

PEOPLE



From four students in the first graduating class to 318 in the class of 2012, from being limited by the boundaries of campus to studying and minister-ing in Israel and Bosnia, from an enroll-ment of 235 during OBC's first session to an enrollment of 1594 in the fall, from a major-ity of "close-to-home" students to a student body represent-ning 30 states and 40 nations, from Dr. John Conger serving as the first president to Dr. Rex Horne honoring the Conger family during the 125th year *celebration*,

> academics//109 DIVIDER



or most, the anticipation of a normal freshman move-in day wauld be enaugh, but add traveling 10,000 miles from hame and one would expect to be a basket case. This was far from true for Paul Spann, a fresh-

"The animals are like that [Madagascar: the movie], maybe, but there are also people there. There are dancing lemurs though, no joke. You can YouTube it." man history major from Antananariva, Madagascar. In fact, he wasn't nervous at all about leaving home or being back in the United States. "I wasn't nervous about coming back to the States because it is my favorite country. I was mare nervous about meeting all sorts of new people ance I got here." Paul has spent the last eight years living in Madagascar with his family, where his parents serve as missionaries.

Poul was born in Orlando, FL, but after a year his family moved to Virginia for his parent's missionary orientation. After a year in Virginia, he and his family spent four years living in Moscow, Russia, where he remembers being, "just a little guy in a my little snowsuit who played in the snow." His family then moved back to the States, living in various parts of Texos for four years before going international once again: to France for a year, and finally taking root in the capital city of Madagascar, Antananarivo.

> In "Tana" as Paul colled it, the official language is French, but most people outside the city speak Molagasy. Paul speaks English, French and, "enough Malagasy to get around." Paul's family remains in Madagascar where his dad is a church planter, while he studies as OBU.

While Paul was nervous about meeting lats of new people, he was excited about getting

getting back to his heritage. "My ancestors are from Arkansas, so I feel like I might have some roots here." The fright of new faces was also eased by the fact he was sure to find one familiar voice on move-in day. Poul and his roommate, Colesan Lechner, on English major from Minden, La., had already met prior to coming to Ouachito. Lechner's parents are also missionaries and he and Poul had met through South Africon missionary meetings over the years.

Paul's favorite thing about Madagascar is the laid-back atmosphere, so the get up and go attitude of American culture was a big adjustment. "Everything is really fast here. Everyone wants to do stuff, do stuff, do stuff. People here never just relax. I've become really busy all the time since I came here, because everyone is always busy, busy, busy."

While Paul may not be keen on the fast pace of American life, there are still several things he prefers about the US.

"I like the food in American better, because I like fast food. I also like how in America, you feel safer. If something were to happen to you, in one phone call you can have ambulances and police to help you. In Madagascar if something happens to you, you are just out of luck."

Even though Poul is very thonkful for American emergency response teams, he sometimes misses the traffic system of Madagascor. "Over there you don't have to worry about the Police watching you when you drive, so you don't have to worry about stuff like speed limits," Paul explains.

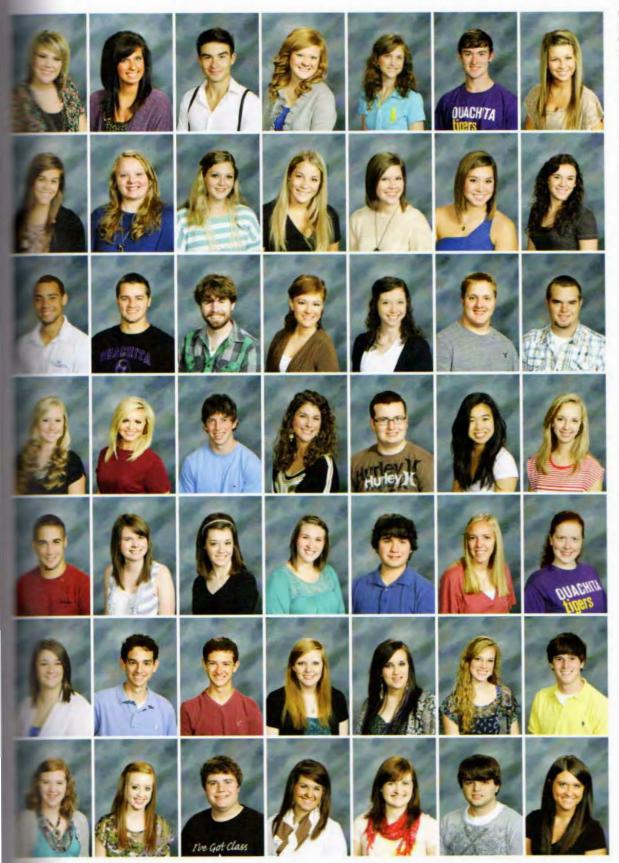
Paul has had several adventures during his time in Modagascar. When his family arrived in Madagascar they were the first IMB missionaries to the area in a long time. Paul went on a backpacking trip to survey the people groups and research their beliefs. He arrived at one village by helicopter, which amazed the locals.

"I asked this man who he thought God was and he said, 'You are,'" Paul said. "They wanted me to give them spoons from above. They wanted spoons from heaven, because they didn't have any. Then I had to explain I wasn't God."

While Paul misses home, he is loving his time in the States, though he might have to disagree with the US perspective on Madagascar. When asked how he felt about the movie "Madagascar," Paul replied, "Modagascar is not really like that. The animals are like that, maybe, but there are also people there. There are doncing lemurs though, no joke. You can YouTube it." // BY ALY SMITH



FRESHMEN



Whitley Adkins / RUSSELVILLE, AR Faith Alexander / HOT SPRINGS, AR Teodor Anghel / MOIESTI, ROMANNA Erica Armstrong / BENTON, AR Morgan Asbill / BENTOWILLE, AR Kyle Baker / ALLEN, TX Kaylee Barnett / MANSFIELD, TX

Abigail Baze / MT. VERNON, TX Jordan Beard / FORT SMITH, AR Marissa Beckwith / LONSONLE, AR Sydney Belcher / BENTON, AR Kaitlyn Belk / JONESBORO, AR McKenzie Berry / BURIY, OK Hailee Bezet / CONWAY, AR

Kenny Brasil / APUCARANA, BRA Mat Brockway / MAUMELLE, AR Chase Brooks / HOUSTON, TX Mackenzie Bryant / CONWAY, AR Ashley Bullington / WOODSTOCK, GA John Mark Burgess / TEXARKANA, TX Nick Burt / WAKE VILLAGE, TX

Lauren Carpenter / LITTLE ROCK, AR Candace Carr / SHERWOOD, AR Jackson Carter / HOT SPRINGS, AR Abby Catlett / MALVERN, AR Jordan Cecil / MARRISON, AR Jessica Chang / OLATHE, KS Bailey Chitwood / NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR

Ben Cline / UTILE ROCI, AM Kathryn Coffey / ROYSE UTY, TX Victoria Coleman / LONGVEW, TX Kate Collins / TEXARKAMA, AM Jeremy Cooper / MESQUITE, TX McKenzie Cranford / COPPELL, TX Sarah Cranford / SOUTHLAKE, TX

Katelyn Cribb / EL DORADO, AR Jonathan Curry / LITTLE ROCK, AR Stephen Curry / LITTLE ROCK, AR Haley Dahl / RED DAK, TX Holly Dance / CONWAY, AR Kristi-Paige Danielson / CANOT, AR Joshua Davis / LITTLE ROCK, AN

Kristyn Davis / GOSNELL, AR Shelby Davis / WHITE GAK, TX Tyler Davis / BENTON, AA Kayla De La Cruz / Hot springs, AR Sophie De Muth / ROGIWALL, TX Zack De Young / BENTON, AR Trinity Dial / TEXARKANA, TX

Jeremy Dixon / BENTON, AR Adam Dodd / BATESVILLE, AR John Doss / ROGERS, AR Allison Drobena / HOT SPRINGS, AR Kelsey DuChemin / GREENBRIER, AR Lauren Dunklin / HUMPHREY, AR Madison Edwards / MAUMELLE, AR

> Aaryn Elliott / BENTONVILLE, AR Heather Ellis / TEXARKANA, TX Abby Emanuel / LITTLE ROCK, AR Josh Emery / COLLERVILLE, TM Drew Ervin / SPRINGDALE, AR Josh Esgar / WEBB CITY, MO Cameron Espy / CEDAR HILL, TX

Abby Fain / CAMDEN, AR Maria Falcon / BENTONVILLE, AR Drew Farris / HOTSPRINGS, AR Colt Fason / CONWAY, AR Krista Fauber / MARION, AR Katy Firmin / CELINA, TX Sarah Fitch / HURST, TX

Ellen Flint / Arlington, tx Jenni Fogle / Longview, tx Holly Forrest / Little Rock, ar Macy Fouse / Searcy, ar Abbey Fowler / Arkadelphia, ar Brian Fowler / Hot Springs, ar Fawn Freeze / Little, ar

Luke Fruchey / UTTLE ROCK, AR Bethany Gere / PINE BLUFF, AR Bri Girard / UTTLE ROCK, AR Caleb Glasgow / HOUSTON, TX Kelsey Gourd / CENTERTON, AR Libby Gracia / ROCKWALL, TX Neal Green / TULLAHOMA, TM

Evan Greenwood / HOT SPRINGS, AR McCall Guttridge / DENTON, TX Jim Hampton / HOPE, AR Dylan Haney / EL DORADO, AR Kyle Hargis / CAMDEN, AR Victoria Harper / KAUFMAN, TX Hunter Heird / PINE BLUFF, AR

David Henley / FORT WORTH, TX Chelsey Hess / CONWAY, AR Kelsey Himes / ARKADELPHIA, AR Abbey Holt / MAUMELLE, AR Callie Horner / HEATH, TX Keely Howk / ROWLETT, TX Brooke Huber / BLANCHESTER, OH



elly Strickland first realized her father was sick when he couldn't give her piggy back rides. Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis before she was born, Russell Strickland knew he wouldn't be

oble to do the same things that other dads could. This never stopped him from trying.

Making up for piggy back rides, Russell would tell stories to Kelly and her older sister, Emily. Kelly remembers climbing in his lap as she was listening to her father tell abaut his childhood – stories that would normally include animals running away.

"I didn't get the dad wha was able to come out and play ball with me, but he's always been there," Kelly said. "He wauld come to every one of my games but he cauldn't stand up and scream . . . so he'd have my mam yell it far him."

Multiple Sclerasis (MS) is a chranic autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system and causes interruptions in nerve impulses. It affects about 400,000 Americans but symptoms vary among individuals. The symptam that caused Russell to consult a doctar was impaired walking.

When Kelly was in third grade her dad left his jab as an accountant for British Petroleum in Ancharage, Alaska, and the family maved ta Arkadelphia, Ark. in arder ta be claser to relatives. When the family maved, "it really hit" Kelly haw bad MS cauld be. But, she never camplains.

A busy high school student, Kelly participated in basketball, dance and cheer. Her day began at 6 a.m. when she and her mather, Leanne, helped her father get ready in the marning. She cauld narmally get a quick nap before she left for school, where she sometimes felt nervous.

"Every time the phone would ring and they'd call for me, I was always scared that he had fallen ar that he would need me," Kelly said.

The summer after her senior year, Kelly earned her Certified Nursing Assistant certification at Twin Rivers, a nursing home clase to the haspital in Arkadelphia. It was not an easy decision for Kelly, wha was uneasy being around elderly who are sick. But, her sister, who had already earned a CNA certificate in 2009, encouraged her.

Kelly is now grateful for her sister's advice. She didn't have to wark with patients, but practiced an a dummy and found that she "enjoyed it, thraughaut everything." Had her sister nat earned her certificate, Kelly never would have taken it. Naw, she feels very rewarded by having it. Though she doesn't use every skill she learned, Kelly is very thankful for the ones she does. She learned how to help Russell sit up properly to take medicine, and to transfer him without hurting her back.

She feels that the certificate also gives her a form of jab security. If, in the future, a jab doesn't work out, she has a set of skills to fall back on. "Oh, and the money isn't too bad. It's nice having money in college," Kelly said.

Kelly is now a freshman at OBU and majoring in early childhood education. She hapes to be a first grade teacher in north Arkansas. She participated in Tiger Tunes 2011, played intramurals, and was a Ballin' Beauty. She loves to sing, dance and spend time with friends.

Thaugh she is busy, Kelly still goes home every day ta help her father. She is there about five to six times a day for abaut 30 minutes between classes. She tatols, normally, around 21 haurs per week.

"It's not anything that I don't like. I love gaing home and getting to see my parents," Kelly said. "I like a good meal every now and then that's not from the caf!"

For now, Russell's MS is at a standstill. He struggles with trigeminal neurolga, a nerve disorder causing extreme pain to the jaw. But he finds a way ta glarify Gad in his struggles.

"Most people in his situation would give up, but he's used his situation as an oppartunity ta witness," she said. "He can show people haw God can use him, even if he can't move," Kelly said. "Because of him, so many people have been braught to Christ. Faith is everything for us." BY ALY SMITH

FRESHMEN



Iliot Davis, o freshman from Garland, Texas, was attending his girlfriend's high school graduation when he passed out. "I remember standing up as the graduates walked in, and from there I dan't remember a thing," Elliot

"It's really humbling to have a man dying in a hospital bed praying for you. At the very least, this whole situation has made me a stronger prayer warrior." Elliot had been suffering from severe headaches. He thought it might just be sinus headaches, but ofter he possed out, his parents decided to go to the hospital to get it checked out. After the graduatian ceremony was over, Elliat's girlfriend and other friends visited him in the hospital. "I remember my girlfriend walking in with tears on her face and feeling bod because I felt like I had ruined her day, but I knew it was just because she cared," Elliot soid.

That night, the doctors looked over his tests and told him he could go home, but his parents insisted the doctors run some more tests to make sure everything was OK. The next day the doctors said they found something and wanted to get another look, so they admitted Elliot into the hospital.

During that time Elliot had former teachers, principals, counselors and church members visit him. "I was swamped with people that day," Elliot said.

> "That's something I'm really thankful for, to not only know that my God loves me, but that he's put people in my life that care about me like that."

> > The next day, Elliot had on MRI which revealed o tumor. The surgeon explained the tumor was not cancerous; it was just something that wasn't supposed to be there. The doctors couldn't perform the surgery for onother week, so they sent Elliot home with some pain medicotion to help with his heodoches. His girlfriend's fomily, who lived in Mexico, come ond visited becouse

they didn't want to miss the chance to meet him. "It's omazing how it can happen like that. People who don't even know you are going to take the time and sit down and ga the Father and pray," Elliot said. "That is samething I'm going to take into ministry."

On the day of Elliot's surgery, he had the support of his family and church family. When Elliot returned to his room ofter surgery, he continued to have numerous visitors. "It was still the lave that I was thankful for, the people who came to the hospital and sow me. I think having those people actually helped in the process," Elliot said.

