been livestreaming everything and figuring out ways to do things digitally. Combined with traditional methods going forward would be interesting to help the department grow."

The music division has continually worked hard to give students a hands-on learning experience through choirs, performances, ensembles, and outstanding professors.

"I have been given so many opportunities to perform and put myself out there," Taylor said. "I am very close to my professors; they are very helpful and admirable."

Although Ouachita's program is smaller than some universities in Arkansas, Hannah Anderson described that Ouachita has something very unique to offer.

"You get really solid quality musical training, but everyone also cares so much that they push you past your comfort zone," Anderson said. "Everyone makes sure you are truly learning and growing as an artist."

Aryana Gardner, a senior music industry major from Conway, explained the Ouachita music program is very helpful and being part of a choir has taught her many things throughout her four years.

"We have had to work a lot harder than usual and adapt," Gardner said. "My favorite thing about the music department is creating beautiful sounds with different people coming together as one."

**"You get really solid quality musical training, but everyone also cares so much that they push you past your comfort zone."**

**- Hannah Anderson**

Michaelyn Ferrell



- A. **Cloe Humphry** plays piano as she writes a song. Humphry arranged several songs throughout the semester in her class. Photo by Callie Rogers
- B. **Katie Bayer** plays in the Halloween piano recital. She dressed as a ghost in the spirit of the holiday. Photo by Hannah Adamson
- C. **Anna Holiman** sings during the Performing Arts Class. Holliman sang "With You" from the musical "Ghost." Photo by Hannah Adamson



In the School of Humanities, the Department of Language and Literature and the Rogers Department of Communications prepared students for a wide range of careers and a lifetime of learning. The School of Humanities consisted of languages and communications including English and Spanish majors as well as strategic communications, multimedia journalism, sports media, and many others. Communications was one of the largest majors at Ouachita, while English and Spanish majors continued to increase in number as students started to show more interest in the career fields.

Dr. Jeff Root, a communications professor since becoming part of the Ouachita faculty in 1991, has been Dean of the School of Humanities since 2002. What led Dr. Root to become a part of the Humanities department was his time at Ouachita.

"I studied communications, history, and education as an undergraduate at Ouachita, and I enjoy teaching and working with faculty," he said.

Dr. Root explained that some humanities classes that students are able to take include core courses such as Composition I and II, World Literature, and Fundamentals of Public Speaking.

"Hands-on learning experiences are the bread and butter of the school," Dr. Root said. "From the *Signal* newspaper, *Ouachitonian* yearbook and *Scope* on the print side, to sports productions to the newscasts, students learn their craft by gaining experience."

**"Understanding communication is essential for success in all occupations."**

**- Kara DeLaune**

Emily Koonce, a senior English and secondary education double major from Wylie, Texas, plans to teach English and language arts at the high school level and eventually earn her master's degree in English.

"I decided to major in English because it doesn't come easy to me," she said. "English was the only subject that I enjoyed, and I felt challenged me to grow as a writer and reader."

Matthew Branch, a junior communications major with an emphasis in sports media, from White Hall, wants to use his degree to go into the business of sports.

"My dream is to either be the broadcaster for a professional sports team or for a sports network like ESPN or Fox Sports and do national broadcasts," Branch said. "By taking humanities classes, I have grown by learning about who we are as people and how we can better communicate to work together."

Kara DeLaune, a senior Spanish and community and family services double major from Conway, believes that students should consider majoring within the school of humanities.

"The school of humanities provides students with the ability to take courses that will help them develop both personally and professionally," DeLaune said. "Understanding communication is essential for success in all occupations. Advanced skills in speaking, reading, and writing will not only aid in personal relationships, but in all areas of life."

Angela Webb

**PROACTIVE**

Applied learning leads to practical wisdom



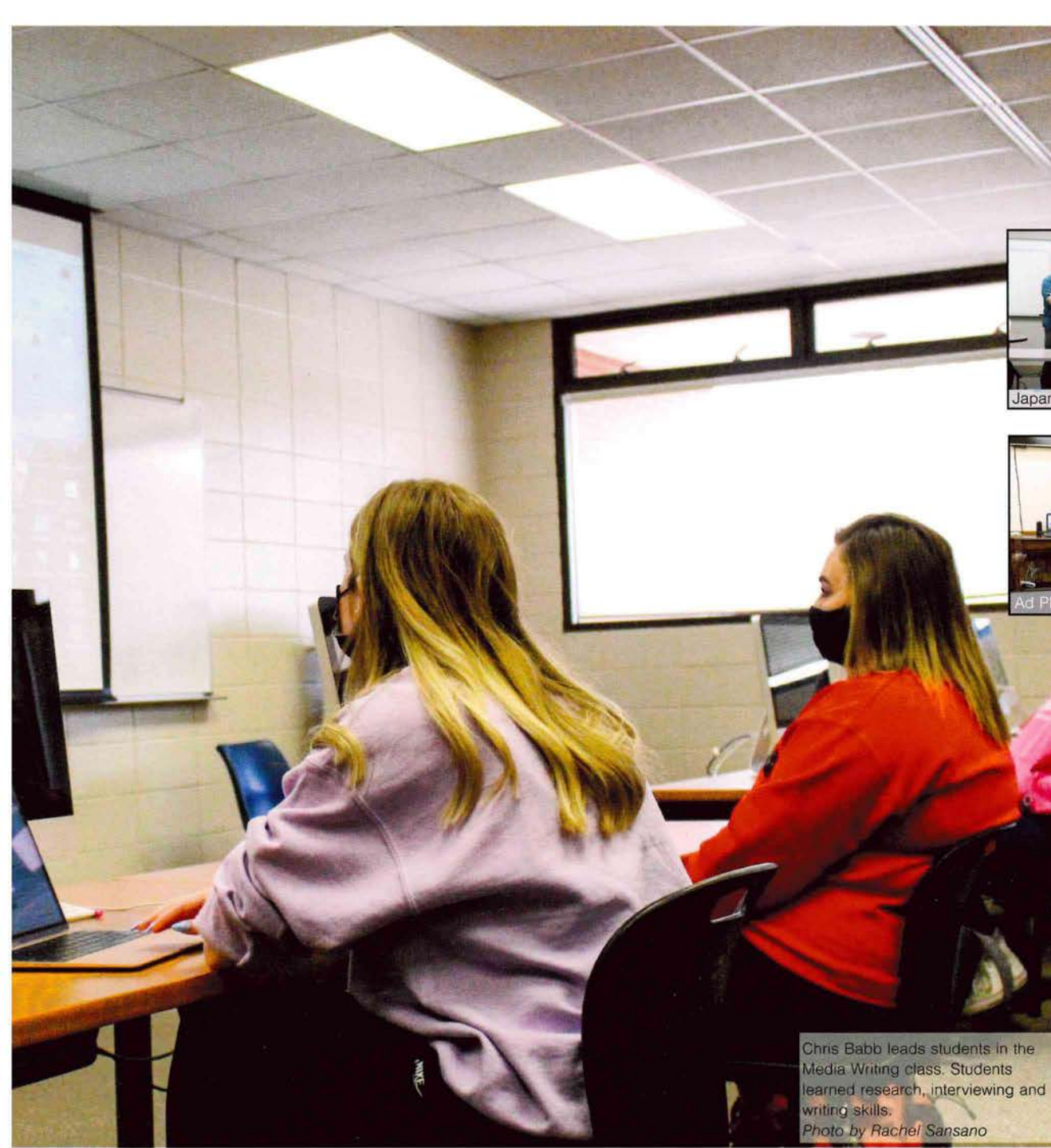
A. **Caity Hatchett** directs the production team at a swim meet. Hatchett worked on livestreams for all sports. *Photo by Levi Dade*



B. **Students discuss** poetry in Advanced Creative Writing. The class focused on the creative process behind their major works of fiction. *Photo by Levi Dade*

C. **Matthew Branch** interviews volleyball coach Allison Frizzell-Kizer between innings at the softball game. Branch served as video editor of the OSDN team. *Photo by Abby Blankenship*





Japanese



Ad PR Campaigns

Chris Babb leads students in the Media Writing class. Students learned research, interviewing and writing skills.  
Photo by Rachel Sansano

# FLEXIBILITY *on display*

“Our professor for Intro to Photography was Dr. Kluck who led the COVID task force on campus, so we knew our class would be run effectively while being safe. It was strange having a communications class in the choir room instead of a normal classroom, but it was a nice change of scenery. My favorite part of the class was going outside every Friday to practice taking pictures. It was a nice and refreshing way to leave the classroom environment and I could take in the fresh air. I enjoyed spending time outside with my fellow classmates. All of us were thankful we could be back on campus even amongst a global pandemic,” said Bates Yoakum, a senior communications major from Fayetteville.

*As told to Emily Barton*



## Ouachita reintroduces graduate studies with Applied Behavioral Analysis

**W**orking against the shortage of trained Board-Certified Behavior Analysts in the nation, Ouachita decided to offer the first full master's degree in Applied Behavior Analysis in the state of Arkansas.

Sheila K. Barnes is the Director of the ABA Program and within the program are multiple previous Ouachita students.

One of these students is Ouachita graduate Sadie Prejean from Russellville, who would describe the program so far as "learning together."

"My time in the ABA program has been a learning experience," Prejean said. "We are all learning together, students and faculty. Being in the first cohort means diving into more unknown than just graduate school. We are working as a team to learn how to multitask school and life and work. Working as a team to understand difficult concepts. Working as a team to communicate expectations."

The budding program was divided into coursework and fieldwork. The coursework was online consisting of online modules and Zoom classes. For Prejean, her fieldwork was working at Pediatrics Plus and getting all hands-on learning there. For these fieldwork courses, students get to apply what they learn in class by doing research projects and taking data in a clinical setting like they would as BCBAs.

"I find myself comparing it to my undergrad studies at Ouachita quite frequently," Prejean said. "It seems so weird to be a Ouachita student without being at Ouachita, considering the homey community experience that you get from physically being on, and submerged into, campus. As far as academically, hands are still outstretched for help when you need it and expectations and support for success are still present. There is still a sense of pride that comes with being a Tiger."

Another Ouachita graduate, Bethany Long, praises Ouachita for launching this program amidst a pandemic.

"It's honoring to be in the first cohort of this program ever, and it's also a lot of trial and error on both sides with trying to figure out logistics and everything," Long said. "Everything is online, but Dr. Barnes is good about being available to video chat with us as well as required weekly classes on Monday nights, and it's so nice being able to know that help is there. The program partners with other ABA programs to make sure you get the in-person instruction you need."


Libby Thompson, who is another Ouachita graduate also in the program, is paired with a clinic called AIM: Autism in Motion, where she gains her fieldwork experience hours for class.

"It's a great opportunity because I am working at an ABA Autism clinic as a Registered Behavior Technician and it counts for school," Thompson said.

"There has not been any difficulty for me. I just go to work full-time (to get my hours) and then come home and do my homework on nights and weekends. The Zoom calls for class materials are great and Dr. Barnes is very helpful and brilliant when it comes to her knowledge of Applied Behavior Analysis."

Ouachita Baptist halted grad study programs in the early 1990s, but with the recent emergence of the ABA Program, additional graduate programs are being developed.

Gracen Goudy



Ouachita partners with Pediatrics Plus to deliver behavior analysis programs.  
Photo by Brooke Zimny





Trey Nichols studies the brain's structure. Nichols dissected a sheep eye and brain in his lab.  
Photo by Meagan North

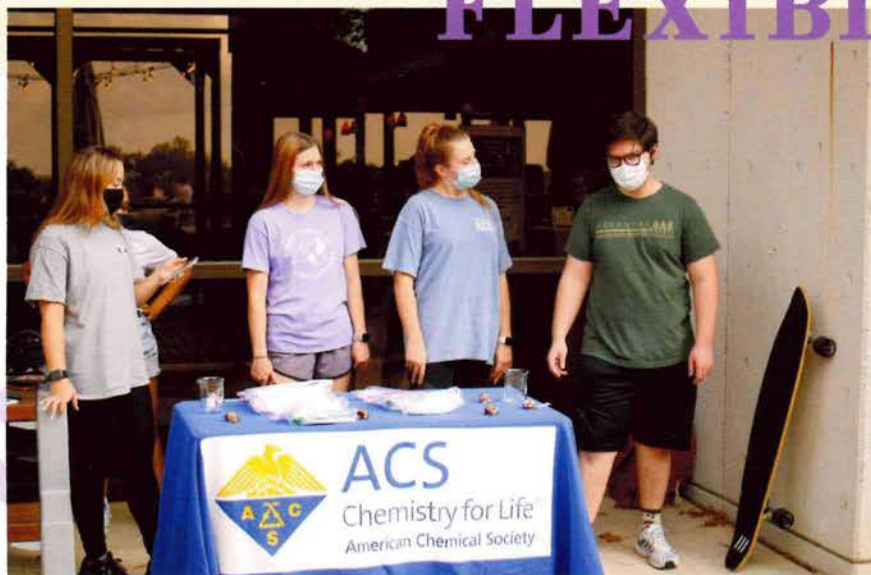


Sarah Rountree/CMDS



Nutrition Month

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



The American Chemical Society exhibited extraordinary flexibility in how they were able to pivot while planning events throughout the semester, Harry Jeffrey, a junior chemistry major from Conway, said. He served as the OBU chapter's vice president. "For National Chemistry Week, we had to adapt from our usual demonstrations. We assembled the demos into bags and passed them out along with a link on how the science behind it made it work. My favorite part this year was working so closely together with fellow officers and sponsors to show the student body how awesome chemistry is. When we could not host a live Women in STEM event due to COVID-19, we adapted and got to work on a Zoom conference. ACS banded together to make the most out of this very different year." As told to Emily Barton

# POSSIBILITIES

Making the most of every opportunity

The Patterson School of Natural Sciences was one of the largest schools on campus, serving as a home to eight different majors: biology, chemistry, physics, math and computer science, dietetics, communication sciences and disorders, and nursing. The school focused not only on in-class instruction, but experiences that gave a more well-rounded education.

Dr. Tim Knight served as dean of the school and played an active role in Ouachita's summer research program. This program, which has been completed by over 300 students, was first funded by an endowment donated by an alumnus which allowed students to stay on campus for eight weeks in the summer to research and learn alongside their professors.

"It is a phenomenal program that helps students figure out what they really enjoy doing," Dr. Knight said. "It's really been one of the key ingredients of our success."

The school had to make several adjustments to accommodate for COVID-19 within the context of their more hands-on learning experiences, such as labs. Some professors took on overseeing two classrooms at once in order to allow all students to take the classes they needed while also keeping everyone safe.

"My folks have really stepped up and gone above and beyond the norm to help accommodate students," Dr. Knight explained. "They've gone the extra mile without complaining and have done a great job."

Even aside from these restrictions, professors in the school made an active effort to get to know each of their students on a personal level and invested in them like any other year.

Kallen Smith, a sophomore biology major from Jonesboro, liked how the professors in every science major did a good job of making sure he, not only learned the material but, was able to apply it. In his opinion, the professors helped make the program one of the best in the state.

"They do a good job of seeking out every single student and want to see everyone succeed, not just a percentage," Smith said. "The professors really know who I am outside of class."

Ouachita's dietetics major expanded this year when the school added a dietetic internship program that students can apply for after graduation.

Madeline Steely, a senior dietetics major from Conway, enjoyed the opportunities she's had in the department to take what she learned in classes out into the field. Steely was able to see what it takes to run an operation efficiently through volunteer service and saw what clinical dietitians are responsible for at Baptist Hospital, and also had a chance to help in an educational nutrition fair for kids.

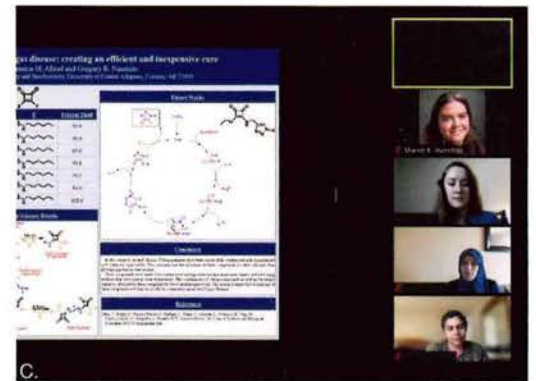
"I would say that the dietetics major provided students with many different experience opportunities," Steely explained. "These are great not only for boosting our resumes, but also provide us with insight of what it is like to work in the different areas of our field."

Whether cleaning out the ravine, teaching children in school about their majors, or hosting campus events such as Chemistry Week or a Student Dietetic Association chocolate-covered strawberry fundraiser, the School of Natural Sciences had a very active presence both on campus and in the community. Students faced difficult classes in a new environment and worked with professors to create a safe space for learning.

**"I would say that the dietetics major provided students with many different experience opportunities."**

**- Madeline Steely**

Anna Rousel



A. **Students cook** vegetables in their Nutrition and Dietetics food lab. The class learned how food reacted to different elements. *Photo by Abby Blankenship*

B. **Amy Eubanks leads** her students through their Anatomy Lab. Students were given a cat to dissect and were quizzed throughout the year. *Photo by Meagan North*

C. **Dr. Sharon Hamilton hosts** the Women in STEM Conference over Zoom. The department was the first to hold a Female STEM conference in Arkansas. *Photo courtesy of obu.edu*

**T**he nursing program at Ouachita Baptist was fairly new as it launched in the fall of 2019. Although the first full year was cut short due to COVID-19, this school year, despite the circumstances, was successful for the nursing program.

After two years at Ouachita, nursing students complete the clinical portion of the degree through Baptist Health in Little Rock. Transitioning to online learning at Baptist Health due to COVID-19 effected nursing students differently. Some were able to adapt quicker under the conditions, whereas other students faced challenges.

"Honestly, at first I struggled with learning online, but as time has gone on, I have learned how to better study under the certain circumstances," said Madi Esch, a junior nursing major from Benton.

Prior to the clinical portion of the program at Baptist Health, the nursing program taught their students in the classroom with more hands-on practical learning, but because of COVID-19, nursing students endured several obstacles this school year.

"I had to overcome test anxiety, learning online, dealing with COVID-19, and having to wear a mask, and having to wear a mask when talking face-to-face is extremely difficult and tiring," said Esch.

Even though COVID-19 brought some challenges, overall it did not affect the teaching of nursing classes by faculty.

"Nurses are flexible and COVID-19 brought out the best in the nursing faculty to ensure that teaching, learning, and advising continued in quality manner," said Dr. Brenda Trigg, the nursing program director.

Although adversities took place this academic year, the program continued to grow and left the department excited for what is to come.

"With a shortage in the nursing profession, we are excited and proud to educate quality professional future nurses," said Trigg.

Amidst the trials and circumstances COVID-19 brought to this program, nursing students still felt extremely prepared to continue their program at Baptist Health.

"After leaving Ouachita, professors would come visit Baptist Health and help us retain information," said Bethany Colbert, a junior nursing major from Jonesboro. "The program gave me a great education in all background knowledge I needed for nursing school," said Colbert.

One thing that set Ouachita's nursing program apart from other schools is the smaller class sizes during the students' first two years on campus.

"I love that the classrooms are smaller than most schools because we get to work all together," said Martha Kay Freeman, a senior nursing major from Freeport, Florida.

Ouachita offered an intimate and faith-based education that is too hard to pass up, according to the students. With smaller class sizes, it was easier to connect with professors and faculty on a personal level.

Whether it is the materials learned, or accomplishments made amidst the circumstances of COVID-19, Ouachita's nursing students were ready for whatever came their way.

Lucie Shepherd

**"The program gave me a great education in all background knowledge I needed for nursing school."**

**- Bethany Colbert**

# PURSUIT

Ready for twists and turns through every trial



A. **Madi Esch** and Dr. McKeever work their shift of administering vaccines. Nursing students helped vaccinate people in the community at several different clinics.

*Photo courtesy of Facebook*



B. **Dr. Rebecca Parnell** teaches fundamental nursing skills. Parnell served as associate professor of nursing. *Photo by Hannah Adamson*



C. **Gio Chavarri** washes his hands. Chavarri learned the importance of proper hand washing for hands-on learning activities. *Photo by Hannah Adamson*





Maci Hill puts on surgical wear. Hill was practicing sanitation rules for a class. Photo by Hannah Adamson

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*

"I think one of the biggest challenges nursing students overcame was finding ways to serve and care for people among all the restrictions. We all share a desire to serve and love on people. Thankfully, we were able to have a few opportunities to serve within the community. We found creative ways to think outside of our normal box to figure out how to best serve others," said Bay Novak a junior nursing major from Caldwell, Texas. Novak discussed how her professors were a huge encourager for her to get through the challenges of learning in a pandemic. "All three of our professors are very involved in preparing us to become great nurses. They exhibit such joy of teaching, and because of them I feel prepared to one day become a nurse. I have had to adjust to e-learning and attending Nurses' Day online. We discussed how to become involved in the political arena for nursing issues."

*As told to Emily Barton*







Sarah Freeze actively takes notes in History of World Societies. The course was part of the CORE requirements.  
*Photo by Madison Melcher*

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



"Scientific Inquiry had a lot of hands-on learning where we had to get in groups, answer questions and complete assignments. Engaging with the other classmates helped me stay active in class. My focus for being flexible helped me work through the pandemic," said Tanner Shipman, a junior business administration and marketing major from Little Rock. He was successful by getting rid of distractions. "I found it hard to study sometimes, but I put away distractions, such as phones, TV and other things. This helped me to engage in my studies better. My professors have been extremely helpful throughout the pandemic. They are understandable when something happened and I couldn't make it to class. As well as helping us all stay on track. Class dynamics have changed a lot. It's weird having to social distance, but it helped limit distractions in class, making us better students."  
*As told by Emily Barton*

# DIVERSE

Liberal Arts provide a medley of wisdom

From its initial founding, Ouachita offered a liberal arts education. The school's ability to offer a vast variety of core classes allowed Ouachita to provide exclusive skills and forms of study to students who may never have encountered this opportunity otherwise. The School of Interdisciplinary Studies web page states, "At Ouachita, we recognize that in the world God created all of these areas are interconnected. While we separate them to create major fields of study, we also emphasize through Ouachita's CORE program that we have something to learn from each one and from connections among them."

Alongside the school's dedication to the liberal arts courses was the dedication of the faculty to present such material in an engaging and active way. Dr. Rebecca Jones, Program Administrator of the Oral Communications Program, mentioned that her time teaching public speaking has been some of her most fulfilling work, allowing her to interact with a diverse group of students. Dr. Jones also spoke on the importance of such curriculum.

"I love the way it brings understanding to a lot of different things and different subjects, disciplined deeper in some areas that are really interesting," she said.

Not only was the university faculty adamant about diverse education, but so were the students. Sophomore physics and mathematics major from Benton, Kinley Ritter, found that Interdisciplinary Studies courses gave her the opportunity to meet professors that she was able to go to for advice about potential majors.

As well, junior communications major Erica Wilmath from Hot Springs, stated that her Fine Arts Theatre course may not influence the career path that the Lord leads her down after college, however, she gained a new appreciation and understanding for what this industry is.

Wilmath also said, "I have learned to think differently than I may have ever done if it hadn't been for this class that Ouachita offers. I think that it is beneficial to your character."

In regard to the COVID-19 semester, forming new communities and relationships became difficult for students because of social restrictions.

Junior nutrition and dietetics major Abigail Morris from Conway, stated that she was grateful for her current courses. Morris said that she made new friends in her World Lit class that she may have never crossed paths with due to conflicting majors on top of COVID-19. Many of Ouachita's liberal arts courses have allowed many diverse students to build strong relationships on top of furthering their educational experiences.

**"I have learned to think differently than I may have ever done if it hadn't been for this class that Ouachita offers."**

**- Erica Wilmath**

Katie Moore



A. **Students read** for History of World Societies. Students gained an understanding of the use of primary and secondary material in their studies. *Photo by Madison Melcher*

B. **Students concentrate** on the lecture in Scientific Inquiry. This science class held active discussions and gave students hands-on learning. *Photo by Hannah Adamson*

C. **Group discussion** is how students connect in World Literature. The class was held in Walker, and dividing in small groups helped in analyzing the readings. *Photo by Madison Melcher*

The Sutton School of Social Sciences emphasized hands-on learning which allowed the students to gain real world experience.

Hannah Webber, a public history major from Longview, Texas, discussed how the department has inspired her passion to connect with people.

"The history department encouraged discussion; I have gotten a lot more comfortable with how I present myself to people. I like to say I major in museums and I am hoping to be able to connect with people sharing pieces of history," Webber said.

A visit to a World War I museum was beneficial for Webber. "It shined a light on the humanitarian aspect of history," Webber said.

The school has a wide variety of disciplines including political science, psychology, sociology, history, and social justice.

Social justice students expanded their knowledge and influence on the community volunteering with numerous nonprofit organizations.

"My career path changed since going through the program, because I learned my passion is less in the legal process and more in the sociological relations. I want to use my social justice degree to start up my own nonprofit," Jared Wainright said, a junior double major in psychology and social justice from El Dorado.

**"My Social Science degree gave me a new lens and taught me how to look for the need in a community while building on my empathy."**

**- Jared Wainright**

Psychology students got hands on learning from shadowing in classrooms for human development as well as getting to curate a research study in Research Methods.

"My hands-on experience grant writing directly helped the local enrichment center," Wainright said.

Dr. Myra Houser was an assistant professor in history and coordinator of the social justice program. Her role helped students learn how to grow their passions into actively seeking positive change.

"Within the classroom students held important discussions on topics related to humanity and growing their interpersonal skills preparing them for professional relationships," Dr. Houser said.

The pandemic made students expand their ways of connecting to people and many students had to overcome the cancellation of internships. However, practical opportunities were provided.

"Being in model UN has given me experience in approaching political issues. It facilitates compromise. I learned how difficult legislating is and it gave me a stronger belief in large institutions," Spencer Worth said, a senior political science major from Little Rock.

Worth discussed how he felt his degree prepared him for a future in international security working in government.

"Political science is a broad sweeping major that can be applied in all areas where people have the opportunity to pursue interest in the organization of structures. Gaining experience in social interactions is the biggest contributor social science offers," Worth said.

Social Science is rooted in addressing systemic issues while holding positive outlooks. This important challenge prepares students for the real world.

"My social science degree gave me a new lens and taught me how to look for the need in a community while building on my empathy," Wainright said.

Emily Barton

# INTELLECT

Classrooms with growth orientation



A. **Students lead** discussion facilitation in Revolutionary Europe. The class learned about the economic and social factors of European culture. *Photo by Mikaela Monahan*



B. **Digging into** archives, students gain valuable experience with real artifacts. Dr. Lisa Speer showed how to properly care and handle the valuable pieces of history. *Photo courtesy of Social Science Facebook*



C. **Pietra Gois Camargo** attends a panel discussion prior to the November election. Students attended the panel, led by Dr. Lewis Shepherd, as a way to learn more about civic engagement. *Photo by Sarah Dean*



Dr. Mott



Electron path...

Students in Research Methods work all year on building their own study. Research was a focus of all disciplines within the social sciences. Photo by Levi Dade

# FLEXIBILITY *on display*

"The history department, students and professors alike have had to explore and learn new realms of technology during this past year in order to keep up with everything changing so rapidly," said Hannah Webber, who is photographed in her American Women class. "We had to incorporate a mixture of meeting on Zoom and in person to make sure everyone stayed a part of the important conversations and discussions. Professors maintained office hours with safety protocols to ensure their students felt supported. Discussions remained as lively as ever, sometimes even having to yell a little to be heard through our mask. In American Women class we discussed the progress and evolution of women's standing in America. It pushed us to actively evolve ourselves while trying to make sense of an ever-changing world."

*As told by Emily Barton*



## A presentation of *Gianni Schicchi*, on disc

**W**hen students were sent home in March due to the coronavirus pandemic, the opera was already chosen, cast and being prepped for the upcoming semester. The students were to perform, *Gianni Schicchi*, "one of the classics that the community of opera knows and loves to this day," said Logan Dooley, a senior musical theatre major from Texarkana, Texas, and lead actor playing Gianni Schicchi.

Due to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 guidelines, like social distancing and wearing masks, the opera had to find a new way to present the *Gianni Schicchi* production. The solution was to film, record and create an opera documentary with a full production video, behind the scenes look and interviews with the cast and crew. This type of production had never been done before at Ouachita and was definitely a challenge for both the directors and students.

"With our new plan, students were to come back to campus in the fall as prepared as possible, so we could move quickly through the music and begin recording," said Dr. Joshua Brown, music director of *Gianni Schicchi*. "The only issue was that this is a 180-page-opera and the Arkansas Department of Health singing guidelines said we can only sing for 30-minute stretches in a particular area. So, we created these schedules where we would start in the dance studio singing, then move to the recital hall to sing and then go back to the dance studio to sing and back and forth to have rehearsals."

After the musical prep-work was completed, another schedule was created for recording performances with the instruments and borrowed-recording equipment, in which the singers only had time for two recording cuts of each chunk of the show.

"At first, we recorded about half the scenes with the piano, organ and percussion without the singers," Brown said. "Then the singers were able to listen and record themselves over the tracks of the instruments. The phases were, tracks, tracks and live singers and finally singers performing over the piano and organ."

The next portion of the documentary process was to block and record the visual part of the show. All aspects of the acting portion were recorded and performed in singers masks while students lip sang to their previous recordings.

"Wearing masks can distort sound and has made breathing correctly more challenging for all of us," said Melodie DuBose, a senior musical theatre major from Conroe, Texas, and female lead, Laurette. "I have also found it more difficult to play infatuated lovers while always staying six feet apart."

In addition to this difficulty, opera director John Briggs was teaching remotely throughout the entire semester.

"He remotely blocked the whole show and it was crazy," said Brown. "He had someone conduct a Zoom session while one student held a camera from one angle and the Mo-flex from another angle, allowing him to see everything. "It definitely was a challenge artistically, but it worked."

At the beginning of 2021, the documentary film was completed and released to students, staff and community through online video and blu-ray discs. In the film, the performers answered interview questions as well as offered the option to watch the entire production of *Gianni Schicchi*. With those options, the audience had the opportunity to pick and choose what they wanted to watch.

"This process pushed us beyond the norm and forced us to grow; and our students were benefitted by that," said Brown. "In terms of Ouachita, this has opened the possibilities to continue doing our productions in this way. Who knows what kind of creative abilities this may give us for the future, but we have certainly made the most of this season."

Even in the midst of a global pandemic, Dooley said, "Ouachita will still reach the expectations of an amazing school of music and an amazing expression of art."

Madison Cresswell

Photo by Abby Blankenship



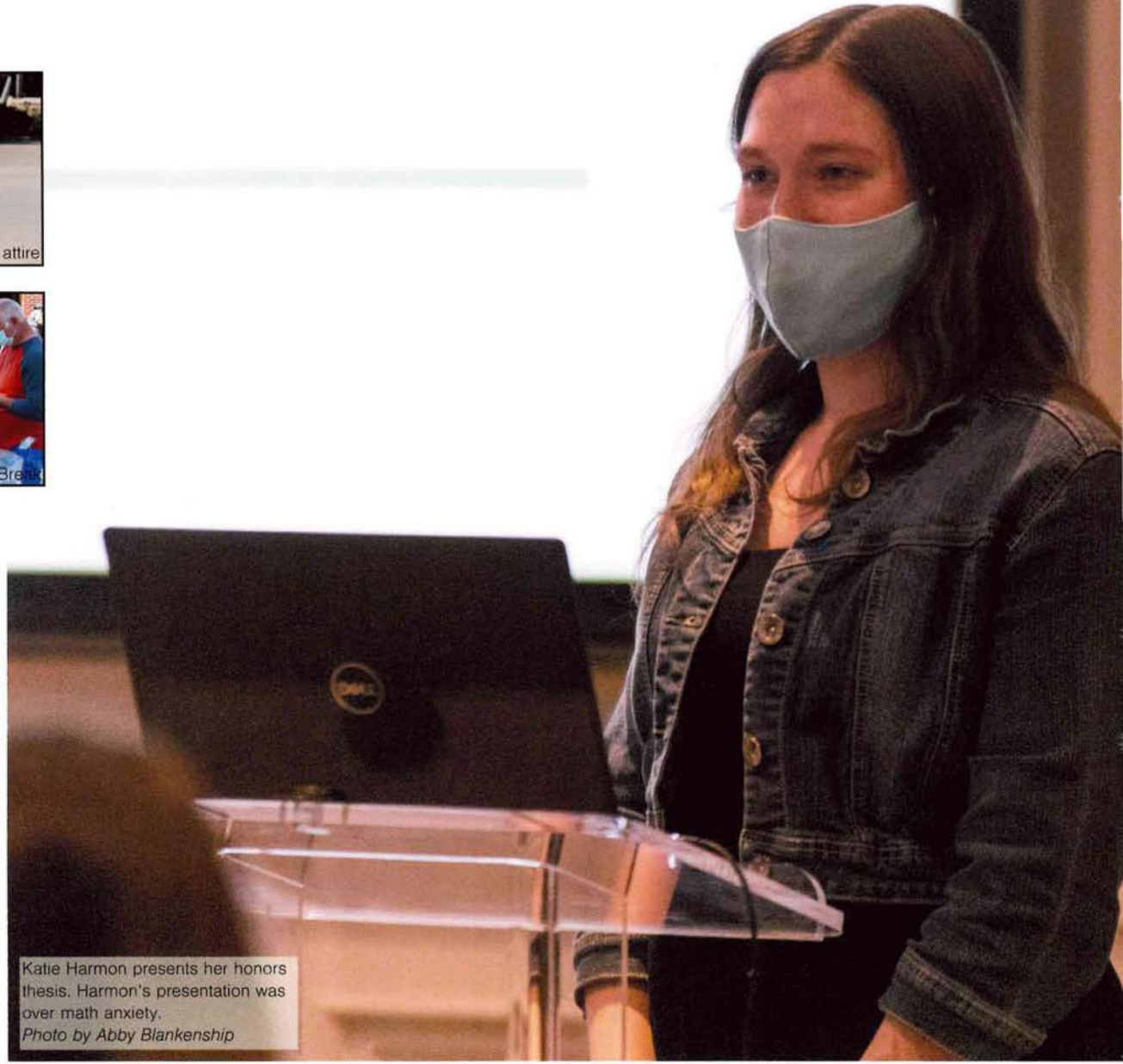




Professional attire



Lunch Break



Katie Harmon presents her honors thesis. Harmon's presentation was over math anxiety.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

## FLEXIBILITY *on display*



"The honors program has always been about connecting and learning with others, especially with people inside and outside of our own discipline. COVID-19 put a strain on how much connecting we could do at first, but I'm grateful for how Dr. Pemberton, the members, the officers and ambassadors rose to the challenge. In the fall, lots of ambassadors got creative with honor events, whether it was through Zoom calls, letters of encouragement, or simply having intentional conversations with the new members. I'm impressed with all the honors students, it's been a tough year, but we've pushed through and have come up with amazing thesis topics. If you attended Scholars Day, you know how much effort went into those presentations. I am so grateful to be apart of this amazing program and learn from even more amazing students," said Cora Saddler, a junior English major from Cabot.  
*As told to Emily Barton*

# DISPLAY

Presenting powerful research

**D**uring this unprecedented school year during COVID-19, changes were made to all of the annual activities that usually happen during the normal school year. Scholars Day was no exception. Last year, Scholars Day was moved online, and all seniors and juniors presented their presentations on Zoom. This year, the presentations were able to happen in person with small changes to accommodate COVID-19 guidelines. There was a limit of how many people could be inside during the presentations and some were even moved outside to allow for more people to attend.

Seniors in the Honors Program presented their thesis project during Scholars Day.

Scarlett Castleberry, a senior psychology and communications double major from Bryant, presented her Honors thesis on an examination of creation myths across multiple time periods and cultures.

"It was great getting to study something of my own choice and it really encouraged me to learn the process better than I likely would have otherwise," said Castleberry.

She began working on her project at the beginning of the spring semester, spending up to two hours a day reading, researching and writing.

Caity Hatchett, a senior history and communications double major from Shreveport, La., used Scholars Day as a way to channel her academic and presentation skills.

"I'm grateful to have been a part of the Honors program and to have been able to be part of this event for two years, and I couldn't imagine my Ouachita experience without Scholars Day. It's just a really fun experience that brings the campus community together," said Hatchett.

Scholars Day provided opportunities for students to gain knowledge from professors and work with them on their research and performance skills. Will Guerra, a senior finance and political science double major from Benton, worked alongside Dr. Chris Brune to present his project.

"I worked with Dr. Brune and the two other presenters for probably a few hours so we'd be prepared for the presentation. We came up with the panel format and then worked through some of the questions we knew we'd be asking," said Guerra.

While Scholars Day had minor changes this year, it still allowed students across disciplines an opportunity to display their hard work and accomplishments.

**"It was great getting to study something of my own choice and it really encouraged me to learn the process better."  
- Scarlett Castleberry**



A. **Natural science** students prepare for their poster presentations. These students presented their summer research findings in JPAC. *Photo from Facebook*

B. **Elizabeth Ring** and Sara Kate Cole play sisters in their theatre performance. They performed on the Verser stage. *Photo by Levi Dade*

C. **Students gather** on the lawn in the plaza area. Students ate lunch outside on Scholars Day to celebrate the beautiful spring weather. *Photo by Levi Dade*



**Online learning  
offers freedom  
and flexibility**



**T**he pandemic made many colleges and universities turn to online means of learning. Luckily, Ouachita was ahead of the game with its online program already in place. Ouachita Online was a nationally-accredited program that offered four different majors for students to pursue anywhere they were located.

Sophomore John Guttery, a Christian studies major from Benton, Ark., chose to be a part of the program due to the availability, and it had the major he wanted. Many non-traditional students not only had jobs, but families they had to support.

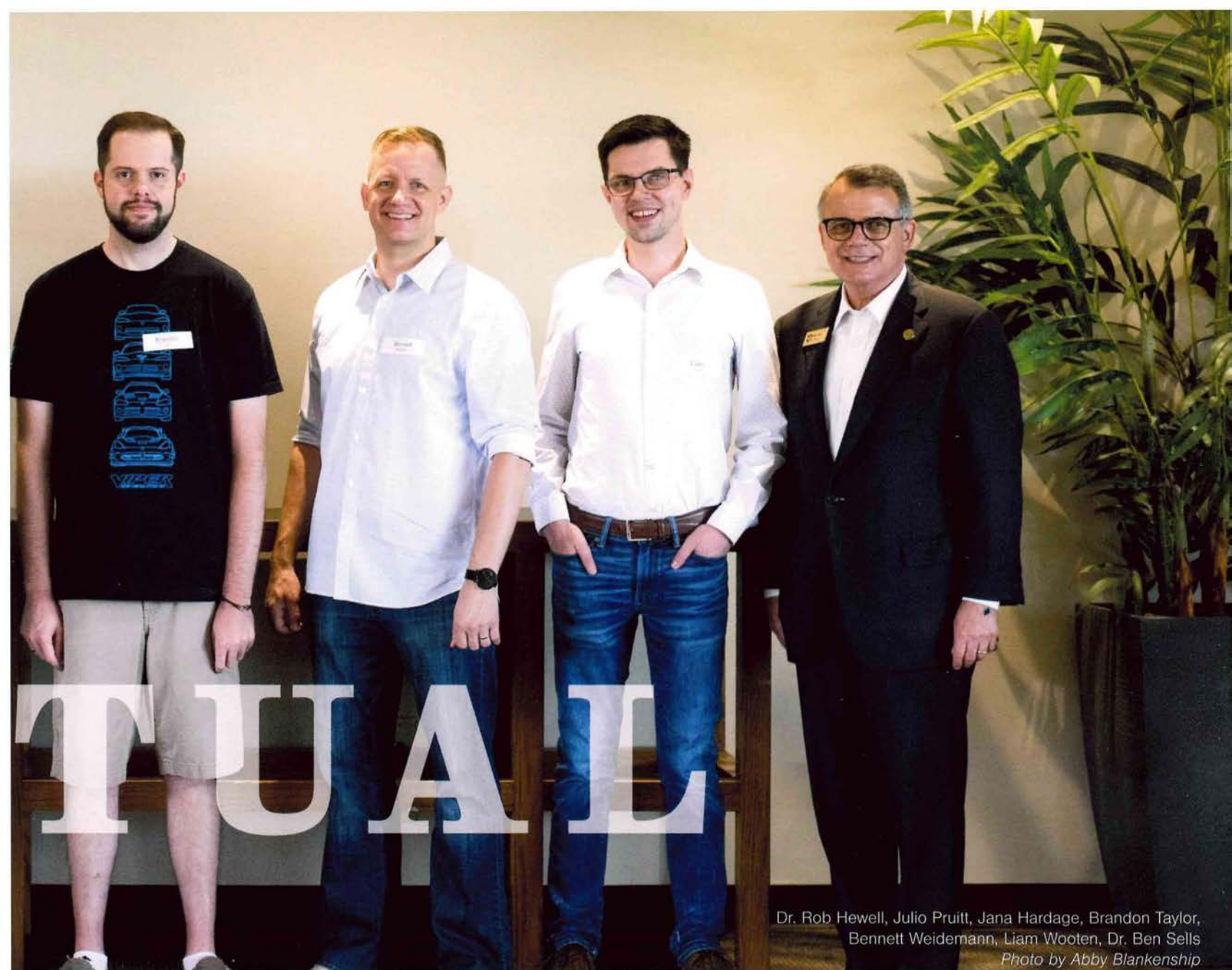
"Working full time, as well as being a full-time husband and father, the program enabled me to seek a degree in a field dear

to me. The online format is simple and easy to understand, while providing the content to learn," Guttery said.

Another online student, Bennett Weidemann, from Arkadelphia, Ark., was a student at Ouachita and obtained his first degree in person. He knows what it's like to be an online student, but also that traditional in-person learning. The program allowed him to come back and be a Tiger again through different means.

"I love this program. It really creates opportunities not otherwise possible for people like myself. It has been challenging, fun, frustrating, exhilarating, and unique. I was able to be a Tiger twice, as a 20-year old and as a 40-year old," Weidmann said.

