

The university would only be buildings and classrooms without the dedicated people within its walls. Students came from 29 states and more than 30 foreign countries to attend Ouachita, and each student brought with them distinctive backgrounds and unique personalities. The people they became over their four years of this campus would define the type of person they would be after they stepped across the stage on the Con-Bottoms lawn at graduation. Professors worked hard day in and day out for the student body. Many even helped people outside the university through their research and hands-on work. The students, faculty an staff who made up this university proved they were people who wanted to make a difference and

122 divider PEOPLE



Junior Jake Fauber and seniors Noah Mitchell, Zach Zucha, Paul Huenefeld and Christian Ichter play on stage in the village circle after the Thursday night Tiger Tunes performance in October. Not only did Ouachita students come together for a night of worship but they also brought prospective students from GROW to worship with them. photo by: Nathan Dickard



Matthew Ablon Paris, TX Megan Adair Avery, TX Jonathan Adams Perryville, AR Ben Adcock Monticelio, AR Nicholas Archer Fordyce, AR Bethany Arredondo Prosper, TX Jessica Ashcraft White Hall, AR

Michelle Baker Pearcy, AR Drake Barham Hope, AR Sam Beary Batesville, AR Jean Eudes Benecyo Little Rock, AR Taylor Black Benton, AR Ethan Blackmon Glenwood, AR Ben Blankenship Casscoe, AR

Bailey Bodway Magnolia, TX Mattie Bogoslavsky North Little Rock, AR Seth Boyd Sherwood, AR Kellen Boyett Springdale, AR Sydney Bratton Little Rock, AR Katie Brech Arkadelphia, AR Josh Briggs Alexander, AR

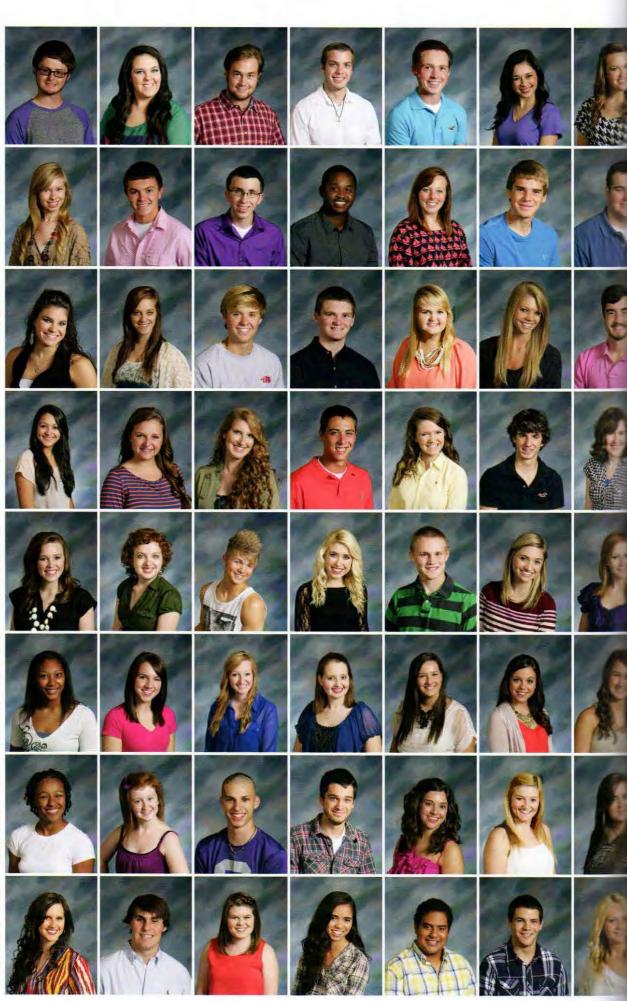
Claudia Brizuela San Pedro Sula, Honduras Morgan Brothers Collierville, TN Amanda Bunting Derwood, MD Richard Burke Hot Springs, AR Ellen Butler Waco, TX Michael Butler Russellville, AR Katie Butts Piqua, OH

Beth Anne Caery Cabot, AR Caroline Cain Niamey, Niger Chris Carlton Johannesburg, South Africa Katie Carroll Little Rock, AR Josh Cartwright Fayetteville, AR Layne Castleman Allen, TX Rachel Chandler Little Rock, AR

> Hollie Chaytor Foreman, AR Anjelica Cheek Frisco, TX Erin Cheshire Colorado Springs, CO Kaitlyn Clark Monroe, LA Leslie Colbert Beebe, AR Katie Colford Maumelle, AR Jessica Compton Bismarck, AR