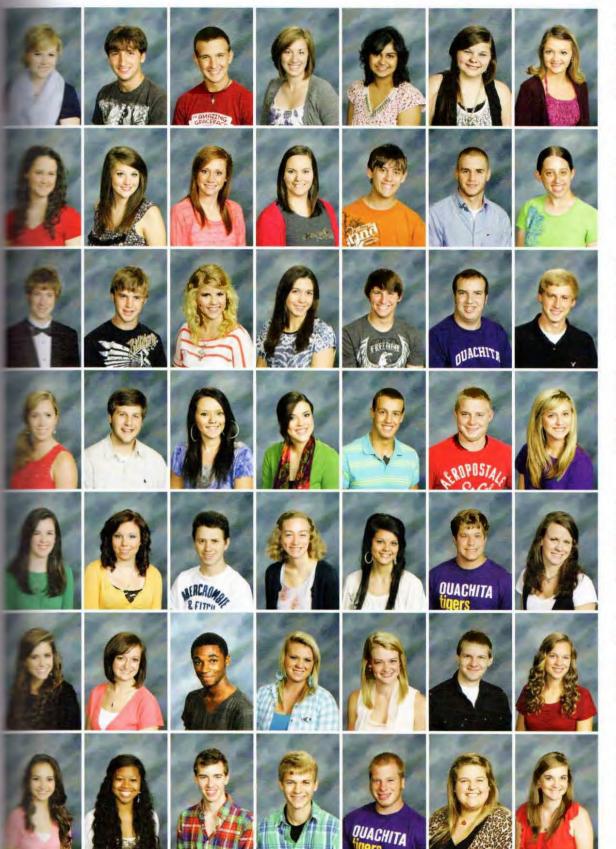
After Elliot went home, he was headache free and able to resume normal activity a week after the surgery. The day Elliot was leaving for NSR he had one more doctor appointment. The doctor advised it would be best to have a second surgery to make sure the tumor wasn't concerous.

Elliot decided to have the second surgery, basing his decision on the peace God provided him. They couldn't remove the tumor completely, but it was benign. Next was six weeks of radiation. During the first week of radiation treatment Elliot began naticing a pattern in how he conducted himself while in the radiation room. "I would just close my eyes and think 'I wonder what's for lunch' or 'what can I do today,' just random thoughts that didn't really mean anything," Elliot soid. On Thursday of the first week of treatment Elliot began proying for his church music director who was suffering from leukemia and other fomily members and friends.

Elliot's music director had a list of people he would proy for each day, and when he found out Elliot had a brain tumor, he put him on the list. "It's really humbling to have a man dying in a hospital bed praying for you," Elliot said.

Elliot was then inspired to make a prayer list of his own. That night he put everyone he could think of on his list and also posted on Facebook asking for prayer requests. Now every time Elliot went in for treatment, he would pray for the people on his list. "At the very least this whole situation with the broin tumor has made me a stronger prayer warrior," Elliot said. "I think that's the reason I stayed behind, to strengthen my prayer life."

"I would be like I've had so many blessings come out of this. This is not the worst thing to happen to me," Elliot said. "I'm just woiting to see the rest of the fruits to come from this. I reolly don't see this as a tragedy. I see it as a blessing from God." // BY HANNAH SHULL



Chloe Huff / JONESBORO, AR Trey Huneycutt / ARKADELPHIA, AR Jon Jacks / FOUNTAIN HILL, AR Brittany Jackson / HOT SPRINGS, AR Zara John / DEHRADUM, UTTARAKHAM Caitlyn Johnson / WINNSBORO, TX Kailen Johnson / MAGNOLIA, AR

Amber Jones / NEW BOSTON, TX Hannah Jones / GRAPEVINE, TX Jocelyn Jones / INEZ, TX Abbie Kambanis / JONESBORO, AR Jake Kausler / MARION, AR Austin Kennedy / BENTON, AR Allison King / FORT WORTH, TX

Jacob Kirchoff / (YPRESS, TX Ryan Kirk / HARARE, ZIMBABWE Alexa Knutson / DE QUEEN, AR Griffin Kretzer / SILDAM SPRINGS, AR Logan Kuhn / ROLAND, AR Jordan LaBry / LITTLE ELM, TX Jared Lantzsch / ROGERS, AR

Elizabeth Lawson / TEXARKANA, TX Coleson Lechner / FORT WORTH, TX Neelie Lee / GLENWOOD, AR Abby Lindsey / VAN BUREN, AR Jeb Little / WARREN, AR Brandon Long / RUSSELLVILLE, AR Tracey Mardis / SPRINGDALE, AR

Madeline Martin / GARLAND, TX Kala Mavity / GREENBRIER, AR Drake May / JONESBORO, AR Karissa McCalip / IRVING, TX Jancy McCarty / POITSVILLE, AR Chance McClure / CORINTH, TX Madeline McCorkle / WEST FORK, AR

Kasey McLeane / CAMDEN, AR Bailey McMullen / IRVING, TX Todd McNeel / GRAND PRAIRIE, TX Shelby McWhorter / BEARDEN, AR Katherine Melson / BATESVILLE, AR Bryson Mendoza / HORATIO, AR Jessie Meyer / WODDWAY, TX

Kelly Mezzanatto / MURPHY, TX Mariah Miller / COWWAY, AR Brian Monk / EL PASO, TX Cameron Moore / SEARCY, AR Austen Morgan / SUNHYWALE, TX Kristin Morris / HAMBURG, AR Melanie Morse / BENTON, AR

Anna Moxley / BLUEFIELD, VA Jon Murry / CAMDEN, AR Katie Novy / CONNAY, AR Michelle Oliva / HOT SPRINGS, AR Paige Onyuru / HOT SPRINGS, AR Janet Ozmun / ARKADELPHIA, AR Maddie Patterson / ALLER, TX

Molly Patterson / SAN ANTONIO, TX Emily Payne / EUREKA SPRINGS, AR Lauren Perry / SPRINGDALE, AR Hannah Pinkerton / BENTON, AR Lindsey Pipkin / ARKADELPHIA, AR Rachel Polhemus / VAN BUREK, AR Sarah Pollock / NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TX

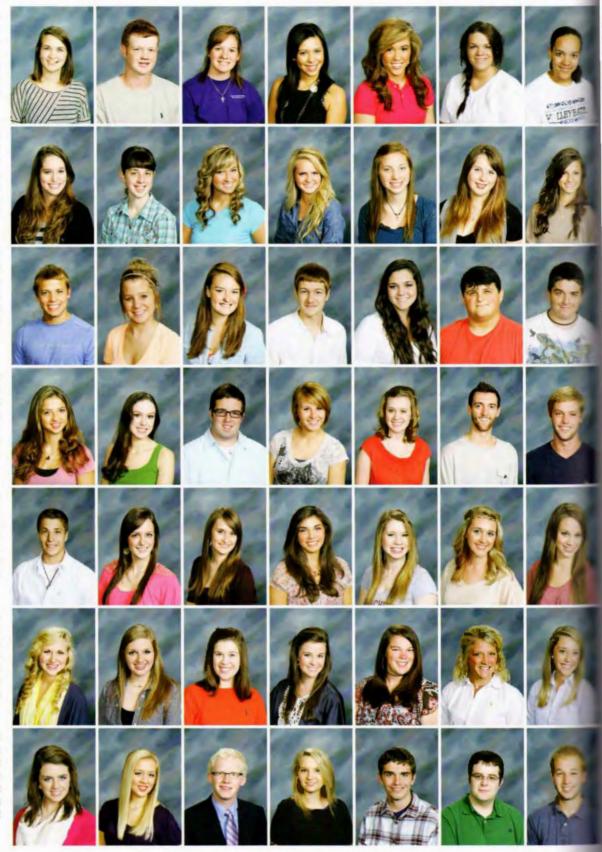
> Chris Price / ABILENE, TX Sara Quiring / MOUNT PLEASANT, TX Rebekah Raine / LITTLE ROCK, AR Kyle Rapp / EL DORADO, AR Emily Reeves / HOT SPRINGS, AR Will Richey / BENTON, AR Jordan Riffey / MILLEDGEVILLE, GA

> Sam Riggs / MOUNTAINBURG, AR Rachel Roberts / JONESBORO, AR Austin Roden / ALLEN, TX Rachel Rogers / SPRINGDALE, AR Sarah Rogers / CANDEN, AR Tyler Rosenthal / UTTLE ROCK, AR Seth Rountree / ROGERS, AR

Clayton Rowe / SILOAM SPRINGS, AR Alayna Rutledge / WEST MONROE, U Molly Salmon / HENDERSON, IX Rebecca Sanchez / KOMANCE, AR Kaitie Scott / LITTLE ROCK, AR Megan Scrape / CANDEN, AR Shelby Seabaugh / POKA (TTY, OK

Laura Grace Shaddox / N.UTTLE ROCK, AF Ashley Sharp / SEARCY, AF Hannah Shull / UTTLE ROCK, AF Anna Sikes / GREENBRIER, AF Army Simon / KATY, TI Emily Sinclair / EL DORADO, AF Allie Smith / UTTLE ROCK, AF

> Allison Smith / JONESBORO, AR Aly Smith / Sherwood, Ar Bobby Smith / Sherwood, Ar Jessica Smith / Van Huren, Ar Kevin Smith / Bay, Ar Jake Sowell / DE QUEEN, Ar Paul Spann / MOORELAND, OK



S

ummer days on the lake often involved laying out, water skiing, and having fun with family and friends. For Morgan Morehead, things were a little different. Summer days on the lake meant perfecting her tricks for her next wakeboarding

Some family friends had a houseboat next to Morgan's on Loke Degray and introduced Morgan to competitive wakeboarding. "I grew up on the water," Morgan said. "I storted out skiing and then began wakeboarding when I was 12 and have been competing for five years now."

Morgan's training season starts in March. "A lot of stuff I'm self-taught. My porents had always grown up as skiers and that's what I hod always done, and then when I got into wakeboarding they kind of took on to it. My dod is very knowledgeable and so he can help me," Morgan said.

In addition to being self-taught, Morgan attended camp at Bennett's Water Ski and Wakeboard School in the summer where she practiced all her tricks for tournaments.

Morgan also had the privilege of training with Melisso Marquardt, the number two wakeboarder in the world. "The last two summers Melissa has flown down from California and stoyed at our house for a week and rode with us every day. I have some friends in Mt. Home and they fly her in too, so I'll go up there. She was a lot of help," Morgan said.

Morgan was sponsored by Stuckey and Grimes Xtreme Marine in North Little Rock, Ark. "We have a promo boat, so we represent his company throughout the year. He sets me up with a board, lifejacket, a rope, and each summer I get all new equipment," Morgan said.

Competing divisions ranged from Mini Outlaw, for 8 and under, and Masters for competitors over the age of 30. In each division there is a set of tricks that is required to complete for that level. The riders are judged on a scale of one ta ten based on how well they do the trick and their style. "If I had a perfect run down and back and didn't fall, I'm prabably going to get all my style points," Morgon said.

After the rider is able to camplete all the tricks in one division, they move up to the next division. "You have to move up. It's not like 'oh, I have the optian to stay.' If yau can do more than the tricks in that division, they won't allow you to stay in there," Morgan said.

In a typical season, Morgan competes in six tournaments beginning the first weekend in June. Competitors complete six tricks while riding from one green buoy to onother green buoy. They are allowed to fall once, and if they fall a second time, a jet ski comes and picks them up.

The top two riders from the season are invited to nationals. "Because the effect the economy has had on INT, which is the league we ride through, they only do nationals every other year," Morgan said. "And on the off year we do regionals which is held at Burns Park in North Little Rock." Morgan made it to nationals her senior year of high school where she won second place.

When Morgon isn't training for a tournament, she loves to just hong out at the lake with her friends and family. "Being out on the woter, there' nothing like it," Morgan said. "It makes me forget about everything else," Morgan said. // BY HANNAH SHULL

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trouble.

"As we started to buy into Coach Ward's program, I knew that the team had the potential to be great."

f you toak a look at Dallas Smith's accomplishments this year, you would think that he was a fifth year seniar - first place at the NCAA Super Region 2 tournament, All American and a sixth place finish at the National Wrestling Champianships in Pueblo, Colarado.

What makes these accamplishments even more amazing? The fact that Dallas Smith is a freshman. Apparently, others feel the same way; Dallas was voted freshman af the year far the Great American Conference.

Despite all this success, Dallas is still a normal every day 19 year old, adjusting to callege and being away from home. It is pretty clear is he not

having tao much Dallas went 33-11 this season with numerous pins and technical falls. He placed at almost every tournament he went ta and was

ranked No. 1 going into the National Tournament.

Dallas started wrestling when he was 8 years old, and was a high school state champion in Neasho, Missouri, where he lived. Coming out of high school, Dallas was ranked 16th in the country. Dallas first gat into wrestling through a friend while in the first grade.

"I went to one of my friend's youth tournaments, and was pretty much hooked after that," Smith said.

Of the 14 starters on Smith's high school team, he had been wrestling with nine of them since second grade.

"We were all really clase. We cauld hold each ather accountable and worked together, and I think that's one of the reasons we were so successful as a team," he said.

The Neosha Wildcats were back-to-back state champions in 2010 and 2011.

Dallas's success can be attributed to a number of factors, one of them being his coach, Kevin Ward. Ward, in his second seasan as coach, has taken a team that did nat qualify a single wrestler in 2011, to having three All-Americans and a 15th place finish at the national tournament.

Coming to OBU was a tough choice for Dallas, but he felt he made the right decision quickly after getting on campus.

"I knew I made the right choice after the first week of training," he said.

He quickly began to feel a close band develop with his new team as the seasan progressed.

"As we started to buy into Coach Ward's pragram, I knew that the team had the patential to be great," he added.

> Coach Ward played a major rale in Dallas' decision to come to OBU for his collegiate wrestling career.

"Once I learned of Coach Ward's accomplishments, I knew that he knows what it takes to be successful," Dallas said.

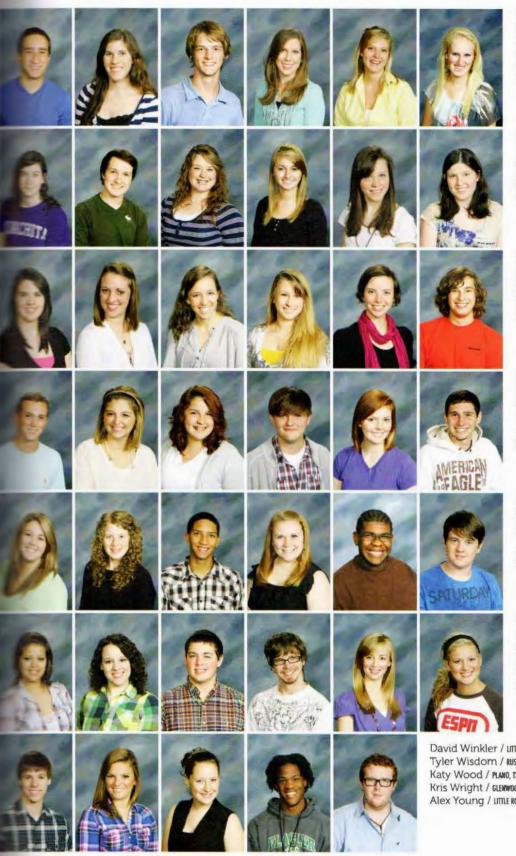
Although he had a lat of success, he is definitely still not satisfied with his performance.