Weidmann also acknowledged the



Dr. Rob Hewell, Julio Pruitt, Jana Hardage, Brandon Taylor, Bennett Weidemann, Liam Wooten, Dr. Ben Sells  
 Photo by Abby Blankenship

importance of getting a college education in order for him to progress within the workforce. Online learning allows for the student to be able to gain their degree while also still working around their schedule.

“As an almost 20-year active duty United States Air Force service member, continuing my education is vital

**“This is new for all of us, but we push each other every day to get better despite the circumstances.”**  
 - Dawson Goodwin

to my career progression. OBU has allowed me to meet this requirement seamlessly with my busy nonstop career and life,” Weidemann said.

Suzette Handwork, an online nursing major from Benton, Ark., greatly appreciated the online program’s ability to work around and through her schedule. She currently is working in a hospital but knew that in order for her to advance in her career, she needed to further her education.

“My favorite aspect of being online is flexibility. I am able to work full-time and carry full-time hours in college. I can work ahead if I need to or spread my learning out over the entire week. Online classes help to foster the work-life balance that nurses seek,” Handwork said.

The day before spring commencement, Ouachita Online hosted a luncheon for the graduates who came to campus to participate in the graduation ceremony.

“They really enjoyed getting to meet online classmates in person,” said Dr. Rob Hewell, director of Online Learning Initiatives. “They appreciated Dr. Sells being present, and several of them who had Mr. Ellis Leagans for Elementary Spanish 1 & 2 were delighted to get to meet him in person. It was a privilege for our Ouachita Online Staff - Marla Rigsby, Sara West, and myself - to host the event.”

Meredith Medford

## International students battle uncertainty amidst global pandemic

**D**uring a time of uncertainty, Ouachita's international students were faced with many problems when COVID-19 hit March of 2020. Some struggled to find ways to return home and others a place to stay. However, Ouachita kept its doors open and provided a home as students sorted out their living situations.

For Gwyneth Hadasa, a junior nutrition and dietetics major from Indonesia, traveling home during a global pandemic was the greatest worry on her plate.

"I was too scared to go on a plane because my plane ride would be 24 hours," she said. "I was also scared that I could not come back here, because of travel restrictions, so I didn't really want to risk it, and decided to stay put here in America over the summer."

Hadasa was not the only student worried about traveling home during the pandemic. Vanessa Vives, a sophomore elementary education major from Bogota, Colombia, also had to find somewhere to stay other than home.

"A very generous and loving family from Memphis received me and two other international friends," she said. "Some days were very hard, but being together with two other international friends was very encouraging. Our faith was strengthened and we grew closer to the Lord. It was also really sweet because we got to make fun memories through it all – we baked, we painted, and we laughed."

There was no way of knowing when COVID was going to come to an end so many students had to find ways around their travel restrictions administered by their home country, and also had to find ways to get into the states. Isabella Bejarano, a freshman elementary education major from Bogota, Colombia, faced those problems as she struggled to return to school in August of 2020.

"I had my visa and passport appointments scheduled over the summer, but just as they were coming up, stricter lock downs and curfews were applied, and my appointments were canceled," Bejarano said.

However, Ouachita's policy for check-in was very flexible for those students who faced difficulties getting into the United States.

"When I finally released my expectations, miraculously, I got new appointments scheduled and my processes were expedited," she said. "In the span of two weeks, I had to pack my bags, and say goodbye to everyone."

João Rodrigues, a senior, finance major from Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, faced similar problems to Bejarano.

"I was supposed to be gone for three months that ended up being 10 because of the U.S. travel restrictions," Rodrigues said. "It was complicated to understand and work around travel guidelines that were often changing or inconsistent."

Despite the fact that many of the international students were unable to return home, many of them made the most out of their situations. Kelsey Bester, a sophomore biology and communications major from South Africa, had a memorable summer.

"I stayed in the Starlite apartments with a roommate, but the third month was where the real fun began," Bester said. "My dad and I decided that I should use my time as best I could while having the opportunity to be in the states, so I went on the road trip of a lifetime. Over those 30 days, I explored Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Virginia, Washington, and Tennessee. I had the best time ever and I'm so grateful I got to do that."

Meredith Medford

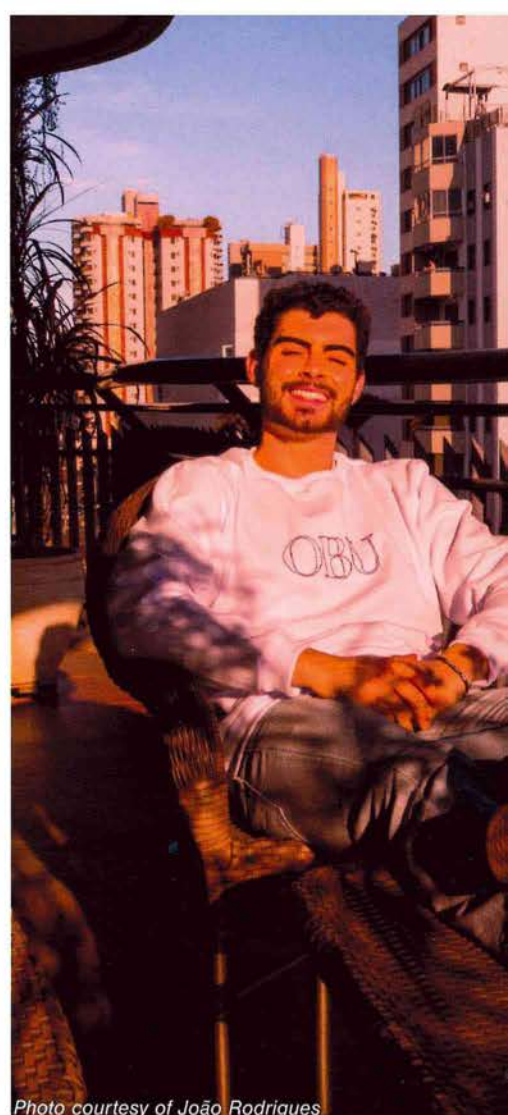


Photo courtesy of João Rodrigues



Photo courtesy of Sabaoot Esho (also pictured is Gwyneth Hasada)



Photo by Vanessa Vives (Also pictured is Pietra Gols Camargo and Maria Urbina with Keren Fernandez on FaceTime)

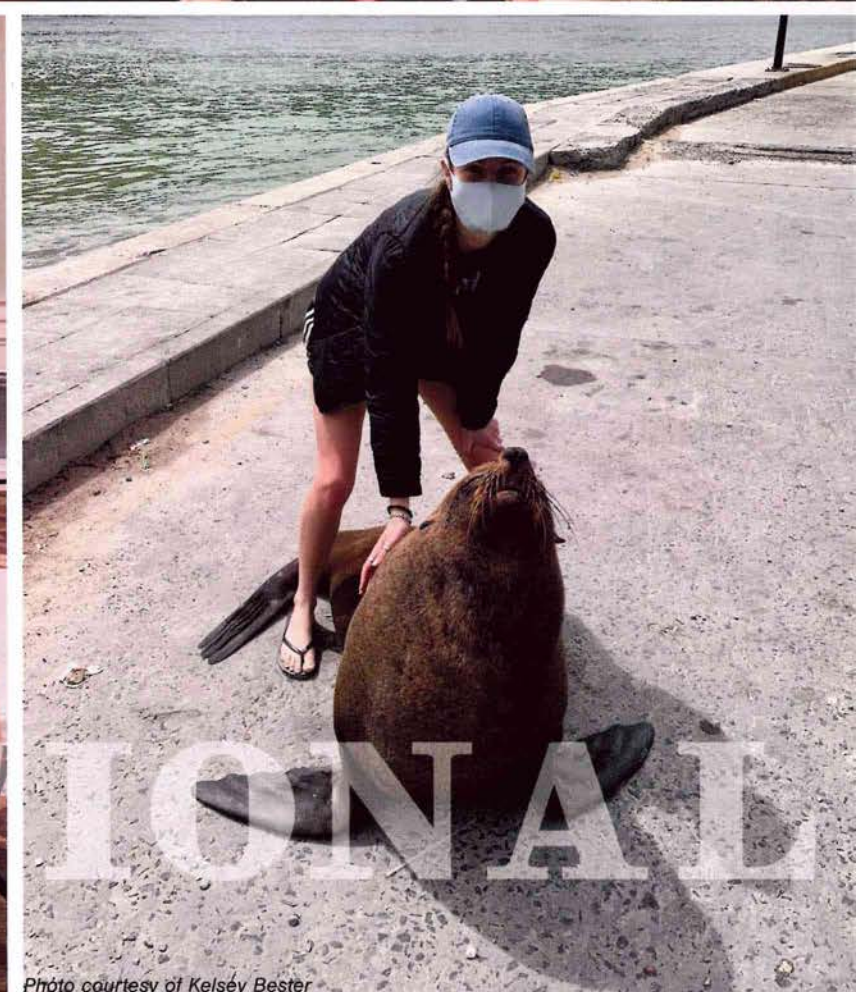
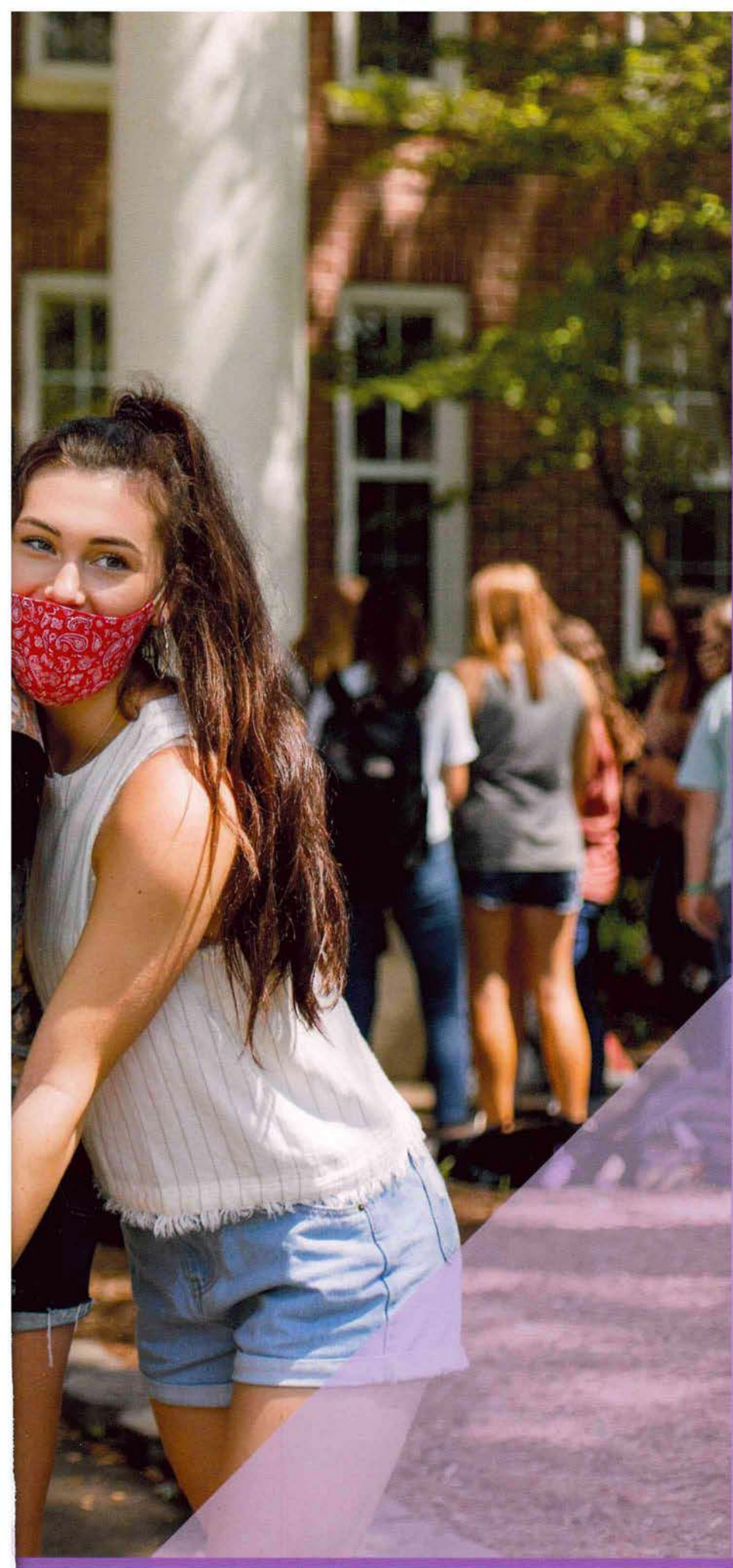


Photo courtesy of Kelsey Bester



Ouachita women gather in front of Cone-Bottoms to take first day of school pictures. Amidst the pandemic, friendships still held strong.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



# PEOPLE

It's the people that make Ouachita's world awe-inspiring. Tiger relationships cultivate healing, refuge, growth, relaxation, amusement and, in this hectic year, ***resilience.***

**M**any students spent quarantine with their eyes glued to the screen, but Sam Conine, a freshman business entrepreneurship major from Little Rock, was on the other side of the camera. Over the summer, Conine wrote, produced, directed and starred in *AEGIS*, the film of his dreams.

Conine's passion for creation began in his sixth grade Spanish class.

"I was able to take class and make it more exciting to me, which transformed into the ability to make a subjectively normal idea more fun and make people care about things that they normally wouldn't," Conine said.

From that point forward, Conine sought out opportunities to share his concepts with the world. For two years preceding his major film production, he made low budget short films shot on an iPhone. Though the pieces succeeded in film festivals, Conine desired more.

"I went to a film festival to pitch myself and projects to an audience of major art schools," Conine said. "They asked me of my motivation for film production to which I truthfully answered, 'I think it's fun and I like being around and inspiring people.'"

Conine walked out feeling confident only to have one of the 50 schools present call him back to inform him that film production was simply about making money, and he was foolish to have any other intention.

At that moment, Conine set out to prove his critics wrong.

Beginning in late June, he planned to have a completed film before the start of the fall semester. Though he did not know by what means, he says he trusted in God's provision.

"Literally the next day, I met the two guys who would be my cinematographers," Conine said. "We set up a Go-Fund-Me, and within 48 hours, we had raised \$600."

Motivated by both those who doubted him and the friends and family who rallied support for him, Conine wrote the *AEGIS* script in eight days. Though the pieces seemed to fall into place, Conine struggled with an internal conflict.

"The biggest conflict making the film was how it affected me internally. I had to constantly remind myself that my identity lies in Christ and not in the making of the movie," Conine said.

Nevertheless, Conine and his crew were able to finalize the movie the night before its premier on August 11—a mere two days before Ouachita's move in day. The event brought in 175 people dressed to the nines, accessorized with face masks – with many classmates arriving in their prom attire, which would have otherwise collected dust due to COVID-19 cancellations.

Conine later got a call informing him that he had hosted the largest student event throughout the churches of Little Rock.

"Seeing the final cut brought feelings of disbelief," Conine said. "Just seeing people rally around a concept and form a community was the most rewarding part of the production. I thought [to] do this in a way that shows the beauty of Christ's creation and gets people excited to be a part of something that's bigger than themselves."

Sophia Talley

# Sam Conine

**"The biggest conflict** making the film was how it affected me internally. I had to constantly remind myself that my identity lies in Christ and not in the making of the movie."





Noah Barker // Batesville, Ark.  
 Jalynn Barker // Searcy, Ark.  
 Jenna Barnes // Sheridan, Ark.  
 Braeden Bates // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Scarlet Bates // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Cabb Batson // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Brynlee Beams // Cabot, Ark.



Becca Beard // Maumelle, Ark.  
 Josee Bebee // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Alyssa Beggs // Benton, Ark.  
 Isabella Bejarano // Bogota, Colombia  
 Hayden Bevenue // Frisco, Texas  
 Brock Bivens // Sherwood, Ark.  
 Emily Blair // North Little Rock, Ark.



Bella Blankenship // Melissa, Texas  
 Victoria Bourgeois // Bismarck, Ark.  
 Mason Brazeal // England, Ark.  
 Justin Brock // Emory, Texas  
 Brooks Brown // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Kenzie Burks // Beebe, Ark.  
 Abby Burlison // Beebe, Ark.



Jozie Burson // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Tamia Calloway // Magnolia, Ark.  
 Mason Campbell // Lawrenceburg, Tenn.  
 Jess Cantrell // Forrest City, Ark.  
 Emily Caraway // Roanoke, Texas  
 Natasha Carroll // Benton, Ark.  
 Jackson Carter // Waxahachie, Texas



Josh Case // Keller, Texas  
 Addyson Cassell // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Emily Castilaw // Nacogdoches, Texas  
 Gabe Chandler // Conway, Ark.  
 Derek Cheatham // Van Buren, Ark.  
 Addie Chumley // Benton, Ark.  
 Kellen Church // Jonesboro, Ark.



Brynn Clark // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Jude Clements // Sachse, Texas  
 Ryan Cochran // Claremore, Okla.  
 Hannah Coffman // Rogers, Ark.  
 Caroline Cole // Benton, Ark.  
 Neal Cole // Percy, Ark.  
 Sam Conine // Little Rock, Ark.



Emma Kathleen Conner // Roland, Ark.  
 Chandler Cooley // The Colony, Texas  
 Hailey Coulson // Van Buren, Ark.  
 Ella Cox // Rogers, Ark.  
 Austynn Crocker // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Kie Crone // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Isaac Crow // Conway, Ark.



**Laurel Currie** // Coldspring, Texas  
**Katie Dabrowski** // Maumelle, Ark.  
**Morgan Darr** // Greenwood, Ark.  
**Shelly Davilus** // San Antonio, Texas  
**Lawrence Davis** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Cole Davis** // Okolona, Ark.



**EJ Day** // Belle Chasse, La.  
**Sarah Dean** // Nashville, Tenn.  
**Crosse Deaton** // Maumelle, Ark.  
**Kinley Deaton** // Maumelle, Ark.  
**Rosalyn Decker** // Centerton, Ark.  
**Olivia Dixon** // Arkadelphia, Ark.



**Emma Donley** // Frisco, Texas  
**Grace Drake** // Heath, Texas  
**Ashley Drennan** // Conway, Ark.  
**Isaac Edwards** // Hawkins, Texas  
**Olivia Eggleston** // Cabot, Ark.  
**Sydney Ellason** // Sunnyvale, Texas



**Luke Falco** // Malvern, Ark.  
**Ara Floyd** // Pangburn, Ark.  
**Bailey Foster** // McKinney, Texas  
**Carla Gallart Polo** // Serra, Spain  
**Olivia Gaston** // Greenwood, Ark.  
**Chris Gay** // North Little Rock, Ark.



**Grace Googe** // Irving, Texas  
**Allie Graves** // Texarkana, Texas  
**Anna Katherine Green** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Chad Gscheidle** // Lantana, Texas  
**Hannah Haessig** // Rockwall, Texas  
**Analyse Hamlett** // Pike Road, Ala.



**Chase Hartsell** // Hot Springs, Ark.  
**Katie Henry** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Jayden Herron** // Gainesville, Fla.  
**Clara Beth Hill** // Bryant, Ark.  
**Landen Hill** // Delight, Ark.  
**Olivia Hobson** // Sherwood, Ark.



**Ben Hodde** // Bentonville, Ark.  
**Makenna Holder** // Camden, Ark.  
**Isabelle Holyfield** // Searcy, Ark.  
**Sierra Hoss** // Fouke, Ark.  
**Avery Howard** // Frisco, Texas  
**Peyton Howell** // Malvern, Ark.



**A**s high school graduation grew near for Kirsten Swanson, a dietetics and nutrition major from Canyon Lake, Texas, she struggled to make a college decision. After realizing she was unsure of what she wanted to do career-wise, Swanson decided to take the year off and started her journey for what would become a seven-year gap period.

During her first year, Swanson decided to work and volunteer as the assistant coach for her high school's track team. As her year volunteering as a track coach came to an end, Swanson had the opportunity to enroll at School of the Deaf in Austin, Texas.

At School of the Deaf, Swanson learned and interpreted sign language, a language she had studied in high school.

Initially, she hoped to transfer the credits from her classes over to San Antonio Community College where she was to major in sign language. Due to unforeseen circumstances that year, Swanson decided to stay with her family and started working at Chick-fil-A for her third year.

While at Chick-fil-A, Swanson held a leadership position within the franchise getting to open a restaurant in Ohio. As her third season was ending, Swanson began asking the Lord for revelations about her future.

"My best friend at Chick-Fil-A challenged me to figure out what I wanted to do. I felt I was stuck in this rut of not knowing

what I wanted to do. I did not know if I should keep working or interpreting. He really challenged me to seek the Lord and ask for revelations of what he wanted me to do," Swanson said.

The Lord delivered, and in 2018, Swanson started volunteering at Timberline Lodge, a discipleship and Bible school in Fraser, Colo. At Timberline, Swanson volunteered as a RA and program assistant for the school. Having a heart for mentorship, she fell in love with her job and continued to volunteer with Timberline for two years.

In late 2019, Swanson felt the Lord prompting her to go back to school to major in dietetics and nutrition. While attending church in Colorado, Swanson learned about Ouachita from her pastor. After looking at several schools, she felt at peace and applied for admission. When reminiscing on her seven-year gap, Swanson was thankful for the seasons the Lord walked her through and the opportunities He provided.

When reflecting on the seven seasons Swanson said, "I've gotten to have a lot of neat experiences. Looking back, I'm very grateful for what I learned through taking a gap period."

Through it all, Swanson experienced the Lord's faithfulness and His perfect timing. Getting to experience different cultures and places and spend time with her family was an opportunity she is forever grateful for.

MacKenzie Hall

# Kirsten Swanson



**"I've gotten to have a lot of neat experiences. Looking back, I'm very grateful for what I learned through taking a gap period."**

**F**or Rickey Rogers Jr., a freshman communications and psychology double major from Arkadelphia, Ouachita has always been home.

When Rogers was 10 years old, his family moved into O.C. Bailey Hall because of his father's new position as the Tigers' wide receiver coach and residence hall director.

"I've lived in O.C. for a lot of my life, I've eaten in the caf almost all of my life, and I've walked the halls for years; it's just like I'm home," Rogers said.

During his freshman year of high school, Rogers' father, Rickey Rogers Sr., became the Dean of Students, as a result his mom took over as the residence hall director. Over the next four years, Rogers continued to live on the Ouachita campus.

However, in March of 2020, Rogers' mother became the Senior Woman Administrator and Director of Athletic Compliance for the athletic department. Despite having to move out of O.C. Bailey due to his mother's new job, Rogers knew that he would soon be back on Ouachita's campus.

Moving just one floor above his childhood home for his first official year as a student at Ouachita, Rogers said, "Move-in day was like returning home from a vacation."

Although Rogers knew the Ouachita atmosphere and staff, he was excited about the perks that come with being a student.

"I've been so excited to be a part of the social scene," Rogers said. "I now know what it's like to go to WOW and

other social events. I [can't wait] to experience other events [in the future]."

In addition to getting involved socially, Rogers stayed busy with his classes and two sports teams: Tiger football and Tiger wrestling. Having pre-existing relationships with some of the upperclassmen and coaches, Rogers was excited to officially be a part of the teams. Despite his parents' connections to Ouachita, Rogers knew that he wanted to continue to live on the Ouachita campus, but this time as a student.

"The weirdest thing about being on campus this year was actually having to go to class. It's an adjustment, but so far so good," Rogers said.

To Rogers, being around the campus staff was like hanging out with old friends and family. Although he didn't live in his parents' house anymore, he always sees them all over campus.

"Overall, it's not too awkward for me to see my parents, because we have always shared a really close bond," Rogers said.

Despite being around the people he has always known, Rogers was excited to begin his new adventure as a Ouachita student.

"I look forward to getting to know Ouachita better as a student and not just a resident," Rogers reflects. "But in the end, there's no place like home."

Kathryn Totty

# Rickey Rogers Jr.

**"The weirdest thing** about being on campus this year was actually having to go to class. It's an adjustment, but so far so good."

O. C. BAILEY HALL





Anna Hudson // Charleston, Ark.  
 Daryuna Hull // Forrester City, Ark.  
 Bailey Hunter // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Seth Hunter // Russellville, Ark.  
 Ryland Jackson // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Maggie Jackson // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Lauren Jamell // Little Rock, Ark.



Paxton Jameson // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Riley Jeane // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Lauren Jenkins // Etowah, Tenn.  
 Jessica Jennings // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Yu Chan Jeong // Kab.sukabumi, Jabar  
 Anna Johnson // Conway, Ark.  
 Kennedy Johnson // Fayetteville, Ark.



Kaylee Johnson // Hensley, Ark.  
 Kady Johnson // Mountain View, Ark.  
 Brooke Jones // Greenwood, Ark.  
 Annika Jostad // Benton, Ark.  
 Sam King // Mount Vernon, Ark.  
 Trenton Kolb // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Kendall Kretsinger // Spring, Texas



Matt Kulbeth // Conway, Ark.  
 Melvin Kumwenda // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Zach Kuykendall // Flower Mound, Texas  
 Taylor Langston // Wynne, Ark.  
 Kelsie Lawhon // Cabot, Ark.  
 Katy Leggett // Camden, Ark.  
 Lauren Lester // Sherwood, Ark.



Liz Lockwood // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Mikayla Long // Malvern, Ark.  
 Marcy Low // Gilmer, Texas  
 Lynli Lowry // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Daniel McCarty // Cabot, Ark.  
 Caden McCaulley // Ozark, Ark.  
 Charlie McClain // Batesville, Ark.



Zach McClain // Batesville, Ark.  
 Emma McCorkle // Greenwood, Ark.  
 Jeff McCoy // Marshall, Texas  
 Seth McDowell // Benton, Ark.  
 Aubrey McGhee // Dierks, Ark.  
 Zoe McGregor // Mountain Pine, Ark.  
 Carter McKissack // Conway, Ark.



Katie McManus // Buford, Ga.  
 Meighan Moars // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Madison Melcher // Rockwall, Texas  
 Jana Milan // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Molly Mize // Bossier City, La.  
 Abbie Moix // Choctaw, Okla.  
 Allie Mooney // Little Rock, Ark.

Taylor Moran // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Hannah More // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Paloma Moreno Avalos // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Sarah Morris // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 September Moseley // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Aubriekate Moseley // Benton, Ark.



Sydney Mott // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Luke Mueller // Texarkana, Texas  
 Makena Munger // Cassco, Ark.  
 Nataly Nailling // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Anna Claire Newman // Greenbrier, Ark.  
 Charles Nichols // Owings, Md.



Tyler Parker // Van Buren, Ark.  
 Jill Parsons // Celina, Texas  
 Juli Parsons // Celina, Texas  
 Lexi Passmore // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Hope Pennington // Leander, Texas  
 Alexis Perry // Yorba Linda, Calif.



Anna Marie Plastiras // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Abigail Powers // Nacogdoches, Texas  
 Ashton Price // Maumelle, Ark.  
 Vivian Pryor // Manila, Ark.  
 Abby Ralston // Tulsa, Okla.  
 Hadyn Rehak-Bishop // Conway, Ark.



Sofia Rizo // Eules, Texas  
 Caleb Robbins // Dallas, Texas  
 Rickey Rogers // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Ainsley Rottinghaus // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Erin Russo // Frisco, Texas  
 Mayra Salinas // McKinney, Texas



Isaac Sanders // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Makenzie Schilmoeller // Bedford, Texas  
 Nikki Schneider // Traskwood, Ark.  
 Megan Schulz // Houston, Texas  
 Sam Scott // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Sara Scott // Searcy, Ark.



Grace Sharon // Carencro, La.  
 Jonathan Shelby // Rogers, Ark.  
 Ethan Sliwyter // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Logan Smith // Fairfield, Mont.  
 Margaret Smith // Jefferson, Texas  
 Emma Smith // North Little Rock, Ark.



**J**ulianna Parsons, a freshman business entrepreneurship major from Celina, Texas, is Madame Pastry.

Parsons has baked recreationally and professionally in her time as a baker and has drawn her inspiration from the sweeter things life has to offer.

"I was inspired by my rather infamous sweet tooth and many Instagram videos that involved baking cakes," Parsons said.

Parsons baked her first cake in July of 2016. She constantly experimented with her baking techniques and tried her hand at different types of cakes.

"I eventually got really good at [baking], and after two years of baking as just a hobby, people started noticing my baking skills," Parsons said.

Several onlookers became interested in buying Parson's cakes, so Parsons turned it into a small business. Parsons did not get overly serious about her business until 10 months after being recognized for her work. Parsons branded herself as Madame Pastry, and started a social media page for the business to push her marketing.

Parsons keeps all her documentations, bakes every cake sold, and makes deliveries if necessary. Parsons received a lot of support from local businesses in her town square and through that support she has been able to develop several connections in her hometown. Madame Pastry has produced a 90 percent profit margin in her short time.

Currently, Parsons runs the business at her home in Celina,

which comes with a few limitations to what this young baker can do, but has been able to learn a lot about the business world. Many people she sells desserts to are other business owners including event planners, lawyers, and restaurant owners, as well as a few political figures such as the President of the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of Celina.

Parsons feels very blessed that she has been able to own and operate her own baking business at such a young age.

Parsons also enrolled in the Greatest Baker Competition, a competition promoted by Stuffed Puffs Marshmallows. To enter the contest, Parsons filled out a questionnaire about favorite things she likes to bake and why she likes baking. Every week, Parsons posted on her social media profile about her baking. The winner received \$10,000, a feature in Bake from Scratch Magazine, and a year supply of Stuffed Puffs Marshmallows. Parsons entered the contest for a chance to win the prize money so she can attain seed money in order to open an official store front after she moves back home upon graduating from Ouachita.

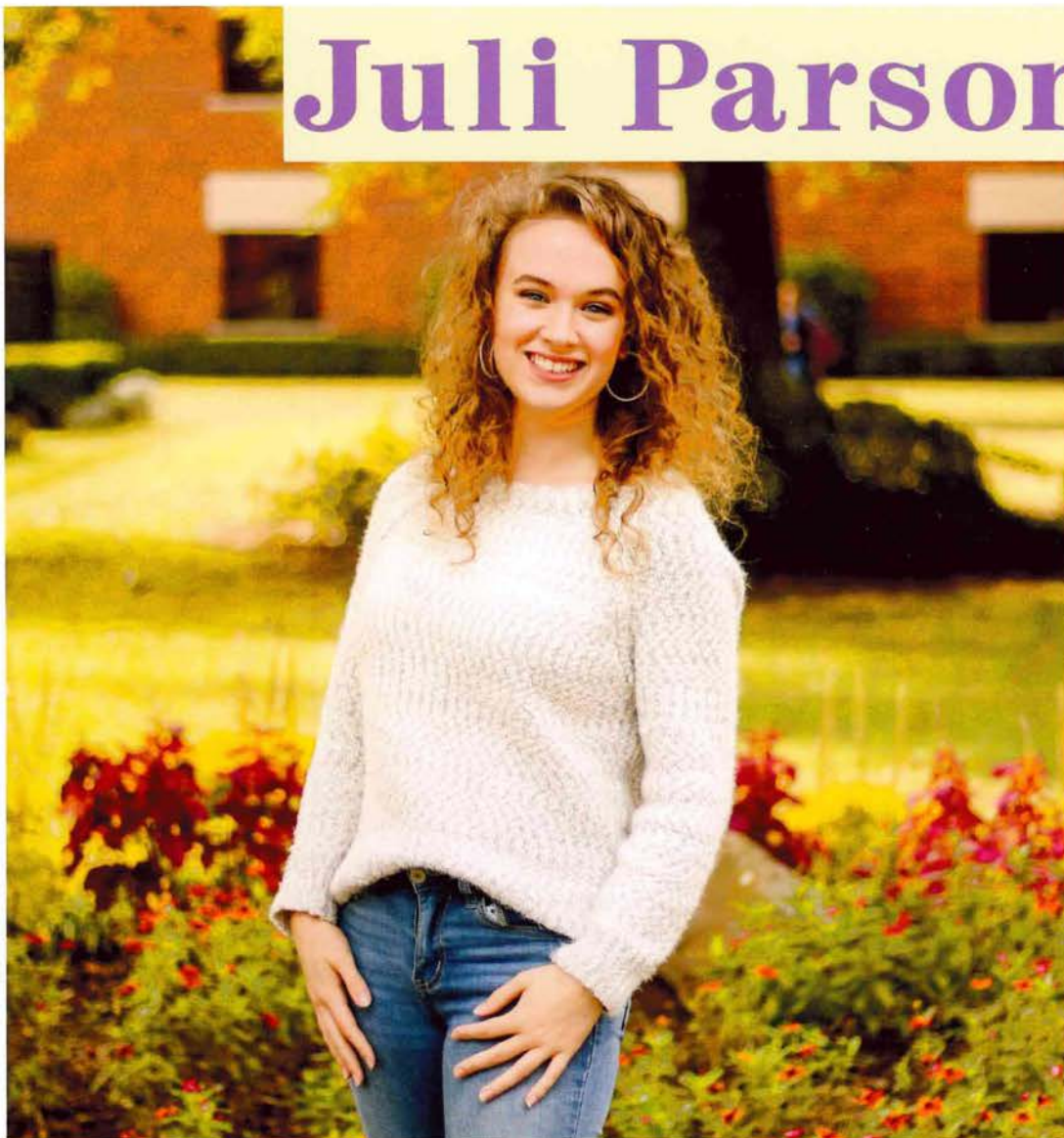
The competition is international, and Parsons admits that she may not win, but it will be nice to get her name publicized and show people that she is serious about her business.

Parsons hopes that she is an inspiration to girls her age or younger. Her advice is that you need to go out in the world and find out what you enjoy doing and once you find it, work hard at it and find a way to make a living off of it.

Parsons says, "If you love what you do, it's never going to feel like work."

Angela Webb

# Juli Parsons



**"If you love what you do, it's never going to feel like work."**



ne family's dream to help stimulate a country that they do not even live in has encouraged their daughter to lead a life in the same servant-hearted way.

Emily Watson's family owns Joyhouse Coffee Company, a premium Haitian coffee company dedicated to providing joy with every cup of coffee. Being a part of such a special exchange represents everything Watson loves.

"Working directly with people in Haiti is incredible. It still feels small to us as we would like to impact so much more, but we know every little bit helps," Watson said, a freshman nursing major from Springdale.

What started with a mission trip to Haiti for Watson's father, spurred into an international outreach relationship.

"The idea of Joyhouse Coffee was born [in Haiti]. My dad was sitting on the roof of JoyHouse Ministries when he felt compelled to do something to help," Watson said. "My dad immediately took the idea to my mom and together the dream of Joyhouse Coffee was on the road to becoming a reality."

The Watson family wanted to ensure the largest impact would be made on Haiti through their involvement. The coffee bean farms are located in Haiti which permits the company to employ locals and gives local Haitians the opportunity to roast, package, and ship the coffee straight to America. It's a process that allows Joyhouse to impact as many people as possible.

"My life was immediately changed when I first went to Haiti. It is very humbling going to a country where families are starving, people are rioting in the streets, and there's no

structured healthcare system," Watson said.

Watson volunteered with doctors at a pop-up clinic which provided simple medical help. She encountered many families who were struggling and was able to provide even just a small relief to them.

"It is so easy to become caught up in our society where everything is so accessible. We really are very fortunate and many people don't see that," Watson said. "My heart broke looking around seeing all of these broken and helpless people."

The country of Haiti had been in turmoil, even more so after the outbreak of COVID-19. Joyhouse worked with other non-profits in Haiti to provide job training to help Haitians know how to start small businesses and has provided medical care.

"This business has transformed the way I see the world; it represents compassion and opportunity. I've seen that when given the opportunity and encouragement, people will rise to the occasion and help others rise along with them," Watson said.

Having come from a long line of medical field workers, Watson chose to major in nursing so she could show the love of Christ through helping others. During a medical mission trip to Haiti, Watson saw firsthand the impact each nurse and doctor actually makes.

"My time in Haiti on that trip sealed the deal on being a nurse," Watson said. "From then on I knew that God's plan for me was to be a nurse so that I can show his love and compassion during the best, worst, happiest, and most sad times in people's lives."

Emily Barton

# Emily Watson

**"This business** has transformed the way I see the world; it represents compassion and opportunity."





Noah Smith // Pearcy, Ark.  
 Parker Smith // Searcy, Ark.  
 Angela Staats // Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 Savannah Staggs // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Avery Stahl // Russellville, Ark.  
 Brooke Steen // Frisco, Texas  
 Kayla Steinmeyer // Saint Charles, Mo.



Erica Stilwell // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Kaitlyn Stoddard // Paragould, Ark.  
 Karlee Sutterfield // Greenbrier, Ark.  
 Kiki Swanson // Spring Branch, Texas  
 Sophia Talley // Bryant, Ark.  
 Dezi Tartaglia // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Tyson Tatum // North Little Rock, Ark.



Kathryn Totty // Camden, Ark.  
 Kamy Treat // Conway, Ark.  
 Max Trieschmann // Roland, Ark.  
 Shelby Tripcony // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Hannah Tullos // Burleson, Texas  
 Cole Turner // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Seth Vance // Cabot, Ark.



Lauren Venditto // Wylie, Texas  
 Faith Vondran // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Chloe Wallace // Conway, Ark.  
 Lindsey Ward // Harrison, Ark.  
 Emily Waters // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Reagan Watkins // Woodway, Texas  
 Emily Watson // Springdale, Ark.



Sydni Watts // Lindale, Texas  
 Marion Webb // Austin, Texas  
 Angela Webb // Judsonia, Ark.  
 Emilee Webb // Leola, Ark.  
 Veronica West // Benton, Ark.  
 Meredith West // Sherwood, Ark.  
 Joey Whisenhunt // Conway, Ark.



Diamond White // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Josie White // Marion, Ark.  
 Hanna Williams // Prairieville, La.  
 Natalie Williams // Springdale, Ark.  
 Marvin Williams-Dunn // Auckland, New Zealand  
 Jenae Wilson // Coppell, Texas  
 Layne Wilson // Little Rock, Ark.



Addie Woods // Searcy, Ark.  
 Grace Woodward // Plano, Texas  
 Hayli Woolley // Sheridan, Ark.  
 John Wylie // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Nick Yates // Hope, Ark.



Hannah Adamson // Clinton, Ark.  
 Emma Anderson // Plano, Texas  
 Wyatt Ashlock // Royse City, Texas  
 Meg Atchison // Russellville, Ark.  
 Madeline Babb // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Erin Bagley // White Oak, Texas



Jomari Bailey // Prescott, Ark.  
 Taylor Barnhart // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Emily Bass // Fort Smith, Ark.  
 Izzy Baughn // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Katie Bayer // Lonoke, Ark.  
 Ashley Beck // Rosenberg, Texas



Karigan Beckwith // Donaldson, Ark.  
 Britney Bedlington // Bedford, Texas  
 Spencer Benway // Forney, Texas  
 Kelsey Bester // Johannesburg, South Africa  
 Jenna Biggers // Russellville, Ark.  
 Connor Bjerke // Oak Leaf, Texas



Katie Bonge // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Grace Bornemeier // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jacob Bowman // Wooster, Ark.  
 Maddie Brashear // Kaufman, Texas  
 Lauren Bridgeman // Plano, Texas  
 Kara Burns // Moro, Ark.



Emma Bynum // Troup, Texas  
 Reyna Cabrera // Dallas, Texas  
 Chaney Campbell // Rogers, Ark.  
 Maddie Cargile // Frisco, Texas  
 Katie Carroll // Mineral Springs, Ark.  
 Jimmy Castro // Arkadelphia, Ark.



Rebekah Chandler // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jaxon Chaney // Sulphur Springs, Texas  
 Sabrina Cheek // Hendersonville, Tenn.  
 Reese Chesshir // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Karigan Clay // Idabel, Okla.  
 Cori Clower // Little Rock, Ark.



Kelsi Coleman // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Sarah Collins // Lucas, Texas  
 Chris Couch // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Joy Covington // Cherokee Village, Ark.  
 Braden Crawley // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Seth Curl // Russellville, Ark.



The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic left many students with ruined plans during the summer of 2020. For sophomore music and chemistry major Abbi Sullins from Benton, that was not the case.

Sullins worked as a medical screener for the coronavirus at the Saline Memorial Hospital in her hometown of Benton. Sullins had a history at Saline Memorial as her mother Amy worked in the hospital for many years when Sullins was a child.

"I grew up in that hospital. I went from being the little girl playing in the waiting room, to the first line of defense for the coronavirus," Sullins said.

Sullins worked in the emergency department and was responsible for screening every person, patient, visitor or staff, who entered the hospital. This screening was a protective measure put in place to shield the hospital patients and staff from COVID-19.

"At the time, I was a little scared, the thought of possible exposure was very serious," Sullins said.

Although this idea of possible exposure was concerning, Sullins and the rest of the Saline Memorial staff did their jobs very well.

"I worked in the emergency department for three months during a global pandemic and never contracted the virus. This speaks volumes to the protections and precautions that were put in place," Sullins said.

Sullins was not the only one to experience the feelings of uncertainty and worry. In the early days of the pandemic there was a large fear shared by the general public surrounding the virus. Sullins had to quickly adjust her perspective from student, to essential hospital staff.

"The depth of the effect that the pandemic took on the staff, even into their personal lives, was intense. They put a lot on the line to protect our community," she said.

Those few months working in the hospital altered the course of Sullins' life and prompted her to change her major to chemistry and music prior to her return to Ouachita's campus.

Before the outbreak of the virus, Sullins was a music education major with plans to teach high school choir.