"As soon as my season was over, I knew I had to stort preparing for next year."

Dallas Smith has the drive, and the time, to accomplish greatness in his wrestling career. All we have to do naw is woit.

// BY BEN CLINE

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Bradley Starnm / SEGUIN, TX Courtney Stanage / HOT SPRINGS WILLAGE, AR Jordan Stewart / ARKADELPHIA, AR Sarah Stiles / AUBREY, TX Taylor Strain / BENTON, AR Kelly Strickland / ARKADELPHIA, AR

Erin Sumner / ARKADELPHIA, AR Blaine Surber / SULPHUR SPRINGS, TX Sarah Talley / BELLA VISTA, AR Shannon Talley / CELINA, TX Rebekah Taylor / HOT SPRINGS, AR Tegan Taylor / CLARKSVILLE, AR

Elise Teel / POYEN, AR Emily Terry / BRYANT, AR Katie Theriot / ALEXANDRIA, LA Jamie Thompson / CLARENDON, AR Marissa Thornberry / MABELVALE, AR Tanner Trantham / BENTON, AR

Curt Tucker / BENTON, AR Ramsey Vaughan / BRANSON, MO Chelsea Villanueva / BENTONVILLE, AR Brandon Vining / HEBER SPRINGS, AR Allie Wade / HOT SPRINGS, AR Zach Waggoner / ARKADELPHIA, AR

Kaiti Walker / BENTON, AR Sara Walker / SULPHUR SPRINGS, TX Dustin Walter / WEST MEMPHIS, AR Taylor Wentz / LITTLE ROCK, AR Jalin Wesley / LITTLE ROCK, AR Zach White / BENTON, AR

Keri Wickson / DIERKS, AR Nicole Wilganowski / CYPRESS, TX Ali Williams / CHIANG MAI Jayzee Williams / PALM COAST, FL Tyler Williams / FORDYCE, AR Carni Willis / FLOWER MOUND, TX

David Winkler / LITTLE ROCK, AR Tyler Wisdom / RUSSELLVILLE, AR Katy Wood / PLANO, TX Kris Wright / GLENWOOD, AR Alex Young / LITTLE ROCK, AR

GAC freshman of the year

Tori Abellera / GARLAND, TX Jessica Allen / RENO, NV Chelsea Ariola / SPRINGDALE, AR TJ Bailey / FORT SMITH, AR Elizabeth Baker / GRAPFVINE, TX Katelyn Barber / MESQUITE, TX Kristen Barnard / GRAND PRAIRLE, TX

Amber Beacham / MIDLOTHIAN, TX Sarah Bishop / PARON, AR Kelsi Bodine / WEBB CITY, MO Hannah Bridges / CLARKSVILLE, AR Ashley Briggs / ALEXANDER, AR Bruce Brockinton / SHERWOOD, AR Pete Brunson / MONTICELLO, AR

Ashley Bundy / JUSTIN, TX Barrett Burger / (AMDEN, AR Brooks Burleson / (AMDEN, AR Hannah Bushey / STUTTGART, AR Harmony Bussell / FOUKE, AR Stephanie Butcher / EL DORADO, AR Rusty Butler / UTTLE ROCK, AR

Chelsea Byers / CAMPBELL, TX Korey Byrd / CYPRESS, TX Arny Campbell / RUSSELLVILLE, AR Ashleigh Canada / ROGERS, AR Cort Cantrell / BENTON, LA Jared Carlin / LUBBOCK, TX Rachel Carr / ROY, UT

Sarah Carr / ROY, UT Sarah Liz Carter / NORPHLET, AR Johanna Casey / LOWELL, AR Sarah Cate / INEZ, TX Jacob Catlett / MAIVERN, AR Kirstin Changose / LITILE ROCK, AR Stephanie Chontos / WYLE, TX

Kourtney Chumbley / RICHARDSON, TX Emory Clayborn / CAMDEN, AR Stephen Cofer / FLOWOOD, MS Jake Coffman / TYRONZA, AR Matthew Cook / HARRISON, AR Rachael Cook / PERRYVILLE, MO Jennifer Coon / CONWAY, AR

> Cara Cox / ROGERS, AR Michael Crowe / DONALDSON, AR Kalen Cummings / DEWIT, AR Joanna Curtis / BENTON, AR Andrew Davis / IITTLE ROCK, AR Sarah Davis / BEDFORD, TX Jensen DeGroot / Allen, TX





Idiosyncrasies are things that make people interesting and ultimately extremely memorable.

Imagine being introduced to a completely new culture thousands of miles

away from home. You knaw no ane and no ane knows you. People look and act differently than you are used to. Still, it is extremely important to find your place among many other hardwarking ond vibrant people.

Teodor Anghel, a sophamore accounting and psychology double major from Romania, made sure to stay true to himself by getting involved through the men's tennis team and standing aut with his European style.

Teo was easy to spot an campus because of his clean and classy style. The most important part of Teo's everyday outfit: the notorious suspenders.

"When I first came to OBU everything was new for me and very different from the European style that I was used to. Buildings, cars, clothes. I think the clothes that I wear is the only thing that I will not change. I will never let my suspenders down," he soid.

On another nate, with sa much expectation ta both discover oneself and be discovered, one cauld easily conform under the pressure. Teo decided ta continue his reputation of excellence.

Teo has won 58 national and seven international tennis tournaments, being ranked as one of the top ten players in the country for every category. In 2009 he was deemed the Romanian national champion under 18 in every category.

Teo joined the men's tennis team in the fall of 2010 where he discovered the group of people who encouraged him and embraced his uniqueness.

"I have wonderful teammates. We ore first friends and then teammates. This helps us better understand and help each other when it is needed. In my opinian a good team and good teammates play and win like brothers and this is what I found at OBU," said Teo.

Tennis has been a vital port of Tea's life since the age of 7. His journey begon when he saw tennis players on the television and told his father that he wanted to be a tennis player someday.

Tea said that at that point he had no idea that his dad was a very skilled tennis player. Tea's father taak him to the court soon after their conversation and later on signed him up for professional lessons. After just o few years of lessons, he was back to practicing with just his father.

At the beginning of the fall semester, Teo pulled a muscle in his lower abdomen which hindered him from being able to serve.

"I was practicing and I did the warm up as usual and when we started playing paints after the faurth serve I felt a sharp pain in my side and I couldn't breathe," said Tea. Tea remained positive although he was farced to not participate in some taurnaments during the spring semester.

"Since my injury affects only my serving, I can still work out and practice. I am grateful that I cauld still play the spart and be with my team. But the

tition

thing that I miss the most is the compeand gaing out and playing matches to represent the University by playing official games," he said.

Tea was able to represent his team after recovery lasted from the end of January until the beginning of April. The road to recovery for Anghel was challenging but rewarding. Teo said that through his injury he was able to learn many things, ane lessan being "do whatever you can to stay connected." //BY TORI ABELLERA



ine Cave is a summer camp nearly every Ouachitanian has heard abaut in one way or anather. This camp, lacated in Tyler and Calumbus, Texas, is a place where children, youth,

and families can came to grow in their relationship with Christ. For Meagan Moore, a saphamare business management and marketing majar from Waxahachie, Texas, her experiences at Pine Cove Christian Camps went abave and beyand the description an their Web site.

"I grew up going to camp at Pine Cove and always knew that I wanted to work there someday."

For Meagan, camp was an oppartunity ta get to wark with friends fram OBU as well as her own brother. She interviewed far the summer positian when Pine Cave came to campus in Octaber af 2010 and, as Meagan described, "When they called me in early December and tald me I had the job, it may or may not have been the best day af my life!"

Meagan grew up araund Pine Cave, so she was ready to apply lang before the annual campus visit fram the camp. "My grandpa was on the board at Pine Cave far years and my mam went to camp there as a kid and warked there," Meagan said. "I grew up gaing to camp at Pine Cave and always knew that I wanted to

work there sameday." Meagan worked at the Ranch Camp, which is based in Tyler, and served as a caunselor to sixth and seventh grode girls. She said warking at camp "was one of the mast challenging yet rewarding things I've ever done in my life." The girls she counseled

were not only influenced through the camp, but they were also an influence in Meagan's life. "Being able to invest in the lives of sixth and seventh graders all summer taught me about my relationship with Christ as I was able to see Him work in my life and theirs."

The girls Meagan caunseled were not the anly ones who helped grow her walk with Christ. Thraugh camp's chollenges, she was able to delve into the great community provided thraugh her caworkers. "All the staff from camp became like a big family to me. I have never been a part of such a powerful Christian community," Meagan said.

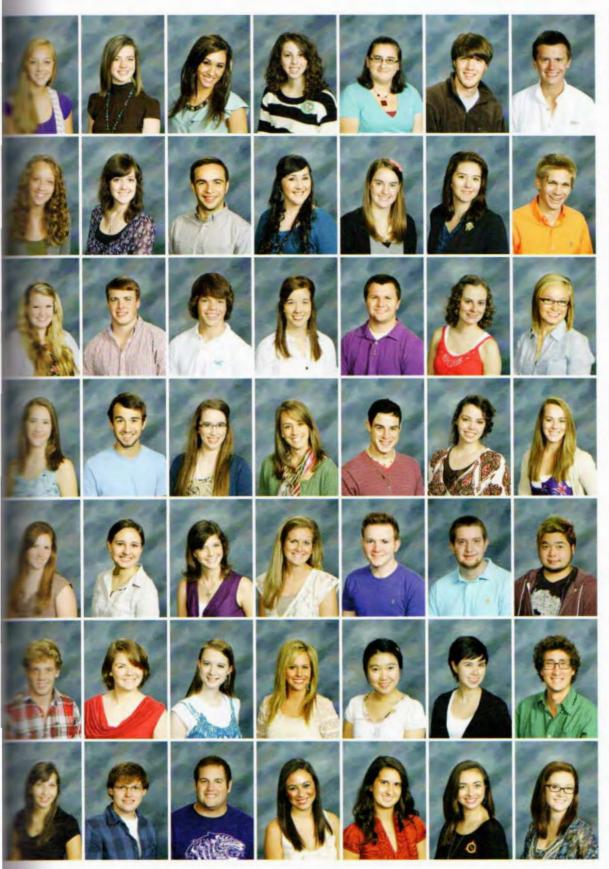
Thraugh camp, Meagan was also able to make a change in the way she influences her Little Sisters in the Big Brother/Big Sister pragram sponsared by Campus Ministries at Ouachita. "I pick up my little sister, Hayley, and her own sister whase Big Sis is a fellaw student and friend af mine. Tagether, we get the girls every Wednesday and hang out far a few haurs," Meagan said.

But camp was nat the anly step Meagan taak with Pine Cave. At the beginning of the summer, the camp staff was given the appartunity to sign up to ga with Pine Cave Christian Camps ta Guatemala in January af 2012. "Everyone was given the chance ta apply, and then they selected eight guys and eight girls to ga on the trip," Meagan said. "I was extremely honared to have been given the opportunity to ga with them ta Guatemala."

In Guatemala, the staff worked with a local church to run camp in two different locations. Althaugh the language barrier was a challenge, Meagan described her experience while in Guatemala: "There was one particular 7-year-old girl named Juanita and the band created between the two af us is ane that I will never farget. Saying goodbye to the Guatemalan kids was much harder than it was to say goodbye to my campers in the summer, as I had na idea what they were returning hame ta and that I would probably never see them again. I have to trust that God is watching aver all of the Guatemalan children."

Meagan was very much changed through Pine Cove Christian Camps. "Although I anly caunseled for six weeks, it was one of the most influential and incredible times af my life." Though those six weeks in the hot summer sun may have been tough to endure, Meagan is ready to take on the challenge ance again this coming summer. "I think of Pine Cove as hame and I cannot wait ta go back for a full 13 weeks next summer." // BY ALY SMITH

122//people SOPHOMORES



Rebekah Dindak / ALLEN, TX Megan Evans / MESQUITE, TX Brittany Ewart / BOSSIER (TTY, LA Sally Ferguson / MAUD, TX Cassie Fikes / HOHOLULU, HI Tyler Files / ARKADELPHIA, AR Kyle Fischer / TEXARKANA, TX

Kelsey Frink / MARION, MA Rachel Gilmer / PRINCETON, TX Connor Goad / HOT SPRINGS, AR Megan Graves / HOT SPRINGS, AR Mallory Green / CARL JUNCTION, MO Rachel Gregory / MALYERN, AR John Grove / LITTLE ROCK, AR

Bekah Hall / MORT EUZABETH Jake Hannon / COMMAY, AR Drake Hardy / ROYAL AR Meg Hart / LITTLE ROCK, AR Andrew Hassell / TYLER, TX Emily Hastings / LEAMOOD, KS Lindsay Henderson / EULES, TR

Annelise Henley / ARKADELPHIA, AR John Hewitt / MESQUITE, TX Chelsea Hill / SEARCY, AR Hayley Hill / LOWELL, AR Hein Hillmer / PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA Maegan Hodge / SPRIMEDALE, AR Elise Holman / BERRYMILE, AR

Rachel Hooker / PALESTINE, AR Katie Hopmann / CYPNESS, TX Allyson Huffman / DENTON, TX Jenna Hurst / GURDOM, AR Joseph Hurst / MORRILTOM, AR Austin Ingram / UTTLE ROCK, AR Arthur Johnson / ROCKWALL, TX

Blake Johnson / CAMDEN, AR Kristin Johnson / BENTON, AR Lacey Johnson / RANCHO MIRAGE, CA Alexis Kamerman / SEARCY, AR Ana Kim / LITTLE ROCK, AR Lorna Kirkpatrick / LITTLE ROCK, AR Helge Knuth / MANDELBACHTAL

Tayler Koller / HOTSPRINGS, AR Joseph Koon / HENSLEY, AR Jake Kraus / LONGVEN, TX Lindsey Lederer / CARROLTON, TX Ally Lemos / HANFORD, CA Amelia Lindsey / CAMDEN, AR Lauren Linton / MILUNGTON, TN

////// finding a home away from home

Trey Lynch / VALLEY SPRINGS, AR Victoria Mantooth / Sherwood, Ar Meredith Martin / Garland, TX Megan Massey / Weatherford, TX Nicole Mattson / Rowlett, TX Shelby McAdoo / COPPER CANYON, TX Lauren McElyea / Garland, TX

Elizabeth McGowan / LITLE ROCK, AR Clay McKinney / HUGHES SPRINGS, TX Oscar Mendoza / CONROE, TX Celia Miller / ALMA, AR Jordan Miller / ROCKWALL, TX Josh Montgomery / FRISCO, TX Meagan Moore / WAXAHACHE, TX

Chelsea Morehead / MABELVALE, AR Asaf Moreno / MEXICO (ITY, MEXICO Bailey Morris / MESQUITE, TX Cambri Morris / FLINT, TX Dani Moses / TEXARKANA, AR Savannah Motzko / BERRYVILLE, AR Spencer Neblett / LITTLE ROCK, AR