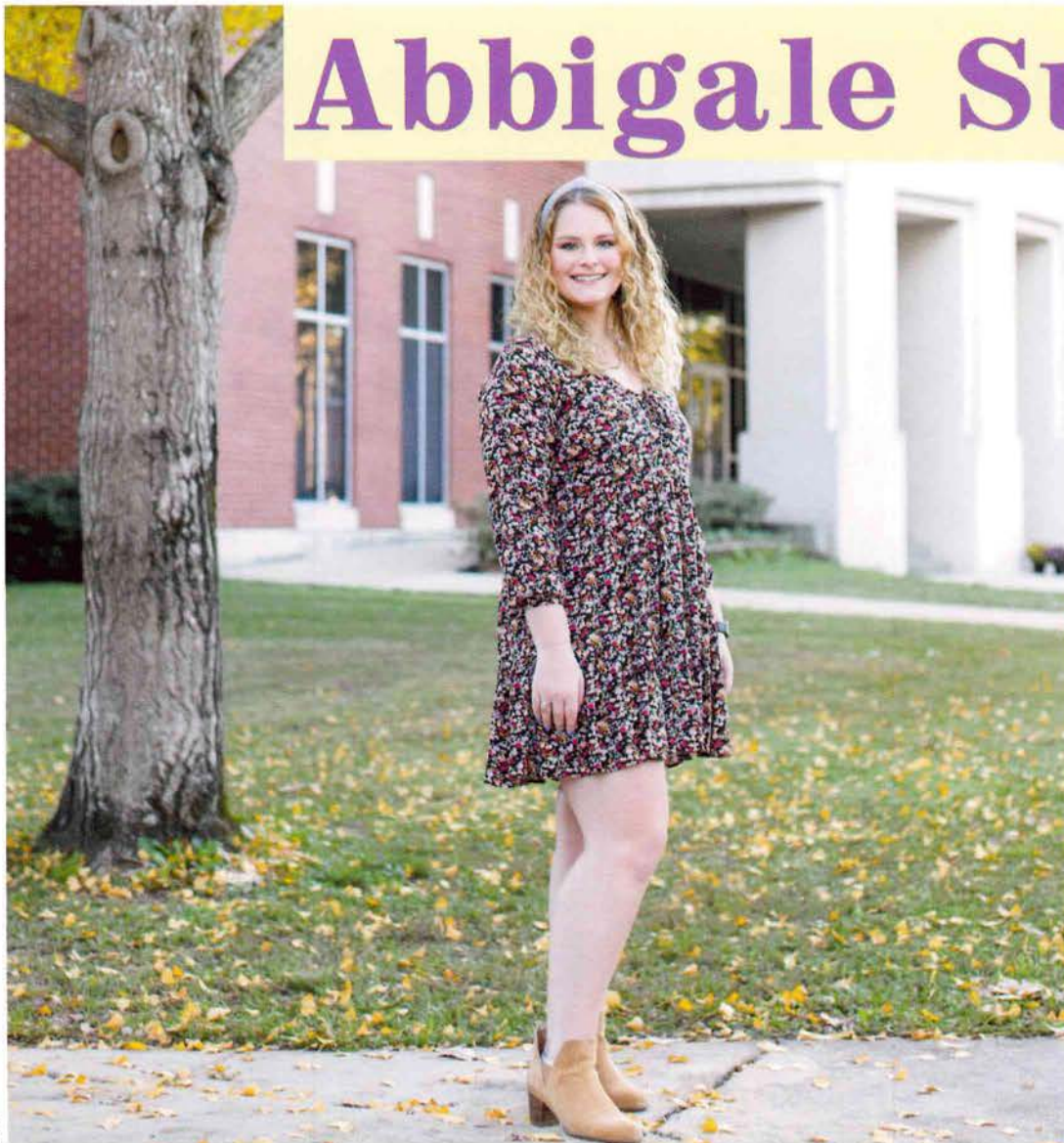
"I realized that although I had a passion for teaching, working in the hospital around patient care showed me a passion that I had for medicine," Sullins said.

The coronavirus completely changed the United States in a matter of months. Sullins turned a situation that many would see as only negative and made the best out of it.

"As much as COVID-19 uprooted everyone's lives, had it never happened, I would have never realized my passion for patient care. I am grateful for the opportunity that the coronavirus created for me," Sullins said.

Caroline Johnson

# Abbigale Sullins



**"I went from being** the little girl playing in the waiting room, to the first line of defense for the coronavirus."

In the summer of 2020, the United States was a breeding center for historic riots and the battle grounds for a pandemic. While most citizens watched these historic happenings on the news, Caroline Johnson, a sophomore political science major from Springdale, interned in Washington, D.C., aiding the nation's leaders in a time of crisis.

Johnson began her internship application process in September of 2019, her freshman year, and received confirmation on two opportunities toward the end of the first semester in December. It took lots of planning to ensure her internships started and ended in time for the next. While in the nation's capital, Johnson worked alongside Wisconsin Senator Ron Johnson as well as Arkansas Representative Steve Womack.

Johnson was certainly one of the youngest interns in D.C. in 2020, but it did not deter her from making an impact.

"I was the only freshman I met the entire time I was there. I had to remind myself every day that God wouldn't have put me in the place I was in if I wasn't ready," Johnson said.

Though there was not much preparation work required for the internship, Johnson recalled that her public speaking class with Dr. Rebecca Jones gave her the tools to gather thoughts, converse with people calmly, and portray ideas clearly, which came in handy when dealing with constituents.

Johnson reflected that "those mean girls in high school" prepared her for the constituents she had to deal with.

Due to the pandemic, the capitol building was closed to visitors, which meant that interns would no longer give tours like year's past, however it opened up opportunities for legislative research and dealings with constituents. During the summer of 2020, there would usually be multiple banquets and receptions, however they were all canceled due to COVID-19.

Unfortunately for Johnson, friendships and connections became more difficult to spark.

"I shared a room the size of those in Frances Crawford with a girl that I hadn't met until the day we arrived. She was from Arizona and she was Mormon, which was very different from what I have ever experienced. It was a really cool opportunity that really challenged my faith," Johnson said.

As an aspiring criminal prosecutor, Johnson claims her experience in Washington, D.C. was eye opening in many ways.

"I wanted to be in the middle of everything that was happening. I got to see a lot of things and be in the room with people who were coming up with the solutions. Overall, it was such a good experience just because you come back to school with a completely different perspective on the field that I want to go into, and what I need to prepare myself for," Johnson said.

Sophia Talley

# Caroline Johnson

**"I wanted to be in the middle of everything that was happening. I got to see a lot of things and be in the room with people who were coming up with the solutions."**





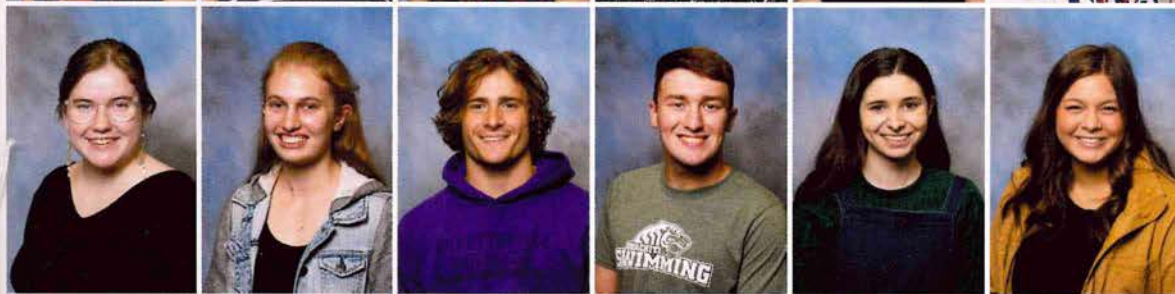
Levi Dade // Senatobia, Miss.  
 Taylor Darland // Forney, Texas  
 Madi Darr // Springdale, Ark.  
 Ashley Davis // McKinney, Texas  
 Landon Denman // Ft. Worth, Texas  
 Emma Dennis // Dallas, Texas



Caroline Derby // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Emily Dodson // Trussville, Ala.  
 Caleb Donoho // Northlake, Texas  
 Aidan Doss // Van Buren, Ark.  
 Christy Dunavan // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Alexandra Dupree // Van Buren, Ark.



Madison Easley // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Anna Eggburn // Sheridan, Ark.  
 Blythe Epp // Aurora, Neb.  
 Sabaot Esho // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Hannah Estes // Boulder City, Nev.  
 Lilykay Feimster // Atlanta, Texas



Michal Felan // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Emma Firestone // Deerfield, Ill.  
 Connor Flannigan // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Chase Foiles // Austin, Ark.  
 Sarah Franklin // Grand Cane, La.  
 Katelyn Franzke // Springdale, Ark.



Lindsay Fulton // Austin, Ark.  
 Anna Funk // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Audrey Funk // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Abigail Gaddis // Cabot, Ark.  
 Emilio Garcia // McKinney, Texas  
 Grace Gardner // Little Rock, Ark.



Amanda Garmon // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Maggie George // Benton, Ark.  
 Hannah George // Dardanelle, Ark.  
 Pietra Gois Camargo // Cordova, Tenn.  
 Valeria Gomez // Doral, Fla.  
 Kaylie Green // Haslet, Texas



Emily Greenwell // Benton, Ark.  
 Wes Guerra // Benton, Ark.  
 Mackenzie Hall // Bolivar, Mo.  
 Elizabeth Hall // Prairie Grove, Ark.  
 Ashlyn Ham // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Allison Harrison // Rockwall, Texas

**Kacyn Hartley** // Zephyrhills, Fla.  
**Kelley Hayes** // Fort Smith, Ark.  
**Mea Heard** // Nashville, Ark.  
**Natalie Helms** // Bentonville, Ark.  
**Alex Henry** // Richmond, Texas  
**Olivia Hibbard** // Little Rock, Ark.



**Benjamin Highsmith** // Denton, Texas  
**Emmy Hipps** // Russellville, Ark.  
**Emily Horn** // Sherwood, Ark.  
**Hailey Houghton** // Humphrey, Ark.  
**Ashton Hurst** // Van Buren, Ark.  
**Broc Ingold** // Benton, Ark.



**Zoe Jennings** // Pea Ridge, Ark.  
**Grant Jetton** // Solo, Mo.  
**Hayley Johnson** // Hot Springs, Ark.  
**Jessica Johnson** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Caroline Johnson** // Springdale, Ark.  
**James Jolly** // Pflugerville, Texas



**Leon Kalinic** // Zagreb, Croatia  
**Baker Kendrick** // Conway, Ark.  
**Max Kenyan** // Benton, La.  
**Brenna Kesterson** // Malvern, Ark.  
**Karlee Kindy** // Benton, Ark.  
**Taylor Koeth** // Greenwood, Ark.



**Bryce Krisell** // Benton, Ark.  
**Cassie Lackey** // Wylie, Texas  
**Trey Lamb** // Austin, Ark.  
**Luke Lancaster** // North Little Rock, Ark.  
**Katelyn Langston** // Batesville, Ark.  
**Karli Latture** // Searcy, Ark.



**Bethany Laturno** // Guthrie, Okla.  
**Chloe Lay** // North Little Rock, Ark.  
**Julia Letcher** // Plano, Texas  
**Hannah Lloyd** // Hope, Ark.  
**Ethan Marshall** // Carrollton, Texas  
**Kaylee Martin** // Harrisburg, Ark.



**Bailey Martin** // Mount Ida, Ark.  
**Matthew Mayfield** // Alexander, Ark.  
**Noah McCallum** // Jonesboro, Ark.  
**Samantha McCarty** // Pflugerville, Texas  
**Katie McCorkle** // Newport, Ark.  
**Christopher McDaniel** // Dekalb, Texas



**W**hile on a mission to answer his questions about Christianity, Levi Dade, a sophomore Christian Studies and Spanish double major from Senatobia, Miss., started his podcast, *Defending Christianity*. Through his podcast, Dade's goal was to answer common questions regarding the Christian faith.

After starting classes at Ouachita in the fall of 2019, Dade discovered there were many arguments to be made against the Christian faith.

"I began just thinking to myself, and I realized I didn't have an answer to any of these questions. It shook my faith in the sense that I knew I wasn't grounded in my faith, and I didn't know why I believed what I believed," Dade said.

Motivated to find out more about the truth behind his faith, Dade used his free time in quarantine to grow his knowledge of Christianity. After diving into the world of apologetics, Dade spent hours researching, studying, and listening to different sources such as podcasts.

"I liked to listen to podcasts about Christianity, so I said, 'I'll just make a podcast.'"

Dade continued, "Once I found a free podcast plan, I decided to release an introductory episode where I described my intentions in starting my podcast. When thinking about my goal with the podcast, I knew I wanted to defend Christianity

and give others a way to defend Christianity, so that was how *Defending Christianity* got its name."

After releasing a 12-minute introductory episode, Dade made a list of episode ideas that included a look at Jesus through the gospels and common objections to the Christian faith.

His research would ultimately lead him to conduct interviews with several Biblical scholars such as Darrel Bock, Kristian Padilla, and Dr. Michael Brown.

"When choosing who to reach out to for an interview, I tend to ask two questions. First, have they done specific studies on the topic, and secondly, are they a credible source? I think that if the answers to those questions are yes, then people are more likely to see the podcast as a credible source of information."

With excitement for what was to come, Dade was always planning his next episode. To Dade, his goal for *Defending Christianity* was two-fold. He wanted Christians to be tolerant and understanding to the people who don't know Christ, and for non-believers to see and know the truth.

"If God uses my podcast to reach fellow believers and non-believers, then I will be very grateful, but I am not focused on it growing big. If one soul comes to know Jesus, then I know it was all worth it," Dade said.

Kathryn Totty

## Levi Dade



**"If God uses my** podcast to reach fellow believers and non-believers, then I will be very grateful, but I am not focused on it growing big. If one soul comes to know Jesus, then I know it was all worth it."

**S**abaoot Esho, an international student from Erbil, Iraq, made a 6,841-mile trip to small-town Arkadelphia to attend college at Ouachita Baptist University at the mere age of 17.

Before moving to America, Esho had only seen Ouachita's campus through a computer screen. From her first steps on campus, Esho immediately felt welcomed and seemed at home.

When reflecting on her first few moments on campus, Esho, a sophomore graphic design and psychology double major said, "I thought Ouachita was beautiful. The people working with the international students, the Grant Center, the office for the internationals, are great. They adopt us as their babies. They were very welcoming, and they explained a lot. The students here were also very welcoming. WOW week, I remember, was so easy to plug into things, I did not feel like an outsider. The Ouachita community just kind of enveloped me."

Although, from the surface, it may seem the United States would have been a culture shock for Esho, she always felt familiar with American culture as she attended an American high school in Iraq and spent summers in Michigan visiting family.

"All throughout my life I was prepared to come to America," Esho said. "I exposed myself to American culture, read young adult fiction like 'Divergent', 'Twilight', 'Harry Potter'; all the normal books American kids read. I watched 'Victorious' and 'iCarly'; I knew what I was signing up for. I knew what to expect."

Despite the ocean separating Arkansas and Iraq, Esho said southern culture is very similar to Iraqi culture. Iraqi's

emphasize hospitality, food, and family. Esho has fond memories growing up of families gathering outside to eat and be in community with each other.

"Middle easterners love to stay up late," Esho said. "At midnight second dinner would start. Because it was a Christian part of town, it was very safe. Everyone knew each other so you would see families pull out their barbecue and they would bring out salads and food. This was starting at midnight and we would just continue with bike rides around the neighborhood."

Esho hoped Americans would learn from Iraqi culture. In a fast-paced society, she wished Americans would slow down.

"I've noticed here, in America, time is looked at differently than back at home," Esho said. "When I came here, I felt like I was running 24/7, I needed a planner. I was thinking 'What is a planner?' Every minute was important, every hour counted. Everyone here is running and rushing and doing their thing. Everyone is super busy. I felt like I was not enjoying it and I would have to force myself to take a break and enjoy. Back at home it was all very leisurely slow, and I enjoyed that. I wish people here would cherish that."

Later on in life, Esho plans to return to Iraq to offer mental health services through art therapy. In a war battered country, she sees the importance of mental health.

"Mental health isn't really a [point of emphasis] back home," Esho said. "It's kind of looked down upon. We need mental therapy right now. Yes, medical needs are important, but they have been traumatized and no one is helping them, and they don't know how to deal with it. I want to go back and help my people."

MacKenzie Hall

# Sabaoot Esho

**"I've noticed here,**  
in America, time is  
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When I came here, I felt  
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Kathryn McWilliams // Magnolia, Ark.  
 Payton Mixon // New Caney, Texas  
 Marlie Moix // Conway, Ark.  
 Kaitlyn Montgomery // Montgomery, Tx  
 Karla Montiel // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Natalie Moore // Ash Flat, Ark.



Alex Moore // Gulfport, Miss.  
 Abby Moore // Maumelle, Ark.  
 Faith Morgan // Lowell, Ark.  
 Hope Murphy // De Kalb, Texas  
 Bay Novak // Caldwell, Texas  
 Isabella Owen // Jonesboro, Ark.



Emily Pease // Richardson, Texas  
 Jack Peterson // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Lacey Pettigrew // Bentonville, Ark.  
 John Peyton // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jackson Pickard // Georgetown, Texas  
 Savannah Pierce // Dover, Ark.



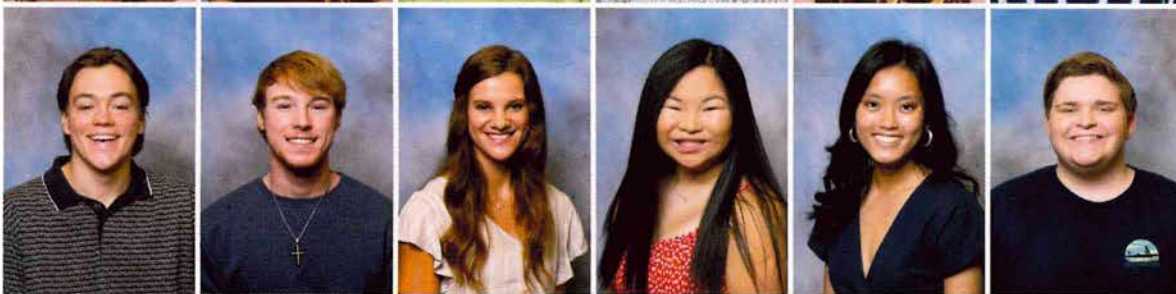
Hannah Posey // Frisco, Texas  
 Joshua Ray // Gilmer, Texas  
 William Read // Flower Mound, Texas  
 Grace Rew // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Brad Richardson // Lonoke, Ark.  
 Eryn Riley // Fort Smith, Ark.



Kinley Ritter // Benton, Ark.  
 Ariana Rizo // Eules, Texas  
 Jenna Rogers // Paragould, Ark.  
 Emma Rouse // Thayer, Mo.  
 Noah Sanders // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Alex Savage // Louann, Ark.



Joni Schneider // Garland, Texas  
 Avery Sewell // Shreveport, La.  
 Julia Shands // Searcy, Ark.  
 Juliana Shaw // Rogers, Ark.  
 Camryn Shelton // Casscoe, Ark.  
 Tanner Shipman // Little Rock, Ark.



Kallen Smith // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Jacob Smith // Rowlett, Texas  
 Claire Sorg // Springdale, Ark.  
 Halle Southerland // Bossier City, La.  
 Sarah Spakes // Benton, Ark.  
 Josh Spiva // Malvern, Ark.



Chloe Spraggins // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Karis Staley // Crossett, Ark.  
 David Stankovic // Wylie, Texas  
 Emma Starkman // San Antonio, Texas  
 Kyleigh Stevens // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Gary Stormont // Benton, Ark.



Emily Stever // Rison, Ark.  
 Andy Strauss // Eules, Texas  
 Erin Strautman // Cypress, Texas  
 Kennedy Stringfellow // Benton, Ark.  
 Abbigale Sullins // Benton, Ark.  
 Ana Summerville // Arkadelphia, Ark.



Joshua Sutton // Lone Star, Texas  
 Ashley Sweeney // Sheridan, Ark.  
 Maddi Terry // Boyd, Texas  
 Alex Thyges // Conroe, Texas  
 Morris Tsuma // Fort Worth, Texas  
 Alissa Tucker // Shreveport, La.



Maria Urbina // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Clarisa Valenzuela // Grand Prairie, Texas  
 Rebekah Van Namen // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Gracie Vaughn // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Sam Vickers // Shreveport, La.  
 Vanessa Vives // Bogota, Colombia



Brock Wade // Plano, Texas  
 Sophia Ward // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Drew Webb // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Jack Webb // Arlington, Tenn.  
 Graca Webster // Frisco, Texas  
 Sophie Weghorst // Rockwall, Texas



Marilyn Welborn // Fort Smith, Ark.  
 Mary Charles West // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Katie White // Sparkman, Ark.  
 Kyla Williams // Weatherford, Texas  
 Wade Wilson // Springdale, Ark.  
 Jillian Woodruff // Hope, Ark.



Noah Yeamans // Prosper, Texas  
 Josh York // Texarkana, Texas



**W**ade Wilson, a Christian Studies major from Springdale, was one of only two sophomores to be selected as a Tiger Tunes Rewind host. Prior to being selected, Wilson loved to sing and play guitar but did not have an outlet to do so. After seeing that sign-ups had opened for Tunes host, several friends encouraged him to take a chance. He decided to try out.

"If I didn't make it, that was OK, and if I did make it, I got to be in Tiger Tunes," Wilson said.

Wilson's first taste of Ouachita was attending Tiger Tunes with his family because his parents are Ouachita alumni. He looks forward to Tunes every year. Tunes was also the first thing Wilson participated in on campus his freshman year, and it was where he met many of his close friends. For Wilson, Tunes is one of the first events that comes to mind when thinking of Ouachita.

"I really think it's cool how Tunes is about students helping students and raising scholarships," Wilson said. "I think that's just such a unique thing that a lot of colleges don't have ... all of the effort put into having students on campus who otherwise couldn't be here."

While being a Tiger Tunes host is a unique experience any year, this past year was especially different due to the challenges that COVID-19 presented. Despite the differences from years past, the campus rallied around the event and sought to make the most out of the odd situation. After making the switch to Tunes Rewind, the hosts and hostesses' performance was moved to a completely virtual platform, using new recording and video techniques. While this was an adjustment, the online transition was not the most surprising

part for Wilson.

"I didn't expect to have as much fun as I did," Wilson explained. "At first I thought about how I was about to spend half a semester singing the same songs over and over again, but honestly I looked forward to practice every night and got really excited about the show."

When filming their sets, each one was shot multiple times from different angles, some songs being performed about 10 times. The hosts and hostesses were able to invite a couple of friends to come watch the recording process, which Wilson felt helped when they were able to hype them up and add energy to the atmosphere.

"It was a different feeling of nervousness because there was a camera and you knew there were thousands of people about to watch it, but they weren't there in the moment," Wilson said. "When I perform I like to watch the audience and see how they react."

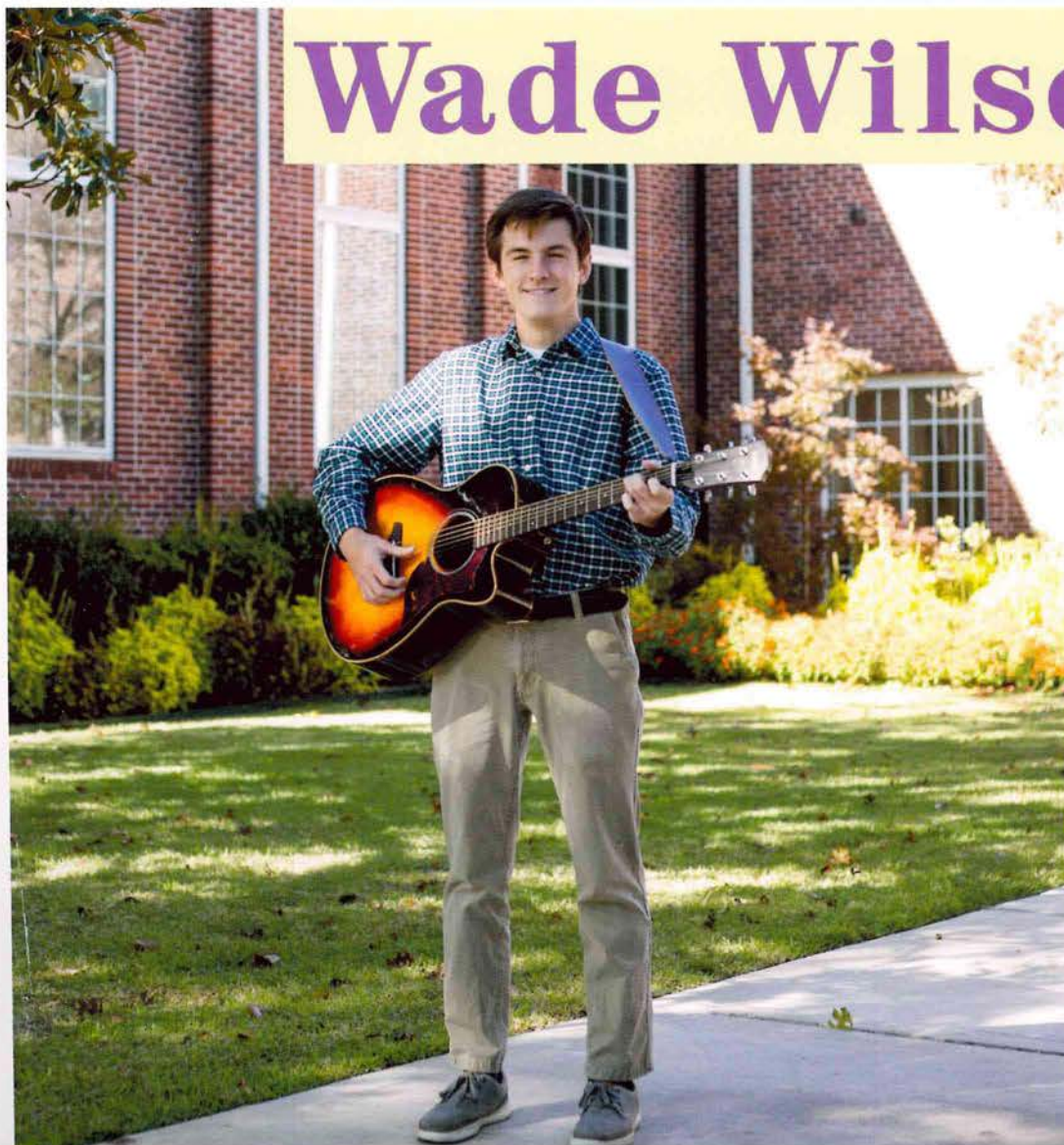
Looking back on his experience as a host for Tunes Rewind, Wilson expressed how grateful he was that the school's first priority was the students' health and safety. Along with this, he appreciated being on a campus that wanted the student body to have fun and still have a campus life despite the restrictions Ouachita was facing.

While his Tunes Rewind experience was a different one, it was still meaningful and one he would look back on for years to come.

"Doing Tiger Tunes and everything along with it has made me really grateful for the school that I'm at, and that God placed me here," Wilson said.

Anna Roussel

# Wade Wilson



**"It was a different** feeling of nervousness because there was a camera and you knew there were thousands of people about to watch it."

TikTok took the world by storm in 2020 as a social media app that allows users to create and share fun videos. Each video can consist of dancing, comedy, or anything in between.

Hunter Swoboda, a junior political science and business double major from Bentonville, did not hesitate to jump on the TikTok bandwagon.

When he first downloaded the app, Swoboda said, "It was just for fun. I wasn't expecting to get a lot of followers or attention."

Despite the disbelief, his account took off. Less than two months after Swoboda started making videos, he struck stardom.

Swoboda said, "It all happened overnight. I went to sleep, and when I woke up, I had 10,000 followers."

Swoboda's new fan group clicked the follow button after an argument originated over Swoboda's shirt in one of his earlier videos. During the video Swoboda was wearing a purple Ouachita Tigers shirt; the audience was clearly drawn to the content, but his odd shirt with an odd word like "Ouachita" sure helped his cause. That video alone received over 665,000 views.

The intrigue did not stop there. Soon after that video, Swoboda found his niche. More fitting, his fans found his niche for him.

Swoboda said, "My followers told me I look like Chandler Bing from 'Friends.' I had never been told that in my life, but so many people on TikTok have commented and told me that I look just like him."

While most of Swoboda's TikToks are Swoboda impersonating Bing, one of "Friends" heartthrobs, he has also used his platform to make the social media app a mission field.

He said, "I don't want to stuff Christ down someone's throat, but it's a big part of what I do."

Swoboda continued, "I've gotten a really positive response. I use my own personal convictions, mostly about relationships and physical boundaries, to make videos."

On an app that's certainly not G-rated, Swoboda's Christ-centered videos have made his content stand out.

Swoboda aims to go against the grain and says, "My sisters hold me accountable; they keep me in line." Swoboda's three teenage sisters Bessie, Lilly, and Maggie watch each video the Bing lookalike shares.

What started as a fun pastime for Swoboda has certainly turned into something that means just a little bit more.

"I'm broken and I'm a sinner, but God has allowed me to use TikTok as a way to reach people," Swoboda concluded.

Caroline Johnson

# Hunter Swoboda

**"My followers told me I look like Chandler Bing from 'Friends.' I had never been told that in my life, but so many people on TikTok have commented and told me that I look just like him."**





Taylor Allen // Huntsville, Ark.  
 Abigail Anderson // Blytheville, Ark.  
 Maddie Bailey // Bauxite, Ark.  
 Garner Barnett // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Emily Barton // Hallsville, Texas  
 Hamza Bellali // Casablanca, Morocco  
 Taryn Bewley // Conway, Ark.



Anna Black // Paron, Ark.  
 Abby Blankenship // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Ben Blocker // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Andrew Boatman // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Graycie Bohannon // Springdale, Ark.  
 Kaitlyn Bolton // Pine Bluff, Ark.  
 Molly Mai Borneman // Greenfield, Tenn.



Corbin Bostian // Bonnerdale, Ark.  
 Adeline Boyd // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Matthew Branch // Bauxite, Ark.  
 Jack Brent // Fordyce, Ark.  
 Luke Brinkerhoff // Celina, Texas  
 Jacob Brown // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Elisabeth Brown // Sheridan, Ark.



Melissa Brown // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Jessa Bryant // Benton, Ark.  
 Greg Bryant // Monticello, Ark.  
 Sydney Buford // Austin, Ark.  
 Jack Burnham // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Josh Burnham // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Darby Byrd // McKinney, Texas



Mary Grace Cahalan // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Johnathon Callum // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Kaitlyn Campbell // Benton, Ark.  
 Sammy Campione // Waxahachie, Texas  
 Jacy Carter // West Plains, Mo.  
 Bailey Case // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Erin Chappell // Bryant, Ark.



Josie Collins // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Ty Compton // Sherwood, Ark.  
 Alexa Copeland // Nashville, Ark.  
 Kaitelin Cotton // Bryant, Ark.  
 Olivia Crites // Poplar Bluff, Mo.  
 Madison Crow // Benton, Ark.  
 Jennie Davis // Stuttgart, Ark.



Lydia Dean // Nashville, Tenn.  
 Erica Dixon // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Sydney Donaldson // Benton, Ark.  
 Jade Dorman // Benton, Ark.  
 Reganne Dumas // Texarkana, Texas  
 Carter Duren // McKinney, Texas  
 Ethan Elkins // Jonesboro, Ark.

Bailey Ellison // Walnut Ridge, Ark.  
 Madi Esch // Benton, Ark.  
 Michaelyn Ferrell // White Hall, Ark.  
 Paige Fett // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Raleigh Fielder // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Sarah Freeze // Benton, Ark.  
 Lauren Caharan // Frisco, Texas



Scott Gay // Argyle, Texas  
 Maggie Goff // Carrollton, Texas  
 Keaton Goodrum // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Dawson Goodwin // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Gracen Goudy // Benton, Ark.  
 Katie Gray // Dallas, Texas  
 Emma Gregory // Pottsville, Ark.



Gwyneth Hadasa // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Gracen Hambrick // Des Arc, Ark.  
 Taylor Hansard // Fort Stockton, Texas  
 Thomas Harrington // Magnolia, Ark.  
 Allie Harris // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Bennett Hasley // Fort Smith, Ark.  
 Caity Hatchett // Keithville, La.



Cade Haynie // Prescott, Ark.  
 Nic Hazlett // Greenville, Texas  
 Hannah Herrington // Paron, Ark.  
 Gage Hill // Springfield, Mo.  
 Tehya Hinkson // Benton, Ark.  
 Anna Holiman // Prattsville, Ark.  
 Jacob Holt // Deport, Texas



Cloe Humphry // Benton, Ark.  
 Lexi Huse // Manchester, Mo.  
 Lindsey Hyde // Spring, Texas  
 Ben Innon // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Dayja James // McGehee, Ark.  
 Rebecca Janke // Branson, Mo.  
 Lindsay Jefferson // Allen, Texas



Kaitlyn Jertberg // Kissimmee, Fla.  
 Dane Jester // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Holly Jones // Conway, Ark.  
 Julianna Jones // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Kaitlan Kinney // Dekalb, Texas  
 Madeline Knight // Camden, Ark.  
 Able Kusaloka // Garneton, Zambia



Jahvel Lair // Richardson, Texas  
 Jayme Lindsey // Horatio, Ark.  
 Grace Loftin // Shreveport, La.  
 Katie Loving // Richardson, Texas  
 Faith Lymburner // Rogers, Ark.  
 Molly Maddox // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Allison Martin // Bella Vista, Ark.



One of the most common questions Ouachita students were asked was, “How did you end up at Ouachita?”

Every story is unique. Some have family roots that run deep; others chose Ouachita because it “felt like home.”

Regardless of the reason, there was a point in each student’s life that made the decision to further their education at Ouachita Baptist University.

For Kiyia Floyd, a junior business major from Jacksonville, her decision to transfer to Ouachita came as a result of smaller moments that stuck with her over time.

After attending her first semester of college at Arkansas State University- Beebe, Floyd decided to transfer. One weekend she went to support a friend who played in the band at Henderson State University. Henderson, at that point, had been one of her top choices to continue her academic endeavors. While going to visit, they decided to go across the ravine to see what the “school across the street” was all about.

“I was familiar with Ouachita. I had planned on applying to Ouachita because they were the only school that was continuously sending me stuff during the time I was choosing my school.”

While Floyd was visiting with a friend, she was beginning to narrow down her options even more.

“After we left that weekend, I decided to apply to

Henderson. I had a tour with Henderson set up along with constant communication with the admissions office over there. We were very excited about what they had to offer,” said Floyd.

Ultimately, Floyd made the decision to attend Ouachita.

“I do not know what one thing made me decide to come here,” Floyd said. “I ended up choosing Ouachita, despite everything. It definitely was the better choice.”

Since transferring, Floyd became very involved with MORE, Multicultural Organization Reaching Equality.

“When I first got here it was the first organization that I met most of my friends in,” Floyd said.

She mentioned that her love for the organization was established at the very beginning of her time at Ouachita.

“My roommate was a part of the organization and coming in at the spring semester I didn’t get a ton of offers to join different clubs like they do in the fall. Also, MORE is a club mainly consisting of African American students, which is a community I can relate with the most.”

How students ended up at Ouachita was always a unique journey. For Kiyia Floyd, her journey to Ouachita was founded on the consistent outreach and encouragement that Ouachita displayed in an effort to encourage Floyd that she was meant to be a Tiger.

Mallory Wallace

# Kiyia Floyd



“**MORE is a club** mainly consisting of African American students, which is a community I can relate with the most.”

**W**hile most people were stuck in quarantine for the summer, a few students opted to spend their time in the last frontier. Juniors Greg Bryant, James Renshaw, Ben Blocker, and Sean McKinney spent nearly two months on salmon boats in Alaska.

Just when they thought they would be having an uneventful time off, their plans changed within a matter of days.

"It was all thrown together pretty quickly," explained Bryant, a junior finance major from Springdale. "A lot of it had to do with the virus. As soon as we got the call saying we had the job on a Saturday, they asked if we could be in Alaska by Monday."

As the rest of the country debated mask mandates and saw case numbers rise, life on the boats remained normal for the crew; as normal as life on the water could be for four guys from Arkansas. After a two-week quarantine period, boats could fly a yellow flag signaling that their crew was COVID-free.

The voyagers quickly learned that life on the sea was much different than life on the mainland.

"It was very much a culture shock coming back," said Blocker, a junior physics major from Little Rock. "Everyone was wearing masks, some places were closed, and there were all these specific rules of what you're supposed to do. When we were up there, we had no service and didn't hear about anything what was happening; it was a complete 180 twist."

The boats the four journeymen were on, were not fishing boats. They were tasked with weighing newly caught salmon,

taking their temperatures, and supplying fuel and groceries for the fishing boats. Blocker described their job as being the "glorified middlemen."

The hardest part of the job, for all of them, was the unpredictability. While Bryant, Blocker, and McKinney stayed on the same boat the entire summer, Renshaw was moved almost every week.

"I never unpacked the whole summer; I usually got a max of 10 minutes notice when I was about to leave," Renshaw, a junior business major from Little Rock, said. "There was one time when I was woken up in the middle of the night to someone telling me the boat was there, and I didn't even know I was supposed to leave."

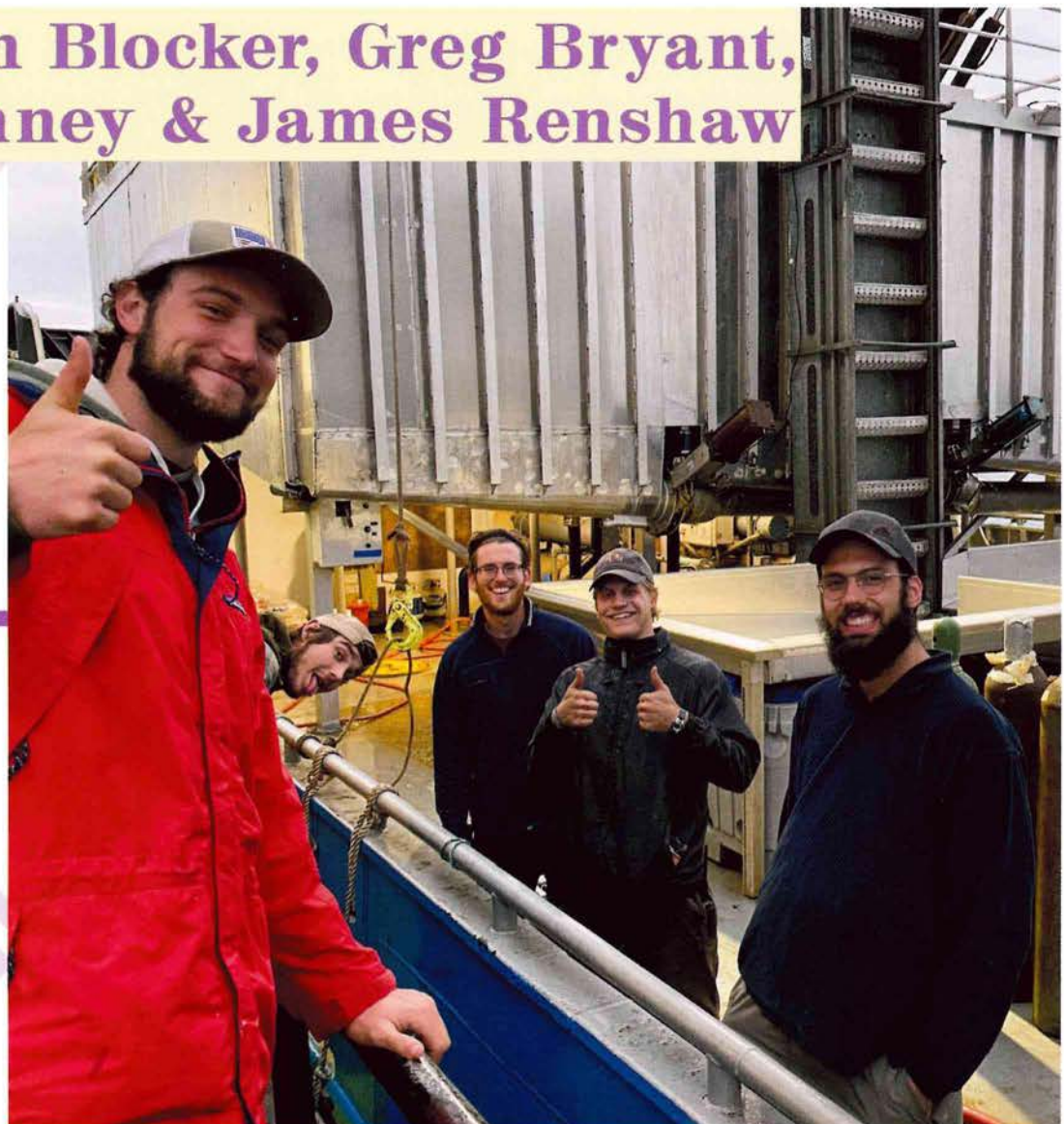
Even though the hours were long, and the work was monotonous, the young sailors still found a way to have fun and build good relationships with each other and the crew. Random supplies around the boat were used to do curls and other workouts, and they even had a pull-up competition spanning most of the summer. At one point, Bryant and McKinney attached a swing to a crane that was 25-feet in the air, but it did not last long after their superiors discovered the shenanigans.

"There was a lot of free time, so we got to spend a lot of time together and have some good talks," said McKinney, a junior nutrition and dietetics major from Little Rock. "We watched a lot of movies and played a lot of card games, but the food was honestly the best part."

Anna Rousel

## Ben Blocker, Greg Bryant, Sean McKinney & James Renshaw

**"As soon as we got the call saying we had the job on a Saturday, they asked if we could be in Alaska by Monday."**  
- Greg Bryant





Victoria Martin // Bella Vista, Ark.  
 Hannah Martin // Conway, Ark.  
 Victoria Mayfield // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Lucas McCann // Camden, Ark.  
 John Michael McCollett // Donaldson, Ark.  
 Brunson McDonald // Arlington, Texas  
 Madison McGhee // Alma, Ark.