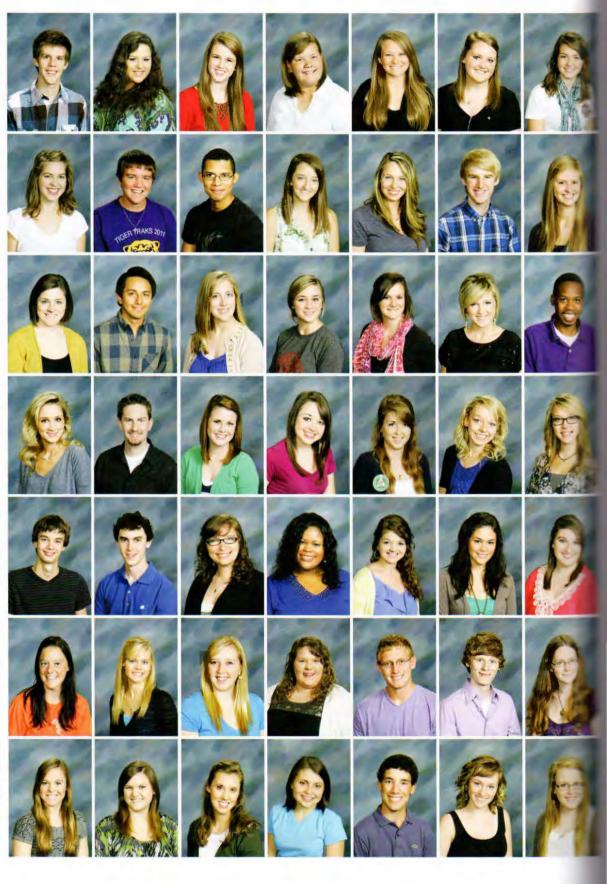
Taylor Neeley / CAMDEN, AR Alex Nelson / FRISCO, TX Chelsey Nicholas / TEXARKAMA, AR Amanda Nitcher / MCKINNEY, TX Brittany Nolan / El DORADO, AR Hannah Nolan / SHERWOOD, AR Carly Oetker / HECTOR, AR

Daniel Ogier / SAN ANTONIO, T Trey Oliveto / SEARCY, AR Emma Patterson / GARLAND, T Bernita Pearson / LITTLE ROCK, AR Bethany Peevy / ROGERS, AR Michelle Perez / VENEZUELA Shelby Pierceall / MAREUVALE, AR

Morgan Pitchford / COLUMBIA, MO LeeAnne Polk / GREEWVILLE, TX Kelsie Ponder / BELLVILLE, TX Kathleen Post / GRAND PRAIRIE, TX Dawson Pritchard / DENTON, TX Chris Redmon / LITTLE ROCK, AR Shelbie Reed / NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR

Crista Riggs / EDMOND, OK Kayla Roop / MAUMELLE, AR Hannah Rucker / HOT SPRINGS, AR Emily Sanders / CONWAY, AR Austin Sarabia / HOUSTON, TX Carli Sasser / HAMBURG, AR Megan Scarbrough / FAYETTEVILLE, AR

1



ustin Young, a sophomore business administration and finance major, from Springdale, takes his business skills far beyond the wolls of Hickingbothom Hall. He is actively involved on compus in Student Senate, Beta Beta, the Big Brother progrom, his studies, and SIFE, where he currently serves as project leader of the Business Plan Competition and assistant leader of the Honduras project. SIFE, Students In Free Enterprise, is currently working on a few projects in Honduros with World Gospel Outreach in order to teach the Hondurons necessary business skills to keep their organization thriving.

Justin first got involved with the Honduras project in August of 2011.

He said, "It was of interest to me so I started looking into it more and it kind of reminded me of a mission trip. It was a way that I could use my business skills while serving as well. It was the perfect combination of a mission trip, a business trip and using my talents to glorify God."

Justin is definitely using his talents to go above and beyond to coordinate, alongside Judith Brizuela, the work that SIFE members are contributing in Honduras. The team has three specific projects in progress: the mission house, the orphanage, and the bridge house.

"First is the mission house. People will come from all over the world to stay at this mission hause and go out during the days and serve on medical brigades. Another port of it is their orphonage that they have on the other side of town. This orphanage hos nine host families that house anywhere from four to eight kids and while these orphan kids are having a home with moms and dods, they're also going to school and getting a bilingual education. Hopefully this education propels them to go into the wark force after high school," he explained. "Then the third part of WGO is the bridge house. That is where if you leave the orphanoge and you graduate from the high school there, you can go to the bridge house. It's kind of an intermediate college-type experience-you go and you learn how to make a budget, start to live on your own and from there you start working and doing your own laundry and everything like that. It's kind of a goad transition from being in high school to being out on your own."

Not only is he caordinating those three projects, but also implementing business skills to help the orphanage market their

coffee. The orphonage in Honduras grows coffee, which is ranked in the top two percent of the world, and blackberry—the source of most of their profit. They lock, hawever, the skills to morket and properly sell their products in local markets or even nationally.

He explained, "We're looking into helping with the coffee production. We're going to help them morket it better in their local morkets and also to bring it here to the United Stotes ond, ultimotely, our end goal would be to open up a coffee shop ond be able to run a whole coffee shop using their coffee, but thot's a big step so we're working with little steps toword that right now."

Justin continues to use his skills and leadership business skills to not only enhance his business experience at Ouochito, but serve others globally as well. Whether it is participating in Tiger Tunes with the men of Beta Beta, hanging out with his little "brother," or working on projects in onother country, Justin Young is a prime exomple of a Ouachita difference maker. // BY KRISTEN BARNARD

"Spreadina the gospel is not always easy and it's not always going to be safe. Get out of your comfort zone and ao."

of her time serving the people of Ecuador and spreading the word of Christ. Kristen and members of Crossgate Church, which is also her hometown church, in Hot Springs, participate in missions on a regular basis.

or the past two summers sophamore

Kristen Barnord has spent some

"I have such a heart for missians and arphans and just traveling the world," Kristen said.

During her 2010 visit, Kristen and her mission group had the appartunity to minister to children who live in the jungle. Their Vacation Bible School attracted more than 200 children. The group got to ride a bosket on a cable cord across a gorge and spent some time at a tributary in the Amazon.

The group was exposed to some of Ecuador's wildlife as well. On a trip to a jungle village they

were able to see and play with Ocelots, which are twice the size of the overage hause cat. "It wasn't some

tome zoo onimol," Kristen said. After her first trip, Kristen felt the need to further involve herself in her service of Christ ond the people of Ecuadar.

Through on organization colled Compassian International she now sponsors a 4-year-ald girl from the country. On her most recent mission trip she had the opportunity ta meet the girl and her family.

"It was really special," said Kristen. "It was finally made real. It was an owesome experience getting to meet her ond talk with her."

On her second trip in 2011 Kristen ond the mission teom spent a week in Ecuador and worked with an orphonoge. The volunteers played with the kids and hosted a three-day VBS. They also made minor repairs to some of the arphonage houses including painting, digging wells and ditches.

Prior to going on the trip the teom had to mentally prepare themselves.

"Spreading the gospel is not always easy and it's nat always going to be safe," said Kristen.

The group collected toys and sporting equipment like soccer balls to bring with them. Kristen will embark on another adventure to Africa, in the country of Zambia.

"Just in the post few years Gad has really been working on my heart and calling me to other countries to work with countries," said Kristen. "I have it in my heart to love on those who haven't really been loved."

In addition to mission work Kristen has engaged herself in other activities to spread the word of God. For a large portion of the summer of 2011 Kristen spent a month warking at Sky Ranch.

"That was such a neat experience," said Kristen. "It was the first time I had ever worked a summer camp."

Kristen warked as a counselor to middle school aged girls.

"I got to lave on the girls and learn a lot about them and about myself," Kristen said.

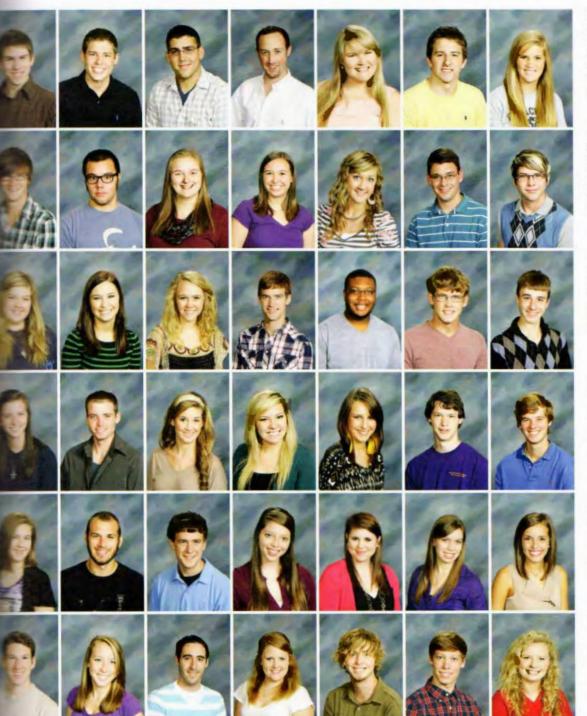
The time she spent with the girls gave her the apportunity to reflect an her own life and learn from them.

"I got to mentor them and counsel them through their situations all while directing them with the word of God," Kristen said.

All of Kristen's mission trips have been through her church. Organizations such as Warld Vision and Compassion International coordinate mission trips of their own. Kristen encourages anyone interested in getting involved with mission work to do sa.

"Get out of your comfort zone and go," said Kristen. "It will change your life more than you think."

BY JESSICA WASMUND



Will Wooten / CONWAY, AR Holly Wray / EADS, TN Justin Young / SPHINGDALE, AR

Ben Schleiff / MANILA, AR Buck Schroeder / CONWAY, AR Daniel Searles / MAUD, TX Austin Selph / ALEN, TX Savannah Shotts / CANOT, AR Daniel Sims / CONWAY, AR Cara Smith / IONEVIEW TX

Luke Smith / PARON, AR Zach Smith / BATESVILLE, AR Mauri Grace Sparks / QUEEN (TIY, TX Jessica Stanley / MESQUITE, TX Kelsey Stawasz / MESQUITE, TX Bret Steed / IDANEL OK Jason Stevenson / GUY, AR

Jessica Stewart / MANSFIELD, TX Meagan Stiles / CONWAY, AR Laura Strossner / CONWAY, AR David Sypult / ROGERS, AR Demarcus Thornton / PLANO, TX Hunter Threadgill / CORDALE, AR

Alex Trevino / HUGHES SPRINGS, TX JD Trevino / HUGHES SPRINGS, TX Molly Anne Turner / SHERWOOD, AR Katie Vaughn / HOT SPRINGS, AR Michelle Waddel / MARION, AR Jonathan Waddell / NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR Mason Wadley / BATESYNLE, AR

Anna Wakeling / IRYANI, AR Logan Webb / IENTON, AR Garet West / IOLIVAR, MO Lauren West / NOT SPRINGS, AR Karissa Weygandt / FORT WORTH, TX Alyssa White / ITLER, TX Leah Whitlow / IENTOWILLE, AR

Stephen Williams / ROLAND, AR Kelsey Willis / REDFIELD, AR Seth Wilson / HOT SPRINGS, AR Karissa Winfrey / STUTTGART, AR Preston Winstead / FORT SMITH, AR Hunter Wolf / WACO, TX Mary Rachel Wolf / HOT SPRINGS, AR



Angel Acosta / HACKETISTOWN, NJ Brynn Alford / ROGERS, AR Kristen Ashburn / SACHSE, TX Kurt Bannert / HAMILTON, TX Lindsey Barnhart / MAUD, TX Katelyn Bell / DES ARC, AR Catie Bennett / NIXA, MO

Cory Bennett / BENTON, AR Wendy Berry / LITTLE ROCK, AR Baronger Bieger / ROCKWALL, TX Hannah Bishop / CONWAY, AR Robert Bond / MESQUITE, TX Shelby Briley / SILOAM SPRINGS, AR Judith Brizuela / CORTES, HONDURAS

Lacey Brooks / BENTON, AR Macy Buchanan / HALLSWILLE, TX Chad Builington / HOT SPRINGS, AR Marshall Butler / CABOT, AR Jessica Caldwell / ROE, AR Clayton Case / SANTIAGO, CHILE Mary Castleman / BATESVILLE, AR

Sam Chidister / DEVALLS BLUFF, AR Annaliese Clark / ST. (HARLES, MO Chris Cook / GLENWOOD, AR Samantha Curmmins / ROGERS, AR Adam Curlin / ARKADELPHIA, AR Jason Curlin / ARKADELPHIA, AR Kayleigh Darling / DENTON, TX

Stephanie Deen / JONESBORO, AR Mark Dewbre / Arkadelphia, Ar Kate Dodge / Conway, Ar Erin Edge / Southaven, Ms Jake Edwards / North Little Rock, Ar Anna English / Coppell, Tx Tuyajargal Enkhbayar / Ulambaatar, Mongolia

> Ellen Eubanks / Arkadelphia, Ar Josh Fink / FORNEY, TX Molli Flurry / Carrollion, TX Kiley Gamble / McKINNEY, TX Trent Gardner / Dallas, TX Ashley Glover / STUTGART, AR Trey Gosser / NORTH LITLE ROCK, AR

Erin Grammer / GARLAND, TX Amberly Green / BATESVILLE, AR Jackson Guerra / MOUNT IDA, AR Stephanie Hampton / PERRYVILLE, AR Daniel Hastings / ROGERS, AR Breanna Holder / EL DORADO, AR Tim Horton / ARKADELPHIA, AR





or junior Hope Phillips, a double major in Communication Sciences and Disorders and Spanish from El Dorado, speaking is not a problem that she experiences. One of her possions though, is to help others

develop the ability to communicate for themselves.

"I want to work with people who have disorders because I simply enjoy helping and serving people," Hope said

Althaugh Hape daes nat have a speech disarder, she experiences a different one; a sleeping disarder called Narcolepsy that she was diagnosed with her juniar year of high school. This is a chronic neurological disorder, which causes excessive sleepiness, and frequent daytime attacks at inappropriate times. There is no cure far the disarder; anly treatments are available to help ane cantrol their symptoms.

"I have learned immense patience (from living with the disorder)," Hape said. "It is frustrating at times ta fall asleep when you are busy and have many things ta da. I have to understand that it is uncontrollable and simply try to exhibit patience with my own self and my disorder."

Although Hope experiences frustration daily from her disorder, she has learned many things from it.

"I feel that through the patience that God has taught me and is still teaching me," Hape said. "I have grown to have a heart far peaple that need that patience and understanding."

While she learned these virtues, Hope was able to relate to people around her that experience disarders, even if they aren't the same as hers. "Seeing their struggles is humbling. Just when I begin to hang

my head or

feel sorry for myself, I think about what they go through and I am grateful for the abilities God has given me."

With these abilities that God has blessed her with, Hape has the chance to help change lives every day with her therapy and passion for people.

"I've learned to not take the ability of simply being able to communicate and understand the world around for granted," Hape said. "Every day I get to see people with disorders make progress and work on overcaming their disorder even if it's just one baby step at a time. It melts my heart." //BY ABBEY JAMIESON

peopte//129

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"I've been thinking and praying about doing mission work as a career...This is what I feel God's been preparing me far, for a long time." t was a hat summer afternaan and kids were running around playing soccer on a field, until the ball ralled off the side of the mountain. Adam Webb, a junior mass communications major from Jakarta, Indanesia, had to wait while one of the kids ran down to retrieve the ball so they could keep the game going. This is what Adam did most afternaons for a few weeks while on a mission trip to Thailand last summer.

"I had no summer plans, so I thaught, why not go on a mission trip," Adom said. He loaked at variaus trips and had quite a few different aptions, but "thraugh prayer and talking with others, I came to a decision." He was going up a mountain to Bacam, a village so small that it doesn't show up on Goagle maps. There was no big team. For six weeks it was just Adam, another American named Nick and their two Thai translators. "Our goal was to build relationships with the people and show

them as

much as we cauld about God and the Bible. But we cauldn't just walk into people's houses. We had ta just do nothing first." They didn't exactly do nothing. After hiking far 20 minutes to the schoolhause, they taught English and math in the marnings, played soccer with the kids in the afternoons and had a time of worship and prayer at night. "Sometimes we would worship in English and sometimes in Thai while Nick played his guitar."

After a few weeks they went dawn the mauntain for a short break. When it was time to go back, they had a taugh climb because one of their matarbikes broke. They were late getting back to the village and, upon their arrival, learned that someone had died and there was a funeral taking place. "That was the paint when we really gat to know the people in the village," Adam said. "They started to trust us and we were finally able to go into people's hauses and work in their fields. The fields were on a steep incline and I fell a lot because I cauldn't wear shoes." He didn't care, though. For the remainder of the trip he gat to present the word of Gad to people who had never heard it, and that was worth the bumps and bruises.

Adam is no stranger to international travel ar missions. Because his dad is in the energy business, he was born in Scotland and has lived in Lauisiana, Dubai, Texas, Vietnam and Indonesia. "I'm nat an MK," Adam said, althaugh he's frequently mistaken for one. He's a TCK—a third culture kid.

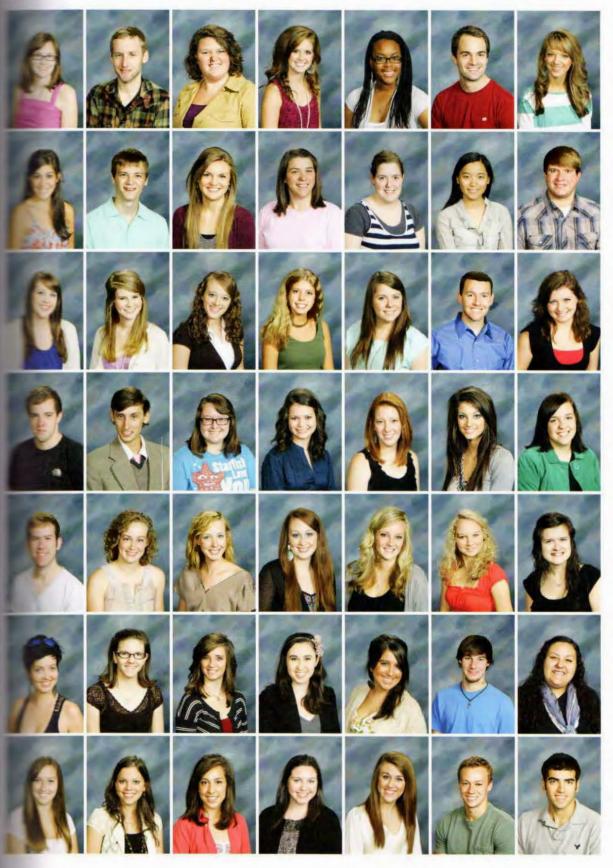
"Part of the reason I chose this school is because they have a large heart for international students and TCKs," he said. He is a member of the International Club and last year was the secretary. "I love IC," he said with a grin on his face.

Living in other countries has given Adam a different, more informed perspective on the world. "Things are done differently in different places," he said. "In the U.S., people fallow laws to the paint. You stay in your lane when you drive. Every country is different depending on their culture. It doesn't mean that they're better or worse, just different."

Thailand is a cauntry that is different. There were no Christians in Bacam when Adam and his partner first arrived, and none came to Christ while they were there. But God has been warking in the little village and there are now 11 new believers. He made a difference.

"I've been thinking and praying about doing mission work as a career since my sophomore year and it was confirmed in Thailand," Adam said. "This is what I feel Gad's been preparing me for, for a long time." // BY RYLEIGH SALMON

130//people JUNIORS



Raley Howard / ELDORADO, AR Nathan Huff / JONESBORO, AR Hannah Hunter / BRYANT, AR Lauren Jackson / ARKADELPHIA, AR Kristen James / MISSOURI (ITY, TX Ryan James / BENTON, AR Abbey Jamieson / SACHSE, TX

Alison Johnson / SHREVEPORT, LA Cameron Johnson / RANCHO MIRAGE, CA Brittney Jones / TEXARKANA, AR Caitlin Jones / BENTON, AR Nikki Kambanis / JONESBORO, AR Sunhye Kim / LITTLE ROCK, AR Caleb Knight / ARKADELPHIA, AR

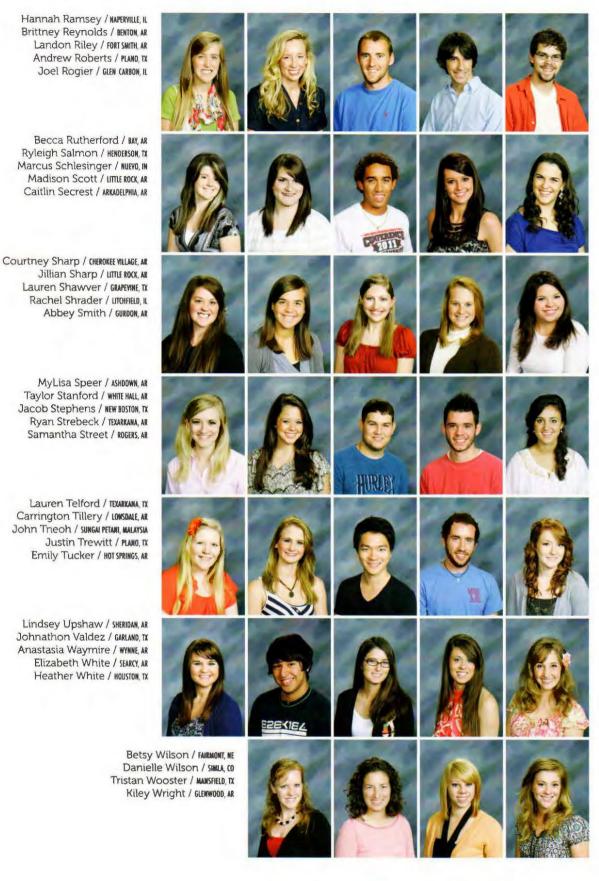
Casey Knight / ARKADELPHIA, AR Kelly Knobloch / MONTICELLO, AR Alyssa Koen / HOT SPRINGS, AR Michelle Lackey / DECATUR, TX Michelle Lanza / ALLEN, TX Greg Lawrence / SUNSET, TX Kelley Lester / BISMARCK, AR

Austin Lindsey / ALEDO, TX Bradley Lindsey / LONGVIEW, TX Andrea Lock / STUTTGART, AR Devan Malone / BENTON, AR Erica Mayes / FRISCO, TX Jena McCarty / POTTSVILLE, AR Nicole McPhate / CONWAY, AR

Sam Meador / WOLFE (ITY, TX Audrey Melson / BATLSVILLE, AR Sarah Moore / GARLAND, TX Stephanie Morse / BENTON, AR Jana Neal / LAYEEN, AZ Bailey Nichols / LITTLE ROCK, AR Valerie Nickel / RICHARDSON, TX

Daniela Novotna / CZECH REPUBLIC Elliot O'Connor / LOUISVILLE, CO Tiffany Ohman / FORT WORTH, TX Alexis Pace / SUGAR LAND, TX Emily Parker / SHREVEPORT, LA Zach Penny / TEXARKANA, AR Hannah Pilcher / MAUMELLE, AR

Kayla Pinkham / ROCHWALL TX Sarah Porter / BERRYVILE, AR Phebe Pruett / SUMMERS, AR Courtney Puddephatt / LITTLE ROCK, AR Krystal Oualls / TEXARIXAMA, AR Stephen Raines / CAMDEN, AR Jacob Ramaly / LONGVIEW, TX





any OBU students recagnize Devan Malane's smiling face around campus. The mass cammunicatians majar appears to be a typical OBU student dealing with all of the

same deadlines and pressures as the rest of us, but this year Devon had a much bigger cancern than a homework assignment or a test ta study far, a choice her family made out of love that would come to change everything obout Devan's life and family.

Devon's fomily isn't a cookie cutter replica of the traditional nuclear American family. Devan is a devoted loving member of a family af six. Mary and Steve Malone set out to create a loving family when they married, however the copacity far lave and acceptance that the family would exhibit took everyone by surprise. Devon was the first child brought into the world by her loving parents, followed by Jordan five years later. Most families would have been complete, but the Malones were just getting started. When Devan was still in elementary school, Mary began talking to the family about adoption. After two years and lots of proyer, the family was ready to welcome another member.

The new addition was 15-month-old boby Jenna whom the Malones brought home from China in March of 2005. "She was such a blessing in our lives and bringing her into our family changed each of us. We grew to love the world of adoption and it stirred in us a compassion and love for orphans," said Devan. The story daesn't end here, however, as the Malones felt that they could reach across the world one more time to bring the love of family as well as the love of Christ to a child focing the world alone. When Devan was in her sophomore year at OBU, the Malones once again began the tedious process of adopting overseas. To save time and to help a child that would otherwise have been overlacked, the Molones apted to adopt through a special needs agency.

The Malones then heard nothing for several months. The waiting and the uncertainty was tarturaus far the family. Then suddenly on a May night in 2011 they received word that a 3-year-ald girl who didn't have a left forearm was in need of a family. It was a joyaus moment for the Malones as they saw their future sister Desi on the computer screen. "I still remember my mom opening the email and us seeing Desi's beautiful face for the first time," said Devan. The wait was over. The Malones had found their missing puzzle piece. All that was left was the

legalities. As Devan's juniar year began she had ta leave hame without welcaming her new sister to it. The wait was taking langer than anticipated as the Malanes were asked to jump through bureaucratic haaps. Devan describes her juniar year as a hectic series of phane calls to her mather to reassure and camfart her.

Finally in November, Mary Malane traveled across the world to bring young Desi home. However, she ended up spending nearly two weeks in the country as she was required to fill out more and more paperwork. Finally on December 9, Mary and Desi touched down in the United States, and the trial was finally over and the Malanes were complete. "I will never

farget the moment Jardan, Jenna, and I met her for the first time, as they topped the escolator. It was as if time was standing still," a smiling Devan recolled. Desi fit right into the Malone household and the family is happier than ever. //BY ADAM CLINE

> 133//people JUNIOR

esley and Natasha May are not your average callege couple. Married in May of 2008, they have one child, Esther, and will soon odd Judah

"You do not have to have a lot of money to provide for those who are in need, you just have to have the willingness to be obedient." to their fomily. Wesley is a senior Biblical studies major with an autdoor recreational ministries minor, and Natosha graduated in December as a Christian studies mojor with an emphasis in missions. Both are originally fram Highland. Their story shows love and compassian in helping those in need, willingness to let God take the reins on their finances, and patience in waiting on God to shaw them what their next move is in life.

The Scripture verse at the core of the Mays' mission comes from James 2:14-17: "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith sove him? If a brather or sister is paorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the bady, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

The Mays use this verse to drive their mission to help the poor and feed the homeless. They started their marriage with all of \$80 in their bank accaunt, but God worked in mighty ways to reveal to them that they would be on active part in God's mission to the world.

Though Wesley and Natasha did not have very many resources as they began their marriage, they said, "We decided we would much rother be poor together than apart. After getting married we were challenged by the Lord to take a job at a church full time without pay. We watched as the Lord graciausly provided far every one af our needs through our faith family."

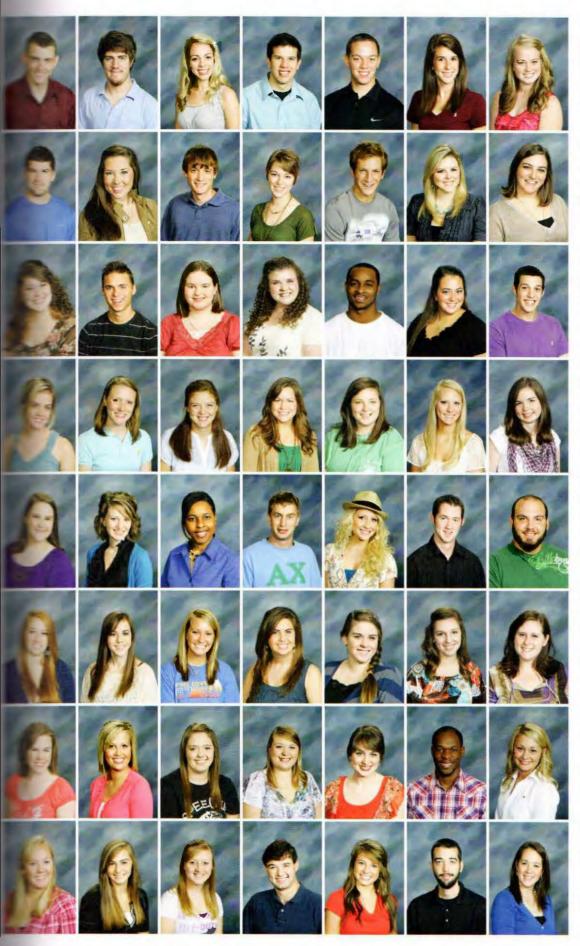
Through the help of this family, the Mays felt led to provide far athers as they had been provided for. When they came to Ouachita, they were unsure af how they wauld pay for college. "Something that God had taught us through His Ward and through the actions of our faith family was that you do not have to have a lat of money to provide for those who are in need, you just have to have the willingness to be obedient."

As they faithfully walked with God, there were times when they received large amounts of money, but were convicted ta give this money right back to people placed in their lives with needs greater than their own. "We were only a vehicle thraugh which God could be faithful to His people," Wesley and Natasha said. "Our prayer is that people wauld not see this as an uncommon lifestyle, but as a fulfillment of our obedience to Scripture."

The Mays were able to find faithful friends within Arkadelphia to help them financially. "In our first year of marriage we did not have a vehicle. Stephen and Caitlin Chapman heard of our need and sold us their car, a beautiful Mozda 6, for \$600," the Mays said. "The Lord humbled us by praviding through a couple our own age who did not have much either. We have been blessed in this friendship, and our families continue to pravide for each other."