Elaina McKenzie // Gulfport, Miss.  
 Sean McKinney // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Buck McKnight // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Emily McMaster // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Jonah Mears // Bryant, Ark.  
 Rachel Medina // Shreveport, La.  
 Candace Moix // Conway, Ark.



Mikaela Monahan // Alexander, Ark.  
 Madison Montgomery // Cypress, Texas  
 Katie Moore // Fort Smith, Ark.  
 Logan Moore // Gulfport, Miss.  
 Abby Morris // Conway, Ark.  
 Ben Morris // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jaelle Morrison // Rison, Ark.



Kyndal Moyer // Lampasas, Texas  
 Jonie' Normand // Lewisville, Texas  
 Allyson Oliver // Bismarck, Ark.  
 Jazmyn Parker // Jefferson, Ark.  
 Thomas Parsons // Celina, Texas  
 Sara Patterson // Wylie, Texas  
 Bri Penn // Benton, Ark.



Ryan Pickelman // Texarkana, Texas  
 Maggie Pinkston // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Kinsey Potts // Wylie, Texas  
 Alyssa Price // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Josie Pringle // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Lauren Reams // Hampton, Ark.  
 Hayden Reedy // Plano, Texas



James Renshaw // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Abigail Roberts // Shreveport, La.  
 Hannah Russell // Allen, Texas  
 Anna Roussel // Searcy, Ark.  
 Cora Saddler // Cabot, Ark.  
 Karlee Sanders // Caraway, Ark.  
 Jonathan Sandy // El Dorado, Ark.



Rachel Sansano // San Antonio, Texas  
 Taylor Savage // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Luke Schmidt // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Todd Schmidt // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Eli Schroeder // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Lucie Shepherd // Rowlett, Texas  
 Harrison Shuffield // Arkadelphia, Ark.



Lauren Sims // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Haddon Smead // Glenwood, Ark.  
 Peyton Smith // Maumelle, Ark.  
 Zane Smith // Texarkana, Texas  
 Timothy Spiva // Malvern, Ark.  
 Mackenzie Stewart // Hurst, Texas



Katelyn Still // Benton, Ark.  
 Jacob Street // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Hunter Swoboda // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Allie Tarnowsky // Mabelvale, Ark.  
 Emily Tarr // Fort Worth, Texas  
 Kaleigh Thomas // Benton, Ark.



Jacob Thomas // Bogata, Texas  
 Ryane Thurman // Austin, Ark.  
 Taryn Toles // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Libby Tomlin // Fort Worth, Texas  
 Tom Tran // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jessalyn Vander Stucken // Cuero, Texas



Kate Vernon // El Dorado, Ark.  
 Mitchell Waite // Van Buren, Ark.  
 Mallory Wallace // Longview, Texas  
 Hannah Webber // Longview, Texas  
 Carlee West // Benton, Ark.  
 Anna Weyenberg // McKinney, Texas



Addison White // Greenbrier, Ark.  
 Kayla Whittington // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Athen Wilkerson // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Erin Williams // Richardson, Texas  
 Madison Williamson // Magnolia, Ark.  
 Erica Wilmath // Hot Springs, Ark.



Joel Winterholter // Fort Wayne, Ind.  
 Isabella Wood // Paragould, Ark.  
 Bobbi Wooten // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Ryan York // Plano, Texas  
 Kiki Youmans // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Sam Youmans // Arkadelphia, Ark.



Parker Zucha // Sachse, Texas  
 Franco Zuniga // Hot Springs, Ark.



**W**ith the unknowns that carried into the summer, junior political science and psychology major Allyson Oliver from Conway wondered if the internship she had in place would carry through.

She had the privilege to intern in the public affairs office of Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge.

Fortunately, Oliver's experience was only delayed a month due to the pandemic and was virtual only a portion of the time.

"We helped stuff envelopes with newsletters, helped type up letters of congratulations for people who did important things, and we helped encode voice mails," Oliver said. "They deal with anything constituency related but also do outreach. All the events had to be virtual, so I helped put on an elders abuse event and some veteran consumer protection events."

Not only did the pandemic affect the gathering of people when it came to the work of the attorney general's office, but it also affected their daily work. Oliver received many usual phone calls dealing with rent and landlord situations, but the number of phone calls increased tremendously when it came to the pandemic. The office averaged about 500 calls

a week before COVID-19 then increased to an average of 2,000 calls a week. "The [first] stimulus check was around that time, so people were confused about that," Oliver said. "People couldn't pay rent because they were laid off from the pandemic, so they were wondering what their rights were if they had to pay rent. A lot of what they do is consumer protection," Oliver continued.

"Because of COVID-19, more people were being taken advantage of, so price gouging was a huge thing. At the beginning of the pandemic, there were companies marking up toilet paper eight times what they could. They had to take legal action against these people who were price gouging."

Oliver desired to go into law, but she still enjoyed her experience within the public affairs department. She was grateful for the connections she was able to make.

"I enjoyed learning more about what the attorney general does because she really wears a lot of hats," Oliver said. "Rutledge's official title is the legal counsel for the state of Arkansas. She had a whole team of attorneys and lawyers who do a lot of legal stuff. I was shocked about how much the attorney general does that people don't realize, and I learned that a lot of people need help."

Gracen Goudy



# Allyson Oliver

**"I enjoyed learning** more about what the attorney general does because she really wears a lot of hats."

**B**eing in love with the music industry gave Dawson Bray, senior music industry major from Little Rock, the drive to succeed as a musician. Bray decided to spend his pandemic summer in Nashville, Tenn., as an intern at the music label SSM Nashville on Music Row.

Bray felt that living in Nashville was a unique opportunity because of how different everyone is. Living in Music City during a pandemic was challenging at times considering Bray was unable to experience the city in its entirety, but he claims he had the time of his life.

Bray has spent several years gaining experience in the music industry by learning in the classroom and producing music for streaming platforms. Bray's ambition has shaped him into the musician he is today.

"This was a really fun and great opportunity to dip my foot in the music industry and to finally work with other people that have experience and connections," Bray said.

Bray says that working in Nashville was an experience that he will never forget. He believes it was an opportunity that will allow him to advance in his career after graduating from Ouachita.

"It was really good to see how everything worked behind the scenes with the music label and artist relationship," Bray said. "It is cool to see how everything is made behind the

scenes, because that is what I am interested in."

Bray gained a new admiration for those who work hard behind the scenes in the music world. He helped market artists on social media by creating ad campaigns for numerous outlets. Bray also used the internship to accumulate connections in the industry and to learn from others that are living out his dream.

Bray gave an inside look at the music industry stating, "It's a very humble culture. It's like a small community inside a big city."

Bray utilized his networking skills as a launching pad for landing the internship.

"An alumni from Ouachita, Beaux Schmidt, is one of my good friends and helped me get this job opportunity," Bray said. "He had a connection and gave me some phone numbers that I called, and everything fell into place after that."

It was a fun and interesting journey in the music industry for Bray, but his journey is not over quite yet. With the investment of more time and hard work, Bray's goal is to walk alongside the top artists in Music City.

Bray also aims to inspire others by encouraging them to "take advantage of your opportunities no matter how intimidating it is."

Madi Darr

# Dawson Bray

**"This was a really fun**  
and great opportunity  
to dip my foot in the  
music industry and  
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connections."





Hyland Alfonso // Waxahachie, Texas  
 Madison Allen // Beebe, Ark.  
 Michaela Allen // Centerville, Mo.  
 Kat Allen // Texarkana, Ark.  
 Hannah Anderson // Austin, Texas  
 Abi Anderson // Mesquite, Texas



Grace Avery // Durham, N.C.  
 Holli Barger // Carrollton, Texas  
 Brady Barton // Russellville, Ark.  
 Addison Bates // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jasmine Baughman // Pangburn, Ark.  
 Katelyn Bayless // Monticello, Ark.



Jorie Beaumont // Lockport, Ill.  
 Christina Beger // White Hall, Ark.  
 Michael Bell // Stuttgart, Ark.  
 Jack Bennington // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Jordie Bone // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Brayden Brazeal // England, Ark.



Griffin Brown // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Kayla Brown // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Bailey Buettner // Garland, Texas  
 Michael Burer // Forney, Texas  
 Brittany Burr // Irving, Texas  
 Cody Cagle // Wheatland, Wyo.



Fallon Carder // Birmingham, Ala.  
 Riley Carson // Springdale, Ark.  
 Kaleigh Casada // White Hall, Ark.  
 Lexie Castilow // Greenwood, Ark.  
 Scarlett Castleberry // Bryant, Ark.  
 Jacob Cates // Porter, Texas



Ali Chapman // Rogers, Ark.  
 Kayla Churchwell // Searcy, Ark.  
 Lilia Clark // Hillsboro, Texas  
 Chris Cobb // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Cameron Conner // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Andrew Coop // Gladewater, Texas



Carli Copell // Canton, Texas  
 Elizabeth Costner // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Courtney Crawford // Texarkana, Texas  
 Bethany Crawley // Jonesboro, Ark.  
 Madison Cresswell // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Caleb Crow // Conway, Ark.

Lindsey Crowder // Bentonville, Ark.  
 Jessica Daniell // Benton, Ark.  
 Rachel David // Benton, Ark.  
 Gabrielle Davis // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Sophie Davis // Russellville, Ark.  
 Matt Day // Texarkana, Ark.



Harly Dearing // Cove, Ark.  
 Samantha Dixon // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Gunner Dobbins // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Logan Dooley // Texarkana, Texas  
 Anna Lee Drennan // Conway, Ark.  
 Melodie Dubose // Conroe, Texas



Lauren Dunaway // Rancho Cordova, Calif.  
 Emme Edmondson // Benton, Ark.  
 Josiah Elmore // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Grace Faulk // Maumelle, Ark.  
 Katherine Fehlman // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Taylor Fielder // Little Rock, Ark.



Cannon Fisher // Wynne, Ark.  
 Jordan Ford // Benton, Ark.  
 Martha Kay Freeman // Freeport, Fla.  
 Nathan Frick // West Monroe, La.  
 Grace Gallagher // De Queen, Ark.  
 Aryana Gardner // Conway, Ark.



Jared Garner // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Nicholas Gerber // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Mara Gillispie // Irving, Texas  
 Nicolas Gonzalez // Gunter, Texas  
 Gabby Grau // Cabot, Ark.  
 Will Guerra // Benton, Ark.



Mandy Halbert // Allen, Texas  
 Danielle Hall // Prairie Grove, Ark.  
 McCallie Hall // Rison, Ark.  
 Jana Hardage // Bismarck, Ark.  
 Caleb Harmon // Benton, Ark.  
 Katie Harmon // Benton, Ark.



Jonathan Harris // Pine Bluff, Ark.  
 Ashley Harrison // Argyle, Texas  
 Savannah Henthorne // Greenbrier, Ark.  
 Christian Hickingbotham // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jacoya Hodges // Prescott, Ark.  
 Mason Holder // Camden, Ark.



Learning how to overcome challenges is a skill that some acquire throughout a lifetime. However, for Lindsey Crowder, a senior psychology major from Bentonville, understanding how to face adversity became a way of life at the age of two.

When Crowder was a young child, she was diagnosed with leukemia. Her first battle with leukemia lasted for around two years, then the cancer returned much stronger in middle school, causing her to fight the disease for two and a half more years.

When Crowder was first diagnosed, she had a bad infection on the back of her leg that affected its ability to grow muscle. Her leg's condition had been a difficult obstacle for her entire life, but Crowder and her family continued to pray that she would heal.

Three surgeries later, Crowder and her family's prayers were answered in 2019 when she was able to have a surgery that rehabilitated her leg.

"It's so cool to see how God has been faithful after all of these years," Crowder said.

Crowder has triumphantly been in remission for 10 years now.

A large portion of Crowder's childhood was spent at Children's Hospital in Little Rock, but she was able to engender lasting relationships with her doctors and nurses.

"I am still close with my doctor today, and she is so

amazing," Crowder said.

Throughout her cancer treatment, Crowder was still able to attend school with the help of people visiting her and teaching her while she was in the hospital.

"When you're going through cancer, it's almost very similar to being in [coronavirus] quarantine. You can't be in contact with a lot of people, and the people you are around have to be very careful," Crowder said.

Crowder's cancer journey brought her and her family closer together and taught them how to completely rely on the Lord.

"We don't know what any day is going to look like, and we just have to be so thankful for the time that we have together," Crowder said.

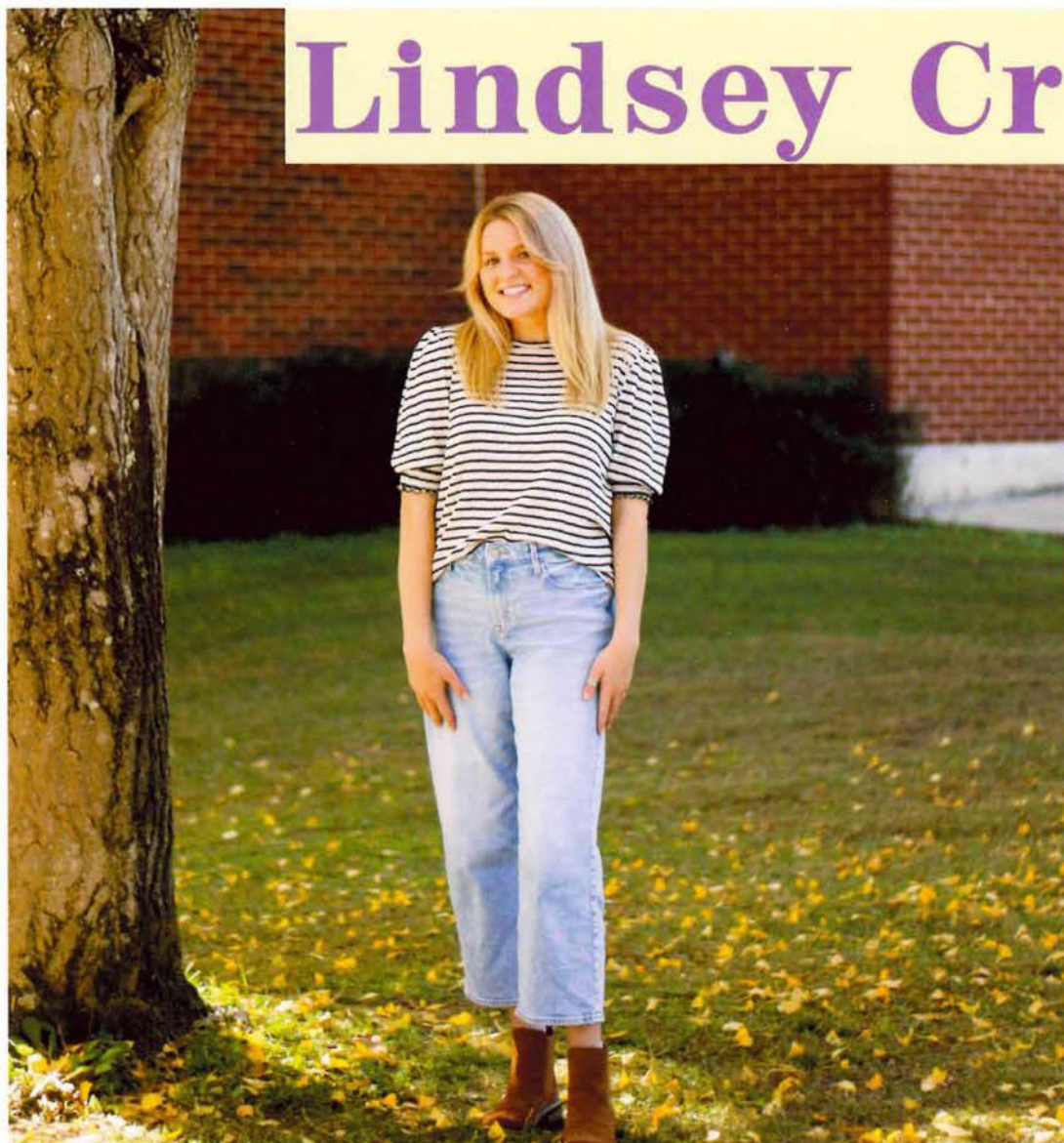
Because walking through cancer is a one day at a time situation, it showed her family how to fiercely love one another.

Crowder's battle with leukemia gave her a unique outlook on life that leaves others feeling encouraged and inspired. Through her challenges, she understands that every single person has a battle of their own and that life is worth celebrating even during the hard times.

"In every single situation, big or small, the Lord cares, and He is sovereign over all of it," Crowder said. "Celebrate the days that you are given, even when it seems difficult sometimes."

Julia Shands

# Lindsey Crowder



**"When you're going through cancer, it's almost very similar to being in [coronavirus] quarantine. You can't be in contact with a lot of people, and the people you are around have to be very careful."**

**W**hat seemed like the flu for senior Riley Carson, a worship arts major from Springdale, turned into several nights of hospital stays throughout the spring of 2020. In late February, Carson went home for several weeks because of what he thought was the flu.

After a trip to the emergency room and a negative test result for the flu, Carson was told he could return to Ouachita. However, Carson's stay on campus did not last long.

The first morning back in Arkadelphia, Carson woke up with acute pain that prevented him from being able to stand or get out of bed. Without delay, Carson made the trip to Little Rock to be admitted to the hospital. Due to a miscommunication error, he ended up at the wrong location.

After scrambling to figure out the right details, he was rushed to Baptist Hospital in Little Rock where he immediately began to be treated for severe abdominal pain and inflammation.

As Carson reflected upon being treated at Baptist, he described it as only, "a complete miracle of God."

After running several tests, his doctor said he would need surgery and a specialized surgeon had to be called in. Carson's specialist, Dr. Burns, was working in the hospital that day, which was a rarity. Post-surgery, Burns told Carson

if he would have come in a day later, his situation would have been much more life threatening. After three surgeries, three hospital stays, and six months of being bed-ridden, all Carson felt was peace.

Although his battle was vigorous, Carson said his eyes were set on Jesus and hopes that others would only see Him through his story.

"I'd be dead, honestly," Carson said. "For a long time, I thought that miracles are one moment, but in my case at least, they are a series of events of my God being present."

From this season, Carson says he experienced God's faithfulness. Carson wants to encourage others to trust God when walking through the trials that seem unbearable and know that Christ redeems.

When thinking back on 2 Corinthians, Carson was reminded that in times of weakness he is made strong because of Christ.

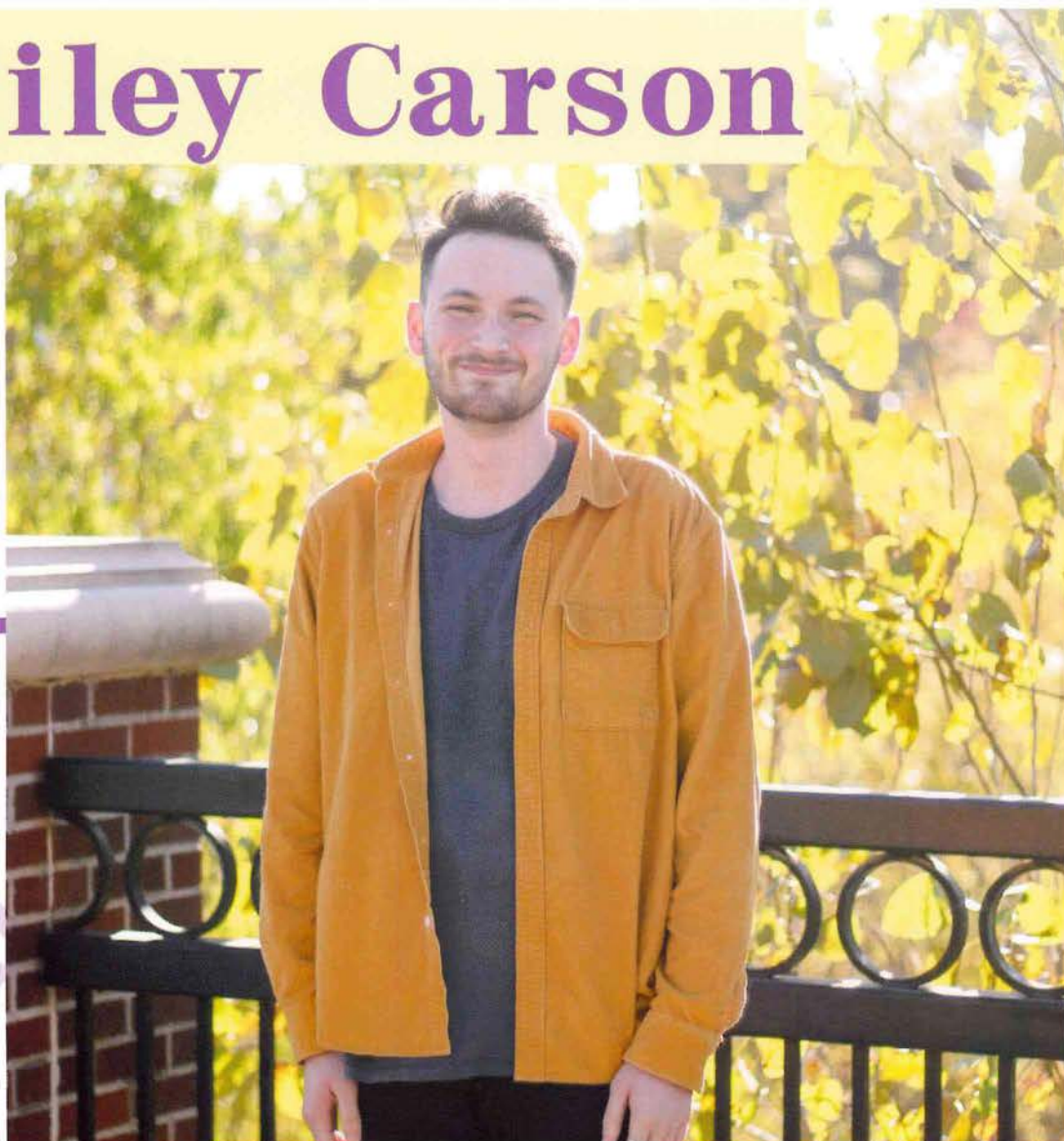
"I wouldn't trade this experience for anything just because I feel like it's made me realize what's important in life and adjust my priorities," Carson said.

Carson experienced the Lord's faithfulness and described his story as, "God having his hand over the situation the entire time. Looking back on it, especially that first hospitalization, God's goodness was so tangible."

MacKenzie Hall

# Riley Carson

**"For a long time, I** thought that miracles are one moment, but in my case at least, they are a series of events of my God being present."





Bryan Honeck // Plano, Texas  
 Brooke Horton // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Camilla Howarth // Allen, Texas  
 Taylor Huggins // Clinton, Ark.  
 Amy Jackson // Cypress, Texas  
 Madison Jackson // El Dorado, Ark.



Brooklyn Jennings // Greenville, Texas  
 Jenny Johnson // Benton, Ark.  
 Cioe Johnson // Hot Springs National Park, Ark.  
 Felicity Johnson // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Gracie Jones // Benton, Ark.  
 Aaron Jordan // Little Rock, Ark.



Cole Kelly // Coldwater, Miss.  
 Mary Kemp // Anna, Texas  
 Molly Kennedy // Melissa, Texas  
 Landon King // Roland, Ark.  
 Houston Kirkpatrick // Gurdon, Ark.  
 Michael Keen // Hot Springs, Ark.



Emily Koonce // Wylie, Texas  
 Charleece Lake // Lewisville, Texas  
 Kate Lance // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Garrett Lee // McKinney, Texas  
 Langley Leverett // Fouke, Ark.  
 Luke Livingston // Batesville, Ark.



Hallie Lynch // D'Hanis, Texas  
 Barret Malone // Jacksonville, Ark.  
 Moriah Manchack // Mabelvale, Ark.  
 Kaleb McAdams // Dallas, Texas  
 Ansley McDonald // Benton, Ark.  
 Erin McNully // Beebe, Ark.



Sydney Mendel // Allen, Texas  
 Addison Mercer // Gainesville, Texas  
 Hannah Merrick // Cabot, Ark.  
 Leah Miller // De Vallis Bluff, Ark.  
 Blaine Miller // North Little Rock, Ark.  
 Jacklynn Minton // Mena, Ark.



Faith Moore // Marianna, Ark.  
 Kailee Morehart // Alexander, Ark.  
 Megan Mosley // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Jordan Myers // Murfreesboro, Ark.  
 Grace Oliver // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Breanna Parker // Clarksville, Ark.



**Brooklyn Parker** // Clarksville, Ark.  
**Meredith Parker** // Searcy, Ark.  
**Shae Parker** // Wylie, Texas  
**Claire Phillips** // Midlothian, Texas  
**Jack Pillow** // Plumerville, Ark.  
**Joseph Presley** // Shreveport, La.



**Trexler Proffitt** // Marion, Ark.  
**Raegan Pyle** // Argyle, Texas  
**Stephany Quintero** // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
**David Rainwater** // Sheridan, Ark.  
**Madison Rawls** // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
**Bailey Redden** // Benton, Ark.



**Alyssa Reece** // Oxford, Miss.  
**Lexi Reimer** // Wylie, Texas  
**Elizabeth Ring** // Cabot, Ark.  
**Grace Roark** // Jonesboro, Ark.  
**Emilee Roberson** // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
**Aubrey Rogers** // Jonesboro, Ark.



**Georgia Rogers** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Autumn Romines** // Cabot, Ark.  
**Kristi Roshto** // Alexandria, La.  
**Mady Cate Rottinghaus** // Hot Springs, Ark.  
**Sarah Rountree** // Rogers, Ark.  
**Alex Rowe** // Sacramento, Calif.



**Sarah Rush** // Little Rock, Ark.  
**Josh Salmon** // Spring, Texas  
**Sidney Salyers** // Sugar Land, Texas  
**Aileena Schlauch** // Monument, Colo.  
**Allan Schroeder** // Carrollton, Texas  
**Gracen Seabaugh** // Magnolia, Ark.



**Layton Shaw** // Branch, Ark.  
**Holly Shipp** // Arlington, Texas  
**Abby Shourd** // Conway, Ark.  
**Ashley Simmons** // Stuttgart, Ark.  
**Rylie Slone** // Bella Vista, Ark.  
**Hayley Smith** // Chandler, Ariz.



**McKenzie Smith** // Fordyce, Ark.  
**Bri Smith** // Gurdon, Ark.  
**Keller Smith** // Mabelvale, Ark.  
**Hannah Smith** // Pine Bluff, Ark.  
**Hunter Smith** // White Hall, Ark.  
**Brooke Snyder** // Benton, Ark.



**M**ost Ouachita students have several different roommates for four years during their time in Arkadelphia, but for twin sisters Elizabeth and Madeline Steely, having a roommate is all they have ever known.

The Steely twins have shared a room together for as long as they can remember and that tradition continued throughout their years at Ouachita.

It is evident that Elizabeth and Madeline genuinely enjoy sharing a room with one another. When the Steely sisters were juniors at Ouachita, the two lived in private suites in Gosser Hall, but instead of having two different bedrooms, they pushed both of the beds into one room and made a craft room out of the other available room.

The Steely's grew up making crafts, so they thought it would be a better use of space to combine their rooms and have a place for their creative outlet.

"We just decided that we would put both desks in one room, so we could study and do crafts on them, and then, we had our sewing machines and painting table in there, so we did pretty much everything besides sleeping in the craft room," Elizabeth said.

Although the Steely sisters lived together, they've been able to lead separate lives during their time on Ouachita's campus.

Elizabeth is a communications and media major while Madeline is a nutrition and dietetics major, so the two do not have the same classes or professors.

"Sometimes people don't know that there are two of us because we are never together," Elizabeth said.

Having two different majors has actually benefited the sisters by preparing them for potentially parting ways in the future.

"We've been getting a good dose of splitting up, never having our classes together and basically starting two separate lives because her life at school is so different than mine, so I think that we are getting more used to the idea," Elizabeth said.

As this sister duo's time at Ouachita has come to a close, the two reflected on their tight-knit bond and how different life will be apart.

"It will be weird if we aren't together because I'll just want to tell her some tiny little thing, and I'll have to call her," Madeline said.

There is a chance that these two sisters part ways into different areas of the country as the two pursue their careers, but a twin bond, and especially the Steely twin bond, will not waiver due to distance.

"Just having that bond with someone where you can instantly know what they're thinking and have all of those inside jokes with is special, but we always knew one day that we would have to go our separate ways," Madeline said.

Julia Shands

## Elizabeth & Madeline Steely



**"We always knew**  
one day we would  
have to go our  
separate ways."  
- Madeline Steely

**F**reshman year of high school included moving from Kansas to Savannah, Georgia, for Tyrese Allen, a senior biology major and student body president. His family packed up their rental car and all Allen cared about was his clothes and fishing poles.

While living in Savannah, in the 10th grade, Allen created a mass college application to hundreds of schools.

"I have totes full of letters from different colleges. I would get them and just throw them into the tote," said Allen.

One in particular stood out to his mother. A phone call from Ouachita would lead Allen to make a life-changing decision to go to college several states away from his home.

"I felt like an actual person, and felt they wanted me to come here," said Allen. "I immediately started praying God would make a way for me to get there."

After not knowing how he would pay for college, Allen saw God working in his life by earning scholarships and receiving a raise at his workplace, which resulted in enough savings for college. God continued to open the most surprising doors in Allen's life.

"My best friend Corey Cadell pushed me to join Student Senate by wrapping his entire car with pictures of me," said Allen. "I went from being extremely introverted to eventually being the student body president."

At the beginning of his time at Ouachita, Allen felt alone

and disconnected, but he felt the Lord wanted him in Arkadelphia, so he continued to pray. During Allen's senior year, he reflected on how God changed him through his involvement at Ouachita. Allen was grateful for being a part of such an intentional body of Christ.

"Since getting into Senate, I have been eager to serve and be a part of the bigger solutions here on campus," said Allen. "I do a student panel every year, and this year during WOW looking out into the vastly diverse crowd has never been so encouraging."

Allen was proud to see stereotypes abandoned on Ouachita's campus. Once he found his place on campus the whole Ouachita world opened up to him in brand new ways.

"You can make it here and be poor, you can make it here and be Black, or Asian. There is not a stereotypical Ouachita student, and I am proud of that," said Allen.

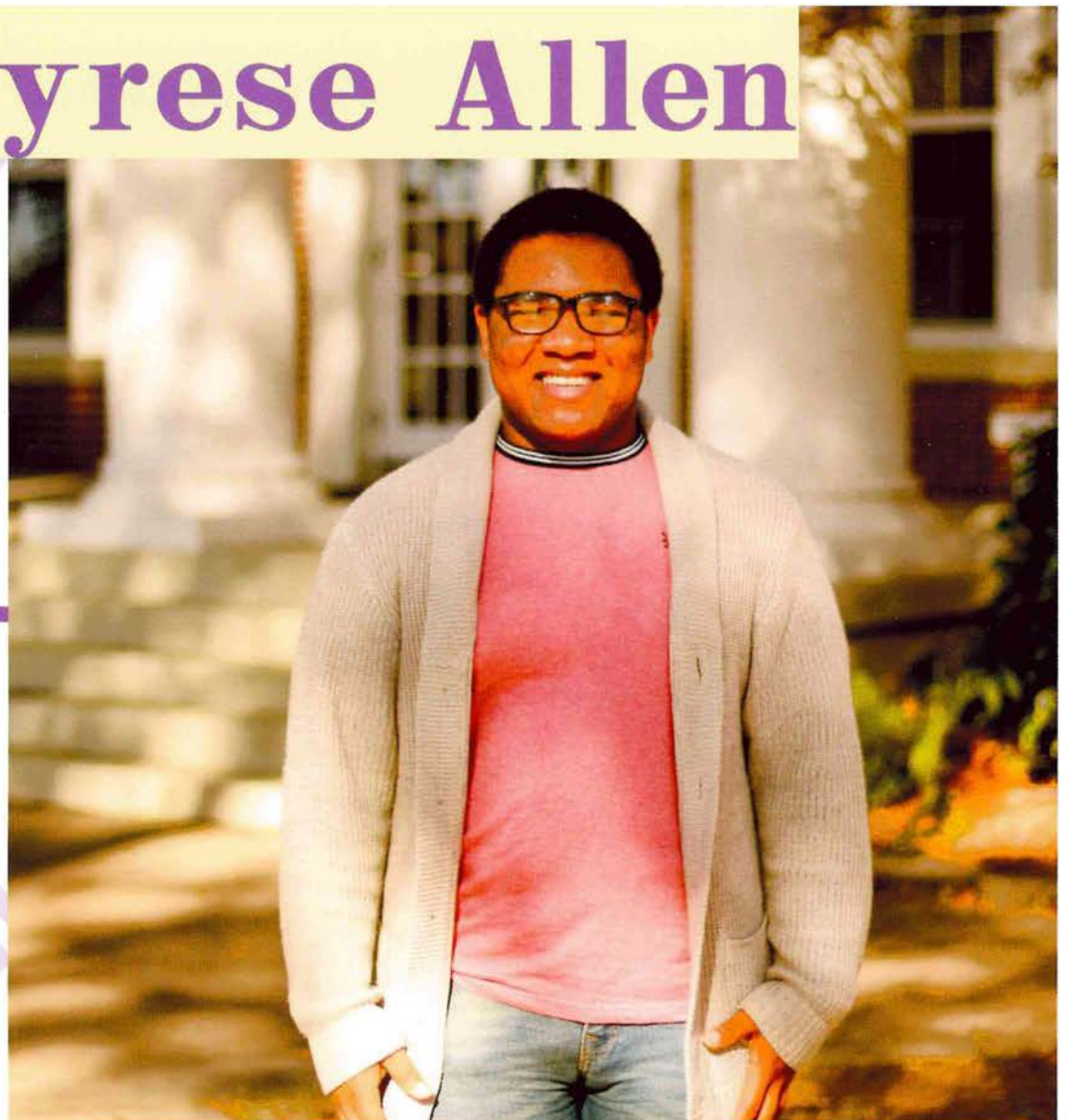
Allen knew even in the hardest times God would not put anything in front of him that he was unable to handle. Allen says he relied on God to lead him to Ouachita and the opportunity to make real long-lasting changes.

"Everyone is in a learning mindset here and it creates a monumental wave of positive change," said Allen. "I will take what I've learned here and lead an impactful life."

Emily Barton

# Tyrese Allen

**"You can make it here and be poor, you can make it here and be Black, or Asian. There is not a stereotypical Ouachita student, and I am proud of that."**





Hannah Spears // Imperial, Mo.  
 Trey Starkey // Vilonia, Ark.  
 Elizabeth Steely // Conway, Ark.  
 Madeline Steely // Conway, Ark.  
 Melody Stotts // Brookland, Ark.  
 Alexis Summerford // Arkadelphia, Ark.



Ben Swanger // Forney, Texas  
 Bailey Swanson // Greenville, Texas  
 Grace Talley // Nashville, Ark.  
 Miya Tatum // Cabot, Ark.  
 Brianna Taylor // Trophy Club, Texas  
 Hannah Terry // Texarkana, Ark.



Sabreana Thompson // Magazine, Ark.  
 Mary Madison Tolbert // Fayetteville, Ark.  
 Makeilah Turner // Allen, Texas  
 Abby Turner // Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Katie Tyree // Prescott, Ark.  
 Alex Van Nice // Gulfport, Miss.



Carlee Vogel // Saint Jo, Texas  
 Abby Walker // Benton, Ark.  
 Jennifer Wallace // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Laura Beth Warner // Benton, Ark.  
 Payne Warren // Little Rock, Ark.  
 Madelynn Wauters // Haskell, Ark.



Julianne Weaver // Benton, Ark.  
 Johnny Webb // Arlington, Tenn.  
 Deborah Weindt // Raleigh, N.C.  
 Caleb West // Marion, Ark.  
 Hope White // Conway, Ark.  
 Jenna Whitlow // Fort Smith, Ark.



Mallory Whitson // Hot Springs, Ark.  
 Mason Woolbright // Benton, Ark.  
 Noah Worley // Camden, Ark.  
 Jared Wright // Glenwood, Ark.  
 Nathan Wueliner // Houston, Texas  
 Olivia Yarbrough // Rogers, Ark.



Bates Yoakum // Fayetteville, Ark.

ben adair



**KINESIOLOGY**  
Alexander, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
ROTC Battalion Commander. Student Life Tiger Tunes Director. Back Yard Bible Club. One-Act theater actor.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List. ROTC Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Award.  
**POST GRAD**  
Active duty military service as a Medical Services Officer in the U.S. Army.



tyrese allen



**BIOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY**  
Savannah, Ga.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Student Senate. Student Body President. OSF Philanthropy Chair. MORE Vice President. Big Brother Big Sister program.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue master's degrees in forensic psychology and clinical mental healthy counseling.



brady barton



**POLITICAL SCIENCE & GRAPHIC DESIGN**  
Russellville, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
OSF Special Events chair. EEE pledge class president. Discipleship group leader. Tiger Cheer team. CM. Stone Apartment Manager.  
**HONORS**  
Presidential fellow. President's Leadership Forum. President's List. Dean's List. Illustrator of 2019's Ouachita Christmas card and Ouachitanian cover.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in branding development and marketing materials for political campaigns.



jorie beaumont



# WHO'S

**CHRISTIAN STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY**  
Birmingham, Ala.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
ResLife. Judicial Council Committee Leader. Tiger Serve Day leadership. Pruet Sisterhood leadership. CM Life Group leader.  
**HONORS**  
President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in ministry.



fallon carder



**BUSINESS ADMIN.**  
Bentonville, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE president, VP, social chair, Rush Committee, Discipleship leader. Tiger Serve Day leadership. Teams Chair PLC. Business Student Advisory Board.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Ouachita Presidential Fellow Program. Homecoming Court.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in CPG consulting and strategy.



ali chapman



**MUSIC INDUSTRY**  
N. Little Rock, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Ouachita Worship leader. Refuge leader. Tiger Tunes host. Eta Alpha Omega.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Worship Pastor at New Life Church.



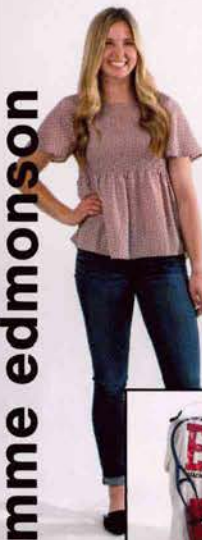
anna lee drennon



**BIOLOGY**  
Conway, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE treasurer, spirit chair, and discipleship leader. OSF secretary. Student Senate Senior Senator. Peake tutor. WOW leader.  
**HONORS**  
Tiger Network Scholarship. Presidential Leadership Forum. President's List. Dean's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as a pediatric nurse.



emme edmonson



**BIOLOGY**  
Benton, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE keeper of the beaus. Carl Goodson Honors Program. American Chemical Society. CM Big Sister. WOW Leader. COVID-19 Contact Tracer.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. President's Scholarship. V. Toombs Endowed Medical Scholarship. President's Leadership Circle.  
**POST GRAD**  
Attend medical school at UAMS.



taylor fielder



**CHRISTIAN STUDIES**  
Little Rock, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Tri Chi chaplain. Tiger Serve Day leadership. Art Club. Pruet Sisterhood. CM leader. Life Group leader. Theta Alpha Kappa honor society.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List. Preben Vang Award for Excellence in Christian Theological Studies.  
**POST GRAD**  
Work with a non-profit, doing inner city/ urban ministry or working in a church a parachurch ministry while pursuing a M.Div at Moody Theological Seminary.



will guerra



**NUTRITION & DIETETICS**

**Lockport, Ill.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Life Group leader, Gamma Phi president, Cross Country team captain, Track and Field team captain, Student Dietetic Association.  
**HONORS**  
 Dean's List, President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a master's degree in clinical nutrition and dietetics and become a registered dietitian for pregnant women and in pediatrics.



**jack bennington**



**CHRISTIAN STUDIES & COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Arkadelphia, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 CM Refuge Leader, CFW Leader, Eta Alpha Omega VP & president, OSDN, Yearbook Staff.  
**HONORS**  
 Dean's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a career in ministry.



**bailey buettner**



**PSYCHOLOGY & CHRISTIAN STUDIES**  
**Garland, Texas**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 CM Big Sister, CM Ministry, Refuge leader, CM Tiger Tunes leadership, Pruet Sisterhood, WOW leadership.  
**HONORS**  
 Theta Alpha Kappa Honor Society.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a career in international missions.



**brittany burr**



**ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**  
**Ivins, Texas**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Tri Chi sisterhood chair, Kappa Delta Pi, MORE chaplain, America Counts Tutor, Academic Success Center tutor.  
**HONORS**  
 President's List, Dean's List, Maude Wright Scholar.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a teaching career.



**cameron conner**



**BIOLOGY**  
**Conway, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Beta Beta chaplain, pledge class president, OSF Special Events Committee, Honor's Program, American Chemistry Society, EEE Beau.  
**HONORS**  
 President's List, Dean's List, Quachita's Founder Scholarship.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Attend dental school.



**caleb crow**



**PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY**  
**Bentonville, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Tri Chi Tiger Tunes Director, Life Group leader, Eta Alpha Omega Sweetheart.  
**HONORS**  
 Dean's List, The Zeitgeist Psychology Award.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a master's in Applied Behavioral Analysis.



**lindsey crowder**



**BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE**  
**Batesville, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Beta Beta chaplain, Tri Chi beau, Freshman Ministry Team, OSF, CM Life Group leader.  
**HONORS**  
 President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Continue education pursuit at medical school.



**FINANCE & POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
**Benton, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Any Fund Portfolio Manager, Tiger Serve Day leadership, Spanish tutor, Beta Beta.  
**HONORS**  
 President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a career in finance and eventually attend law school.



**jenny johnson**



**COMM. SCIENCES & DISORDERS**  
**Benton, Arkansas**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Kluck Aol. Manager, Tri Chi President, ElderServe volunteer, Carl Goodson Honors Program.  
**HONORS**  
 President's list.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue master's degree in speech-language pathology and begin practicing juvenile forensic speech pathology.