Through the community of yaung couples like themselves, they were able to help out by "making dinner for each other, buying groceries for one another, doing each other's

dishes, ond meeting needs in a very practical way," Wesley said. The Mays hape that their children "will grow up to understand that proyer concerns can be met in practical ways and that sacrifice is often necessary to provide for those you love." BY MAURI SPARKS



Jed Allen / GREENVILLE, TX Joe Anderson / HOT SPRING, AR Sarah Anderson / DALLAS, TX Rod Arnold / WARE VILLAGE, TX Quint Ashburn / MONROE, LA Rebecca Atkinson / ARKADELPHIA, AR Nikki Bain / TEXARKAMA, TX

Dexter Barksdale / BRYANT, AR Jessica Barksdale / MANILA, AR Dusty Barnette / Collins, AR Sarah Barteaux / Jones, OK Taylor Bartel / LUCAS, TX Brooke Basinger / CARROLLTON, TX Kelsey Bates / MARION, AR

Vikki Kay Bennett / Jonesbord, Ar Glenn Bolton / Hensley, Ar Sara Booker / Prescott, Ar Kristen Bowman / Hensley, Ar Denszell Brown / Frisco, tx Elizabeth Burke / Hot Spreings, Ar Aaron Butler / Maßelyale, Ar

Meredith Butler / HOPE, AR Melissa Butters / DENISON, TX Deborah Caldwell / SILOAM SPRINGS, AR Jennifer Callaway / CONWAY, AR Ken Calvert / MANSFIELD, TX Jordan Campbell / HOUSTON, TX Kimberly Carlton / LAFFAYETTE, LA

Jennifer Carney / VAN BUREN, AR Kinsey Ann Carpenter / MEMPHIS, TN Rennetta Carter / ARKADELPHIA, AR Reuben Cash / SPRINGFIELD, TM Lauren Casteel / GARLAND, TX Matt Caudle / PARKER, TX Bryan Church / WARREN, AR

Meg Coffman / TYRONZA, AR Kasa Cooper / PARADUGLD, AR Audrey Craven / ROCKWALL, TX Aaren Crews / ARKADELPHIA, AR Angela Davidson / ROWLETT, TX Elizabeth Davis / ASHDOWN, AR Emily Davis / LITTLE ROCK, AR

Abby Dekle / SACHSE, TX Lauren DeWitt / ARKADELPHIA, AR Emily Easton / ROCKWALL, TX Heather Ederington / ELDORADO, AR Aubrey Elliott / BENTONVILLE, AR Emmanuel Engulu / FORT WORTH, TX Abby Faulkner / FORT SMITH, AR

Kelsi Ferguson / LOUISVILLE, KY Nicci Fillinger / MORRILTON, AR Lydia Fincher / HOT SPRINGS, AR Clay Fitzhugh / STAMPS, AR Cheyenne Flemister / MONTICELLO, AR Reece Franklin / ARKADELPHIA, AR Hope Freel / NASHVILLE, AR

Allison Frizzell / MCKINNEY, TI Mikki Gaines / HOPE, AR Taylor Geurin / LITLE ROCK, AR Chris Gilliland / LITLE ROCK, AR Rachel Glover / CAUDT, AR Alex Goff / BRYANT, AR John Gomez / BLUETELD, VA

Brittany Green / HISCO, TX Allison Grigsby / CABOT, AR Elisee Habimana / INNANDA Lindsey Hackett / TEXARKANA, TX Tiffani Hall / THE COLONY, TX Adam Hansen / GLENWOOD, AR Amy Harrington / PRATTSVILLE, AR

Brent Harris / AUBREY, TI Steven Harvell / LANDSTUHIL, GERMANY Tyler Havvkins / BENTON, AR Mason Hayes / CAUOT, AR Hannah Hilburn / HARRISON, AR Hillary Hill / FORREST (TTY, AR Leigha Hill / BOLWAR, MO

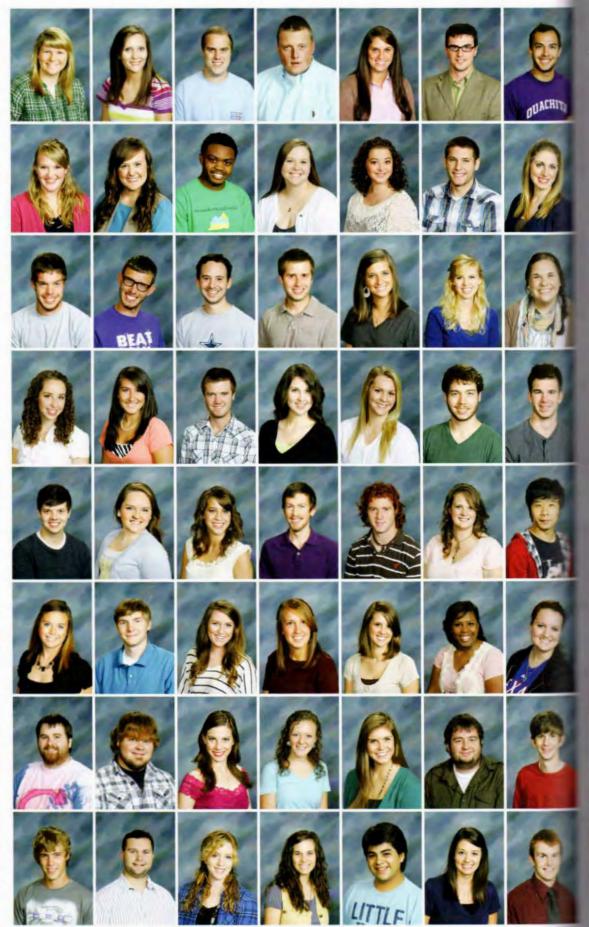
Natalie Holmes / RKHARDSON, TX Chelsea Holsted / MORRILTON, AR Theo Hone / HARARE, ZIMBABWE Lydia Horton / ARKADELPHIA, AR Kristyn Howk / ROWLETT, TX Adam Hudson / COLLEGE STATION, TX Paul Huenefeld / HEBER SPRINGS, AR

Tanner Huffman / WYNKE, AR Brittany Hughes / HOT SPRIKGS, AR Shannon Hunt / LONGVIEW, TX Trevor Huxham / PLANO, TX James Ingrahm / ST GEORGE, RARRADOS Grace Janzen / TULSA, OK David Jeon / SOUTH KOREA

> Kelly Johnson / MAKEL, O Michael Johnson / MUTON, AR Kayla Kagel / ROYAL, AR Jenelle Kaske / MORMMEY, TI Chelsie Kauffman / BOURDON, M Kels Kearney / MIKE BUUFF, AR Lauren Keefer / SAGINAW, TI

Brian Keen / MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MD Townsend Keller / CELINA, TX Kathryn Kellogg / Sherwood, Ar Joy Kelly / Waxahachie, Tx Kathryn Kelly / HOT SPRINGS, Ar Zach Killian / HARDY, Ar Austin King / Arkadelphia, Ar

Jason Kirk / KARARE, ZMRABWE K.C. Knobloch / MONTKELLO, AN Beth Kohl / MARKISBURG, NO Katy Krikorian / ROCKWALL, TX Xavier Lagunas / ANLINGTON, TX Dayton Lavender / GRAFETINE, TX Steven Lawrence / SURSET, TX



It had taken EZ quite a while to answer most af the questians, and I was a little worried that he wouldn't be oble to answer the next one. Of course, EZ (Elisee is his real name, but few use it) is full of surprises.

"What was the hardest part?" I asked. He answered right away, as if he had been asked the same question a hundred times.

"Hearing the deaths: grandma, uncle, aunt. One after another. I was not ald enough to really understand and my mother covered my face, but it was still scary," Elisee said.

I have known Elisee (EZ) far around twa years, ond every time I see him there is a huge smile on his face. It would be difficult far anyone to guess that underneath this smile lies a story of genacide, education and hape.

EZ's family fled from Rwanda when the genocide began. He was carried by his mother an the way out. "It was a goad thing I was the youngest because I was a very lazy kid. I would have prabably just sot dawn and died if my mother had not carried me," EZ told me a few months ago, the first time I heard him talk about his early childhood.

After living in a refugee comp for two years, there is not much hope left in a person. "I went to school for two months. After that I quit. It felt hopeless. It was like there is no future. That is the best way to describe it," said EZ.

Even when it is over, the genocide is still haunting, especially for a child. "Imagine going from living in tents to concrete. In the morning when you wake up there are windows instead of just the sun," EZ said. "You go to sleep without hearing mosquitoes, but you are still scared. What if it happens again? You think about the past."

EZ lost twa uncles, an aunt and his grandmother to the harrific prejudice. EZ's father died af malaria in 1998 and his mother became ill just a short time before he came to Ouachita. EZ's parents have had an enormous effect on his life, and he would not be where he is today without them. Because of his parents, and despite all of the struggles he has gone through, EZ still considers himself blessed, along with his three brothers and two sisters.

"We were very fortunate. Both of our parents went to school. This is why we all graduated. My mather was an elementary school teacher," EZ said. "Usually people dropped out of school, but because our parents went to school we did not. Most people did nat have help at hame and their parents were illiterate so they have to

walk around five miles to get help from the nearest student. Because our parents went to school we did nat have ta do this."

EZ's intellect proved to be something special. In 2005, the Rwandan government began giving scholarships to the top high school students in the country, and EZ qualified. These scholarships came through partnerships with various U.S. schools (mostly Sauthern, Christian schools), including Ouachita. This was all a part of a Rwandan government initiative to help develop technalogy and science. Of caurse, Rwanda and America are not exactly similar.

When EZ first came to the U.S. he was expecting skyscrapers and big lights. "I came to Arkansas, but I expected samething like New York," soid EZ. "I wasn't expecting the natural state."

When I asked EZ if he had any advice far the masses, he paused with a laughing smile. I knew that he has something to say, but he didn't want to offend anyone. After a few minutes of awkward silence he let it out. "Sometimes we become so spoiled that we dan't notice we take things for granted. We use things and talk with people without thinking it's special. We take what

we have for granted from people wha don't have them."

While his life has not been as simple as his name, EZ has kept his smile and his knowledge. I have to think EZ is on exception to his awn rule. I would trust him no matter what he loaks like. // BY ADAM WEBB

> people//137 SENIORS

fter beginning their first year of marriage as seniors, John Bacon, a Christian studies mojor with a double emphasis in biblical studies and missions from Bryant, and his wife Lauren (Tallakson) Bacon, an

eorly childhood education major from Keller, Texas, were given an opportunity that most newlyweds in college don't normally get to experience.

"I was just super thankful and knew God cauld answer prayers, but that was really quick!"

In October of their senior year, after being married for anly three months, John and Lauren were chosen to travel to Israel during the spring semester with a graup af students, alumni, and former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, who sponsored the trip. Huckabee wonted the trip to be given to a married couple who wonted to be invalved in ministry one day. How the trip came about was something even more mind-boggling for the Bacons.

"Lauren had previously wanted to go to Israel, and I wonted to go

> too," said Jahn. "We didn't have the money and we didn't talk much more about it. At the International chapel, Dr. Duvall talked about Israel ond

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all of a sudden I wanted to go. I thought it was from God, so we prayed about whether or not we should go. The very next day, Dr. (Danny) Hays asked to have a meeting with me and he told me there was an anonymous donor who wanted to take us to Israel. It was shocking because 24 hours before we were praying about it."

"I started crying," said Lauren. "I was just super thankful and knew God could answer proyers, but that was really quick!"

In preparation for their trip, John and Lauren talked to Hoys often and he gave them materials to look over befarehand. He recommended they go through and read the gaspels as a way to prepare as well. In regard to classes, both John and Lauren had to make arrangements in advance to stay on tap of their schoolwork.

"Some of our favorite sites of the trip were the wailing wall, the garden tomb, Har Megiddo (mountain of Armageddon)," said John. "Also, Masada which is a fortified mountain in the Judeon desert that the Jews ran to when the Ramans were trying to kill them," said Lauren.

But traveling to the sites was not the only aspect af the trip the Bacons treasured. There was a spiritual aspect as well.

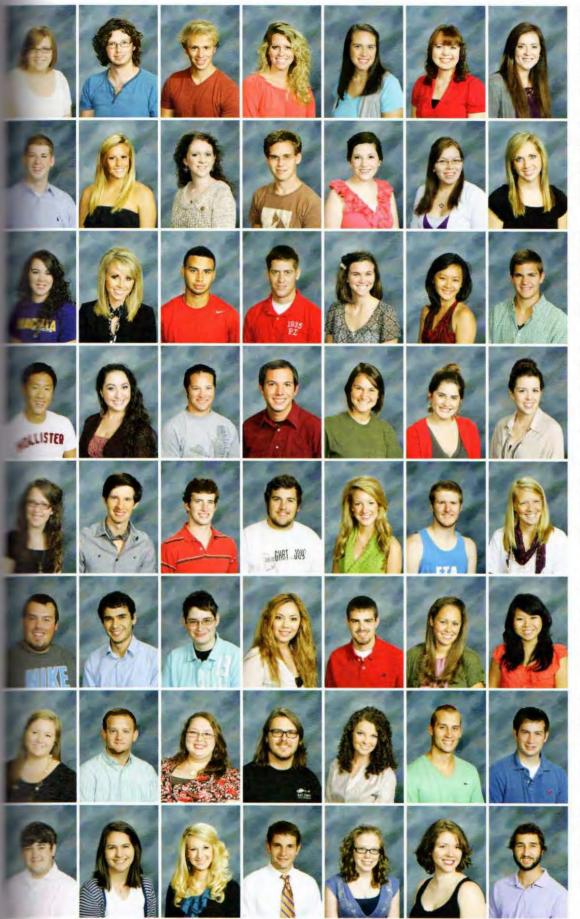
"The coolest part was making connections with Scripture," soid Lauren. "I loaked at Psalms and understood what David was talking about...it helped me to connect the Old Testoment with the New Testament. It helped me picture everything visually."

The trip also opened up a new door for the newlyweds. After returning fram the trip, the Bacons came back with a desire to start a trip back to Israel that would be long term.

"I want to go to Hebrew University," said John. "We would like to be missianaries. Although Israel has been clase to the Gaspel, there are people that still don't know it. We want ta stay there and da enough work to shaw the Gaspel, not just the manifestations of the church, but for them to see Christ there. It was very convicting about how the people of Jerusalem need to knaw about the Gospel."

I want to go bock and let the peaple know that the Messiah has already come," said Lauren. "I want them to know they don't have to go the temple anymore."