**luke livingston**



**BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE**  
**Batesville, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Beta Beta chaplain, Tri Chi beau, Freshman Ministry Team, OSF, CM Life Group leader.  
**HONORS**  
 President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Continue education pursuit at medical school.



**ansley mcdonald**



**MUSIC EDUCATION**  
**Benton, Ark.**  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
 Quachita Singers president, CM Tunes director, ResLife, CFW leadership team, Eta Alpha Omega sweetheart.  
**HONORS**  
 Rachel Fuller Memorial Scholarship, Homecoming Court.  
**POST GRAD**  
 Pursue a career in elementary music education.



**OH M**

jacklynn minton



**BUSINESS & SPORT MANAGEMENT**  
Mena, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
OSF. ElderServe. Sodexo Catering and Cafeteria Staff. Business Services office student worker.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List. President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in human resources and administration.



ryan motl



**COMMUNICATIONS**  
Arkadelphia, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Tenor player on OBU Drumline, Tiger Steel. Roar Rundown director. Ouachita News Show. Film Studies Class Leader.  
**HONORS**  
Arkansas Baptist Media Association Award. Scholar's Day presenter.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as an independent film director.



brooklyn parker



**BUSINESS ADMIN.**  
Clarksville, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Dr. Jack's Coffee General Manager. EEE. CM Life Group Leader. ENACTUS. Office assistant for business dean.  
**HONORS**  
Business Student Advisory Board. President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Attend Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and earn a Master's in Divinity. Eventually serve as a missionary in Italy ministering to women who have fallen into human trafficking.



madison rawls



# WHO'S

**CHRISTIAN STUDIES**  
Arlington, Texas  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
CM Leader. Tri Chi chaplain and secretary. Pruet Sisterhood. WOW Steering. Life Group leader. TranServe.  
**HONORS**  
2020 Homecoming Queen.  
**POST GRAD**  
Attend Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to pursue a Master of Divinity.



holly shipp



**MUSIC INDUSTRY**  
Hot Springs, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Tiger Tunes Host. Eta Alpha Omega. Refuge Worship leader. Ouachita Worship student leader. CM Life Group leader.  
**HONORS**  
President's List  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in worship ministry and song writing.



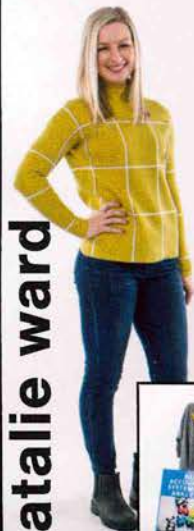
stuart sowerbutts



**COMMUNICATIONS**  
Forney, Texas  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Ouachitonian Editor in Chief and Sports Editor. Tiger baseball team. FCA Leader. Peake Elementary tutor. RBI Thrift & Vintage. Interim SID, sportswriter.  
**HONORS**  
GAC Academic All-Conference. President's list. Dean's List. ACMA's 2021 Yearbook Editor of the Year.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in professional journalism.



natalie ward



**ACCOUNTING & FINANCE**  
Harrison, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE head induction chair. ENACTUS president. Business Student Advisory Board. WOW leader.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List. Mike Garner Memorial Endowment recipient. William E. Clark Scholarship recipient.  
**POST GRAD**  
Associate Auditor at BKD.



laura beth warner



**CHRISTIAN STUDIES**  
Benton, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
CM Big Sister. OSF. Alpha Xi. Theta Alpha Kappa. EEE Tunes director.  
**HONORS**  
Alpha Xi Ministerial Award. President's List. Homecoming Court. Miss OBU Academic Award. Honors Program.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a Master's in Divinity while working as a children's minister and dance teacher.



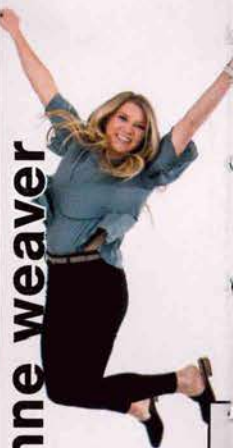
stephanie weatherford



**SOCIAL JUSTICE**  
Batesville, Ark.  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
Tri Chi vice president. Frances Crawford Resident Assistant. TranServe. ElderServe. Peake Partnership.  
**HONORS**  
President's list.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in social services and advocacy work in an organization that provides resources and refuge to marginalized communities.



julianne weaver



**PSYCHOLOGY & MUSIC**

**Arkadelphia, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
Tri Chi assistant Tiger Tunes Director. Young Democrats president. Student Senate. Co-Organizer of Elrod Center's AHDC Pen Pal Program.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List. Kluck Service Enrichment Grant.  
**POST GRAD**  
Graduate school to study psychology.

emilee roberston



**COMM. SCIENCES & DISORDERS**

**Arkadelphia, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE Recruitment Chair. National Student Speech, Hearing, and Language Association. Class Representative. OSF. CMDS Program.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as a speech language pathologist.



joao rodrigues



**FINANCE**

**Ribeirao Preto, Brazil INVOLVEMENT**  
Alpha Chi. Business Student Advisory Board. Ary Student Fund. Business Ambassador for Honor's Program. TSD Leadership. Men's swim team. ENACTUS. CM Life Group leader.  
**HONORS**  
Ben Elrod Scholar. Dean's List. President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in corporate finance. Will join Dillard's Inc. for a two-year fellowship program.



mady cate rottinghaus



**BIOLOGY & SPANISH**

**Hot Springs, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
Student Senate. OSF recruitment chair. EEE president and social chair. Special Olympics. American Chemical Society. Book keeper for Ouachita Volleyball.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List. Honors Program.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in dentistry.



ben swanger

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**Arkadelphia, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE. Tiger Cheer Team. Pre-Law Society president. Yearbook Staff. Writer for Office of Communications and Marketing. Campus Store worker.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List. President's List.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career in strategic communications, public relations.



abby turner

**BIOLOGY**

**Benton, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE Tiger Tunes director, pledge mistress. OSF. American Chemical Society Member. Carl Goodson Honors Program.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Presidential Scholarship.  
**POST GRAD**  
Attend dental school.



abby walker

WHO

**BIOLOGY**

**Benton, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
EEE spirit leader and discipleship leader. Ouachita Cheer Team. Carl Goodson Honors Program. Patterson Research Program. American Chemical Society.  
**HONORS**  
President's List. Dean's List. Sandifer Pre-Med Scholarship. Presidential Leadership Forum. Tiger Network Scholarship.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as a pediatrician.

jenna whitlow



**STUDIO ART & HISTORY**

**Fort Smith, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
Art Club president. Art Club juried show chair. EEE. OSF. CM. Backyard Bible Club.  
**HONORS**  
Dean's List. Russel Shad Memorial Art Award for Outstanding Junior. Juried Show 2019 Honorable Mention.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as an art historian, museum curator, or gallery owner.



mason woolbright



**BUSINESS ADMIN.**

**Benton, Ark. INVOLVEMENT**  
OSF president. EEE beau. Life Group leader. CM. Tiger Serve Day.  
**HONORS**  
District IV Outstanding Student Leader. Council for Advancement and Support of Education.  
**POST GRAD**  
Work in real estate development and continue to grow M&M Productions.



estelle zhang



**FINANCE & BUSINESS MGMT.**

**DongYing, China INVOLVEMENT**  
International club president. Elrod Center volunteer. Ary Fund participant. ENACTUS. Carl Goodson Honors Program.  
**HONORS**  
National College Honor Society Program.  
**POST GRAD**  
Pursue a career as a financial advisor, a portfolio manager, or employee at an investment bank.





**Tammy Alexander**//Office Manager,  
School of Business  
**Genie Ashcraft**//Administrative  
Assistant, School of Education  
**Susan Atkinson**//Registrar,  
Director of Admissions  
**Mike Ayres**//Printing Dept. Director  
**Chris Babb**//Inst. of Communications,  
Dir. of Ouachita Sports Media Productions  
**Tammy Barnes**//Office Mgr., Student Life  
**Alicia Barrett**//Admin. Asst., Development



**Deryl Baumgardner**//Campus Safety  
**Brenda Bradley-Phison**//Director  
TRIO Programs, Educational Talent Search  
**Joe Bradshaw**//Burch Prof. of Chemistry,  
and Pre-Medical Studies  
**Detri Brech**//Professor of Dietetics  
and Pre-Medical Studies  
**Kevin Brennan**//Prof. of Political Science  
**John Briggs**//Lecturer in Music  
**David Brown**//Athletic Asst., Baseball



**Erica Brown**//Assistant Director,  
Educational Talent Search  
**Joshua Brown**//Asst. Professor of Music,  
Director of Choral Activities  
**Lai Cai**//Professor of Music  
**Ashley Carozza**//Graphic Design Coord.  
**Melissa Carozza**//Administrative  
Assistant, School of Natural Sciences  
**Jackson Carter**//Inst. of Communications  
**Terry Carter**//Associate Dean,  
School of Christian Studies,  
Vaught Professor of Christian Missions



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**A**fter moving back to Arkadelphia, his hometown and town of his alma mater, following his time in medical school and residency, Dr. Wesley Kluck was asked what his dream job was while playing a newlywed game at church.

“My answer was always to work at Ouachita Baptist University,” said Kluck.

In 2004, Dr. Kluck was on Ouachita’s Board of Trustees and had the opportunity to help crown Ouachita’s homecoming queen. While on the football field, former Ouachita president Dr. Andrew Westmoreland leaned over to Kluck and surprisingly asked if he wanted to work on campus.

Since that day, Dr. Kluck has taken on the roles of Vice President for Institutioned Advancement, Vice President for Student Development, team doctor, photography teacher and most well-known, the campus physician at Ouachita.

The ongoing trend in health care in 2020 on small college campuses was to shut down health services and have students go to clinics in their corresponding towns, however Ouachita went against that grain.

“The fact that I am able to be here, along with Nurse Molly, it allows us to serve more students right here,” Kluck said. “The follow-up is so much easier because I know a lot of the students already and I can establish that necessary trust with every patient.”

With the COVID-19 pandemic, Ouachita had never needed Dr. Kluck more than the 2020-21 school year.

“The moment everyone had to go home in the spring of

2020, I probably put in 20-25 hours a week just figuring out a way to have school safely and how to stay in school,” Kluck said. “I think about COVID and our students all day long. It is the first thing I think about in the morning, and the last thing I think about before I go to bed.”

As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, continued to change the rules for COVID-19, Kluck and his team remained proactive to implement every recommendation and testing procedure that would keep Ouachita students safe.

“Since the very first day we have been following the procedure: rapidly diagnose, isolate, determine close contacts, and quarantine,” said Kluck.

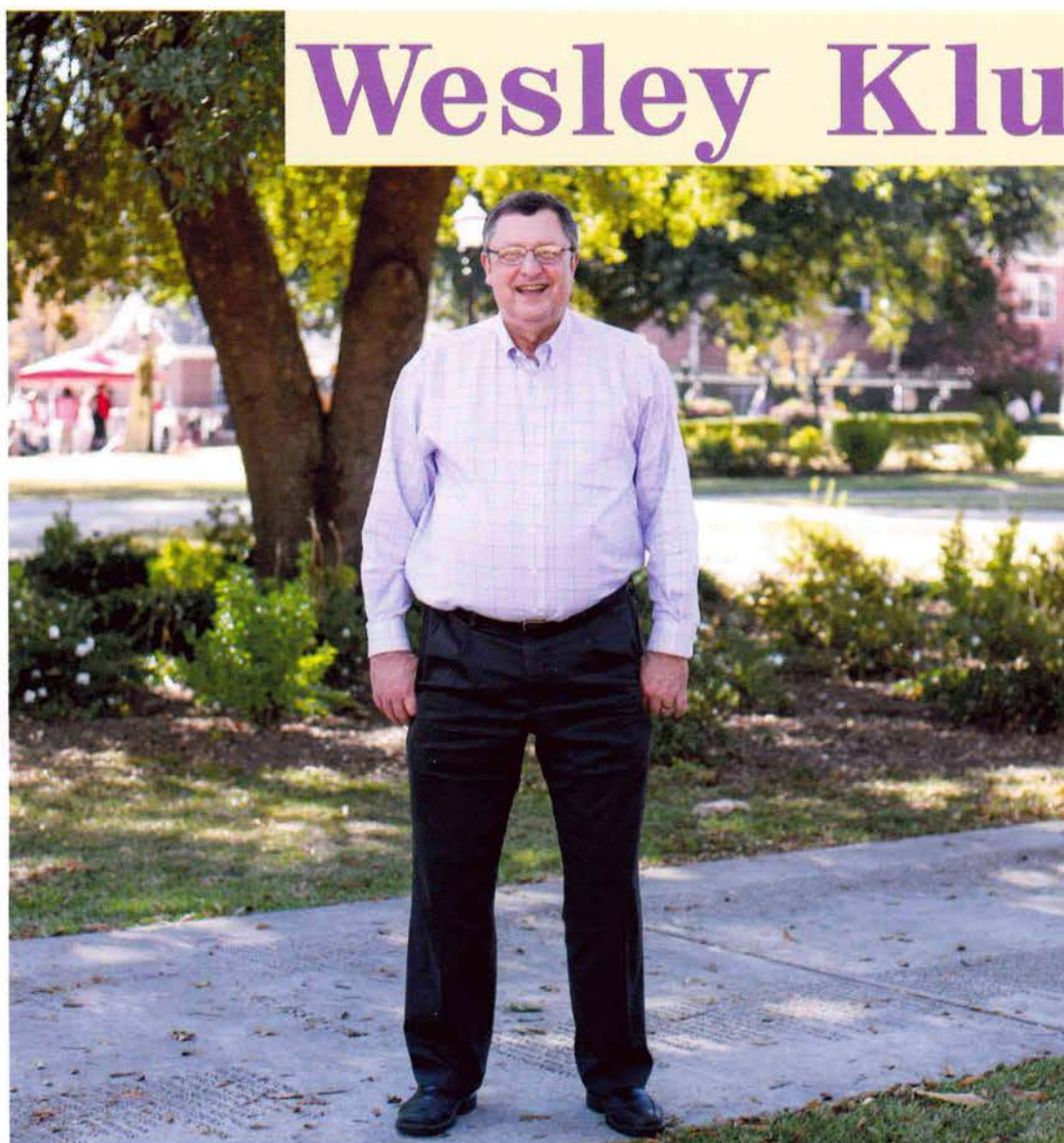
Students with positive tests were required to go home, along with those who were considered close contacts with COVID carriers.

“Those with negative tests did not have to go home, so we brought them meals to their rooms, did their errands and whatever else we could do to make their lives easier,” Kluck said.

Dr. Kluck never could have imagined being a campus physician in the middle of a pandemic, but throughout the whole experience Kluck said, “I have remained hopeful and pray that we will continue to stay healthy.”

“If one goes down, we all go down together,” said Kluck. “Though, I believed in this year and the journey we created together, it definitely was a year we won’t forget.”

Madison Cresswell



# Wesley Kluck

**“The moment** everyone had to go home in the spring of 2020, I probably put in 20-25 hours a week just figuring out a way to have school safely and how to stay in school.”

**H**annah Pilcher, the Resident Director of Frances Crawford Hall, found a unique opportunity for ministry within her job in the freshman girls' dorm. Pilcher is originally from Little Rock and has spent the past eight years pouring into freshmen girls and resident assistants, as a student and as a RD.

Her time at Ouachita inspired Pilcher to build relationships with others that directly parallels her experience as a student.

"I grew up knowing about Ouachita and it wasn't until my friend started looking here before I became really interested," Pilcher said. "I ended up coming here and graduated in 2013. Toward the end of my time here I would walk around campus and feel like I was not done here on campus."

After making the decision to attend Ouachita, Pilcher never regretted her decision. Pilcher never planned on staying at Ouachita post graduation, but three days before graduation she got a call from the dean and was offered the position of Resident Director for Frances Crawford Hall.

"I knew I was about to have a lot of time with students," Pilcher said. "This job sets you up to have a discipleship

relationship with so many girls."

Pilcher made it a point to focus primarily on her resident assistants so that they are fully equipped to minister to their residents. She stated that if her RAs feel supported, then that is how she can give to everyone else.

Pilcher has spent multiple years intentionally pouring into students through life groups, movie nights, lunch dates, Bible studies, and so much more.

"I don't force my presence on everyone, so I let girls come to me and build relationships when they need it," Pilcher said. "I am here to invest and they want people to invest."

Pilcher learned through this job how important it is for people to do life with each other as well as the importance of selflessness. This job does not require a cookie cutter person, but someone who is willing to love and invest in others.

"You have to really want it," Pilcher said. "I want my girls to feel like this is their home."

Pilcher found great joy in being a part of something greater than herself as she has shared the love of Christ with the students of Ouachita.

Madi Darr

# Hannah Pilcher

**"This job sets you up**  
to have a discipleship  
relationship with so  
many girls."





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**W**hen going home in the spring 2020 became a reality for students, staff, and faculty at Ouachita, one of the greatest challenges became how to continue to feel motivated and inspired while in isolation. For Eric Phillips, chair of the theatre department, specializing in light, stage, costume, and prop design, this reality was one he felt he could help bring some inspiration and encouragement to.

Luckily for Phillips, roughly a year before being sent home due to the COVID-19 outbreak, he decided to take a season on sabbatical.

"I had some time to pull back and refocus and try to build up other interest and things. You get so focused in teaching, or in my case, creating in teaching," Phillips said.

During his time on sabbatical, Phillips began giving himself some projects he could work on at home. This included water coloring, music, sketches, and even building furniture, all interests that he previously did not have enough time for.

The period of quarantine for Phillips became an opportunity for him to encourage his current and past students, which was primarily achieved by posting on Facebook.

"The majority of my Facebook friends are past and current students, so as a way to encourage them to continue pushing their creative process I began sharing what I was working on," Phillips said.

Phillips' posts consisted of videos of him playing in different

spots around Verser Theatre, some videos of him water-coloring, and different updates on the furniture he was crafting. Phillips mentioned how the interactions with these posts were not only encouraging, but provided a sense of community for those who were feeling frustrated or had a lack of creative motivation.

One way he was able to connect with students was over an event called "Couch Cabaret." This was a virtual event where past and current students could showcase their work and audience members could donate if they would like.

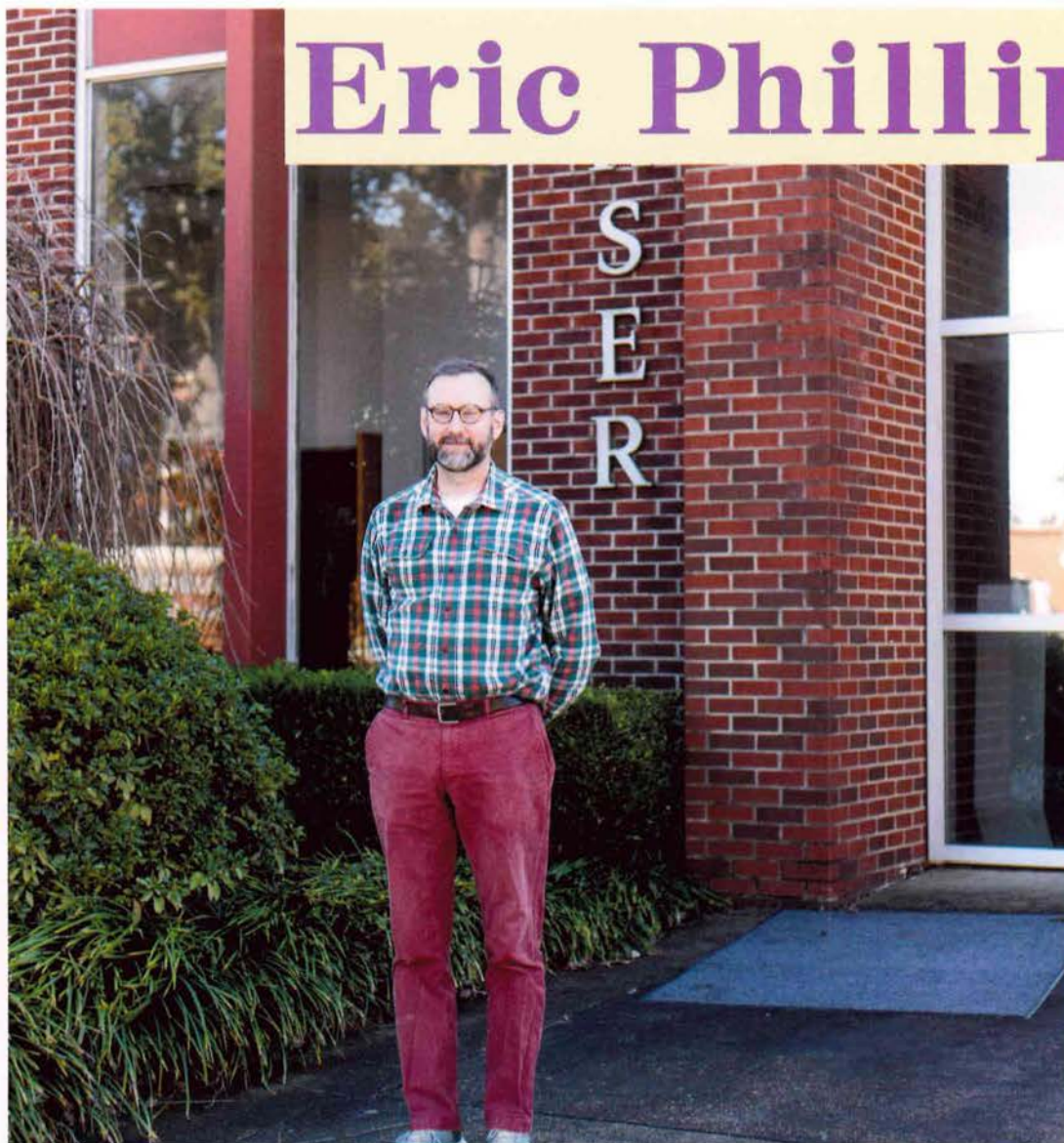
"I am very much a collaborative artist, so I got in contact with those who would be performing on the same day as me. We ended up choosing the song 'Here Comes the Sun' by The Beatles because we figured it would be a nice reminder during these hard and frustrating times that everything was going to be OK."

Phillips continued to challenge and encourage his students in the classroom throughout the tough seasons. Sharing different videos and stories with them on a regular basis was his go-to.

Phillips strived to instill the knowledge that circumstances are unpredictable and sometimes intimidating, but each person has the ability to push themselves to better their craft and know that their talents were still being used to make an impact.

Mallory Wallace

# Eric Phillips



**"I had some time to pull back and refocus and try to build up other interests and things. You get so focused in teaching, or in my case, creating in teaching."**

**M**ary Chung and Carlos Feller have been traveling the world together for 11 years sharing their love and passion for music by performing and educating others. At a young age, Chung and Feller both found music as their refuge.

Chung moved to the Dominican Republic where she encountered a language and culture barrier; she retreated to music as her escape. This led her to enroll at a conservatory where she began to earnestly study music.

Feller attended a technical school, a specialized high school, at the age of 15. At that mere age, Feller was living in an apartment alone in Brazil. In an unfamiliar city with unfamiliar faces, music became his rescue in a new and foreign environment.

Feller and Chung's paths crossed while attending graduate school at the University of Southern Mississippi. While attending school, the two collected a strong network of professionals and artists.

"We went through our master's degree and doctorate [together]. I think part of our career is also networking with other professionals, other musicians, other artists, and then collaborating with them. It is very common for professors from one university to invite you, and you invite them back. It just happened for us that because we had such a varied background, we had connections not only in different states, but we had connections all over the world," Feller said.

These connections were the beginning of Chung and

Feller's travels educating others and performing music. The two have been to at least nine different countries such as France, Switzerland, Peru, Italy, Japan and more. Each new country brought opportunities to learn from the culture and people.

When reflecting on these experiences, Chung said, "It is such a privilege and humbling experience because we get to play a lot, we get to teach, but at the end of the day what we remember the most is it's not about the music we play, or the people we taught, it is about the interaction that we had."

Remembering these great people and experiences have inspired them to carry this message and instill it in their students. Chung and Feller's wish is that Ouachita students would have the love, passion, and discipline for music.

"I want our students to have the same passion. Never lose that passion and never lose that love. We're not only playing a recital just for our own satisfaction, I mean it is satisfying for us to learn and grow, but you know at the end of the day what we want to do is share that with other people. We want to share the joy that we have, the love that we have, and we want to multiply that," Feller said.

Music is the common goal.

"When you have one common goal and you work together toward that goal, in this case it is music, you will accomplish something beautiful. If you do it well, I think you make it a better place. That is our mission, our goal," Feller said.

MacKenzie Hall

## Mary Chung & Carlos Feller

**"When you have one common goal and you work together toward that goal, in this case it is music, you will accomplish something beautiful."**  
- Carlos Feller





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# 2020-2021

Joe Biden and Donald Trump are formally nominated as Democratic and Republican candidates for 2021's Presidential election.



**AUGUST** saw students welcomed back to campus. After a strenuous summer, the university was prepared to host students for on campus living and learning.



President Trump and First Lady Melania test positive for COVID-19. Trump was quickly rushed to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center where he recovered.

**OCTOBER** was a month spent settling back into the Ouachita culture. Tiger Tunes Rewind was held, TWIRP Month was hosted, Tiger Traks took place, and Tiger sports teams were able to touch the field for some intersquad action.

## DECEMBER

turned OBU into a ghost town as students were in the midst of a 55-day holiday break. However, the graduating class of 2020 finally participated in commencement.



The FDA authorizes COVID-19 Pfizer and Moderna vaccine rollouts across the country.



COVID-19 death toll surpasses 200,000 in the United States.



**SEPTEMBER** was a month filled with COVID infections, quarantines, an internet server issues, intramurals, and the first theater performance in the form of "Puffs, Or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic."

**NOVEMBER** played host to one of the greatest presidential elections this country had ever seen, accompanied by the crowning of Ouachita's newest homecoming queen. Rush week was also squeezed into the fall schedule, a change up from years past.



Former Vice President Joe Biden is reported to have enough electoral college votes to become the next president.



**FEBRUARY** was one of the busiest months of the school year. From Christian Focus Week and sporting events to Black History Month celebrations and a winter blizzard, students were finally able to settle into life as a Ouachitonian.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers, led by Tom Brady, win Super Bowl 55.

Derek Chauvin is convicted for the murder of George Floyd, and the CDC confirms fully vaccinated people can travel on planes again.



**APRIL** was a time of celebration as student, faculty, and staff morale increased to a peak. COVID-19 cases on campus dropped to zero, maskless outdoor big group gatherings returned, and Tiger Serve Day returned to normal.



Joe Biden is sworn in as the 46th president of the United States of America.



**JANUARY** was the beginning of a new year as 2020 was finally kissed goodbye. Ouachita Worship released its first original song "Holy Fire," and the first Tiger athletic competition since March 2020 was a swim meet.

**MARCH** played host to COVID-19 vaccine clinics for students, faculty and staff. An estimated 850 students received the vaccine. Intramural competition also began to heat up, alongside social club activities.



United States Congress passes \$1.9 trillion stimulus package to help families and individuals across the country.

**MAY** marked the conclusion of the most strenuous school year everybody on campus had ever experienced, as the class of 2021 walked the stage without masks in Cliff Harris Stadium.



A state of emergency was declared after a cyberattack on a fuel pipeline resulted in a lack of gas supply.



Patra Gois Camargo  
Election Panel



Logan Dooley



Registration



Junior Andrew Boatman shows off his "I Voted" pen. Ouachita students took to the polls and submitted ballots in the mail.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



**Electoral College Votes // 306**  
**Popular Votes // 81.3 million**

**JOE BIDEN (D)**

# UTILIZING


**T**he 2020 Presidential Election marked one of the most historic elections in the United States' history. The two candidates, 45th President and Republican candidate Donald Trump and President-elect and Democratic candidate Joe Biden, recorded the highest voter turnout in over a century.

On campus at Ouachita Baptist University plenty of eyes were peeled to the polls. Leading up to the historic day of November 3, 2020, educational panels were held in order to provide information and knowledge about the election and election process. A day was dedicated to voter registration as students received information on how to register to vote. And as election season was in full swing, some students cast mail-in ballots while others traveled back home in order to make their voice heard.

Madison Rawls, a senior music major from Arkadelphia and president of the Young Democrats on Ouachita's campus, said, "Voting is important because it gives us the opportunity to have a voice. Some think their vote doesn't matter, but it does."

For many students, 2020's election was the first Presidential Election in which the young demographic was qualified to vote. As the workforce inched closer for students, some believed the decision on who to



 **COVID Conduct**  
Mail in voting had never been more popular



Senior Molly Maddox poses with her "I Voted" sticker. Ouachita students were given the chance to register to vote on campus.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



Mary Charles West



Blaine Miller



Anna Roussel  
Election Panel

**DONALD TRUMP (R)** Electoral College Votes // 232  
Popular Votes // 74.2 million

# OUR VOICE

vote for was dependent upon a candidate's economic outlook.

"I think as a college student voting matters so much more than one might think," Madison McGhee, a junior communications major from Alma and president of the College Republicans, said. "We are working toward degrees, to get jobs, and to enter the real world. How the world and job market functions is affected by who is elected not only nationally but locally too."

Voting is a privilege Americans are given, but countless of other countries throughout the globe are not given a choice.

Isaac Edwards, a freshman biology major from Hawkins, Texas, said, "Voting is important because it encourages civic participation, the effectiveness of the government, and allows all to be represented."

Votes were counted for weeks following the 2020 election due to an onslaught of mail-in ballots. Biden eventually pulled away in the election once the mail in ballots were counted and Trump's four-year stay from early 2017 to early 2021 came to a close.

Former vice president Joe Biden won the 2020 election with 306 electoral votes. He was inaugurated on January 20, 2021, as the 46th President and Commander-in-Chief of the United States of America.

Ben Swanger and Addie Woods





Members of Chi Mu join hands in celebrating the club's 5th birthday. Clubs found unique ways to stay connected during the year.  
Photo by Maddie Cargile



# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Functions were canceled. Celebrations were postponed. Rush pivoted. Inactivity crept in. Ouachita's clubs and organizations could have wavered, however each student chose ***resilience.***

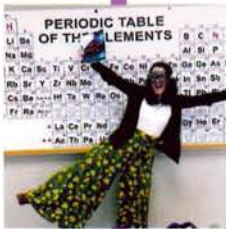




"The Student Dietetic Association allows us to do projects on campus and to grow closer as a major. We get to make great memories with the activities this club brings."  
*Cannon Fisher*



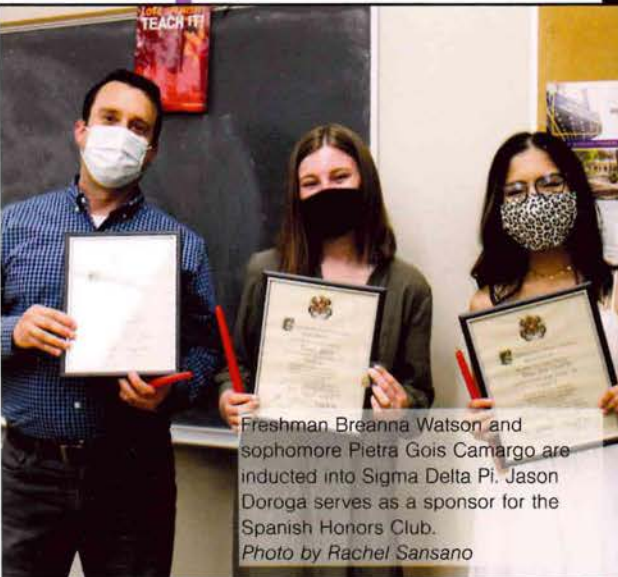
"I loved being part of and leading Art Club because it has given me the opportunity to serve campus and Arkadelphia with incredibly talented and creative people."  
*Jenna Whitlow*



"There is a great focus on outreach and education for people outside of the science department at Ouachita."  
*Aubree Seibert*



Students donate canned foods for the Kappa Delta Pi food drive. The club collected food for Perritt Primary students.  
*Photo by Rachel Sansano*



Freshman Breanna Watson and sophomore Pietra Gois Camargo are inducted into Sigma Delta Pi. Jason Doroga serves as a sponsor for the Spanish Honors Club.  
*Photo by Rachel Sansano*

## Showcasing fundraisers, fun, and field experience

# VARIETY

Ouachita boasted a wide array of academic clubs across campus for students to plug into. The members of each club came from different backgrounds and majors, however they all shared a common passion.

The academic clubs stayed active all year long. From fundraisers to conferences, these clubs gave their members hands-on experience and skills to prepare them for their future careers.

One of the clubs on campus was ENACTUS. Estelle Zhang, a senior business administration and finance major from China, shared how the club prepared her for life after graduation.

"I interviewed new members, did research, connected with ABC Homes in Arkansas, and we also dedicated our profit from selling coffee to poor villages in Guatemala to help them build schools and water supply," she said. "By the end of spring semester, we went to business competition conference to compete at regional and national level. I certainly gained hands-on experience because we're doing real-life business."

The clubs not only wanted their members to grow, but they also wanted the student body to learn and educate themselves. Cannon Fisher, a junior nutrition and dietetics major from Wynne explained the activities the Student Dietetic Association organized and their importance.

"Every year, we have our famous chocolate covered strawberry fundraiser and potato fundraiser," he said. "We are trying to do more on-campus activities with students to help educate them on the importance of nutrition and what that entails. We want to give them

key educational tips on how to get all of their vitamins in their diet or on how not to carbo-load at every meal. We want it to be fun and easy because it is, and it's so important to have that knowledge."

Another club on campus was the Student Nurses Association. Academic clubs gave the opportunity to members to hold a leadership position. Madi Esch, a senior nursing student from Benton, described how being the president of her club helped her overcome her fears and gain new skills.

"I was terrified of running for the position at first, but I knew it was something God wanted me to do," she said. "I always thought leadership wasn't my thing, but come to find out, I actually enjoy it. I like being able to mentor others and be someone that others can count on. This has allowed me to grow not only from that, but by making sure things get done and helping grow the nursing program even through COVID-19."

The NSSLHA (National Student Speech Language Hearing Association) was another club that impacted students' lives at OBU. Molly Maddox, a junior speech pathology major from Jonesboro, shared how the club helped her grow.

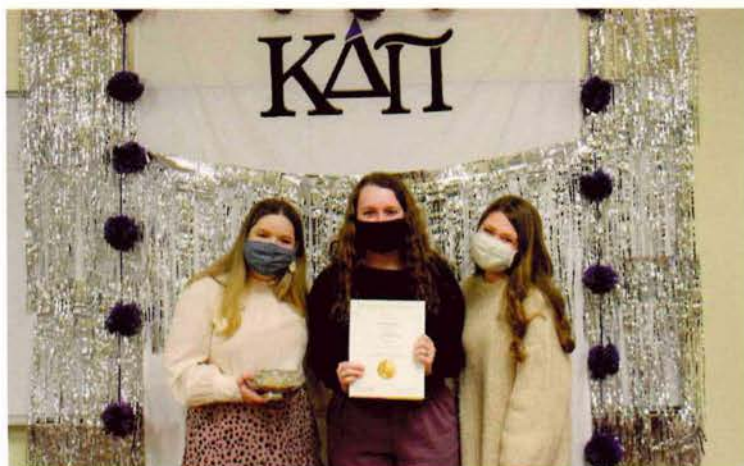
"NSSLHA has impacted my experience at Ouachita by allowing me to build relationships with the upper classmen as well as the classes below me," she said. "It has been really neat to see how the club as a whole works together to serve the community of Arkadelphia. The club also prepared me by opening my eyes to ways I can serve others in my future career."

Valeria Gomez



**STUDENTS GATHER** on the lawn to play cornhole. The Society of Physics hosted the event.  
*Photo courtesy of Society of Physics Facebook*

**DEMONSTRATING CPR**, senior Kierra Taylor explains the procedure to a student. The Kinesiology club set up the demonstration outside the student center for students to come by.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



## TEAM TESTIMONY

"My experience in Kappa Delta Pi was a little different this year than previous years," Jazmyn Parker, a junior elementary education from Jefferson, said. "Our club is heavily based on community service and volunteering at the schools in the Arkadelphia community. Because we were not allowed in schools due to COVID-19, we did other service projects, such as writing letters to the teachers, hosting a food drive, and writing letters of encouragement to OBU student teachers."

*As told to Gracen Goudy*

## Honors Program allows students to strive above and beyond

The Carl Goodson Honors Program was founded in 1964 and was a program built on academic excellence as well as a social aspect. The Honors Society was known as Alpha Tau which was created by Dr. Barbara Pemberton. Students were given the chance to be ambassadors, plan events, and serve the community together throughout the school year. The Honors program gave students plenty of opportunities to go above and beyond in creative research to explore a wide variety of things that students are interested in and allow students to dive deeper in their studies.

Dr. Pemberton, a professor of Christian Missions and Director of the Honors Programs, said, "Honors Society included the Black and White Ceremony which inducts new students into Honors and introduces the older members into the research stage of their thesis. Another event is known as the Spring Theme held in the spring where students put together a fun event for the Ouachita student body."

Scholars Day was another event that was hosted by the Honors Society. The senior thesis involved a directed study with any professor and was presented to Ouachita's student body on Scholars Days.

Kristi Roshto, senior English major from Alexandria, Louisiana, was the Academic Chair for Honors. Her favorite event this year was the Black and White Reception because she got to plan it with Dr. Pemberton.

"I put a lot of work into this event, I really enjoyed it and it was my last one," she said. "I was the one who created the videos and create the slide show. I am very thankful that Dr. Pemberton trusted me enough to handle this event and gave me this opportunity to learn."

Dane Jester, a junior biology major from Benton, and Hannah Herrington, a junior biology major from Little Rock, were both Co-Social chairs. Both Jester and Herrington shared how being in Honors affected them as a student.

"When we were able to have weekly Honors colloquium, a student working on their thesis would present research to an audience of Honors students," Jester said. "This was always a great opportunity for me to broaden my intellectual horizons by learning about a wide range of subject matters outside of my particular field of study here at Ouachita."

For Herrington, she has been able to strive above and beyond because of the program.

"Honors has been great accountably for me to give my best academically and go beyond what is required of me to graduate," Herrington said. "The Lord calls us to glorify him in all we do, and I know working hard academically is a way to do that."

Isabella Wood, a junior psychology major from Paragould, was the Ambassador Chair.

"Honors has influenced me to go beyond the curriculum," she said. "I take a closer look at topics that interest me, and I get to have professors direct my search. Because of honors I now enjoy doing research. Before college, I would have told you I hated research, but having to do it for my honors thesis has made it much more enjoyable. As a Christian, it has helped me to see how God is in everything that we see and do."

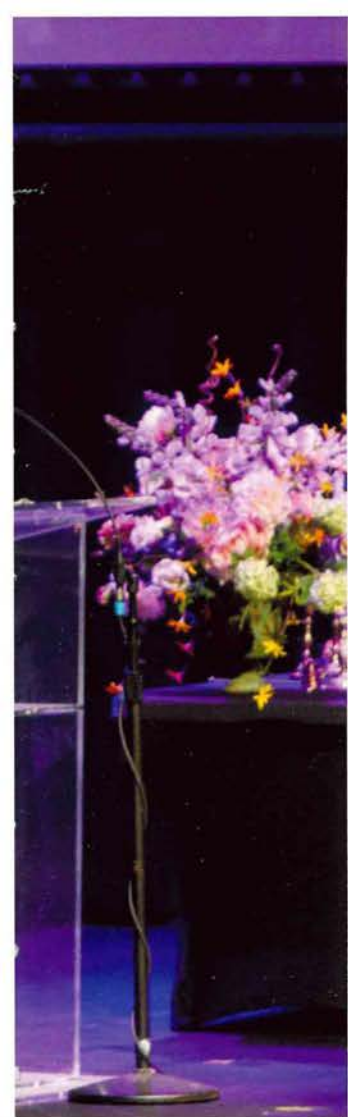
Angela Webb



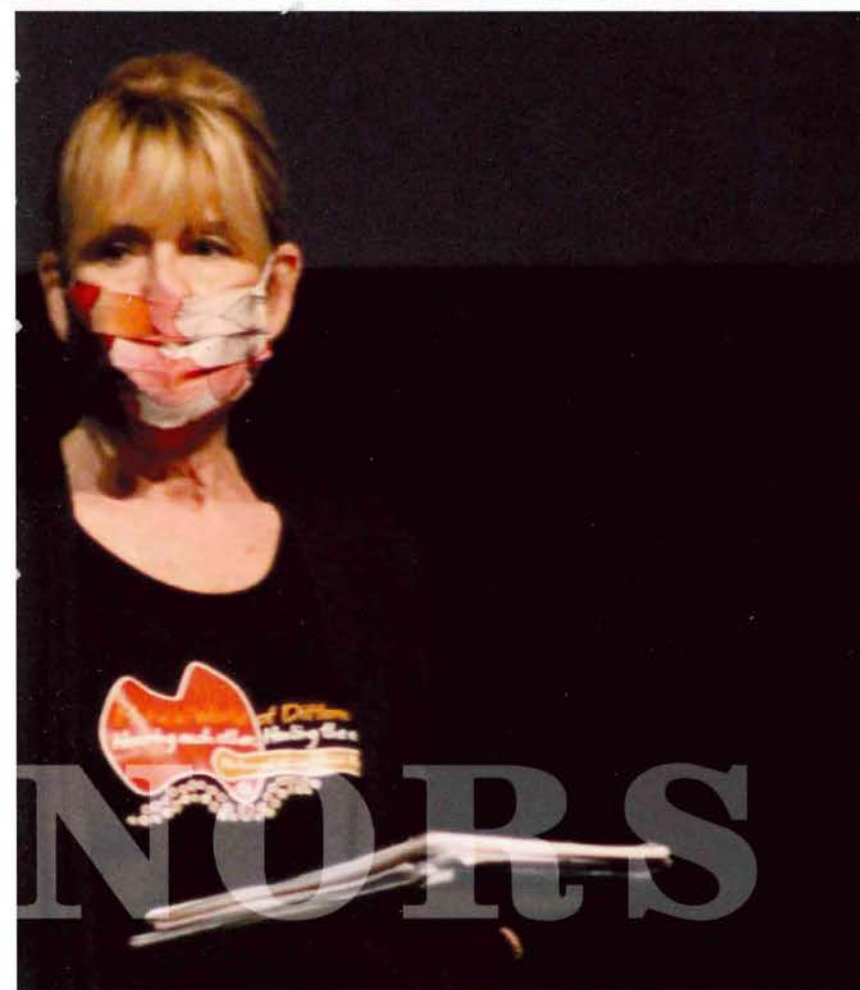
Noah Sanders speaks at Honors Induction  
Photo by Levi Dade



Dr. Pemberton teaches Honors OBU Connections  
Photo by Sarah Dean



Honors student learn about The Beatles in Beatles Music Honors Seminar  
Photo by Jomari Bailey



Maddie Bailey and Jael Winterholter are celebrated at the Honors Induction  
Photo by Levi Dade



"Anytime I'm making music with other students is a gratifying experience and it contributes to my musicianship."  
*Craig Crawford*



"I have really seen how lucky as a campus we are to be able to play in-person ensembles, while still being able to be on campus."  
*Brock Wade*



"After two challenging semesters, it was so encouraging and uplifting to be able to worship and make music with such a big part of the Ouachita community."  
*Jacob Cates*



Chloe Spraggins and Jonathan Sandy play at the Steel Drum Ensemble. The audience spread out in Jones Performing Arts Center to view the concert.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



Freshman Brennon Humphry plays at the handbell concert. The concert took place in Berry Chapel.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

# One team, one tune, one **ENSEMBLE**

Ouachita had both vocal and instrumental ensembles on campus that provided a way for students to get involved and use their gifts. Whether it was by joining the Concert Choir or the Steel Drum Band, there was a group for everyone looking for a way to showcase their talent.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the music ensembles had to adjust everything in order to keep everyone safe.

Chloe Wallace, a freshman music industry major from Conway, was a member of the Women's Chorus and the Concert Choir. She shared how her first year in the music ensembles were different than what she was expecting.

"Because of COVID-19 we've had to sing in masks, perform outside, and be distanced from each other," Wallace said. "Masks make it hard to remember which name goes with which person, and distancing can make it hard to get to know people who are really spread out from you."

The new restrictions were hard on the freshmen, especially since they were trying to meet new people.

"COVID-19 has changed so many things in the aspect of music and theatre," freshman Eli Butler, a musical theatre major from Greenwood, said. "Making music is such an intimate task and brings people so close, but because of COVID-19 and having to wear masks it's hard to get that connection."

Even though COVID-19 made it difficult for people to connect, the music ensembles did not let this stop them. The ensembles were able to put on many fun outdoor concerts in front of the student center and in the amphitheater, as well as host socially distanced events in Jones Performing Arts Center and Berry Chapel.

"Ouachita students have done such a great job of following the mandates and guidelines while coming together to make beautiful music and have fun during these hard times," said Butler.

Music brought forth a joy that we all desperately needed during these times, and the music ensembles were more than able to supply that for Ouachita's campus.

Aryana Gardner, a senior music industry major from Conway, was a member of the Women's Chorus and the Concert choir, as well as MORE Gospel Choir.

When asked about her favorite event this past year, she said, "My favorite memory this year was the MORE Gospel Choir and Ouachita Worship Band teaming up."

The MORE and Ouachita Worship duo just shows that even with all the restrictions, the music ensembles were able to fight through and come together in order to do what they love: make beautiful music.

Gardner put it best when she said, "I have learned that if you stay persistent, God will favor your efforts."

Hanna Williams



**DR. GERBER** leads his students in a Concert Choir performance outside the student center. Students and family gathered outside to listen.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

**WITH HIS** bassoon, senior Cross Brandon plays at the Wind Ensemble concert. The concert was held in Jones Performing Arts Center.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*

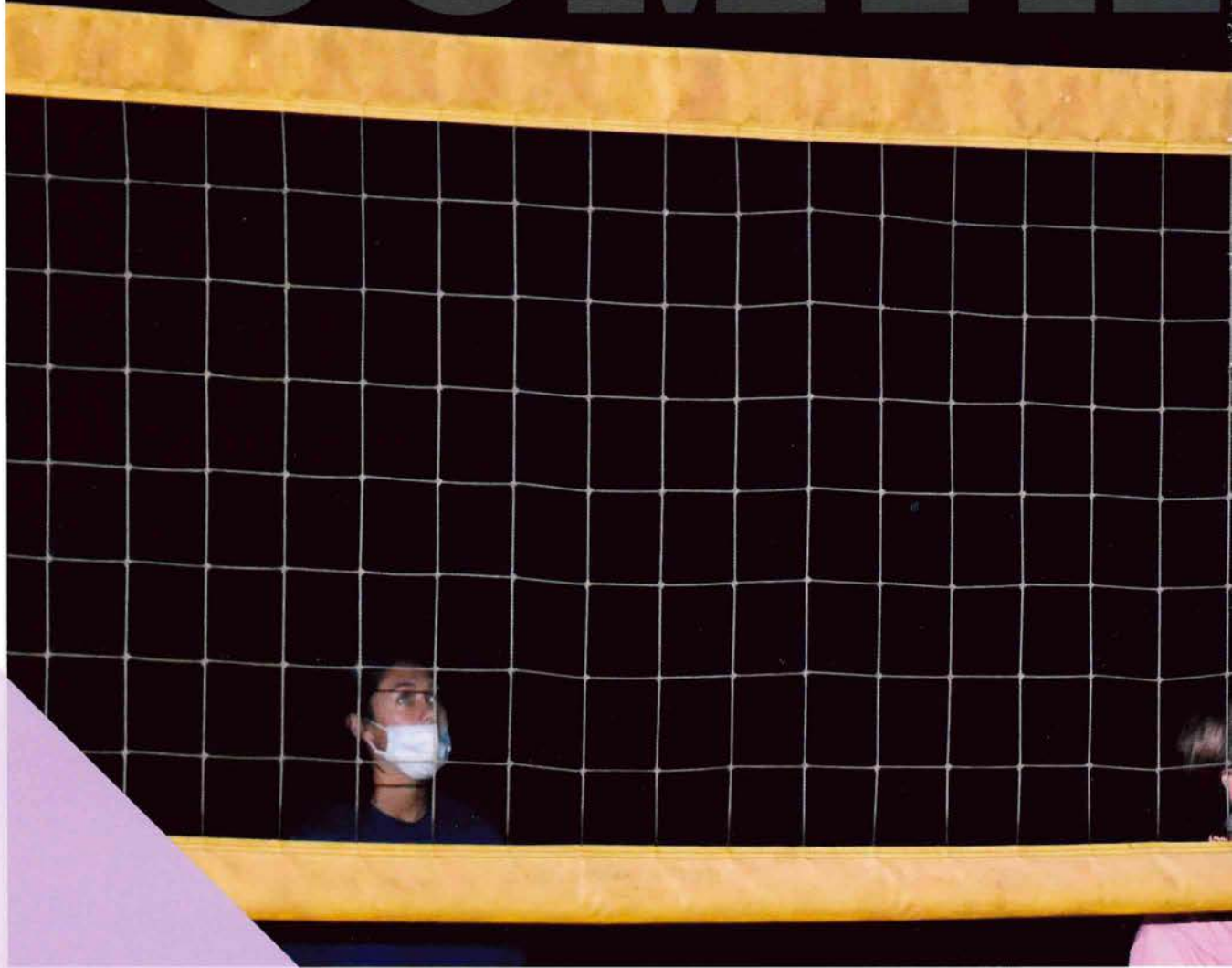


## TEAM **TESTIMONY**

"There were certainly many things we had to overcome in the wind ensemble," Harrison Shuffield, a junior music industry major from Arkadelphia, said. "We wore masks coming in and out of the band room, there were clear plexiglass dividers between each player, and bell covers to go over the end of each instrument to minimize the spread of COVID-19. I'm thankful that Ouachita was able to quickly adapt to guidelines for the music department and have a relatively normal year."  
*As told to Gracen Goudy*

# COMPA

**Athletes build  
community  
off the field**



**A**s many events were pushed aside due to COVID-19 regulations, Ouachita's Fellowship of Christian Athletes was determined to work around this in order to maintain fellowship and grow their faith. President of the organization, junior political science and business double major, Hunter Swoboda, from Bentonville, was thrilled to see the impact FCA was allowed to have on athletes on campus.

"FCA was awesome during this entire academic year," Swoboda said. "With the help of Dr. Kluck, Coach Sharp, and our sponsor Coach Spencer Knight we were able to ensure a safe COVID-19 environment

along with pursuing and deepening our relationships with Christ and with each other. We met every other Wednesday and only missed one event and that was due to the snowstorm."

Each week, athletes gathered for worship, a message, food, and games. The goal was to spread and strengthen the gospel message throughout the athletic department.

"FCA plays a major impact on our student athletes," Coach Spencer Knight said. "Just this semester I have seen student athletes grow in their relationship with Christ in so many ways. Through adversity and uncertainty they have remained consistent in their walk. A few have even come to truly understand what Christ has done for us and

# KNOWLEDGE



Photo by Meagan North

how to follow Him for the first time. It also impacts their attitudes and perspective both on and off the field.”

Other students held a leadership role within the organization. Junior accounting and finance double major Sydney Parker, from Edmond, Oklahoma, was in charge of running the social media accounts.

“The biggest impact it made for me was having planned time each week knowing that I was either going to have an hour of time interacting with fellow athletes on campus that I don’t normally see, or I was going to be able to meet with the other members of the leadership team to talk about how we were and plan the next event,” Parker said. “I was able to get to know several students that I would not have had the chance to otherwise.”

**“FCA brings so many people together... creating a very unique community.”**  
- Bethany LaTurno

FCA provided an environment to not only strengthen the relationship between teammates, but strengthen the relationships between all athletes. The athletes involved used this opportunity as a way to impact those around them.

“As an athlete, we have a unique platform to share the gospel,” freshman Bethany LaTurno said, a Christian Studies major from Tulsa, Oklahoma. “FCA brings so many people together, all in different parts of their walk with Christ, creating a very unique community of people. Over the last two semesters our numbers have grown, and while that is important that our numbers are growing, the numbers don’t matter, the people do. Behind each number is a person has a story and is broken like the rest of us. God’s love and truth is taking hold here.”

Gracen Goudy





"Serving in OSF has allowed me to give back to a campus that has given so much to me. I am so thankful for this organization and their mission."  
*Caroline Johnson*



"I love serving in OSF because it is the opportunity to serve other students and the Ouachita community well. It truly is the chance to serve others like Jesus."  
*MacKenzie Hall*



"I love OSF because I get to do the work of helping students stay at Ouachita while also having fun planning and working the events."  
*Lauren Bridgeman*



Caroline Derby and Katie Moore make Coke floats for the student body. OSF handed out the floats to promote Tiger Traks sign ups.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Lizzy Baughn and Kate Vernon help distribute Hurts Donut orders. This was one of OSF's new fundraisers to make up for the loss of Tunes.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*

Students  
helping  
students

# HARMONY

The Ouachita Student Foundation played an important role on campus this year by raising \$100,000 in scholarship money while also hosting events to keep the student body engaged during a unique year. Though they could not host a normal Tiger Tunes, the organization still found numerous ways to be creative in raising the funds they needed to keep their classmates on campus.

Due to the absence of Tiger Tunes, OSF hosted Tiger Traks in the fall semester. Games were altered to fit the university's COVID-19 guidelines, and even in the pool, team members were required to be in masks. The assistant director of special events for OSF was junior Maddie Bailey, a political science major from Benton. The possibility of Traks seemed unlikely at the beginning of the school year, but Bailey felt she learned a lot about being flexible and adapting to new situations while planning the campus event.

"The biggest obstacle with planning Tiger Traks this year was finding a balance between traditional Traks and coming up with new games," Bailey explained. "We wanted to keep as many traditional Traks games as we could, but navigating COVID guidelines required us to get creative with some new games as well."

Another new twist OSF put on their typical schedule was hosting Tiger Tunes Rewind which allowed social clubs to vote on their favorite previous show to be shown in a live stream broadcast. The winners of the event were based on the total money raised through People's Choice donations. The Women of EEE came in first place, with the Women of Gamma Phi being a close second. The event even won a regional award for development events altered to fit COVID-19 guidelines. Mason Woolbright, a senior business major

from Benton, served as OSF President and remembered Tiger Tunes Rewind as one of his favorite parts of his year in leadership.

"While sitting on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms as the Tiger Tunes REWIND program aired, it was fantastic to refresh my browser every minute or so and see how much the online giving had gone up," Woolbright said.

Even though they could not host a normal Tiger Tunes, the organization still wanted to maintain their tradition of awarding the Shelby Seabaugh Spirit of Tunes award. This year's recipient was especially near to the heart of the award, as it was given to Shelby's sister, Gracen Seabaugh, a senior education major from Magnolia, as well as a member of OSF.

"I have been in the audience every year as it was awarded, and I never could have anticipated that I would one day receive it myself," Seabaugh said. "It reminded me a lot of the first time the award was given in fall 2014. My family had no idea that there was going to be an award given each year in Shelby's name, and we were just so shocked, but also immensely grateful."

Overall, the Ouachita Student Foundation had a successful year despite the challenges they faced. The group gave 85 scholarships to rising juniors and seniors as a result of their fundraising, as well as recruiting 56 new members.

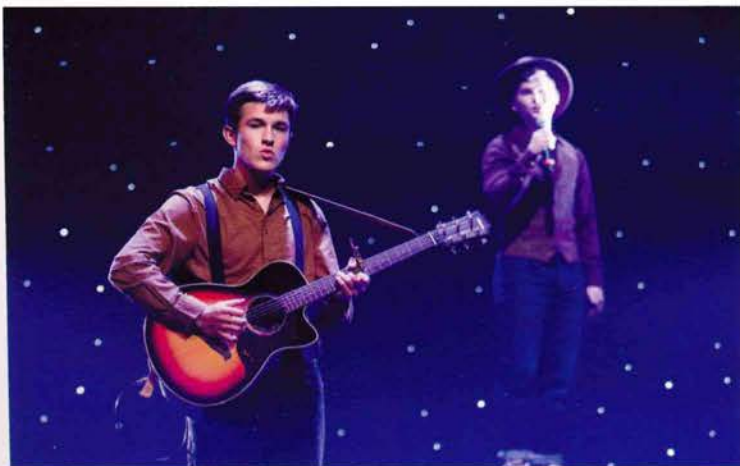
"The lasting impact of OSF is that all we do is for student scholarships and being able to be part of the group that awards all of that raised money - \$100,000 worth - to classmates that need it most," Woolbright said.

Anna Roussel



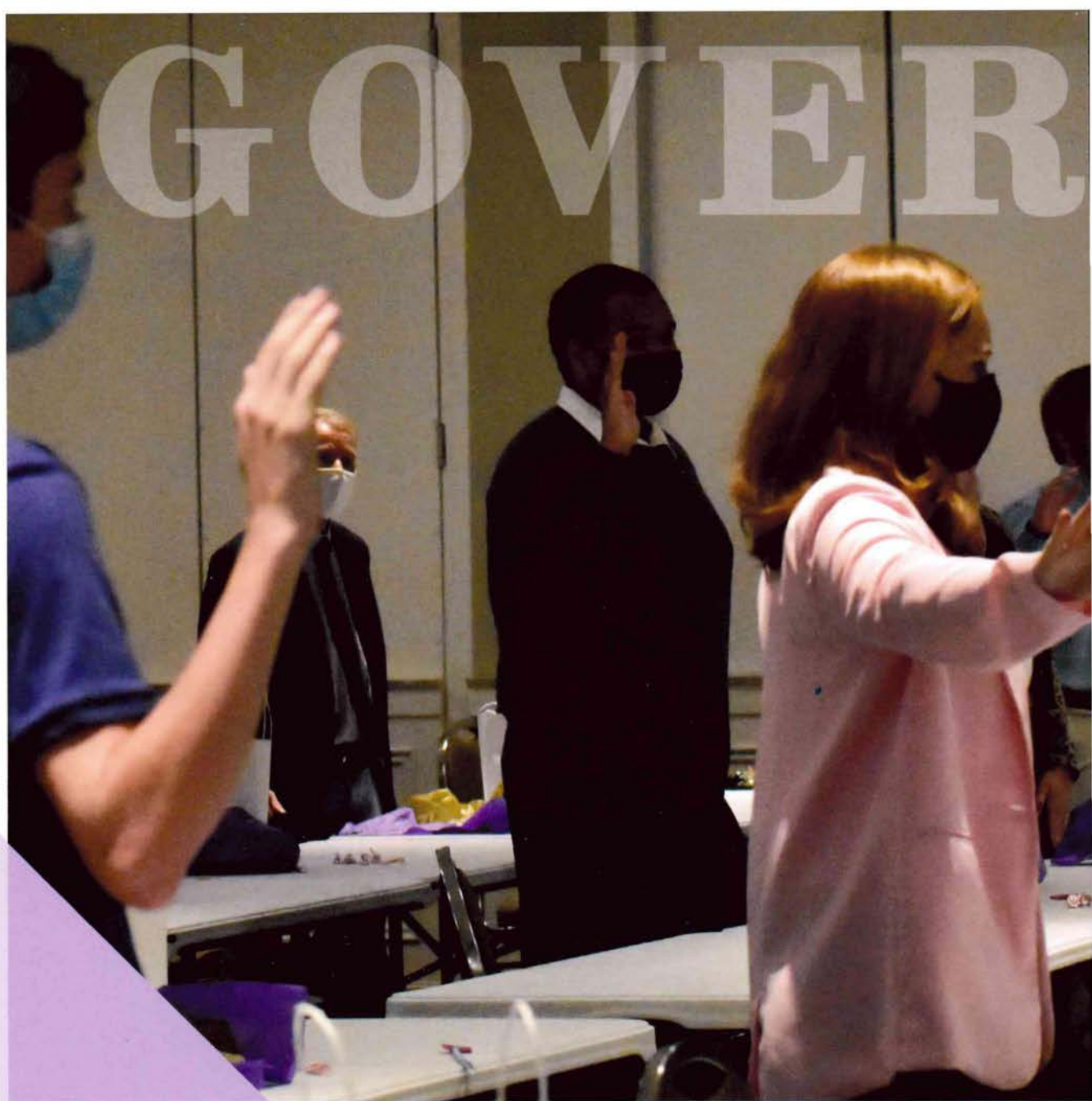
**TEAM MEMBERS** fight to win in mud tug-of-war at fall Tiger Traks. Weather was cold during Traks weekend, but students still showed up to play the entire day. Photo by Abby Blankenship

**OSF MEMBERS** Anna Roussel, Maddie Bailey, and Mary Madison Tolbert check in team members for Traks. Each student who played was there from early morning until late afternoon. Photo by Abby Blankenship



## TEAM TESTIMONY

The Ouachita Student Foundation was awarded the CASE ASAP District 4 Pivot Award for Tunes Rewind and their efforts to rework Tiger Tunes to fit COVID-19 guidelines. "Our annual fundraising goal is \$100K, and is normally raised almost entirely by ticket sales at Tunes," said Anna Roussel, who served as vice president of OSF. "With COVID limiting the ability to host fundraisers, we did not anticipate we would meet our goal this year. This award, to me, indicates how hard our members work to serve our campus and their peers." As told to Addie Woods



**Senate members  
strive toward  
exceptional  
integrity**

In a year full of changes, monitoring health, and adjusting circumstances, Student Senate rose to the challenge and sought to make the most of the COVID-19 year for Ouachita students, faculty, and staff. Student Senate members exemplified leadership, positive role models, and engagement in the creation of the Ouachita experience. Even in the midst of the pandemic, the student leaders worked hard to diligently serve Ouachita.

Tyrese Allen, student body president from Savannah, Ga., said the mission of Student Senate is to work on behalf of students, faculty, and staff.

"Student Senate serves as a liaison between Ouachita faculty, staff, administration, and the student body," Allen said. "Our goal is to ensure that the Ouachita experience fosters a mutually enjoyable, Christ-centered environment."

Serving as a liaison is just one of the many

jobs the student organization had. Homecoming, elections, traffic court, and boosting overall campus morale also fell on Student Senate. Kat Allen, student body internal affairs and events coordinator from Texarkana, said some of these events were modified due to COVID-19.

"At the beginning of the semester everyone was still adjusting from the summer. Morale was low. We were able to help and contribute to boosting morale across campus, and that helped dramatically. Our leadership team got to invest in other students," Allen said. "As for Homecoming, we still had a significant turnout. We had a greater increase in participation and voting for Homecoming court and Homecoming queen. Student Senate helped organize when and where people needed to be."

Other adjustments included switching to almost completely virtual meetings, a change that took members some getting used to. Student



by photographer

Senate also allocated more funds to support their grant programs for clubs and organizations. These funds were used to offset any extra expenses that occurred in order to follow pandemic protocol.

The organization also held its yearly elections for student body and class positions. Students were heavily engaged in the election casting their votes.

**“We fight for students and work with faculty to see change on campus**

**- Chris Cobb**

For Madison McGhee, 2021 student body president-elect from Alma, the opportunity to run for her position was one she almost passed on.

“I didn’t think I was going to run for president at first, I really just knew I wanted to be on Senate. When I got on Senate, I immediately knew the organization made a huge difference on Ouachita’s campus that people don’t really understand,” McGhee said. “I knew if I let the opportunity go by not running, I would regret it. The election was exciting because it got more people

involved on campus than ever before.”

For Chris Cobb, senior class president from Little Rock, he hoped Ouachita students knew that Student Senate listened.

“We are an organization that listens to any concerns or desire for change on campus. We fight for students and work with faculty to see change on campus.”

Ouachitians learned from the work of Student Senate and the way they lead in consistent progress, change, and innovation.

“We are a university with a set of Christ-centered values and a responsibility to the education of our students in both academia, and real-world expectations,” Tyrese Allen said. “Student Senate, and Ouachita faculty, staff, and administration, are dedicated to ensuring that the Ouachita experience is consistent with the exceptional reputation of our great alma mater.”

Mackenzie Hall

## CAB reimagines student activities in light of COVID restrictions

This year's Campus Activities Board faced some of the most interesting challenges of all organizations on Ouachita's campus. Due to COVID-19, CAB was not able to plan as many activities as they usually have. Social distancing and the use of large spaces on campus for classrooms limited the activities traditionally sponsored by the group.

When they were able to host events, they were hosted outside where all students could participate and be able to physically distance without being crowded or breaking any CDC guidelines. Movies on the lawn, and games such as lasar tag, became popular events.

In addition to having unique activities this year, CAB focused on reimagining and thinking about fun things to do next school year to make campus activities a lot more fun and increase student involvement.

"The purpose of CAB is not only for students to have fun helping with the activities, but also to teach students important leadership skills," Tim Harrell, the sponsor of CAB and the Director of the Student Life, stated. "CAB is a student-led board where students present fun ways to engage with Ouachita's community, such as laser tag or movie night, and follow through with their big plans. CAB also takes feedback from other students and uses their feedback to make the events even better for the students to enjoy."

Students in CAB exercised other skills, too. These skills included organization, commitment, and promotion. Harrell has really enjoyed being the sponsor of CAB and hopes that things will get back to normal next school year. CAB is always accepting of volunteers and students who are willing to lead the board.

Jimmy Castro, a junior computer science major from Arkadelphia, stated, "Being a part of CAB has been an incredible time. Helping with events that can create valuable experiences for people just coming to college is great. My favorite event that I have helped with would have been when we had laser tag in the village. That was so much fun to help out with."

For students like Samantha Dixon, getting involved was something she always envisioned.

"I attended many campus events early on in college, and seeing that a lot of students had a hand in their production really made me want to contribute my time as well to this community aspect of Ouachita," Samantha Dixon, a senior majoring in graphic design from Merrillville, Indiana, stated. "One of my favorite annual events CAB does is the Christmas party in the Stu. Students have a chance to gather for an evening and enjoy the decorations, nostalgic music playing, food arrangements, and play games throughout the night. The Stu is such a community centered space and I love to see it put to use through CAB events like this."

CAB will look to bring back normal events next school year, but throughout this unprecedented time, lessons were learned and events were created that will hopefully continue to be campus staples.

Angela Webb



Photo by Abby Blankenship



# LEISURE

As a freshman, Jack Bennington, a senior communications major from Arkadelphia, never anticipated becoming a Refuge leader for Campus Ministries. He especially did not anticipate becoming one during a global pandemic.

"Where do I begin?" asked Bennington when questioned about what Refuge looked like this year. "Refuge obviously isn't a church, but we run services like a church and that has been a challenge to make right and as natural as possible this year."

This year brought many changes for students, faculty and staff but it also brought about changes for Campus Ministry volunteers as they learned to navigate their ministries in new ways amid COVID-19.

"Refuge is normally held at Second Baptist Church," Bennington said, "but the capacity would be much lower there which is why we made our move to JPAC."

Learning to be flexible was a theme woven throughout the volunteer positions of Campus Ministries this semester. Although many changes took place, different ministries met newfound potential as smaller group settings such as Life Groups became essential parts of ministry at Ouachita.

Raegan Greer, a senior studio art major from Argyle, Texas, who was a Christian Focus Week leader, explained that for her ministry, many of the usual events that they had held in the past had to be reimaged.

"We changed things up a bit because of COVID," Greer said. "Some of the main things were moving breakout sessions to Zoom, moving morning worship to evening worship and cancelling our men's and women's talks."

Greer also explained that adapting her ministry meant shifting her perspective for what the week would look like.

"I think I just realized that we had to make do and be content with what we were able to do and just enjoy it! It ended up being a really fun week and even though we weren't able to do things like we did in the past, I was just thankful that we were able to do it all," Greer said.

Another ministry leader, Vanessa Vives, a sophomore Elementary Education major from Bogota, Columbia, and a Noonday leader, explained that the creation of Moonday was one of the ways they were able to be creative with the changes this semester to this ministry.

Noonday was typically a 15 minute meeting in Berry, but adding a nighttime version in front of Cone-Bottoms became a new and exciting way to freshen up this ministry.

"Although we did not expect this many changes, which had to happen because of the weather and COVID, we have continued to learn about the importance of being flexible," said Vives.

Amidst all the changes and important choices that were made in an effort to steward each ministry well during such a strange time, the Lord continued to guide Campus Ministry leaders along the way.

"Leading Noonday during COVID has taught me the importance of understanding that we are not God—God is God. He is the one that is taking care of us, and it is only when we are setting our minds on things above, that we are able to be comforted, strengthened, and encouraged to persevere in uncertainty and point others to what truly matters," Vives said.

Mallory Morris

# Students leading students toward **MINISTRY**

**BAILEY BUETTNER** leads Refuge through a provoking sermon. After graduation, Buettner plans on furthering the Lord's kingdom as an international missionary  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*

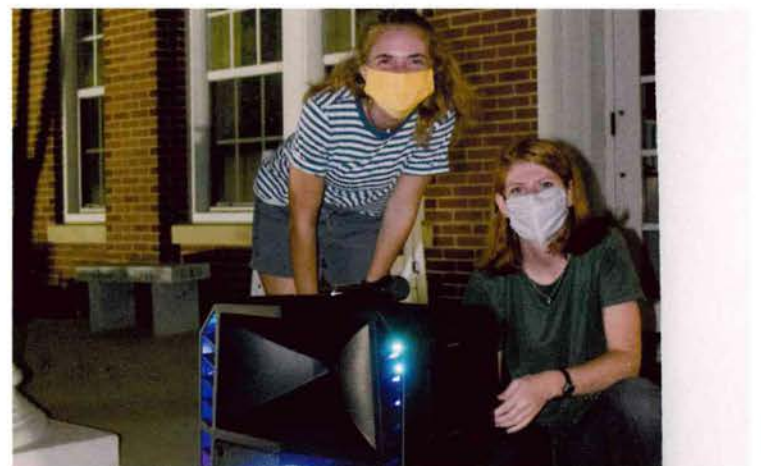
**STUDENTS** gather on Zoom for a CM Fall Retreat session. Due to COVID restrictions, the annual retreat's format looked a little different.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*



## **TEAM TESTIMONY**

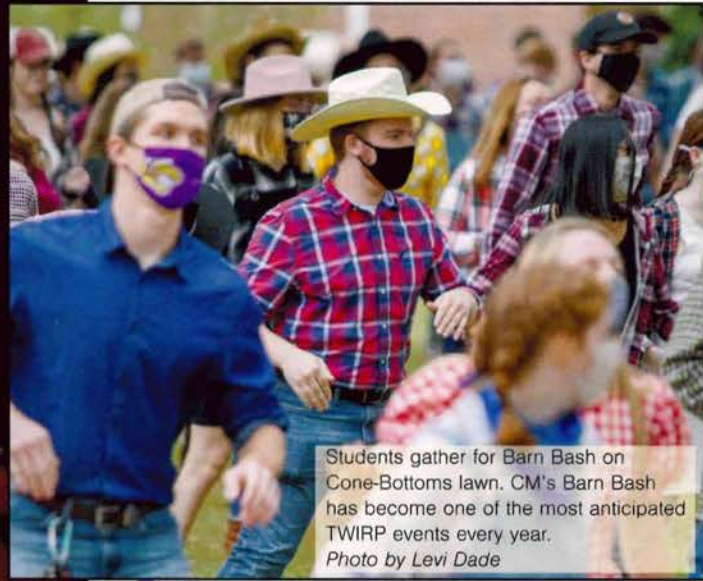
"Noonday was different this year, but it was cool to see how God still worked through it," Kayla Brown said. "We learned how to be flexible due to COVID restrictions and classes taking place in Berry at noon, so one change we made during the first half of the fall semester was having Moonday at night outside of Cone-Bottoms. While that created a different atmosphere, it ended up going really well, and many students were encouraged by it! I've never been someone that enjoys being in the spotlight, so one of my favorite parts has been giving other students the opportunity to share and use their gifts."

*As told to Anna Roussel*





Senior Jack Bennington preaches at the weekly Refuge service. Bennington served as a regular speaker during the school year.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*



Students gather for Barn Bash on Cone-Bottoms lawn. CM's Barn Bash has become one of the most anticipated TWIRP events every year.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*



"Serving with CM is a great chance to figure out where your spiritual gifts are before you fully dive into the real world."  
*James Renshaw*



"Serving in CM, I get to see what God is doing through the lives of students. I also enjoy being challenged in my leadership abilities and learning from others."  
*Lucie Shepherd*



"I love being able to serve on CM leadership because it gives me the opportunity to oversee discipleship and biblical community as I serve and lead in our Life Group program."  
*Rylie Stone*





"Working with publications has given me a chance to connect with so many different people and really make a positive impact."  
*Caity Hatchett*



"I love working with the news show because it makes me feel like I'm on TV."  
*Henry Hunley*



"Being on the photo lab team created avenues for me to connect with different students across campus and capture events and moments that those students are truly passionate about."  
*Madison Melcher*



Noah Grimes films the livestream for a baseball game. OSDN provided livestreams of all home games.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Abby Blankenship takes photos at Tiger Serve Day. Blankenship was co-editor of the photo lab this year.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

Students  
crafting  
stories

# JOURNALISM

Every publication at Ouachita was very active this year. Due to COVID-19, Ouachita's campus, with the help of its community, underwent drastic changes in order to create a safe environment for students, faculty, and staff by following CDC guidelines and safety protocols. This led to new stories and new perspectives begging to be written. That is where publications such as the *Ouachitonian* yearbook, *The Signal*, Ouachita Sports Digital Network, The Ouachita News Show, and others increased their productivity this year.

Ben Swanger, a senior communications major from Forney, Texas, became editor in chief of the yearbook his senior year. This year, the yearbook staff of 22 members took home 29 awards in the 2021 ACMA Award ceremony including second in overall yearbook for the 2020 book. Ben was also recognized as the yearbook editor of the year.

"There has definitely been an adjustment in the newsroom working around COVID-19 this year," Swanger said. "I think the number of stories we cover has stayed the same, but we have cut some different topics and substituted them with new topics to fit the times."

Caitly Hatchett, a senior double major in history and communication from Shreveport, La., was editor in chief of school newspaper. Several staff members of the 16 that are involved with *The Signal* won individual awards. Madeline Martin and Sara Patterson both won awards for online writing, and Sara and Mallory Wallace won third place for their podcast "The 4-1-0." Hatchett won second place for general excellence newspaper editor of the year.

"We've had to get a little more creative this year. We had less

football coverage this year, but we were able to cover other sports instead and to feature more student athletes and teams than we normally would. COVID-19 really made us reevaluate what we wanted to cover, and I think we had a wider variety of stories because of that," Hatchett said.

Chase Hartsell, a freshman sports media major from Hot Springs, was involved in Ouachita Sports Digital Network. Hartsell came into OSDN with four years of experience in student broadcasting in high school. Next fall, Hartsell will be working as a full-time host and color analyst for Inside Badger Football and [arkadelphiabadgertv.com](http://arkadelphiabadgertv.com).

OSDN won two awards in ACMA award ceremony, including a first place award for sports reporting on the Special Olympics as well as Honorable Mention for coverage of the Battle of the Ravine.

"Prior to the beginning of the fall semester in 2020, the Great American Conference announced that all sports were postponed or canceled until the beginning of 2021," Hartsell said. "Therefore, we could not really cover any events aside from a few team scrimmages. When it came to the spring semester of sports, COVID-19 had a completely different effect. Rather than having no sports to cover, the spring provided us with a surplus of opportunities to cover Tiger Athletics because most fall sports had moved their schedules to the spring in addition to the already existing spring sports schedules."

The publications on Ouachita's campus allow students to get involved. It is the small school difference Ouachita offers and students are proud to undertake so much responsibility.

Angela Webb



**CO-ANCHORS** Izzy Baughn and Caroline Derby host the Ouachita News show as part of the broadcast team. The production was new this year.  
*Photo Courtesy of Caroline Derby*

**BEN SWANGER** leads a yearbook meeting in the newsroom. Swanger was selected as Arkansas' Yearbook Editor of the Year.  
*Photo Courtesy of Ben Swanger*



## TEAM TESTIMONY

"We really had to come together to pull off 65 separate broadcasts in one semester," Matthew Branch, junior communications major from Bauxite, said. "I think everyone who worked learned some new skills and grew in their abilities. The OSDN grew working together with a crazy schedule and numerous bumps in the road brought us closer and made this year possible."

*As told to Ben Swanger*

The Multicultural Organization Reaching Equality, also known as MORE, focused on reaching the numerous cultures, races, and creeds at Ouachita. This organization was dedicated to welcoming all students by fostering an awareness and appreciation for everyone.

One of the things that MORE stands for is "change for better," said Dayja James, a sophomore biology major from McGhee. James served as the president and worked alongside her team and cosponsors as they navigated through the strange times of COVID-19.

The mission of MORE was to "unify Ouachita's campus in ways that it has not been united before," James said. "We do so by looking in areas that people have overlooked, and create a safe space for all students."

Throughout her time in leadership, her abilities were stretched, and her team was challenged as they went about planning amidst the regulations they had to follow. A piece of advice that will stick with James for the rest of her time at Ouachita and beyond was to "find the grace in every situation."

The club worked alongside the community, LaFuerza, and TRIO programs to help bring their mission to life. COVID-19 took a toll on events, leaving the clubs with many limitations, but all programs tried their hardest to allow minority students to have an enjoyable experience.

The importance of offering multicultural clubs on campus was to

"provide an avenue for others to explore other cultures," said Dr. Lewis Shepherd, an Ouachita alum who served as the Special Assistant to the President. Dr. Shepherd's main focus was to lead the university in developing a welcoming mat of belonging. "Regardless of their color or culture, they feel welcomed, and a sense of belonging on the Ouachita campus," Shepherd said.

Dr. Shepherd worked alongside MORE, LaFuerza, and the TRIO programs as he implemented his three A's across campus, "Acknowledgement, acceptance, and appreciation."

James mentioned Dr. Shepherd being a "wise council" to the team, and they appreciated the hard work and dedication he has presented of reaching equality for the university.

"I love to see the impact that LaFuerza has had on campus, and how the students become involved with our organization," says Ana Oelenberger, a sophomore communications major from Bartlesville, Okla. LaFuerza was another organization along with MORE as they helped create awareness and educated others about the different cultures at Ouachita. Oelenberger served on the LaFuerza leadership team and believed there was more room to grow for this organization.

Although COVID-19 challenged these organizations when it came to planning and promoting engagement, nothing stopped these leaders as the university continued to increase diversity and inclusivity among all students on campus.

Lucie Shepherd

# Fostering cultural equality with **PURPOSE**

**VALENTINES DAY** creates a new way to fundraise for MORE. Senior Bri Benton sits outside the Student Center selling Val-O-Grams to raise money.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*

**GOSPEL CHOIR** practice is held in Berry Chapel as Ary Gardner sings along. The choir was one way for the wider campus community to get involved with MORE.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



## TEAM TESTIMONY

"There are a variety of challenges that we face as an organization, but where there is unity and love, there is strength and that special something between members and leaders," Dayja James said. "No matter how great or small in number, strength and unity drives our endeavors. We worked best in conjunction with one another, rather than apart from each other."

*As told to Ben Swanger*





# MULTICULTURAL STUDENT PROGRAMS

Monica Rutledge works the booth at MORE's prayer time. This event was part of the club's Black History Month activity calendar.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*



Members of the MORE Gospel Choir rehearse even in masks. This group performed at many venues, including local churches and select chapel programs.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*



"MORE creates a stage for diversity, inclusion, and cultural education. We have to educate and become comfortable with each other's cultures if we are to all work for a better future."  
*Tyrese Allen*



"MORE has been the ultimate networking opportunity and serves as a great creativity outlet for multicultural outreach on campus."  
*Khennedy Brunson*



"MORE has become one of, if not, the biggest highlights of my time at Ouachita. I have participated in events I wouldn't have before, met the most astounding individuals, and found a true place of comfort."  
*Jomari Bailey*

**Ouachita  
students come  
together to  
form band and  
write hit single**



**D**uring the year, Ouachita Worship recorded and produced the first original song from the group. “Holy Fire” was written by OBU students Cameron Conner from Little Rock, Robert Pilcher of Maumelle, and Stuart Sowerbutts from Hot Springs.

The group was formed in 2018 as chapel worship leaders and eventually formed into Ouachita Worship. As the usual event Ouachita Worship participated in, Chapel was where the band really began, thus starting the background for “Holy Fire.”

The group discussed collaborating to produce a song, something that would have

Ouachita’s name on it.

Conner, a senior music industry major, joined the team his junior year at the university after recognizing a call to ministry in his life. Conner also mentioned serving on the team for a year before “Holy Fire” came into planning.

“The process started in March of 2020 when the team decided to work on ‘Holy Fire.’ I was sitting in class and the Holy Spirit gave me a song just when I’d had writer’s block for two years,” he said.

The work truly began during the first round of quarantine with each member writing for the song tirelessly, recording demos, and focusing on the vision. Each member wanted

# PRAISE



Photo by Meagan North

the song to reflect who Christ is and how we worship Him and praise without pride.

The process was not without its obstacles, however.

Lucie Shepherd, lead vocalist in the song and junior communications major from Rowlett, Texas, voiced that the most difficult component was the lack of physical

**“I was sitting in class and the Holy Spirit gave me a song just when I’d had writer’s block for two years.”  
- Cameron Conner**

meetings within the group’s planning. Members worked through FaceTime and texts during the project due to COVID-19 regulations.

Despite the difficulties of distance, the team trusted that funding and availability would be revealed in time.

After a full live recording in October, the team sent the files to producers and waited to receive the finished product. Once the team

was given the edited version, they uploaded the song to available streaming services.

Joel Winters, chapel worship coordinator, stated, “‘Holy Fire’ is just a good picture of what’s possible for students because of the environment Ouachita creates.”

As for the response to the song, Shepherd mentioned that the most rewarding aspect of “Holy Fire” was hearing students listen and worship and how it has impacted lives.

Due to the community and extended support of “Holy Fire,” many students hoped to hear more music from the Ouachita Worship team. “Holy Fire” was performed at multiple Refuge events during the year.

With this new Ouachita legacy taking place, among others, the university now has a student-created worship song and a legacy that will only continue to grow.

Katie Moore

Rush was an opportunity countless freshmen and current club members looked forward to. The week allowed rushees the chance get to know classmates and learn about the different social clubs they could possibly pledge by the end of the week.

For a lot of people, it was an opportunity to get out of a comfort zone and for others rush week was right in someone's comfort zone.

In 2020, Rush was affected immensely by COVID-19. Rush, which was typically held in the spring semester in years past, was conducted in the fall semester. Not only the schedule change affected Rush, but it was held virtually the first two days while it was usually held completely in person. Finally, pledge week transformed into a pledge weekend, with additional activities in the spring.

"Rush in person allows us to keep all of our traditions, and it gives us all the students in clubs more opportunities to meet new girls," said Erin Chappell, a junior biology major from Bryant, and Tri Chi. "But our leadership did a great job making sure everything ran smoothly with Zoom. The biggest rule that was implemented for Rush this year was that we were not allowed to hug girls that we had gotten to know, which was especially hard on bid day."

"In some capacity, Zoom worked," said Jack Peterson, a sophomore history major from Little Rock, and a Kappa Chi. "I feel like we did not get to know the rushees as much, but it was still great because we got to meet them. It was harder to get to know each rushee because they were all split up into different breakout rooms.

Instead of going around talking to all the rushees in person like usual, the upperclassmen club members only got to talk to four or five of them at a time. When we did meet in person after the two nights of Zoom, we had to socially distance, wear masks, and could not have food at the live parties unless they were served in closed containers."

Things were especially odd for freshman pledges, but Zoom Rush was just another event they had to endure through a computer screen, a life feature these students had become accustomed to.

"There was definitely a certain level of difficulty with Zoom," said Mason Campbell, a freshman Christian Studies major from Lawrenceburg, Tenn., and Eta Alpha Omega pledge. "I thought that each club did the best that they could with the current situation that we are in."