BY ABBEY JAMIESON



Charlene Leus / STUTTGART, AR Paschall Leus / Altheimer, Ar Joseph Levy / LITTLE ROCK, AR Chelsy Lewis / BENTON, AR Madison Lewis / CONWAY, AR Amanda Like / SACHSE, TX Jenna Lindsey / YAN BUREN, AR

Jacob Lively / TEXARKANA, TX Miranda Lytle / MCKINNEY, TX Hollyn McCarty / TEXARKANA, AR Addison McCarver / TEXARKANA, AR Cara McKinney / HUGHES SPRINGS, TX Nikki McNair / MINOT, ND Ruth Megli / ENID, OK

Devon Melear / MAGNOLIA, TX Emily Morgan / MOUNTAIN HOME, AR Corey Morrow / CONWAY, AR Gabe Musser / CHAPEL HILL, NC Katelyn Mustain / COPPELL, TX Kezia Nanda / JAKARTA, INDONESIA Jordan Neal / GILBERT, AZ

Vinh Nguyen / BELLEVILLE, IL Moriah Patterson / SHERIDAN, AR Stoney Patton / SCURRY, TX Nate Peace / BEDFORD, TX Joanna Persson / SHERWOOD, AR Hannah Pfeiffer / BENTON, AR Natalie Polston / SEARCY, AR

Whitley Poole / BATESVILLE, AR Marshall Pope / TEXARKANA, TX Matthew Pope / SHREVEPORT, LA Jerethy Prine / DE WITT, AR Haley Prowell / ROGERS, AR Jesse Pruett / HARRISON, AR Elizabeth Quick / COLONIA, URUGUAY

Jacob Raine / LITTE ROCK, AR Humoyiddin Ravshanov / TERMEZ, UZBEKISTAN Anthony Ridgway / SOFIA, BULGARIA Ruth Rosas / ARKADELPHIA, AR Jason Rynders / MALVERN, AR Elyse Senteney / PLANO, TX Elyse Setiawan / TANGERANG, INDONESIA

Ashlee Sharp / ARKADELPHIA, AR Russell Shaw / MESQUITE, TX Dielle Short / BOERNE, TX Andrew Shotts / CABOT, AR Laura Sikes / GREENBRIER, AR Andrew Simmons / TEXARKANA, AR James Simpson / ROGERS, AR

J.K. Slyby / HOT SPRINGS, AR Mary Smethers / HOT SPRINGS, AR Katelyn Smith / LONGVIEW, TX Kyle Smith / FREDERICKSBURG, VA Rachel Spencer / ROCKWALL, TX Samantha Spradling / ITALY, TX T.C. Squires / SHERWOOD, AR

Britta Stamps / FORT SMITH, AR Bradley Stark / HERER SPRINGS, AR Katie Steele / MCKINNEY, TX Brandon Stokes / FORT SMITH, AR Sara Strassemeyer / FLOWER MOUND, TX David Street / CHEROKEE VILLAGE, AR

Chris Sumner / NEEDVILLE, TX Andrew Sweatman / VAN BUREN, AR Taylor Tarlton / NESQUITE, TX Katy Thompson / NESQUITE, TX Morgan Thornton / BISMARCK, AR Slava Tirnokhin / NARNET, AR

> Lindi VanSlyke / WYLIF, TX Amy Vaughan / GMAPPYINE, TX Kristen Vaughan / UITLE ROCK, AR Wendy Vick / COMWAY, AR Emily Vinson / CORNING, AR Neil Wacaster / KOT SPRINGS, AR

Nathan Wade / BIG SANDY, TI Alyson Walker / BENTON, AR Austin Walsh / DALLAS, TI Caitlyn Wamble / MNE BLUFF, AR Stephanie Warren / SPRING, TI Jessica Wasmund / DENISON, TI

Brittany Watson / HARLETON, TX Joseph Watson / AZLE, TX Sarah Waymire / NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR Beth Wendl / PLANO, TX Hannah West / NOLTAN, MO Nolan West / NOLTAN, MO

Lauren Whaley / MLER, TX Josiah Wheeler / JACKSOMMILE, AR David White / CROSSET, AR Abby Williams / RANGOULD, AR Holly Williams / ROWLET, TX John Williams / ROWLET, TX

Melanie Williams / WEST MONROE, LA Kelli Wilson / EDNA, TX Jessica Winston / SHERIDAN, AR Christina Wood / LONGVIEW, TX Will Wood / MAGNOLLA, AR Erin Woodfin / MARSHALL, TX



Rebecca Wright / CORDONA, TH Alyssa Wylie / HENDERSON, TX Callie Yeager / THER, TX



ate Peace, seniar Christian studies, Biblical languages, and mass communications triple major, from Bedford, Texas, may be the most involved student on Ouochita's campus.

Involved directly in at least seven arganizations at Ouachita, Peace still finds time to volunteer as an intern at a local church. Some af Peace's positions on campus include president of Theta Alpha Kappa, media officer of Students in Free Enterprise, publicity officer of the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Teom, member af the Carl Goodsan Honors Callege, member of Alpha Chi, and member of the Ouachita Student Foundation.

One of Peace's most important positions however, is his job as the associate producer of Ouachita's video department. The positian is more than enough to keep a normal persan busy. What began as a wark-study job under Dr. Dave Ozmun developed slawly into a more evolved role as the associate producer.

Peace said, "My freshman and sophomore year, I worked hard, and more than that, was simply responsible, so for my junior and seniar years I was chosen as the associate producer of the video department, which is a full-tuition position and makes me responsible for six work study students, up to nine practicum students, two TV shows, and Tiger Tunes."

Peace's position as associate producer also offers other opportunities. "The day after Tiger Tunes Dr. Ozmun tald me that the mass communication department was sending me to Israel to make o video for Mike Huckabee. I was in shock," said Peace. The trip, February 20-28, was spansored by Gav. Mike Huckabee and had over 160 people an it. The trip began in Jerusalem and travelled narth toward the Sea af Galilee, visiting many Biblical sites along the way.

"Throughout the trip myself and Reece Franklin were filming, and I was concerned it would distract us, but instead it warked out and helped facus our attention. Plus, the video allawed us to wark closely with Gov. Huckabee. In short, it was the trip of the lifetime where I not only saw amazing sites, but met some amazing people and continue to build my network throughout the United States."

Peoce believes Ouochito has prepored him in every way for his future plans, bath competitively and socially. "First, Ouachito has given

me an academic experience that I am proud of ond that I knaw is ot par with ony others in the world. Second, it has given me a network of Ouachita alumni that is cantinuausly growing," said Peace. More importantly however, Peace is thankful for his friendships at Ouachita. He said, "[M]y experience at Ouachita has given me relationships and friendships that will prepare me to face whatever I encaunter in the world."

After graduation, Peace plans to ottend Wheaton College Graduate School ta receive his Master of Arts in Biblicol Exegesis. He soid, "God has given me a lave and a passion for the Chicago area. And the summer after graduation, I'll be

following that passion and moving there, hopefully storting o job besides just grad schaol. In shart, God has called me to serve Him, and although I do not know the specifics, attending Wheaton will help prepare me for whatever He hos in store." // BY RACHEL GILMER

STEPHANIE BATSEL

major// Music and Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing

involvement// Ouachita Singers (section leader and vice president), SIFE (serving as project leader for Pregnancy Resource Center of Southwest Arkansas), Tiger Tunes hostess, Tiger Serve Day, Youth group at First Baptist Church El Dorado (Jan 2009-Aug 2010), Youth worship, retreats and youth choir ministry at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church

brags// dean's list, Homecoming queen

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, SIFE and Pregnancy Resource Center

plans// Obtain a moster's and doctoral degree in music

education and become a collegiate choir director

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CAITLYN WAMBLE

major// Biblical Studies/Pre-nursing

involvement// International Club historian, Theta Alpha Kappa, Alpha Chi, intramurals, Campus Ministries leadership team

brags// president's list

volunteer// Operation Christmas Child, International Food Festival planning committee, Tiger Serve Day

plans// overseos medical missions

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MAX FORD

major// Chemistry & Biology

involvement//

OSF (special events), Tiger Tunes, Tiger Traks, scholarship and accreditation committees through OSF, Tiger Serve Day, American Chemical Society

brags// dean's list, president's list, 1" place Biochemistry poster contest at state INBRE symposium

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day

plans// Master's degree or PhD in environmental studies/ environmental taxicology. Career goal is to do geological impact research concerning water quality analysis neor industrial work sites, including fracking sites or coal emission work sites

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ABBY DEKLE

major// Biology/Pre-Med

involvement// lpha Tau honors society-chair, Campus Activities Board, Tri Beta biological society member, Eta Aalpha Omega sweetheart, Tiger Tunes

brags// Duachita Scholars scholarship, Betty D. Grant award recipient, Carl Goodson honors scholar

volunteer// ElderServe, Thanksgiving Day basket co-chair, Tiger Serve Day, WOW leader, NSR leader

plans// Applying to medical school. Establish own practice and

participate in medical missions. Tig Interested in pediatrics ter

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REUBEN CASH

major// Double major in Accounting and Business Administration with emphasis in Finance and Management

involvement// SIFE (project leader and officer), Carl Goodson Honors Program (four year undergraduate thesis research concerning the 2008 securities market crisis and the effectiveness of the resulting TARP bailout program)

brags//

Beta Gamma Sigma business honors society membership, First Tee scholar and scholarship award recipient

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day leadership team

plans// Coreer as a certified public accountant

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KEZIA ARYA Nanda

major// Psychology, Speech Communications, minor in French

involvement// International Club (VP), Director of International Food Festival (2010), Psi Chi, intramural basketball captain, intramural volleyball, intramural flag football

brags// Musician far IFGF GISI Arkansas, 3rd runner up Homecoming queen 2010, president's list, dean's list, Machtar Riady scholarship, John/Glaria Elrod scholarship, Glabal Scholarship, Duachita grant

volunteer// Elder Serve, Tiger Serve Day, TranServe, Compassion International

plans// Grad School in France or USA, being a reporter, a talk-show host

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TREVOR HUXHAM

major// History and Spanish

involvement// Concert Choir, Carl Goodson Honors Program, Alpha Tau honors society (academic

honors society (academic chair), International Club, OSFhistory and traditions co-chair

brags//

Alpha Chi national honor society, Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, Pi Gamma Mu social sciences honor society, president's list, Sigma Tau Delta English honors society, Theta Alpha Kappa theology/ religious studies honor society, Fran Coulter Award to outstanding junior (history, 2011), outstanding Spanish majar (2011)

volunteer// International Food Festival steering committee 2011, New Orleans mission trip, Tiger Serve Day, WOW leader

plans// Teoch English in Spain and pursue a career in writing

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CARA MCKINNEY

major// Biology, Chemistry/Psychology minor

involvement// Tri Chi, Panhellenic Council president, CM women's discipleship, OSF, WOW steering committee

brags// 3rd runner up 2011 Homecoming queen, recipient of Hannah Joy Sullivan Scholarship, president's list, dean's list, OSF scholarship

volunteer// WDW steering committee, Tiger Serve Day, Operation Christmas Child, TranServe

plans// Attend the doctorate of physical therapy program at the University Oklahama in Tulsa to be a physical therapist

MASON HAYES

major// Accounting

> involvement// Beta Beta, WOW steering committee, Student Senate, Fellowship Church K-group, worship planning committee

brags// dean's list, 2 time flag football champion

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day mowing crew

plans// Become a CPA and work as an accountant

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REBECCA ATKINSON

major// Early Childhood Education, Spanish minor

involvement// EEE (treasurer), OSF, Kappa Chi little sis, Kappa Delta Pi (service co-chair), Alpha Chi, First Baptist Church home group

brags// Alice Seorcy Award, Curtis Echols Lion's Club Award, president's list

volunteer// Big sister/little sister, Tiger Serve Day

plans// Teach elementary students

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KENDALL CALVERT

major// Church Media Production Arts

involvement// WOW steering committee, photography ministry leader, freshman family groups ministry leader, 2011 Campus Ministries Tiger Tunes choreographer, women's discipleship leader, five-time intramural champion, NSR leader, JPAC crew, FBC Benton youth group, mission trips to Aloska and Peru

brags// 2011 1" runner up to Homecoming queen

volunteer// Tiger Serve Døy, Beach Reach, DNOW leader

plans// Plons to do something that involves having fun and glarifying God

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AUSTIN KING

rmajor// Political Science, minor in Mass Communications and English

involvement// Kappa Chi president, VP, special events director, and asst. Tiger Tunes director, OSF (fundraising and financing co-chair), Judicial Council.

co-chair), Judicial Council, freshman family group dad, Homecoming steering committee, Worship leader for SCB youth, middle school boys small group leader

brags// Sigmo Tau Delta honors society

volunteer// CM international mission trip to South Africa, Tiger Serve Day

plans// Attend low school at the University of Arkansos



LEIGHA HILL

major// Communication Sciences and Disorders

involvement// Tiger Serve Day leadership team, RA for FCW2 Sunday School teacher at Fellowship Church, K-group

brags// deon's list, president's list

volunteer// Speech therapy, babysitting

plans// Attend grad school and become a speech pathologist

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major// Accounting

NATE

WADE

involvement// Hickingbotham School of Business student advisory board, intramural sports, Tiger Tunes, Fellowship Church

brags// president's list, dean's list

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, America Counts tutor, ElderServe

plans// Working with Hudson, Cisine & Co. in Little Rock as a staff accountant

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NOLAN WEST

major// Biology

> involvement// Senior class president, 2009-10 kids K-group leader at Fellowship Church Arkadelphia, K-group participant

brags// Alpha Chi national college honors society, Alpha Tau honors society, president's list, 2010 Carl Goodson honors scholar, Richard Brown outstanding biology student

volunteer// Big Brother mentor, 2009-2010 Big Brother ministry leader, Tiger Serve Day

plans// Attend a physician's assistant graduate program

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DAVID STREET

major// Biology

involvement// Intramural sports- flag football team represented OBU in state and regional tournaments for four years, Attend Fellowship Church

brags// Alpho Chi

plans// Youth postor

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SIKES major//

LAURA

Communications Science Disorders, Christian Studies(related field)

involvement// Theta Alpha Kappa, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association OBU chapter VP, Speechie social chair, Campus Ministries Tiger Tunes leadership, Compus Ministries Tiger Tunes direction, senior class secretary, study abroad-Liverpool, England, Mission trip to Seoul, South Korea

brags// president's list, dean's list

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, speech therapy at Ouachita Elementary school, OBU speech clinic, over 100 hours of volunteer service

plans// Speech language pathologist

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NATALIE HOLMES

major// Early Childhood Education with a middle school endorsement

involvement// OSF special event committee, Campus Ministries Tiger Tunes, Big sister/little sister, Backyard Bible Club, America Reads/ America Counts program assistant, food committee, K-group leader

brags// Sylvia Gates Webb award, dean's list, president's list

volunteer// Backyard Bible Club, Big/sister little sister

plans// Plans to teach kindergarten through sixth grade

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JESSICA WINSTON

major// Biology

involvement// WOW steering committee, OSF co-chair special events, freshman family group mom, K group member at Fellowship Church

brags// dean's list, president's list, Theta Alpha Kappa

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, Thursday's @ 10 student facilitator for freshman experience class

plans// Physician Assistant

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PAUL HUENEFELD III

major// Bachelor of Music in Worship Arts

involvement// Musical director of 2009 Campus Ministries Tiger Tunes, 2011 Tiger Tunes host

brags// President of Ouachita Singers, OBU choral student conductor

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, men's discipleship wolfpacks

plans// Chorol/instrumental conductor, music minister

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KATELYN MUSTAIN

major// Dietetics

involvement// Tiger Serve Day leadership team, WOW steering committee, Co-president Dietetics club, Fellowship Church Arkadelphia, small group member

brags// Service Above Self presented by the Arkadelphic Rotary Club

volunteer// Big sister, TranServe

plans// Plan on completing a dietetic internship, pass the registered dietitians exam, and become a registered dietitian