"I don't think Zoom affected getting to know people," said Makenna Holder, a freshman Elementary Education major from Camden and Chi Mu pledge. "I think that it helped connect with others more, especially through the breakout rooms which made the meetings more personal."

Rush might have looked different in this hectic school year, but the relationship building and friendship making did not look different. Connections were made, friendships were formed, and clubs continued to grow.

Angela Parsons

# welcoming in fresh faces for a new **FAMILY** beginning

**CHI DELTA** celebrates its 50th birthday with a party on bid day. Senior Hanna Smith marked the day by taking pictures with friends.  
*Photo by Hannah Smith*

**RHO SIGMA** members Will Broussard and Justin Villegas welcome rushees to one of their parties. The club welcomed in a large pledge class of 25 during fall Rush.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*



## **RUSH** ROUNDUP

Each club was required to host two days of Rush over Zoom. Add that on to a quarantine and EEE pledge Regan Ryan had one unique Rush experience. "While I had to miss out on a few things during Rush because I was in quarantine, I got to have a really special moment with my best friends that I wouldn't have gotten to otherwise," Ryan said. "Getting to be with everyone on pref night was a moment I'll cherish forever."

*As told by Addie Woods*





Junior Lydia Dean and sophomore Zoe Jennings celebrate at bid day. Chi Mu's bid day was carnival themed.  
Photo by Hannah Smith



Junior Harry Jeffreys sets up for a rush party with the men of Eta Alpha Omega. Clubs were allowed two in-person parties this year.  
Photo by Levi Dade



"The joy I had while I ran home to my Tri Chi family made this crazy semester completely worth it."  
Lauren Jenkins



"I was overwhelmed with happiness on bid day. I knew I finally found my home in Gamma Phi."  
Ashton Price



"In that moment, I began to get so excited about all the memories we were going to make together in the next four years!"  
Karlee Sutterfield





"I love Beta because it's provided lifelong brotherhood and lifelong memories!"  
*Connor Bjerke*



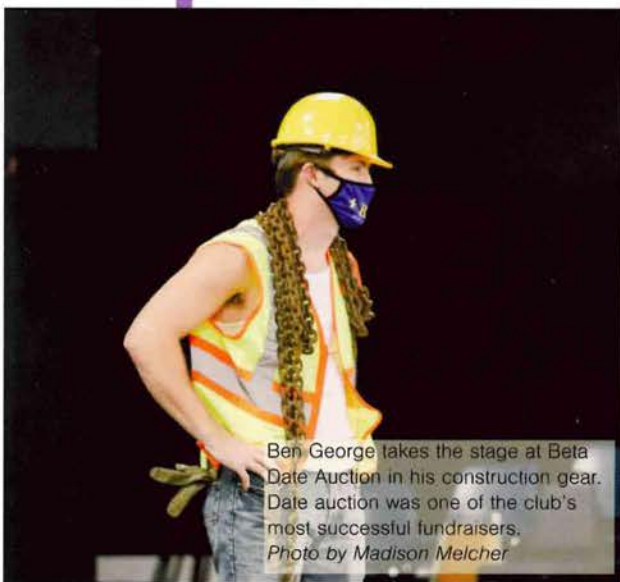
"I love these dudes. They're all my homies and I know we're brothers for life."  
*Gary Storment*



"The Betas are the best guys on the planet. I would do anything for these brothers."  
*Baker Kendrick*



Brock Bivens takes a pie to the face outside the Stu. Anyone who bought a March Madness bracket from the club could pie a new member in the face.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Ben George takes the stage at Beta Date Auction in his construction gear. Date auction was one of the club's most successful fundraisers.  
*Photo by Madison Melcher*

Brothers  
boasting  
lively

# EXUBERANCE

The Men of Beta Beta have been a social club on Ouachita's campus since 1941. Beta was a tight knit group of guys on campus who have had years of long-standing traditions. A lot of events that Beta had were meant to bring members closer together as a whole and create a lasting brotherhood for life.

Events that Beta had, such as Beta valentine, Beta drop, Beta date auction, spiritual retreat, Rush week, and everything in between, composed a little bit of what made the club what it was.

Jack Pillow, a senior finance and business administration major from Conway, stated, "The events that we put on, show everyone what we are all about. We are just dudes being dudes that enjoy community and growth."

Pillow's favorite event was during Rush when rushees were asked funny questions as they walked in, just to get everyone laughing.

Anyone who comes to campus will almost always see a guy walking around with the word "BETA" written across their chest. Something that Pillow wanted everyone to know is that Beta was a brotherhood that goes much deeper than the letters they wear.

Ben George, a sophomore biology major from Rogers, stated, "Beta offers its members opportunities to grow as a man in multiple ways, as well as providing support and a brotherhood not just for college but for the rest of your life. Our community is very tight knit and always knows how to have a good time as well."

George loved his time as a Beta and is excited to continue these relationships with his brothers for the rest of his life.

James Renshaw, a junior business administration and management major from North Little Rock, was a pivotal part of the club. He served as his pledge class president and club chaplain and made sure that the guys were growing spiritually.

Renshaw was very intentional with how he went about his job due to COVID-19, but was successful in carrying out a small devotional at every club meeting and organized the club to still have discipleship groups.

"I have seen tremendous growth this past year through our spiritual events because we are learning what it means to have brothers to lean on in times of need, such as the pandemic," Renshaw stated. "We truly know what it feels like to have brothers that would do anything for each other and help encourage each other spiritually."

This club gave many men on campus the opportunity to grow their leadership and ministry skills. It also pushed everyone in the club to become more creative when it comes to bonding with each other.

Pillow was thankful for the opportunity to lead Beta. He stated, "I wanted to expand my pool of people I hang out with to more than just football guys. These men have challenged me and have given me more community than I could have ever asked for."

Madi Darr

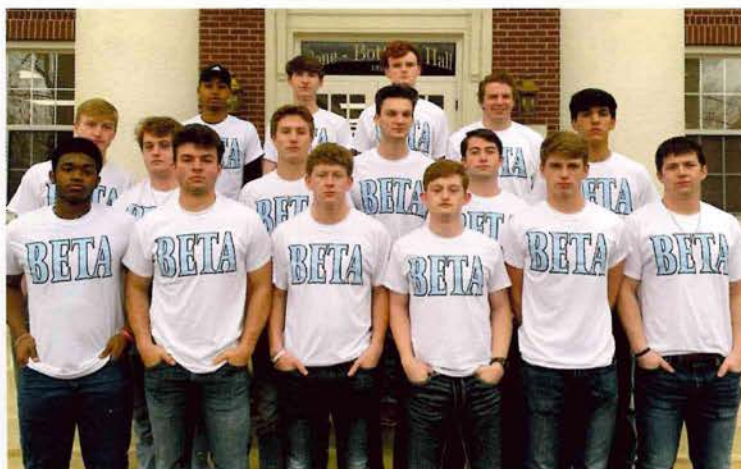


**JAMES RENSHAW** sleds down a hill on a campus snow day. Renshaw was seen out playing in the snow almost every day that week.

Photo by Hannah Adamson

**ISAAC CROW** greets Dr. Sells at a Beta fundraiser outside the Stu. Beta's new pledge class held several fundraisers during the spring semester.

Photo by Abby Blankenship



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to be able to go through the Rush process even though it looked different than it normally does. I was a little afraid of it all being virtual, but it turned out to be a great experience. Beta did a great job being as welcoming as possible with the rush parties via Zoom as well as the in person nights," Sam Scott, a freshman biology major from Little Rock, said.

As told to Anna Rousset

The Women of Chi Delta welcomed new members to their club despite facing difficult challenges from COVID restrictions throughout Rush.

"Even though it was hard to connect with members over Zoom, Chi Delta still managed to get an even bigger pledge class than before. We could not all gather together and do things like normal, but we still managed to make connections with each other," said Josee Bebee, a freshman communication sciences and disorders major from Arkadelphia.

Social life was still being managed and the Women of Chi Delta participated in events including Rush, TWIRP night, a slip and slide event with the men of Kappa Chi, and brunch with other women's clubs.

"One of my favorite memories of this school year was our TWIRP event even though it was not our ideal situation. An hour after people showed up, it started raining. Though our TWIRP event was short lived, I think that moment of mayhem was a great bonding moment for Chi Delta. We were all able to come together through the chaos," said Kyla Williams, a sophomore engineering physics major from Weatherford, Texas.

The club showed resilience throughout this year and were intentional with how they reached out and connected to members.

"It's been a struggle to try and connect with older members, but we all try and reach out to one another. I like to either text them or Snapchat them sometimes to try and connect with them," said Bebee.

The women of Chi Delta continued to encourage and support one another. Williams saw personal growth since joining the club.

"Since I joined Chi Delta, I have seen myself become more confident in many ways. I feel that I can speak up for myself a lot more and that there will always be someone that will back me up. I've been able to get out of my comfort zone a lot more, and I know that none of the other girls will judge me if I make a mistake," said Williams.

Bid day was a special day for the new members as it was the first time they got to connect with the entire club. Hannah Martin, a senior psychology major from Conway, led the club through serving as vice president.

"It has been super fun getting to know my sisters even more this year. I have been able to reach out to specific people and encourage them throughout this crazy year which I have enjoyed immensely," said Martin.

The club demonstrated spirited hearts by persevering through a challenging time for everyone and really relied on their sisterhood for support.

"I think Chi Delta grew in a variety of ways but being able to see everyone stick together and love on each other despite dealing with their own hardships has been the most prominent change. It's been a great year for Chi Delta," said Martin.

Emily Barton

# Alongside special people come special MEMORIES

**ALEX HENRY** passes out tickets at Chi Delta's carnival. This event helped raise money for Chi Delta with different games, puppies and photo booths.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*

**CHI DELTA** sisters Jaymee Dotson, Jamie Fowler and Hanna Thompson spend their snow day sledding at the ravine. The ravine became a hot spot for the sledding during the snow week.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"During Rush, Chi Delta drew me in because of how authentic the girls were," Lawson Lee, a freshman psychology major from Wynne, said. "They were not trying to put on a show or impress anyone. I immediately felt at home with them because they embraced their true selves and I knew I would never have to water down my personality to fit in with this family." *As told to Angela Webb*





Chi Delta President Courtney Davis shoots the volleyball in a large version of cup pong. The game was set up at Chi Delta's TWIRP event.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Chi Delta sisters operate their Tiger Tunes Rewind booth. Chi Delta showed their 1990 show "The Best Little Hen House at Ouachita."  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



"Chi Delta is the sisterhood I never thought I needed. As the second of four girls, I know what sisterhood looks like and Chi Delta is so great at representing sisterhood in every way."  
*Hannah Martin*



"I enjoy being a beau for Chi Delta because they're such a tight knit personable group of women and I know I can also count on them."  
*Cannon Fisher*



"Chi Delta is a home away from home where I know that I will always be accepted no matter what is going on in my life. Being a part of this sisterhood has been a true testament to the Lord's love."  
*Aileena Schlauch*



"I love Chi Mu because of the support the girls give me, I know that I can come to them with anything and they will understand and support me!"  
*Michal Felan*



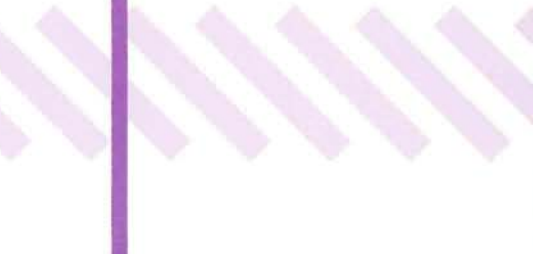
"I love Chi Mu because of all the sweet friends it has given me. This club has brought me some of the greatest friendships which I know will last a life time!"  
*Lydia Dean*



"Chi Mu is a sisterhood of support, flexibility, growth, and love. I couldn't be more thankful for the role they play in my Ouachita story."  
*Bethany Crawley*



Freshman Angela Webb runs home to Chi Mu on bid day. The club bought each of their new members letter shirts.  
*Photo by Hannah Smith*



Senior Sarah Rush sits down to decorate cakes with friends. This was one of the activities at Chi Mu's club birthday party.  
*Photo by Maddie Cargile*

# Developing a home as friends come **TOGETHER**

Chi Mu was one of the many thriving female social clubs on campus. Chi Mu was founded in 2015, making it the newest social club on campus, and has become a fast growing sensation as a total of 69 members grace the presence of the club.

Katlin Hardin, the president of Chi Mu and a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Marion, states, "The community of Chi Mu is made up based around our pillars of flexibility, service, and support. We are a tight knit group of unique women who strive to care for and encourage each other to grow as individuals. Life has its ups and downs, but overall, the women in this sisterhood will always be there to pick you up during the bad times and celebrate you through the good times."

Katlin also explained the founding principals.

"Chi Mu was founded in 2015 to provide a home for women who need a sisterhood that is flexible with their busy schedule," she said. "In Chi Mu, we believe that our sisterhood should be an opportunity to grow and have fun, rather than an obligation."

Aubree Seibert, a junior triple major in chemistry, biology, and physics from Plano, Texas, is the vice president of Chi Mu and believes the club gives her the ability to grow in many ways.

"Chi Mu has given me many of my closest friendships. It has given me the encouragement and support I needed to believe in myself and push the limits of what I am capable of. I never thought that I would be able to take a leadership position when I joined, but now I am vice

president. And I have become more confident in my day-to-day life, taking harder classes and adding majors to my degree plan."

Seibert also says that Chi Mu has affected her relationship with Christ because, "It has placed me in a group of godly girls who I can lean on for support in my spiritual walk."

Elizabeth Hall, a sophomore secondary education and English double major from Prairie Grove, hoped that the future of Chi Mu, "will continue to be a place for women in need of companionship and support."

"I hope that even in growing, our club still retains that strong fellowship," Hall said. "I feel that Chi Mu's pillars combined with the welcoming atmosphere the current members formed and created the perfect club for me. I could not imagine myself in a club better suited to my needs and personality."

Mason Holder, a senior middle school education major and Chi Mu beau from Camden has been a beau since the fall of 2018.

Holder has grown in Chi Mu and says, "I've learned how to care for people more intensely and be there for them not only physically, but mentally."

Masons hopes that the future of Chi Mu "continues to grow and establish itself on campus as a place where girls can feel like they belong."

Angela Webb



**CHI MU** beaus celebrate at the club's birthday party. Chi Mu is a young club, and turned five years old in 2020.  
*Photo by Maddie Cargile*

**DESPITE** the limitations put on rush week, freshman Sarah Dean runs to Chi Mu with her friends on bid day. The club was excited to still have an in-person bid day.  
*Photo by Maddie Cargile*



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"Rush this year was difficult," Emma Dennis said. "Not having been able to experience many club activities that the girls were asking about because of the pandemic made it hard to fully explain the club. That being said, I wouldn't trade this year's rush for anything. While it was hard, it was rewarding in its own ways."

*As told to Angela Webb*

The Women of EEE have held a strong presence on campus since their founding in 1925. The Women of EEE cherished their sisterhood and traditions with a unique and contagious enthusiasm. As one of the oldest and largest clubs at Ouachita, their members could be seen wearing red on Wednesdays as well as their iconic poodle skirts on special occasions.

In the fall, the Women of EEE won Tiger Tunes Rewind by participating in helping to raise money for the Ouachita Student Foundation, a student-led organization that many of their members are also members of.

Due to COVID-19, club life looked different for many of the clubs on Ouachita's campus and the Women of EEE experienced this change as well. Ali Chapman, a senior business administration and management major from Rogers, was the president of EEE for the spring semester. Chapman experienced the ways in which leading a club during a global pandemic can be both strange and rewarding.

"COVID has been a very sweet but challenging time for our club," said Chapman. "It has been such a blessing to escape the stress and chaos of life and to still meet together on Monday nights."

"I think that a main goal of mine as a leader has been for EEE to be a place of rest and community," said Chapman.

Maddie Bailey, a junior political science major from Bauxite, expressed how thankful she was for her time in EEE

and the ways that the club's leaders adapted during COVID.

"Our executive team has done such a great job of working to make traditional events COVID-friendly, so we can still have a sense of normalcy," explained Bailey. "I think it has definitely made the simple things mean so much more, like getting to still sing our sister song all together at Cone-Bottoms from six-feet apart."

In the fall, the Women of EEE added 50 new girls to their sisterhood during a very unique Rush season.

Rylie Slone, a political science major from Bella Vista, explained that although the process of Rush looked different this semester, the women of EEE worked to make it as welcoming and exciting as possible for all of the girls.

"Getting new members during COVID was definitely interesting, but it was worth every mask and all the distancing in the world," said Slone.

Reflecting over the semester, Slone explained the ways that the Women of EEE have been able to still make new memories and modify old traditions to fit COVID guidelines.

"Between our Tunes Rewind tailgate, outdoor 50s night at Cliff Harris Stadium, discipleship groups, and meeting in JPAC weekly, the EEEs have been committed to coming together in community and making as many memories we can during a really crazy season."

Mallory Morris

Perseverance  
through  
adjustments  
proved

# REWARDING

**DURING** the snow week, Izzy Baughn helps shovel snow on campus. Dr. Sells asked students to help him clear sidewalks and roads in preparation for returning to normal classes.

Photo by Hannah Adamson

**TIGER TUNES REWIND** gives Paige Williams and Natalie Ward a reason to celebrate. The EEEs hosted a watch party that night complete with food, games and costumes.


Photo by Abby Blankenship



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"Amidst COVID I had such a wonderful Rush experience," Bethany LaTurno said. "Rush was a time for me to figure out if becoming a part of a club would be realistic for my student-athlete schedule as well as seeing if God was calling me to be a part of something bigger than myself. The way I was loved dearly by each club, but especially EEE, it was an easy decision to go EEE. The Women of EEE did an amazing job answering my questions and making sure that I felt valued and loved by each member." As told to Anna Rousset



 **COVID Conduct**  
Despite no Tiger Tunes show, EEE won Tiger Tunes Rewind



Senior members help welcome home PC '21 on bid day. The club worked hard to make the festivities special while also following COVID-19 guidelines.  
Photo by Abby Blankenship



Emma Kathleen Conner and Kamy Treat go sledding on a snowy letter day. The entire campus was full of students playing in the snow in February. Photo by Madison Melcher



"The Women of EEE are my biggest encouragers and support my every endeavor. They are kind-hearted, like-minded, and bold difference makers."  
Mady Cate Rottinghaus



"What I love most about these women is their dedication to not only making Ouachita a better place, but constantly bettering themselves and those around them."  
Madison Melcher



"This sisterhood has embraced me, encouraged me, and loved me unconditionally. EEE has taught me how to love & serve others like Christ."  
Jazmyn Parker





"Eta has provided me with a solid community of brothers in Christ that are constantly willing to encourage and sharpen me. I'm thankful to be a part of a group that seeks to serve our campus and show Christ to others."  
*Noah McCallum*



"I love Eta because of the people it introduces me to. I've made great friends with guys that I wouldn't even know if it weren't for this club."  
*Ben Morris*




"Eta is a great place to find people who truly care about you. I have enjoyed being an Eta for many reasons, but mainly because of the many lifelong friendships I have made."  
*Cameron Collins*



Senior Mason Holder greets people at the Eta cornhole tournament. The tournament was hosted on Ouachita's front lawn with countless teams competing.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



Students gather outside the Student Center to support Eta's fundraiser. The club hosted Eta Thanksgiving as a way to give back to the community as an alternative to their usual event.  
*Photo by Levi Dade*

 **COVID Conduct**  
 Muggin' was not held due to Tunes cancellation

Serving campus  
and fostering

# FELLOWSHIP

Known for their fun-loving spirit and love of root beer, the men of Eta Alpha Omega have become a campus staple since their founding in 1997. Whether hosting a cornhole tournament or sports days at the intramural fields, Eta had a big presence on campus.

Luke Black, a freshman finance and accounting major from Ruston, La., and one of their newest members, had already begun to value the constant fellowship throughout the whole club.

"You can just be yourself around these guys, and you're loved for it," Black said. "Other clubs may be seen as a 'talent show' where you have to prove that you belong, whereas with Eta and its members, I was poured into and cared about from the beginning."

Sweetheart positions in Eta are highly sought-after, and it is no secret that the girls in the club love wearing their letters. Breanna Parker, a senior education major from Clarksville, said that her favorite thing about the club is how genuine, goofy, and inclusive the members are. She felt they do an excellent job of making her feel loved and valued.

"Even though I haven't been a part of the club for very long, the guys always check on me and keep up to date with what's happening in my life," Parker stated. "I think that's what's made it special for me—the friendships and unity it's brought."

Keaton Goodrum, a junior education major from Arkadelphia, served as president of the club this year. He valued how diverse the group is, as well as their dedication to putting Christ at the center of

everything they do. Even though COVID-19 created unique challenges for clubs, Goodrum felt this had only made the members of Eta work together even more closely than before to make things happen.

"This year more than any other would have been such an easy one to throw in the towel and say that we aren't going to do much because we don't want to bother with working with COVID restrictions," Goodrum said. "Guys have gotten closer, people have developed a higher appreciation for what the club usually has, and everyone has worked hard for Eta to be what it has been this past year and it's all been really incredible to see."

Even though it was a more stressful year to hold a leadership position, Goodrum explained that the challenge of taking what the club normally does and tweaking it to fit guidelines, while also holding true to Eta's values and traditions, had been incredibly rewarding. Every decision he made as president had been significantly different from what had been done in the past, but he felt the club did a great job of taking on the challenge.

"It's been incredible to see our club do so well during the pandemic," Goodrum stated, "By taking in a great pledge class, throwing events and not only keeping the brotherhood that we already had but making it even stronger all while keeping God at the center of it."

Anna Roussel



**TOWARD** the end of the snow week in February, junior Ethan Marshall helps shovel snow on campus. Dr. Sells asked students to help clear sidewalks to prepare for walking to class the next week.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

**MEMBERS** of Eta host a COVID-safe corn hole tournament. Sophomore Chris Couch took part in one of the several games in an attempt to win the tournament.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"This year's rush process was different to say the least, from having the first two nights all on Zoom and meeting most of the guys on there for the first time, to remeeting them in person and not being able to shake their hands," said Josh Ray. "When we got those two in person nights we tried as hard as possible to make it feel like a normal Rush night. I personally thought we did a pretty good job in achieving. Even still, we couldn't be happier about the group of guys we got to welcome into our brotherhood in these strange times."

*As told to Anna Roussel*

The Women of Gamma Phi joined together in a time of hardship for the entire campus and saw substantial growth from overcoming the loss of normalcy.

Kie Crone, a sophomore Christian studies major from Little Rock, was one of the newest members of the 2021 pledge class.

"Even though COVID-19 put a damper on things, I am truly grateful for the other girls in the club who are coming up with ways for us to continue to feel like a social club despite restrictions," said Crone.

The club continued to grow in numerous ways, as they welcomed in their biggest pledge class since being revived, with 32 new members.

"I knew instantly that Gamma was where I wanted to be. I began to think of how much of an impact I can make on a club that is new and how we have the ability to make our own club traditions while still practicing the traditions from the original Gamma women," said Crone.

Jorie Beaumont, a senior nutrition and dietetics major from Lockport, Ill., served as the Women of Gamma Phi's president.

"Being president has been an amazing opportunity. I've really valued being the leader of this group of girls, and I have definitely grown more confident because being in a club allowed me to learn how to communicate and love girls around me no matter our differences," said Beaumont.

The fall semester proved difficult to plan events, but the women resiliently created safe ways to host events.

"Gamma Phi's TWIRP night was held on the softball field with an

'Angels in the Outfield' theme. We were also able to Zoom with our alumni on our Founder's Day. It was special to connect with all our amazing alumni," said Beaumont.

The club hosted other live events including Rush, bid day, TWIRP night, and Humane Society serve days. The Women connected weekly through meetings and life groups. Fewer restrictions in the spring allowed more events to happen.

"As one of the social chairs, we created spaces where people can spread out while enjoying one another's company. The most important thing is that all our sisters are cared for and stay healthy. Our urgency to seek our deep and meaningful relationships overcomes and seeks inventive ways to build community. We believe social life is growing in unique ways while facing a challenge as large as life these days," said Julianna Shaw, a sophomore communication science and disorders major from Rogers.

Chassidy Barnes, a senior biology major from Little Rock, saw the growth of the sisterhood through the intentional fellowship with one another.

"Each of these girls has become my family, and I love each one of them with all of my heart. They have helped me to grow as a woman of Christ as well as grow in who I am. We are continually growing and improving, and I cannot wait to see what is in store for our future," said Barnes.

Emily Barton

# Finding fresh ways to bond **CREATIVE**

**PEYTON DODD** throws the Gamma sign at the club's TWIRP night. Their event, Angels in the Outfield, was hosted at the softball field this year.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



**SARAH SPAKES** plays with a puppy at Woofapalooza. The event brought puppies from the Humane Society to campus for students to play with.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

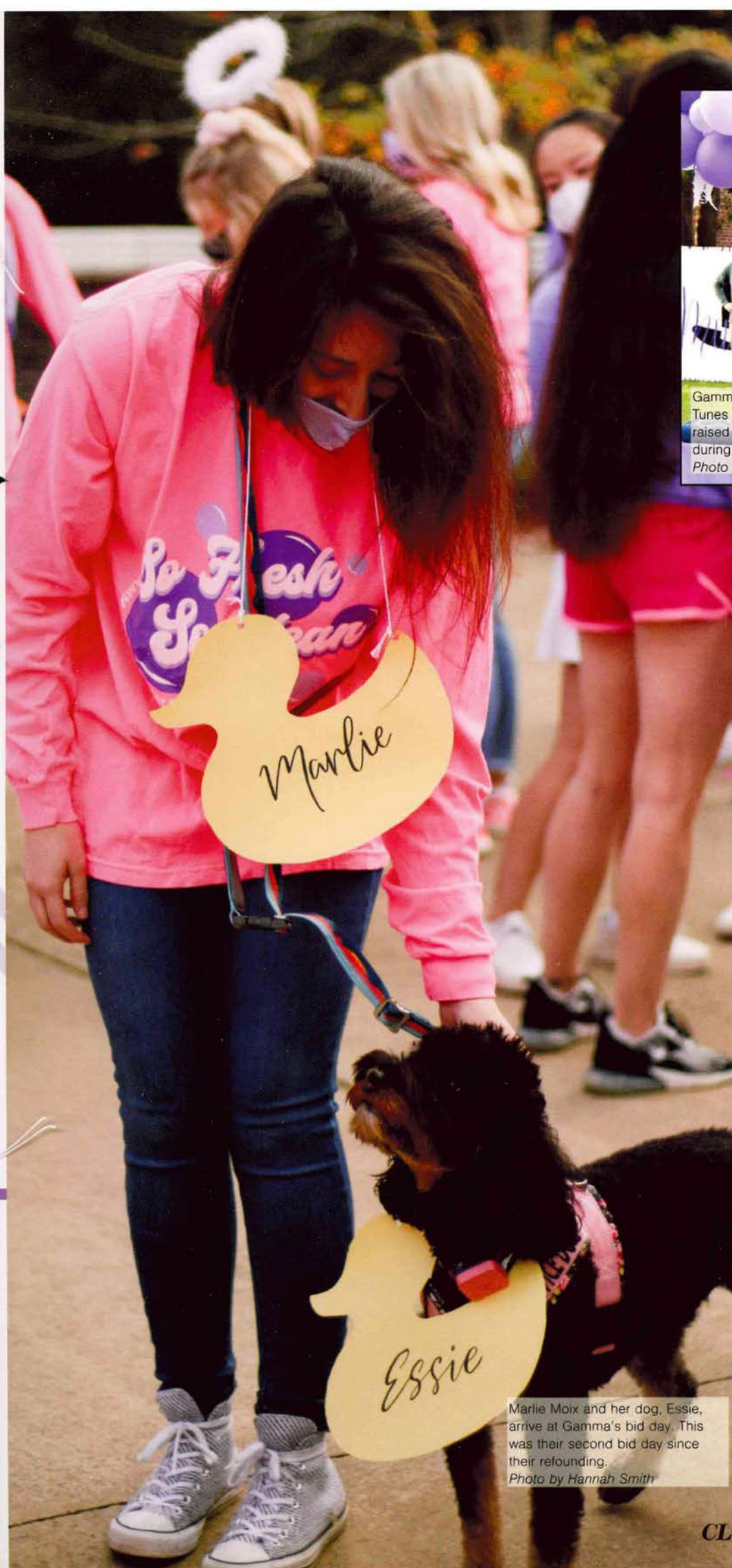


## RUSH ROUNDUP

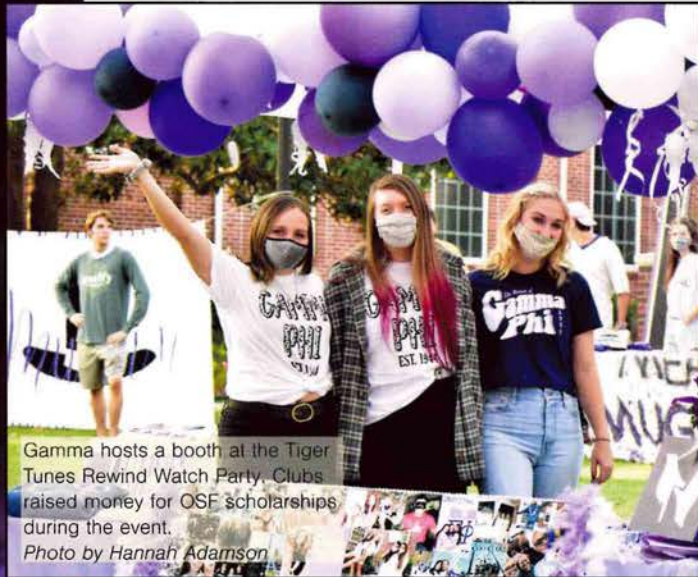
"With Gamma Phi still being recently refounded, changes to the Rush process, in my eyes, seemed frightening," Sydney Donaldson, a junior communication science and disorders major from Benton, said. "It was already a process that I was still getting to be familiar with, and converting our in person parties to Zoom breakout rooms was most definitely a change. We Zoomed for hours at a time each night talking to girls, trying to get to know them through a screen. Despite the change, Gamma welcomed PC '21. We were still so excited for our 35 angels to run home and celebrate with them."

*As told to Anna Roussel*





Marlie Moix and her dog, Essie, arrive at Gamma's bid day. This was their second bid day since their refunding.  
 Photo by Hannah Smith



Gamma hosts a booth at the Tiger Tunes Rewind Watch Party. Clubs raised money for OSF scholarships during the event.  
 Photo by Hannah Adamson



"I love Gamma because we are a strong, fun, and charismatic group of girls who support each other every day just as we are!"  
 Grace Bornemeier



"I love being in Gamma Phi because the girls are authentic and love others so well!"  
 Kayla Whittington



"I love Gamma because we are all able to be authentic to who we are."  
 Taylor Hamilton



"Kappa represents men from every kind of background and we never share a dull moment. We meaningfully engage with our communities and we go out of our way to show up for our brothers."  
*Craig Crawford*



"Everyone in Kappa is someone I can be myself around and I don't feel like I have to put on a different persona to fit in!"  
*Tanner Shipman*



"Kappa is a brotherhood that truly loves each other through thick and thin."  
*Nic Hazlett*



Seth Lybrand grills at a Kappa and Tri Chi mixer. The clubs hosted a cookout together in the spring.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Josh Sutton leads the club during a serenade at Frances Crawford. The club gave multiple serenades throughout the year.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*

Forming friends that are forever

# CONNECTED

From the traditional Kappa Chi events such as Car Bash, Kappa Chi Late Night, Serenades, and Date Night, the men of Kappa Chi had to alter their normal school-wide events and used this year to focus on bonding with their brotherhood. Their main goal as the Men of KX was to be a "brotherhood that surpasses obstacles and lasts a lifetime." They were founded as a male social club in 1981, and the new Pledge Class of 2021 brought in 10 new members to the brotherhood.

Freshman Eli Butler, a BFA musical theatre major from Greenwood, was in the '21 pledge class and was elected president over his PC, in which he kept them informed on the various pledge activities. Due to the fact that all of their functions had to incorporate masks, the new members were not able to experience all of the normal events that Kappa does.

"I look forward to getting to do everything mostly because we haven't got to do most things because of COVID, but I'm most excited about getting to do formal and getting to go to functions without masks," Butler said.

Junior Cross Brandon, a music industry major from Little Rock and secretary of Kappa, has seen how the COVID-19 guidelines changed Kappa. They had to change and modify their normal events they hold on campus, but as a club, they grew closer together.

"COVID most certainly left an effect on Kappa alongside other social clubs. It kept many of us from connecting with each other;

however, Kappa has a strong brotherhood, and we are excited about the possible events to come in the near future," Brandon said.

One of their little sisses, senior Madeline Martin, a musical theatre and communications major from Sheridan, was a little sis for two years. The little sisses normally are there as the club's biggest cheerleaders. They help with Tiger Tunes, Rush Week, and other Kappa functions. There was always a strong bond, not only between just the boys but, with their little sisses as well.

"All of the guys are super fun and chill. They're also always down for a good time, and they're super helpful as well whenever the Little Sisses need something," Martin said.

President Zack Perez, a senior business management and entrepreneurship major from Nashville, held an office position since January 2018. His job was to help oversee all executives and help make the communication clear between all members. Something that made Kappa unique was the close bond of brothers that they formed through the social club's existence.

"No matter who I talk to whether it be a founder or a recent graduate there is always a sense of brotherhood with them and a sense of pride that comes with being a Kappa. People speaking about how they're still great friends with their brothers and how some even plan weekends to hang out still," Perez said.

Meredith Medford



**ETHAN RUSSELL** gets ready to shoot during archery intramurals. Archery was a new sport introduced this year to the intramural slate.  
Photo by Callie Rogers

**GRANT JETTON** walks across a slackline in front of Hickingbotham Hall. This was part of the activities at the Woolfapalooza event on campus.  
Photo by Hannah Adamson



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"While it was disappointing to not be in person the whole time, I think both the members and the rushees got to experience the full spectrum of what each club had to offer. I think we were very lucky to have such an amazing exec that organized all our Zoom sessions in a way that not only allowed the rushees to get to know Kappa better, but also allowed the members to reflect on what it means to be Kappa," said Andrew Tarlton, a sophomore biology major from Texas.  
As told to Anna Roussel

The men of Rho Sigma were small but mighty in the fall of 2020, but that didn't last long. Rush caused the club to more than triple in size. This fantastic Rush for the club re-established their very important place on campus.

Alex Savage, a freshman biology major from Smackover, was a part of the historically large pledge class. He accredited the massive growth to the "contagious sense of pride and brotherhood."

Savage chose Rho Sigma because he could not ignore the sense of camaraderie the club exuded.

Not only were the members of Rho Sig a part of this sense of pride on campus, but also their sweethearts.

Jaelle Morrison, a junior communication sciences and disorders major from Rison, said that she became a sweetheart because she "was friends with a few sweet boys that were a part of the club and they asked me to join." Morrison was so glad that she made this decision.

"They have added to my Ouachita experience by allowing me to be involved," said Morrison.

The appreciation between members and sweethearts was very

mutual. The members and new pledges carried on the traditions of the club and wrote letters to every sweetheart. This was one of Morrison's favorite parts of the club.

"The letters definitely make me feel loved and appreciated by the club," Morrison said.

Despite restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the men of Rho Sigma were still very active on campus.

Will Broussard, a kinesiology major from Livingston, Texas, said, "We have a great group of people, who not only have fun, but are not selfish. All the things that we've done for our campus and community speaks volumes."

The men of Rho Sigma spent the year building off of their rich history by welcoming in several new members. The core value of brotherhood was still at the center of the club.

"I really love the brotherhood in the club. Rho Sig isn't just a social club, but a place of belonging," said Broussard. Will also reminded us to "Stay Rowdy!" as Rho Sigma says.

Caroline Johnson

# Providing joy and staying **ROWDY**

**LUKE ROBINSON** takes on shoveling the snow in front of Cone-Bottoms. Students help to clear ice and snow on campus after an above-average snowfall.

*Photo by Sarah Dean*

**RHO SIGMA** sets up a Hershey kiss booth on campus. Students could grab chocolate and a soft drink on their walk between classes.

*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



## RUSH **ROUNDUP**

"The Rush process was very easy," Alex Savage said. "Rho Sig is very good at making everybody feel important and wanted in the club. Sure, it felt a bit disconnected the first two days just because we weren't in person, but the in person parties were the highlight of Rush. I think Rho Sig did a great job with following COVID protocols, while still making their in person events fun and memorable."

*As told to Anna Roussel*





Will Broussard offers hand sanitizer at a booth Rho Sigma set up on campus. All clubs made a big effort to follow school guidelines this year.  
*Photo by Abby Blankenship*



Noah Grimes takes part in clearing the campus of snow. Rho Sigma had a very active role on campus.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*



"Rho Sigma is my true American brothers. I enjoyed my best four years in my life with them."  
*Brend Park*



"Since becoming a member of Rho Sig, I've made so many good memories with these guys that I will never forget. These guys are not just my friends, they have become family to me."  
*Chris McCuiston*



"Rho Sig has been such a positive impact on my life that I named my dog after the club. The men of Rho Sigma are my family away from home and my brothers for life."  
*Justin Villegas*





"As a person who loves to be with people, I really enjoy the sisterhood, friendships, and community that Tri Chi has given me."  
*Sarah Collins*



"Tri Chi is so special because there is a vast diversity of personalities and interests within the club."  
*Chaney Campbell*



"I enjoy being in TC because it made a random group of girls into my friends and some of those friends into my family away from home."  
*Hyland Alfonso*



Maggie Pinkston helps organize the TC tie-dyeing fundraiser. Pinkston was one of the club's fundraising chairs.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*



Taylor Fielder and Grace Gallagher take part in Tie-Dye with Tri Chi. This was a new fundraiser for the club.  
*Photo by Callie Rogers*

# Building a sisterhood, arm-in-arm **UNITED**

The Women of Tri Chi had a strong community that remained steadfast and united amidst the circumstances of COVID-19. This sisterhood developed a tight bond, and COVID-19 only brought them closer. The club's letters, TC, stand for "Togetherness in Christ," which was demonstrated daily throughout the school year. It was evident that those letters were near and dear to each member of the club.

"As the year unfolded, I've seen each member choose hope and rally around their sisters to encourage them during these troubling times," said Jenny Johnson, a senior communication sciences and disorders major from Benton.

Johnson served as the club's president for the spring semester and enjoyed every minute of the experience.

"Presidency has taught me a great deal about the importance of empathy and communication," said Johnson.

This sisterhood always knew how to have a good time, and they made sure everyone knew it. Sarah Collins, a sophomore communications major from Lucas, Texas, noticed the fun dynamic Tri Chi brings, which led her to rush Tri Chi in 2020. This school year, Collins enjoyed hanging out with her sisters, even if it was on a Zoom call.

"It has been more difficult to build relationships because of COVID-19 restrictions, but I cannot wait to get closer to my sisters," Collins said.

Even in the trying times of the strange school year, the Women of

Tri Chi did not let anything stop them from chanting "chi, chi, chi til I die, die, die," on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms. The club embraced its circumstances and still made a memorable Bid Day for the incoming pledge class.

Emma Donley, a freshman Christian studies major from Frisco, Texas, expressed how loved she felt as she ran into her new sisterhood.

"All the girls were so kind and welcoming, and I knew then that I had found my home on campus," Donley said.

Dani Imrie, a junior secondary education major from Jonesboro served as one of the club's induction chairs and enjoyed gaining new sisters.

"The fact that Rush and Pledge week were able to happen meant the world," said Imrie.

Rush week and Bid Day looked different this year, but the club did a wonderful job of planning COVID-friendly events that kept everyone safe while making memories that will last forever.

Even though the yearly social events such as TWIRP, Rush, and Bid Day all looked different due to COVID-19, the women of Tri Chi remained positive and brought the party to life despite the circumstances. Whether it was having their weekly meetings socially distanced while wearing masks, or on a Zoom call, the women of Tri Chi always enjoyed being with each other.

Lucie Shepherd



**MEMBERS** take a picture at X's and O's with Tri Chi and Beaus. The club used this as a Valentine's Day fundraiser.

Photo by William Read

**KAYLA BROWN** picks up trash on Tiger Serve Day. Members of Tri Chi helped serve all over Arkadelphia.

Photo by Abby Blankenship



## RUSH ROUNDUP

"Rush was very different this year because of COVID, but Tri Chi did an amazing job at trying to make the experience as normal as possible," Kate Vernon said. "There were challenges, but going through those obstacles really benefitted Tri Chi and grew our appreciation for the sisterhood that we have. Everyone worked so well together and worked hard to keep the Tri Chi Rush traditions that we all know and love."

As told to Anna Roussel

## BETA brothers band together to produce first EP

**H**aving a similar love for music and forming a relationship through the Men of Beta Beta, three juniors on campus created the band known as Third Floor Village. Anderson Fulton, Buck McKnight and Parker Zucha are the voices and instrumentalists behind the band name. The plan engendered in their dorm room and as the pieces began to fall into place they realized they all had a similar taste in music, resulting in a unique style that is consistent throughout all their songs.

"We would consider our music to be somewhere in the genre of alternative," Zucha, a finance and management double major from Wylie, Texas, said. "We hope that our music reaches as many people it resonates with as possible. We hope that our listeners can relate and find some joy in listening to what we find so much joy in creating."

During the fall semester, the band released its first EP titled Get Away. It was available on all streaming services and contained six songs.

"The night Get Away released, we got together with some of our closest friends and waited until it dropped," McKnight, a Christian studies major from El Dorado, said. "We wanted to make sure it went smoothly and there were no issues with our songs and lyrics on the streaming services. We began to receive many encouraging messages and support about the EP, which meant a lot to us."

In the first three months following the release, the EP reached over 25,000 total streams.

"The inspiration came from wanting to create a good record that could be personal and relatable stemming from stories of our own personal past experiences," said Fulton, a biology major from Waco, Texas. "The songs focus mainly on friendships and relationships."

The band began writing the EP in the fall of 2019. They partnered with Zucha's brother, Ouachita graduate Zach Zucha, who began turning their ideas into actual songs. The boys made trips to Dallas, Texas, to record and perfect the EP.

"We faced a couple of big challenges during the process," Zucha said. "In the middle of writing, the pandemic affected our timeline and sent us home to separate places. We had to find new ways to continue working on the music until we were ready to record. Also, with the EP being our first music released, we had to try really hard to find and develop our own unique 'sound.' Turning the songs that were just ideas and written with just an acoustic guitar into what they are now was a long but rewarding process."

While they were all involved with music and lyric writing, each of the band members had distinct roles. McKnight served as the lead guitarist and handled all social media communication. Zucha served as a vocalist and also was involved with the band's social media presence. Fulton also served as a vocalist as well as lead on the keyboard.

Third Floor Village consistently worked on new music meeting weekly to write or record a video to post on their social media platforms. They prepared to play live once permitted.

"We are so grateful to everyone in the Ouachita community that supports us and listens to our music," McKnight said. "We are hard at work to create more fun, and hopefully even better, tunes. We hope to do this as long as we can."

Gracen Goudy

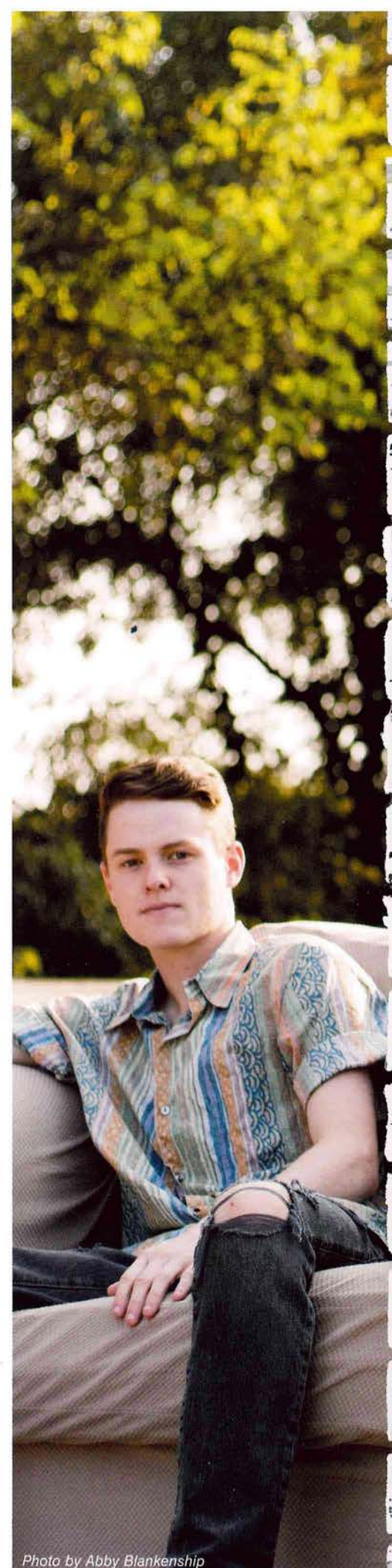


Photo by Abby Blankenship



The International Club provided community and support for the international students on campus. Many do not have family nearby, so the club has positively impacted members' time at Ouachita. Ian Cosh, Vice President for Community and International Engagement, shared the importance of having this space for students.

"International students need a small circle of people to relate to. Community is important," Cosh said.

The IC made the transition from home to college easier. Even with different stories, backgrounds, and cultures, they have been able to bond over their commonalities. Maria Urbina, sophomore nutrition and dietetics major from Honduras, explained how the club has impacted her time at OBU.

"I know that I'm not the only one dealing with culture shock, homesickness, and adapting to a place that is different from home," she said. "When I'm having a hard time adjusting or understanding, I know that I can rely on them."

Gwyneth Hadasa, junior nutrition and dietetics major from Indonesia, has had leadership experience thanks to the club.

"The IC is my baby. It means a lot to me, even before becoming president," she said. "I always knew I wanted to serve the club this way. I wanted to pour into internationals because I know it's hard and sometimes, we just need someone to be there. We all want to feel like we belong."

Being the president of the club did not come with obstacles and it was not as easy as it seems. Hadasa explained how challenging it was to lead the club, but also how rewarding it was. A lot of growth happened thanks to this opportunity.

"I have learned how to lead people, get creative, and set idealistic

goals," she said. "Making the club known has been hard. The club has kept me busy, and I have developed better communication skills."

The club showed resiliency in the middle of a global pandemic. The restrictions and limitations were difficult to deal with, but they came up with ways to keep not only the international students, but the entire campus involved.

"We have not been able to do many of the activities we would usually have, like the fall break trip and the International Food Fest," Cosh said. "This year we adapted and had a food fest dorm edition."

These activities were important to international students and third culture kids because it was a time where they got to share a little about who they are, where they come from, and the richness of their culture.

The presence of the International Club brought diversity and global perspective to the campus. The IC was not only meant for the international students. The club wanted the American students to get involved, serve, and get to know the members.

"Many United States students haven't traveled outside the States. Being friends with the international students can inspire them to travel, to have the experience of studying abroad," Cosh said.

The club continued to expand and reach people on campus. It was important for OBU to have this club to show appreciation and promote unity among the students.

"There are about 43 countries represented here at OBU and it's important that we unite as internationals," Urbina shared. "It showed an appreciation that we are here and gives us not only an opportunity to know each other, but to engage with the OBU community and mutually learn."

Valeria Gomez

The most  
diverse club  
on campus

# COALITION

**Hannah Cohen** prepares to pass out goodie bags for International week. The bags included candy from countries around the world.  
*Photo by Hannah Adamson*

**Isabella Bejarano**, Brenna Watson, and Olivia Hobson take photos for the Christmas season. They hoped to make a Christmas card for the International Club.  
*Photo by Wesley Kluck*



## TEAM TESTIMONY

"International Club is a home for all of us international students," Gwyneth Hadasa, a junior nutrition and dietetics major, said. "It has been a wonderful experience leading the club and serving the campus. It has impacted me greatly and has helped me find a sense of belonging on the Ouachita campus."

*As told to Ben Swanger*



**COVID** Conduct

For some, returning to the United States for school was difficult



International Club members pass out food festival bags. Due to COVID-19, IC had to adjust their normal plans for food festival. Photo by Sarah Dean



Sabaoot Esho, Emily Pease, Emma Bynum, and Kelsey Bester pose with their flags. The IC provided community for international students. Photo by Wesley Kluck



"I like that IC is very relaxed; you just show up exactly as you are and you will find a group of people who will love you for it!"  
Isabella Bejarano



"I enjoy being in the International Club because I get to meet students from other countries and learn about different cultures and experiences around the world."  
Tom Tran



"I enjoy being part of IC because the people in it are genuine and caring. They make everyone feel included."  
Valeria Gomez



A Tiger Serve Day team poses with young students outside Peake Elementary. Despite the pandemic, students still found ways to serve the community.  
*Photo by Sarah Dean*



# COMMUNITY

Ouachita's community sets us apart from the pack. Within every service opportunity, group project, and team performance on display, was unrivaled ***resilience.***



# THE MEN OF BETA BETA





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# THE WOMEN OF EEE

ESTABLISHED 1925

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*it just keeps getting better*



# THE WOMEN





# OF GAMMA PHI





## *The Women of Tri Chi*



*"Togetherness in Christ"*



## INVESTED in you

At Ouachita, we do more than learn together. We do life together. And when life gets hard, we're still there for each other, whether that means an extra Zoom call from across the country, working through a difficult concept for class or spiritual support through prayer. Our commitment to a love of God and love of learning means you'll leave here not only prepared for a meaningful career but also with a community to back you no matter what.

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# The Men of KAPPA CHI





# CHI MU





# ETA ALPHA OMEGA





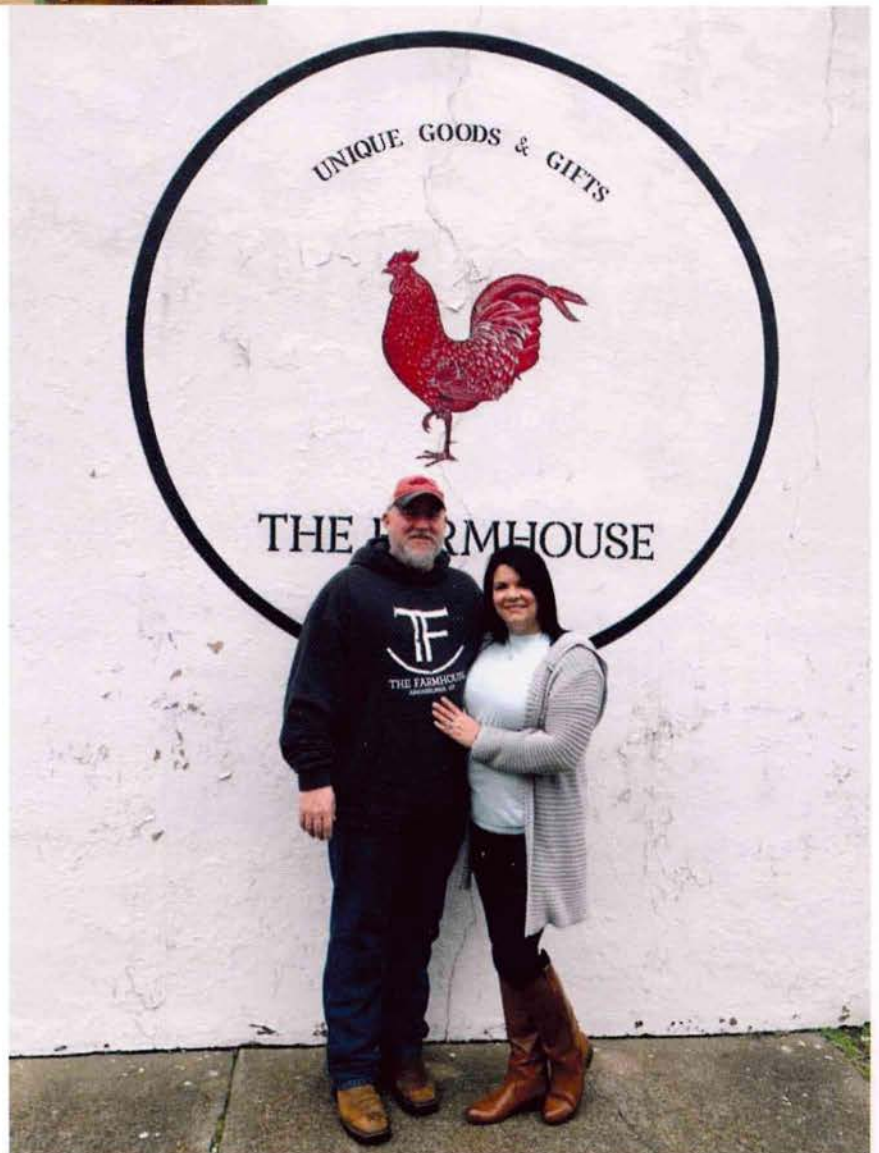
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COMMUNITY **241**

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**TIGER SERVE DAY LEADERSHIP TEAM** front row Isabella Bejarano, Kayla Whittington, Katelyn Harris, Raegan Greer, Hannah Martin, Abby Blankenship, second row Ian Cosh, Jacob Brown, Emma Bynum, Taylor Fielder, Madeline Knight, Able Kusaloka, Ali Chapman, Tehya Hinkson, MacKenzie Hall, Julia Shands, third row Wade Wilson, Hannah Rossell, Kelsey Bester, Cabb Batson, Will Guerra, Joao Rodriguez, Josh Howington, Barrett Malone, back row Wes Guerra, Ryan Thompson, Luke Roberson, Caleb West, Taylor Savage, not pictured Fallon Carder, Kallen Smith



**MORE** Mrs. Monica Rutledge (sponsor), Jomari Bailey, Dayja James, Tyrese Allen, not pictured Tyranni Hubbard, Aryana Gardner, JaCoya Hodges, Jared Wainright, Khennedy Brunson, Lexi Deck, LaCameria Clark, Makeilah Turner



**OUACHITONIAN STAFF** front row Valeria Gomez, Kathryn Totty, Emily Barton, Hanna Williams, Ben Swanger, Gracen Goudy, Anna Roussel, Addie Woods, Dr. Deborah Root, back row Katie Moore, Caroline Johnson, Lucie Shepherd, MacKenzie Hall, Michaelyn Ferrell, Angela Webb

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**ALPHA CHI front row** Sam Youmans, Taryn Toles, Noah Yeamans, Sidney Salyers, Grace Oliver, Melissa Brown, Kaitlyn Campbell, Isabella Bejarano, Sabaoot Esho, **second row** Emily Pease, Jael Winterholter, Hope Murphy, Sarah Spakes, Natalie Moore, Kayla Whittington, Taryn Bewley, Vanessa Vives, **third row** Hannah Tullos, Hope White, Emily McMaster, Molly Maddox, Emma Gregory, Anna Weyenberg, Scarlett Castleberry, Madeline Knight, Isabella Wood, **back row** Cody Cagle, Wade Wilson, Landon Denman, Cade Hayne, Alex Moore



**CAMPUS MINISTRIES front row** Kaylie Green, Rylie Slone, Kayla Brown, Ashlyn Ham, Bailey Beutner, Kaitlyn Campbell, Andy Strauss, **second row** James Taylor, Noah Sanders, Taylor Darland, Anna Robinson, Faith Moore, Valeria Gomez, Sabreana Thompson, Vanessa Vives, Darby Byrd, Erin Chappell, Hannah Walker, **back row** Jack Bennington, Riley Carson, Nathan Wuellner, Lucie Shepherd, McKenzie Hall, Aidan Doss, Noah McCallum, Jacob Brown, Levi Dade, James Renshaw



**NATIONAL NURSING SOCIETY front row** Bay Novak, Martha Kay Freeman, Madi Esch, Courtney Myers, Dr. Parnell, **second row** Carol McKeever, Johanna Rico, Sarah Orr, Franco Zuniga, Cassie Lackey, Dr. Trigg, **back row** Samantha King, Jana Milam, Alyssa Boggs, Landen Hill, Ashley Sweeny, Jacob Holt



**INTERNATIONAL CLUB front row** Isabella Bejarano, Vanessa Vives, Keren Fernandez, Kelsey Bester, Maria Urbina, Chloe Morse, Hamza Bellali, Gwyneth Hadasa, Hannah Walker, **back row** Emily Pease, Pietra Gois Camargo, Yu Chan Jeong, Josiah Elmore, Jacob Cates, Saboot Esho, Valeria Gomez



**NSSLHA front row** Katherine Fehlman, Brooke Snyder, Sarah Rountree, Taylor Huggins, Sidney Salyers, **second row** Emily Horn, Mary Grace Calahan, Carrie Jo Harville, Molly Maddox, Abby Ralston, Taylor Hamilton, **back row** Bailey Martin, Claire Sorg, Jordan Blaydes, Sydney Donaldson, Jaelle Morrison



**SIGMA TAU DELTA front row** Mallory Whitson, Cora Saddler, Emilee Webb, Miya Tatum, Tray Armstrong, **back row** Bailey Swanson, Dr. Amy Sonheim, Emily Koonce, Andy Strauss, Austin Cook

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**STUDENT SENATE front row** Madison McGhee, Madi Darr, Samantha Dixon, Vivan Pryor, Emilee Webb, **back row** Christian Hickingbotham, Dane Jester, Caroline Derby, Mady Cate Rottinghaus, Tyrese Allen, Bennett Hasley, Chris Cobb



**TRI BETA front row** Kaitlyn Montgomery, Erin Chapelle, Kennedy Johnson, Gracie Jones, Caroline Cole. Becca Janke, Jade Dorman, Isabelle Holyfield, Jenna Roger, **back row** Tyler Parker, Gabe Poe, Timothy Spiva, Thomas Harrington, David Rainwater, Cade Haynie, Kallen Smith, Josh Spiva



**YOUNG DEMOCRATS front row** Craig Crawford, Madison Rawls, Liv Sweeten, Michal Felan, **back row** Elizabeth Byrd, Erin Mollins, Molly Mai Borneman





**SIGMA DELTA PI** Dr. Jerusa Carvajal, Lauren Gaharan; Kara DeLaune, Dr. Jason Doroga, Breanna Watson, Pietra Gois, Jack Webb, Dr. Doug Sonheim, Dr. Amy Sonheim, Dr. Johnny Wink



**BETA BETA front row** Greg Bryant, Austin Guymon, Jared Wright, Nick Gerber, Jack Pillow, Michael Bell, Payne Warren, Matt Day, Caleb Crow, Grant Hogan, Gage Hill, John McCollett, Alex Bryan, **second row** Anderson Fulton, Luke Schmidt, Chris Bryan, Franco Zuniga, Drew Darbone, Buck McKnight, Dawson Goodwin, Dane Jester, Reagan Neal, Able Kusaloka, **third row** Hunter McDord, Parker Zucha, Logan Daust, Cole Edrington, Bennett Hasley, Ben George, Henry Hunley, Ryan Pickleman, **fourth row** Sam Looney, Brock Bivens, Andrew Boatman, Josh Wallace, Jack Burnham, Josh Burnham, Harris Shuffield, Jack Brent, Jacob Smith, Seth Curl, **fifth row** Jackson Pickard, Lawrance Davis, Cole Turner, Seth McDowell, Carter Hodge, Baker Kendrick, Wes Guerra, Armanio Atilano, Jack Brent, John Payton, Caden Pulliam, **back row** Logan Smith, Isaac Crow, Gabe Chandler, Brooks Brown, Seth Vance, Eli Jenkins, Sam Scott, Daniel McCarty, Ebon Jordan



**ETA ALPHA OMEGA front row** Kelsey Bester, Lauren Sims, Katie Loving, Erin Lee Williams, Keaton Goodrum, Jared Garner, Abby Shourd, Jorie Beaumont, Pietra Gois Camargo, Vanessa Vives, **second row** Jack Bennington, Tyson Tatum, Jacob Thomas, Johnathan Sandy, Jonathan Shelby, Lucas McAnn, Harry Jeffery, Benjamin Highsmith, Chase Hartsell, **third row** Tom Tran, Sam Vickers, Logan Talley, Ethan Elkins, **fourth row** Seth Hunter, Noah Barker, Broc Ingold, Braden Crawley, Jack Webb, Mason Vaughn, Brock Wade, Caden McCalley, Mason Campbell, **back row** Ben Lewis, Preston Crowder, Levi Dade, Mason Holder, Jared Beehn, Graham Scarbrough, Ethan Marshall, Will Reed

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**CHI MU front row** Katie Bayer, Bri Penn, Jessa Bryant, Katlin Hardin, Alyssa Price, Michal Felan, **second row** Anna Funk, Danielle Hall, Emma Dennis, Josie White, Isabella Wood, Ashlyn Seibert, Abby Ralston, Reyna Cabrera, Maddie Cargile, Abby Burlison, Sarah Dean, **third row** Kayte Leggett, Mikaila Fatheree, Elizabeth Hall, Natalie Helms, Alissa Tucker, Brynlee Beams, Sarah Moms, Angela Webb, **back row** Clara Beth Hill, Molly Mize, Eilyn Bailey, Lydia Dean, Zoe Jennings, Lei Hues, Makenna Holder, Brenna Kelsterson, Kaylee Martin, Chloe Sawyer



**KAPPA CHI front row** Katelyn Harris, Madison Mosier, Scarlett Castleberry, Madeline Martin, Lydia Gaffner, Samantha Dixon, Chlose Morse, Katie Bonge, Erica Dixon, **second row** Logan Moore, Zack Perez, Mark Spurlin, Collier Byrd, Grant Jetton, Ryan Lynch, Alex Moore, **third row** Seth Lybrand, Nic Hazlett, Jack Patterson, Cody Cagle, Tanner Shipman, Landon Denman, Matthew Mayfield, **back row** Jude Clements, Ayden Bennett, Zach McClain, Tyler Parker, Carter Bunn, Kinder Hinrichs



**GAMMA PHI front row** Peyton Dodd, Taylor Hamilton, Jorie Beaumont, Elisabeth Brown, Kayla Whittington, Sarah Spakes, **second row** Elizabeth Costner, Ashlynn Roots, Allie Tarnowsky, Lainey Alexander, Addison Mercer, Taryn Bewley, Chassidy Barnes, **third row** Allie Mooney, Grace Bomemeier, Johanna Rico, Juliana Shaw, Kelley Hayes, Sarah Orr, Gracie Bohannon, Michelle Byers, Hannah Herrington, Piper Fain, Natally More, **fourth row** Taylor Moran, Lauren Fowler, Lauren Venditto, Hailey Colson, Addison White, Sabrina Cheek, Madi Sims, Martha Kay, Rebecca Wendt, Hannah Estes, Sydni Watts, Hannah Coffman, Hayli Wooley, **back row** Erica Stouvall, Allie Sample, Kie Crone, Lexa Levermann, Avery Cornish, Annika Josten, Madison Lowell, Rosalyn Decker, Hope Murphy, Grace Goose, Hannah Haig, Shelby Tripcone, Emily Watson, Marlie Moix, Jessica Jennings, Analyse Hamlet



**TRI CHI front row** Jael Winterholder, Ashlyn Ham, Stephanie Weatherford, Jennie Johnson, Erica Dixon, **second row** Halley Bryant, Katie Loving, McKenzie Stewart, Kelsie Lawhon, Mandi Halbert, Taylor Fielder, Holly Shipp, Madi Esch, Samantha Dixon, Gerogia Rogers, Kenzie Blasé, Kiki Woymans, Kaleigh Thomas, Eryn Riley, Emily Bass, Victoria Martin, Allison Martin, Grace Gallagher, **third row** Gracen Hambrick, Grace Gardner, Bailey Martin, Grasa Webster, Karis Staley, Abigail Gaddis, Madeline Babb, Valeria Gomez, Landen Hill, Jana Milam, Madison Williams, Erin Chappelle, Emily Jarr, Emily Waters, **fourth row** Erin Lee Williams, Caroline Cole, Linli Lowry, Kasha Baker, Lauren Sims, Savannah Pierce, Avery Stall, Dezi Kerthlia, Meredith Medford, Abbigale Sullins, Hyland Alfonso, Anna Hudson, Grace Lofton, Grace Avery, Chloe Johnson, **fifth row** Bailey Case, Sarah Patterson, Sydney Sunburn, Emma Rouse, Chaney Campbell, Jana Wilson, Emily White, **back row** Olivia Dixon, Kaylee Johnson, Abby Shourd, Daisy Bryant, Emily Carraway Lauren Jenkins, Emma Smith, Meredith West, Sydney Motl, Ella Cox, Maria Urbina, Vanessa Vives, Pietra Gois Camargo, Bailey Swanson



**EEE front row** Katelyn Franzke, Khennedy Brunson, Kinley Deaton, Emma Kathleen Conner, Gracie Vaughn, Rebekah Van Neeman, Kara Delaune, Katherine Fehlman, Gracen Seabaugh, Carli Coppell, Mckenzie Smith, Julianne Weaver, Lauren Kinley, Erica Chapman, Abby Walker, Ali Chapman, Mady Cate Rottinghaus, Gracen Goudy, Brady Barton, Michaelyn Ferrell, Sarah Rountree, Meredith Parker, Madison Cresswell, Madeline Steely, Elizabeth Steely, Taylor Huggins, Grace Oliver, Bri Benton, **second row** Kamy Treat, Ansley Rottinghaus, Karigan Clay, Jentry Iantzs, Chloe Schnaitman, Jillian Woodruff, Holly Jones, Sarah Freeze, Dayja James, Faith Moore, Emme Edmonson, Anna Lee Drennon, Jenna Whitlow, Brooklyn Parker, Josie Pringle, Jade Dorman, Mary Madison Tolbert, **third row** Olivia Gatson, Morgan Darr, Anna Johnson, Clare Sog, Emily Dodson, Madison McGhee, Cassidy Bohn, Madison Crow, Anna Roussel, Allyson Oliver, Anna Katherine Greene, Emily Greenwell, Becca Janke, Chloe Clay, Celeste Pinkerton, Maddie Bailey, Kelsi Coleman, **fourth row** Molly Maddox, Madison Melcher, Addy Cassell, Roley Jeane, Hannah Smith, Liv Sweden, Cori Clower, Ashton Hurst, Madi Darr, Caroline Derby, Emily Horn, Abigail Powers, Brooklin Petard, Addie Chumley, Tori Bourgeois, Emilee Webb, Brynn Clark, Anna Marie Plasciras, **fifth row** Jenna Biggers, Meg Atchinson, Kathryn Totty, Isabelle Holeyfield, Hanna Williams, Aubrie Kate Mosely, Vivian Pryor, Keller Smith, Nick Gerber, Caleb Crow, Jack Brent, Seth Curl, Scarlet Bates, Abbie Moix, Kennedy Johnson, Bay Novak, **back row** Natalie Williams, Regan Ryan, Laybe Wilson, Karlee Sutterfield, Lindsey Ward, Sophia Talley, Cole Turner, John Peyton, Greg Bryant, Franco Zuniga, Matt Day, Ashley Drennan, Micah Martin, Liz Lockwood, Kenzie Burks

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**CHI DELTA front row** Brittney Hubbard, Samantha Pipkin, Brooke Horton, Aileena Schlauch, Erin McNully, Courtney Davis, Mara Gillispie, Sabrina Russell, Blanca Rodriquez, **second row** Amy Jackson, Madi Tate, Asha Samson, Makenna Kager, Hannah Martin, Sydney Bufford, Anna Black, **third row** Hannah George, Rebecca Holiman, Maci Hill, Alex Henry, Lacey Pattigrew, Kennedy Stringfellow, Ashley Beck, Elizabeth Wimberley, Kayla Williams, Clarisa Valenzuela, Faith Morgan, **back row** Lexi Deck, Karla Montiel, Kara Burns, Zoe McGregor, Anna Claire Newman, Grace Sharon, Josee Bebee, Alex Delgado, Paxton Jameson, Taylor Langston, Lawson Lee, Allee Lipford, Claire Kellner



**OUACHITA STUDENT FOUNDATION front row** Jade Ashley, Cabb Batson, Victoria Bourgeois, Maddie Cargile, Addyson Cassell, Emily Castilaw, Caroline Cole, Emma Kathleen Conner, Ashley Drennan, Luke Falco, Michal Felan, Ben George, Emily Greenwell, Mason Woolbright, Anna Roussel, Brady Barton, Maddie Bailey, Lauren Kinley, Mady Cate Rottinghaus, Anna Lee Drennan, Karley Cline, Kaleigh Casada, Madison McGhee, Mary Madison Tolbert, Keller Smith. **second row** Kennedy Johnson, Kady Johnson, Taylor Koeth, Kelsie Lawhon, Mikayla Long, Madison Lovell, Carter McKissack, Madison Melcher, Marlie Moix, Hannah More, Marly Welbourn, Kallen Smith, Reyna Cabrera, Savannah Pierce, Emma Gregory, Mackenzie Hall, Bay Novak, Juliana Shaw, Sophie Davis, Zack Perez, Alexis Summerford, Taryn Bewley, Molly Maddox, Candace Moix, Kaitlin Bolton, Cannon Fisher, Allie Tarnowsky, Kate Vernon, Caleb Crow, Abby Walker **third row** Kennedy Stringfellow, Kathryn Totty, Kamy Treat, Hannah Tullos, Chloe Wallace, Emilee Webb, Joey Whisenhunt, Hanna Williams, Layne Wilson, Addie Woods, Hyland Alfonso, Elizabeth Hall, Lauren Bridgeman, Parker Zucha, Gracen Goudy, Erica Chapman, Timothy Spiva, Thomas Harrington, Jackson Pickard, James Renshaw, Dawson Goodwin, Gregory Bryant, John Michael McCollett, Able Kusaloka, Hope White, Sophia Ward, Riley Davis, Eryn Riley, Abigail Sullins, Karigan Clay, Sarah Spakes **back row** Vivian Pryor, Emmy Higgs, Isabelle Holeyfield, Jenna Rogers, Sara Holman, Ashton Hurst, Lauren Jenkins, Brooklin Pitard, Kaylee Johnson, Ainsley Rottinghaus, Anna Johnson, Allie Sample, Ashton Price, AubrieKate Moseley, Riley Jeane, Carston Johnson, Alex Savage, Izzy Baughn, Mary Charles West, Caroline Johnson, Chloe Lay, Emily Horn, Caroline Derby, Rebecca Janke, Emily McMaster, Gracen Seabaugh, Gabby Davis, Sydney Donaldson, Jaelle Morrison, Kristen Holeyfield, Cody Kehmeier

## RETIREES



**RETIREES** Phillip Easley, 38 years of service; Donna Reynolds, 22 years of service; Dave Ozmun, 34 years of service; Ian Cosh, 33 years of service; Steve Hennigan, 36 years of service; Ray Granade, 50 years of service; Danny Hays, 29 years of service; Sue Shults, 9 years of service, Martha Womack, 21 years of service; not pictured Brenda Gorman, 18 years of service / *photo by Hannah Smith*

## ACADEMIC AWARDS



Dr. Ben Sells, Joao Pedro Rodrigues, Harly Dearing, Eden Crow / *photo by Abby Blankenship*

Outstanding Senior Man	Joao Pedro Rodrigues
Outstanding Senior Woman	Eden Crow
Overall Academic Achiever	Harly Dearing
Academic Achievers	
Hickingbotham School of Buiness	Harly Dearing
Pruet School of Christian Studies	Laura Beth Warner
Huckabee School of Education	Emily Koonce
School of Fine Arts	Holli Barger
School of Humanities	Elizabeth Steely
Patterson School of Natural Sciences	Emme Edmondson
Sutton School of Social Sciences	Taryn Bewley
Mrs. Betty Oliver Grant Endowed Awards	
Sophomore	Dayja James
Junior	Madison Williamson
Mrs. J.R. Grant Endowed Awards	
Freshman	Anna Kate Velasquez
Senior	Bailey Buettner

# COLOPHON

The 112th volume of the Ouachitonian yearbook was published by Jostens Printing Company, 451 International Blvd., Clarksville, Tenn. 37040. Cam Bardwell was the regional manager, Natasha Durham was the sales representative, and Brandy Wathke was the in-plant customer service representative.

Schools interested in obtaining a copy may contact the Ouachitonian by email at [ouachitonian@obu.edu](mailto:ouachitonian@obu.edu).

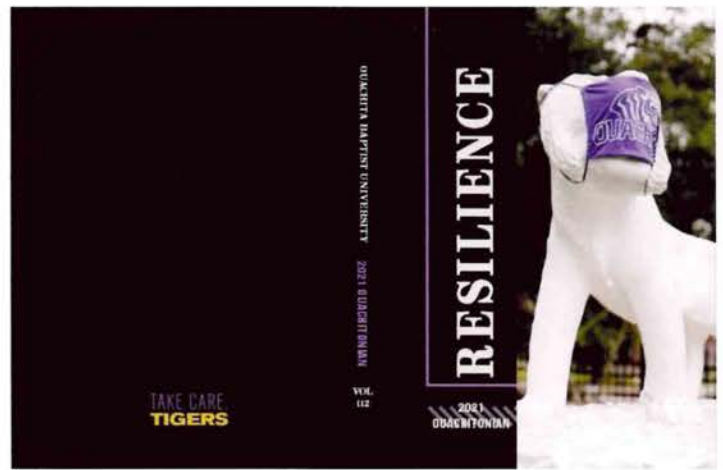
The majority of the photos were taken by student photographers. Portraits were provided by Alex Blankenship of Little Rock. The sports team photos were taken by Dr. Wesley Kluck.

The cover design was by Ben Swanger, Ouachitonian editor-in-chief. The cover photo was by Tyler Rosenthal. The theme spreads and section designs were by Swanger. All designs were created on the Macintosh iMac and Adobe Indesign through Jostens Monarch program. Fonts used in the book were AYT Foundations Sans and AYT Chris.

The 2021 Ouachitonian yearbook is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, Associated Collegiate Press, and Arkansas College Media Association.

The 2019 Ouachitonian won All-American and was a Pacemaker Finalist from ACP. The yearbook also won awards from the Arkansas College Media Association and Columbia Scholastic Press Association, including five Gold Circle Awards for individual achievement. ACMA recognized Ben Swanger as the Yearbook Editor-of-the-Year.

All students, as well as faculty and staff, receive a copy of the yearbook at no additional cost.



## OUACHITONIAN STAFF

BEN SWANGER//Editor-in-Chief

### STAFF

Assistant Editors//Gracen Goudy, Anna Roussel

Student Life//Gracen Goudy, Angela Webb  
Clubs & Organizations//Anna Roussel, Addie Woods

Academics//Emily Barton, Madi Darr

Sports//Caroline Johnson

People//Ben Swanger

Ads//Sophia Talley, Addie Woods

PRACTICUM//Madi Darr, Caroline Johnson, Meredith Medford, Sophia Talley, Kathryn Totty, Madison Creswell, Lydia Dean, Mallory Wallace, MacKenzie Hall, Julia Shands, Katie Kemp, Lucie Shepherd, Valeria Gomez, Hannah Williams, Michaelyn Ferrell, Katie Moore, Mallory Morris

## PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

ABBY BLANKENSHIP//Editor

HANNAH SMITH//Editor

STAFF//Erica Wilmath, Hannah Adamson, Faith Webb, Sarah Dean

PRACTICUM//Maddie Cargile, William Read, Mikaela Monahan, Meagan North, Callie Rogers, Kirsten Shaw, Charissa Newton, Samantha Pipkin, Landon King, Madison Melcher, Kate Lance, Rachel Sansano, Jomari Bailey, Ashley Harrison



# BEN SWANGER

This book is not just a yearbook, it is history. I have authored countless stories, but for these 256 pages, my favorite 256 pages, my sweat, and my staff's sweat, is poured into each story, design, and layout. I was honored to be given the opportunity to lead the documentation of such an historic year on Ouachita's campus. I spent countless hours in the newsroom brainstorming, editing, writing, and designing this book and I couldn't be prouder of the way it turned out. Years down the road when we all reminisce on the ups and downs of 2020 and 2021, my hope is you turn to this book to remember our resilience.

I could not have led the production of this book without the support of everyone in my corner and I am eternally grateful for everyone's input into this book.

**Mom and Dad:** You funded my way through college, and I would be a fool not to recognize how instrumental you have been financially, professionally, and spiritually in my life. Your lives and love are concrete proof that our God is real, and His love is abounding.

**Olivia:** You are the love of my life and on days I struggled with creativity you were always there to pick me up. Your ideas are certainly sprinkled throughout this book. At the beginning of the year, you left me a sticky note on the computer that read, "Hey :) I love you." I read that note everyday and the thought of you fueled me through each day.

**Dr. Deb:** Your guidance was everything. Dating all the way back to feature writing my freshman year, you made me realize my potential as a writer. You poured so much into me and I am forever grateful for your guidance.

**Abby, Hannah, and the entire photo lab:** A yearbook is not a yearbook without incredible photos. This year ran so smoothly, and your artwork paints the pictures throughout this book. Your photos will be heralded forever within this little piece of history.

**Anna and Gracen:** Your dedication to this publication was everything and more. You two gave me everything you had and your stories, design, and more will always be remembered. Your tag team effort for the 2022 Ouachitonian will be astounding and I am so looking forward to watching you two continue this legacy.

**Taryn, Addy, and Brooke:** I would be foolish to not recognize your great impact. For three years I observed and learned from three incredible editors. I would certainly not have been the editor I was if it wasn't for the countless lessons you three taught me.

**My staff:** I will genuinely miss our Monday meetings. You made this year run so smoothly and your eagerness to write stories and take on assignments astounded me. You should be so proud of the work you all did to make this little engine run. You are all award winners in my book.

**Ouachita:** You were where I accomplished my lifelong goal of playing college baseball. You were the place where I met the love of my life. You were the home away from home I will always cherish. I leave this place a changed man. I leave this home spiritually and professionally equipped for anything and everything because of you.

Thank you to everyone who has ever touched my life. Your impact is always noticed.

With love,  
Ben Swanger

First, I want to thank God for placing me at Ouachita and providing me with the opportunity to work in the photo lab as an editor. I am so thankful for the ways I have grown and for having the ability to work and learn from amazing staff and editors. I am so excited for another year in this position!

**Dr. Jones:** I'm thankful for you and how you have encouraged me to be a better photographer and teaching me so much this year. Thank you for being a wonderful professor, advisor, and leader!

**The Roots:** Thank you for being wonderful contestant encouragers! The newsroom wouldn't be where it is without your leadership!

**Photo lab work study and practicum:** You are all amazing and have accomplished so much this year in the lab. I am so proud of all your hard work and beautiful photos. We did so great this year covering everything despite the circumstances. If you ever need anything give me a call I would love to help.

**Caity and Ben:** I am so glad I was able to work alongside two great editors. You are both amazing and navigated this year so well and I can't wait to see all the awards you will both win. I will miss seeing you both in the newsroom next year and wish you the best after graduation.

**Alex:** Thank you so for teaching me all about photography and getting me involved with the photo lab my freshman year. I look up to you and admire how hard you work and how much you love the Lord. I am so thankful to be your sister and have followed in your foot steps. I love you dearly.

**Hannah:** Thank you for everything! I am so glad we were co-editors together as I have learned so much from you. Thank you for loving the photo lab so much and leading the staff so well. I will miss you so much and can't wait to catch up with you soon.

**Levi:** You are such an amazing photographer and I am so excited to be co-editor with you. You have so much knowledge to bring to this staff and you are going to do great. I am looking forward to see all we accomplish!



# ABIGAIL BLANKENSHIP

# HANNAH SMITH

**Dr. Jones:** You were one of the first professors I ever met at Ouachita and have been one of my favorites ever since. You have helped me in many ways and have encouraged me along the way. I am forever grateful that you trusted me enough to give me the opportunity to be an editor. This past year was everything I have dreamed of, and more, and I'm very thankful for it. Thank you for helping my dreams come true, the encouragement, the help, and for the many delicious goodies you provided our team.

**Dr. Sells:** Thank you for always being a smiling face around campus, filled with encouragement, even on the first day of this school year. You were so excited for students to return to campus and for us to start this crazy year. During WOW Abby and I ran into you in Hickingbotham and you gave us the best encouragement that set the path for our Photo Lab team. You told us, "In 100 years someone is going to look through the yearbook and Signal wondering what life was like at Ouachita in 2020 and your pictures are going to show them. You're documenting Ouachita history." That became the mindset of not only Abby and me, but we also shared that with our team, and it helped us tremendously throughout this past year.

**Photo lab work study and practicum:** You all took on the challenge of this year and went above and beyond, despite all the problems we faced. You took "documenting Ouachita history" and ran with it. I am highly impressed by you all and am extremely proud of you. We faced a lot of problems this year with COVID, computers, events, and so on, and during all of it you all were happy as could be and came up with ways to work around the problems, and you did amazing! Thank you for all of your hard work, putting in more hours than before, and being so willing to do anything and everything. I am beyond thankful for each of you.

**Caity and Ben:** Thank you for always making the newsroom a fun place to work. You always kept us up to date with events around campus that we didn't know was happening. You both helped us tremendously in this past year, and it's been a joy to work with both of you.

**Andy, Alex, Justin, and Danielle:** Thank you for leading me in this path and for always encouraging me that my dreams are possible. You all have taught me many things since I got to Ouachita and have set an amazing example for what a hardworking photographer and editor looks like.

**Abby:** You are the best co-editor anyone could ask for. The amount of times you helped me in this crazy year, and stepped up when I was out, is amazing. I'm forever grateful for all you did and I'm so proud of you. Thank you for making this hard year a little easier. I seriously could not have done any of this without you. Thank you for always being there to help, to be a friend, and to just be you. As you go into your senior year, and second year as editor, remember, as I know you will, to work hard and to give this job everything you've got, but also go out and do something fun every once in a while, take a deep breath along with a break. You always work so hard consistently every day that you deserve a break, a deep breath, and to do something fun. You're going to do incredible this year, and if you need anything I'm just one text away.


**Levi:** You're an editor and this is a moment that we've both been waiting for a long time. Before I even met you I knew this day was going to come. At the very beginning of your freshman year Danielle and I were in the Stu and we saw your photography business cards all over the place and we both instantly wanted to meet you and wanted you to be part of Photo Lab because we knew you would go far. It's been an honor to get to know you over the past two years and to be your friend. I am extremely proud of you for everything you do. This year is going to be amazing, I can already tell, and you have the best co-editor by your side through it all. I am so happy that you are getting the opportunity to be editor, and I know you're going to be the best. If you need absolutely anything, remember the Photo Lab Junkies.







Isaac Sanders and Isaac Crow wave Vivian Pryor into home. Kickball served as a much needed source of joy to the players involved.  
Photo by Madison Melcher



**W**e rounded third with jubilation. We cheered one another on. And we made it home. The 2020-21 school year on Ouachita's campus will forever be remembered. Your marvelous efforts to maintain health and safety the entire school year will forever be heralded. It did not come without challenges, however. Our smiles vanished. Our large group gatherings were canceled. We drifted apart in the classroom. But despite the physical distance, the Ouachita community grew closer than ever. We moved hand-in-hand through a pandemic. We upheld high character and fostered countless friendships. This is by no means the end, though. March 2020 flipped the world upside down. The lessons we learned should not just be knowledge, but rather wisdom. We learned what it means to work together. We learned how to appreciate the little things. We learned to no longer take for granted the commonalities we have grown comfortable with. At any moment our comfort zone can implode. At any moment the author of life itself can change our lives. So, as we turn the page away from this brief, trying chapter, remember the lessons, remember the pain, remember the successes. Give the world everything you can. Serve the Lord with everything you have. And live a life filled with unwavering **RESILIENCE.**

# RESILIENCE



Ashlyn Heckman celebrates a goal with Brianna Lozano as the opponent looks on / Photo by Levi Dade



TAKE CARE,  
**TIGERS**