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NATE PEACE

major// Christian Studies, Mass Comm, Biblical Languages

involvement// President of Theta Alpha Kappa, media officer of SIFE, publicity officer of Tiger Serve Day, "Ouachita" show associate producer, OSF, Intern at Park Hill Baptist Church

brags// Mass Comm outstanding sophomore, honors college, Garrett Hamm scholarship, president's list, dean's list

volunteer// Intern at Park Hill

plans// Senior or young adult pastor

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CHEYENNE FLEMISTER

major// Accounting, business-finance

involvement// OSF- fundraising and finance co-chair, co-president, 125th steering committee, Hickingbotham School of Business student advisory board, freshman business student teacher, OBU experience teacher, EEE, big brother big sister, mentor 6th and 7th grade girls student leader at second Baptist church, the desk project-Ghana, Africa

brags// president's list, Beta Gamma Sigma, Alpha Chi, OBU representative at the National Student Leadership Conference

volunteer// TranServe, Tiger Serve Doy, Secand Baptist Church- 6th and 7th grade girls leader

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JEREMY PRINE

major// Bachelor of Music/Worship Arts

involvement//

Eta Alpha Omega- president, Tiger Tunes director, historian, social director, Kappa Kappa Psi- parliamentarian, Tri Chi beau, Campus Ministries- big brother, Tiger Tunes, Refuge, noonday, Tiger Serve Day, OBU choir, OBU marching band, wind ensemble, jazz band

brags//

Vocal scholarship, instrumental/band scholarship, Quachita Scholars scholarship, OSF scholarship

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, big brother, Eta Alpha Omega and Kappa Kappa Psi service projects, Arkansas county teen pregnancy prevention, community organization for drug education

plans// Full time worship postor

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WHO'SWHO

ALLISON GRIGSBY SWEATMAN

major// Moss Communications

involvement// Student Senate, Noonday leader, small group leader for CM Women's Discipleship, intramurals, Fellowship K-Graups, Resident Assistant, Interim Hall Director

brags// Dean's list

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day

plans// Continue work with Residence Life at OBU and pursue further education

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BY WENDY VICK

major// Biology

> involvement// Treasurer of International Club, Tiger Serve Day leadership team, WOW leader, Campus Ministries Tiger Tunes, International Food Festival committee DNOW leader, Sunday School teacher

brags// Dean's list, Betty Oliver Grant Endowed Award

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day, International Food Festival, ElderServe

plans// Attend physicians assistant school and be a missionary overseas

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KINSEY ANN CARPENTER

major// Choral Music Education

involvement// Ouachita singers, concert choir, ElderServe, Tri Chi social chair- Alumni Correspondent, VP, OSF- fundraising and finance co-chair, secretary, Homecoming steering cammittee, mission, vision, values student team

brags// Pi Kappa Lambda, Kappa Delta Pi, Rachel Fuller Endowed Scholarship, President's list, Dean's list

volunteer// ElderServe, TranServe

plans// Teach music in public schools at the elementary or high school level

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JOHN GOMEZ

major// Chemistry, Biology, English

involvement// American Chemical Society chapter president, vice-president, science and math tutar

brags// Overall Academic Achiever, Tap Academic Achiever for the Patterson School of Natural Sciences, Mondy-Provine Scholar, Ben Elrod Scholar, Outstanding junior English major, Stanford University research internship, Albert-Ludwigs-Universitöt research internship

volunteer// Arkansas Human Development Center, Big Brother program

plans// pursue a Ph.D. in physical chemistry or English in order to teach at the university level

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GRACE JOHNSON

major// Vocal Performance, minor in Theatre

involvement// Ouachita singers, OBU jazz band vocalist, Phi Mu Alpha sweetheart

brags// 2nd runner up far 2011 homecoming queen, 3rd place junior women Arkansas NATS, 2nd place Sophomore women southern regional NATS, 3rd place LDMT Arkansas NATS

volunteer// First Presbyterian Church choir

plans// Graduate school to pursue a master in music for performance. After that, sing with different opera companies both national and international



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BEULAH OSUEKE

major// Psychology

involvement// Upward Bound TRIO program, Fellowship of Christian Athletes - President, Women's Basketball team, Reading satirical comedy and writing

volunteer// Big Brothers Big Sisters

plans// Pursue a graduate degree

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NATASHA MAY

major// Christian Studies- emphasis missions

brags// Who's who among students in American universities and colleges

plaris// Working with husband with children who live under the poverty level in Fayetteville, homeschooling children

WESLEY MAY

major// Christian Studies- emphasis Biblical Studies, minor Outdoor Recreational Ministries

brags// Who's Who among students in American universities and colleges, TJ Connell award for communicating the gospe!

plans// Pursue a masters at Truett Seminary in Waco, TX and a doctorate at Wheaton College Graduote Program in Wheaton, IL

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NATALIE CARROLL

major// Music Education

involvement// Tri Chi song leader, concert choir rehearsal accompanist, American Choral Directors Association, Covenant worship arts ensemble

brags// President's List, Dean's List, Kappa Delta Pi honor society for education, Distinguished International Student Award, Friends of Fine Arts award for keyboard, honorable mention and runner-up honors in Virginia Queen Piano Competition

volunteer// Worship Leader for Baptist Bible Church in Harare, Fellowship Arkadelphia worship team

plans// teach music, choir director in Zimbabwe and pursue her love of composition

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JEFFERY NEIL WACASTER

major// Business Administration with management emphasis, minor in Spanish

involvement// Honors society, Hickingbotham Student Advisory Board, SIFE

brags// Wan business plan competition between OBU and HSU, played Dr. Lester Cantaloupe III in the play "Goldilocks on Trial," comic strip for the signal won third on a state competition

volunteer// Tiger Serve Day

plans// Entrepreneur, business professor



"Sometimes loyalty to your friend means sacrifice, whether it be stopping something you are currently doing or giving up your time to help a friend, that's what friendship is." he movie "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Ponts" become o reality for three best friends and co-retirees on Ouochito's compus: Mrs. Nona Anderson, professor of Spanish; Dr. Irene Trofimova, professor of Modern Foreign Languages; and Dr. Jan Duncon, choir of the modern foreign languages deportment and professor of French.

Anderson, originally from New Mexico, came to Ouochita in 1988. She met Trofimova (Tro-feemovo), who emigroted from Russia "with love" to Americo and was employed by Ouachita in 1991 after being invited to the U.S. by former President Bill Clinton.

"She wrote poetry and I enjoyed hearing her speak, especially her Russian," said Anderson. Duncan, from Missouri, came to Ouachita in 2000.

From across her desk, Trofimovo hoppily explained one of their unique bonds.

"The most foscinating thing is that we not only understand each other, but we are very passionate about our jobs and compossionate toward each other," said Trofimova.

is." together,

" W e bring all our cultures French, American,

Spanish and Russian," Duncan soid. "We could discuss words ond when saying goodbye we say it in three different languoges."

From the office to after hours, these friends enjoy their quolity time together.

> "We enjoy gaing ta lunch together, either to eot pizza, which Dr. Tro-

fimova loves, or to the Honey-

comb," Duncan soid.

As we see friendships come and go, there are always those that last forever.

"Sometimes loyalty to your friend means socrifice, whether it be stopping something you are currently daing or giving up some of your time to help a friend, that's what friendship is," soid Trofimova. "We are very sympathetic toward one onother. It's a great friendship," said Anderson, as she leans back into her chair, smiling. "This friendship is for life," said Duncan.

As friends grow older together and friendships grow stronger, how could you think of describing your friend in one possible word? These friends seem to do a great job at it.

"Confidant! That is Dr. Duncon. She tought me that sleeping on a thought and thinking overnight would provide a better understanding the next morning. She was right," said Anderson.

Trofimova, Anderson soid, comes across "very logical but very whimsical. She loves playing tricks on people."

"I could describe them both as Christian. True Christians. That word opplies so mony things to how they are," said Trofimovo.

As these ladies begon a great friendship together, they coincidently left together.

"I was talking to Dr. Jeff Root and made a joke obout us all leaving together, and his jow just about hit the ground when we actually ended up all leaving at the same time," said Duncan.

If there were something she would ask af her students to remember it would be to, "go with God, let God be your guiding hand in life," said Anderson. Anderson's motto in life is, "se pago con amor," which means "one pays with love."

Trofimova hos two important sayings she lives by and which she hapes her students and other students will remember and put into action.

"Education is the best gift a person can give themselves," she soid. "The price of excellence is discipline, the price of mediocrity is disappointment."

Duncon said she feels God had led her to Ouachita and to her friends to be a port of her "final experience as an educator."

One thing she would have her students remember it would be to "approach everything with God's help and your best effort," soid Duncan.

After 56 years combined spent as educators at Ouachita, Anderson, Trofimovo and Duncan now bid the campus a forewell.

"I won't leave. I have been here for 21 years and I am going to be on compus every day because I love this place. I love this school," said Trofimova.

"With us being the whole language department and knowing the history of everything, I thought to myself 'boy they'll reolly miss us'," said Duncan. // BY HEIN HILMER

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ou can find him on the last page of any and every class syllabus, but you may not know he's there. He is, after all, down at the bottom with the Covenant on Academic Honor, the attendance policy, and cell phone rules - guidelines often ignored. But Dan

Jarboe should not be ignored.

From your syllabus, you prabably already knaw that Jarboe is our university counselor. But chances are, you don't know much more, either about just what he daes here and what he did before he got here. Jarboe began his career working in a psychiatric hospital in Texas, working with inpatient children and adolescents. He then worked in outpatient day treatment.

Jarboe then moved to Colorado, where he did forensics wark, "I did evaluations of children and teens wha were crime victims," Jarbae said. "My role was to find out what had happened - the veracity of the report - and give my recommendations." He often had to testify, giving statements about the family dynamics and instances of child abuse.

Then, Jarboe's life took a turn he did nat expect: Gad called him and his wife Kyle to missions.

"My twin brother was a missionary in Cambodia," Jarboe said. But until then, he had never thought he would became a missionary as well.

The Jarboes served in Russia from 2002 to 2008. Dan worked with university students, teaching them communication and people skills as well as problem solving and management in the warkplace.

"It was a real service," Jarboe said. "We trained these young Russian business people how to work with Western companies. And as we got to know them, we would invite them to house church."

Jarboe went to work in Indonesia for five weeks after the tsunami hit in 2004. That same year, Islamic militants took over 1,000 people (including over 700 children) hostage at a school in Beslan, Russia. After the three days it took to rescue the hostages, over 300 were dead. Jarboe was sent to Beslan to help in the aftermath of the traumatic event, where he found himself equipped for the jab.

"I didn't know it at the time, but my farensics work in Colorada was preparing me for this time," Jarbae said.

In 2008, God led the Jarboes back to the United States - to Ouachita.

"I'm so grateful for this opportunity," Jarboe said. "I can have a really pivatal influence an students, especially during these years of their lives."

He keeps himself busy.

"I teach a couple classes," Jarboe said. "I like getting to interact with students who oren't in counseling." He teaches Crisis and Trauma Counseling as well as Interpersonal Communication. Jarboe also offers marriage counseling. "It's nice to work with those couples because they're happy. They're not in the middle of a crisis - they're engaged."

Jarboe counsels on several different types of issues. "I talk to people about stress management, sexual addictions, and even abuse and assault that they've been through," he said. "The top two issues I counsel students for are depression and anxiety." Students dan't always realize they are depressed, Jarboe said. He helps them identify it, giving them an accurate diagnosis and referring them to get medical help if needed.

Jarboe counsels students who come to him with family relationships and difficulties as well as those with self-image and body-image issues. Providing counseling for all these issues keeps Jarbae's schedule full.

"It means I don't get to mingle and see other students very much," Jarbae said. "I'm not usually aut and about. I'm in here most of the time," he said, gesturing to his office, "unless I go out for lunch, and I usually just eat here."

That's one of the things Jarboe likes so much about his job. "I absolutely love the wark," he said. "It's ane of the greatest jays and pleasures of my life. It's intriguing and demanding. I am constantly being stretched, and constantly learning. And there's a great reward making a pasitive difference in someone else's life." // BY JODY PERSSON

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ometimes you just have to ga with your instinct. Sometimes that's all you have. Living a missionary's life is a daily challenge that requires a great deal of faith. Such a life is not far everyone, but for Trey Atkins, it's a dream job.

Born in Abilene, Texas, and raised in western Oklahoma, Trey Atkins had a pretty narmal childhaad. Grawing up, he knew that he was loved. "I knew there was stability," he said. But Christianity was not a major influence in his early years.

"Dad was into math," said Atkins. His father loved numbers and solid answers. He put a lot of stock into math. Atkins grew up with a knowledge of Christian beliefs, but his family was not overly Christian. It wasn't until the end of his high school career that Atkins come to the saving knowledge of Christ.

It wasn't long before Atkins could begin to feel God urging him into missions. "Step by step, God slowly colled me," soid Atkins. First Atkins felt Gad's colling, and then his wife Elise did as well. Atkins explained how wonderful and suppartive Elise has been through the whole process.

She was and is a source of strength for him. Even though they never knew exactly what was in store, they trusted that God would show them the very next step in his plan. "We always took one step at a time," he said. "We never knew many steps ahead." They have served under the International Missianary Baard for 14 years and consider it an hanor. "We are humbled that we get to do what we do, and it is a great honor to serve in the way we do," said Atkins.

Living by such faith is nat a simple task, and living in such a situation con naturally take its toll, which is why Atkins takes part in several activities that keep him facused. He also calls to mind the things that encourage him.

The first on his list is his wife, Elise. Knowing that he has her by his side is a great relief. Atkins also takes great joy in the peaple God puts in his life to strengthen him. Whenever he is in need, it is never too long before someone is there to build Atkins up and get him through to the next task at hand. "God has always blessed me with people to encourage me," Atkins said.

Another way Atkins finds restoration is through reading and writing. "I think I'll finish my 31st book since being at OBU," said Atkins.

Reading provides an escape for Atkins. He laves to learn, and doing so is a way to de-stress.

Atkins' main job is working with the English as a Second Language Program teaching conversational English. He is also heavily involved with the International Club and Campus Ministries. His hope through his time here is to "help students get involved in summer missions."

The hardest thing for Atkins is being away from family. This last Thanksgiving was the first they had celebrated in the states in eight years: eight years of living thousands of miles away from dear friends and fomily. The Atkins have two sons, Ryan, 20, and Bret, 19. There is at least 6,000 miles between the Atkins and their sans. But this is not the only struggle.

Atkins recalls a chilling moment of stepping off the plane in Sarajeva, Bosnia. "War torn. The graffiti outside the airport said 'welcame to hell.' The guards with machine guns showing you where to go," he said. Such unsettling moments cannot be erased fram memory. But they shouldn't be. Though there was danger and though it was difficult, Atkins pushed forward and worked in the projects in Bosnia.

Missionaries like the Atkins take risks daily in order to spread the saving knowledge af Jesus and to improve the lives of others. They sacrifice so much through their service and ask for little in return. But they find their work to be reward enough. "It's like we were made to do it," Atkins said. "It's like we're daing what we were meant to do. It gives a great feeling of peace." //BY SAMANTHA SPRADLING

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Mr. Richard Lusby Attorney//Womack, Landis, Phelps, McNeill & McDaniel IONESBORO AR











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