> > Hayley Cooper Arkadelphia, AR Kristen Crawford Hensley, AR Jacob Crocker Pinson, AL Perry Crouch Ector, TX Emily Crump Camden, AR Megan Curtis Piano, TX Holly Dance Conway, AR

Maddison Daniels Dermott. AR Mackenzie Daugherty Stuttgart, AR Lauren Deckelman Fort Smith, AR Catarina de Figueiredo Rio de Janeiro Allan Derrickson Magnolia, AR Nathan Dickard Van, TX Kait Dickerson Gurdon, AR



124 freshmen PEOPLE "Even though it won't always be easy or fun, I know that the Lord is good and I trust Him."

# ABBY THOMAS

### Bratton

aring the opportunity to serve as a mors intern, Abby Thomas, a fresh-English and history double major Little Rock, spent her summer expethe field work and lifestyle of a \_\_\_\_\_ missionary. "It all really started summer of 2011 when someone from - turch said that there might be an mertunity for some sort of mission expemore that was a little more long term," said. "In the beginning I thought to one place for the === summer, which is what I was really about. If I had known what it was going to end up being, I know I main't have been as enthusiastic, but it changed it."

Loby would not be spending her rer in one church, but actually in different locations. "I thought we be spending about 10 weeks in one but instead we were spending a few in one location and then going to ther for a few more weeks," Abby said. Missions Pastor designed the [internto give the four of us, who said we interested, a good overview of misand experience it for a little longer just a one week short-term trip."

The purpose of the internship was not to spend an elongated time in differservice areas, but to give a glimpse what the lifestyle of a missionary is really like. "All of us who were going had felt called by God to long-term missions, whether as career missionaries or something else, and this was a way that Pastor Mark felt we could 'get our feet' and see if this could be how God wanted us to serve," Abby said. "What we did is still, in reality, absolutely nothing like living overseas as full-time missionaries, but since it was longer and we were there outside the context of a church group, we did get a little better picture of what it's like once the initial novelty of it all has worn off."

The first part of Abby's summer was spent working in a more local setting close to home. "The interns, Kyle, Jacob, Connor, and I, spent time in Little Rock helping some church planters in the Argenta neighborhood in North Little Rock by helping them plan, pass out flyers for, and work a block party to try and meet more of the people that lived in the neighborhood," Abby said.

The next several weeks of Abby's internship would require her to travel to a different state. "The next location that we were sent to was Seattle, Washington, and for the first week we were there with the mission trip of about 12 that went from our church," Abby said. "We stayed with the group and did everything they did, and when they left we stayed another two weeks helping the church planters there, Tim and Amy Corbin, who are with the North American Mission Board. We got to spend a lot of time with them and their family, learning some of the more practical aspects of church planting that you might not normally think about."

After her time in Seattle, Abby got to go home for a week before the team would be traveling down to South America. "The four of us went down to Paraguay and stayed with host families from Primer Iglesia Bautista de Asunción and we worked with the pastors of the church, either Pastor Rubén Bogado or Augusto Vega," Abby said. "We were going door to door in several neighborhoods or helping lead a Bible study or a service where we would play some music or share a testimony or the gospel."

The time that Abby got to spend as a missions intern not only led to several opportunities to help serve the communities and the churches she was working with, but it also gave her some confirmation about her future.

"Overall, it was a priceless experience that I wouldn't trade for anything," Abby said. "I learned very practical things, but it also helped confirm that God is calling me to missions. I still don't know what it would look like, whether it will be in the US or overseas, or if I'll be with an organization or what, but I know that it's how I will best serve Him, and I am so excited about it all. Even though it won't always be easy or fun, I know that the Lord is good and I trust Him." "I just thank God every single day for the plan that He has for me. Ouachita is a huge part of that."

### KATHRYNE ROCOLE

### Kaitie Scott

A birthday is to be a day filled with joy, laughter, and delightful memories. However, for Kathryne Rocole, her 18th birthday was a day that turned her world upside down.

"I cried about it a lot and I was afraid a lot," said Kathryne Rocole, a freshman Christian Studies major from Arkadelphia.

Getting Jeremiah 29:11 tattooed on Rocole's wrist was what she had always wished for. Being hit by a drunk driver on the way home from Hot Springs, however, was not in her plan. Rocole was already stressed about figuring out the financial aspects of attending college. With Kathryne breaking both of her ankles, and the large amount of hospital bills for not only her injuries, but her mom, grandma, and cousin's injuries as well, this incident did not help their financial situation at all.

"I really feel like Ouachita is where God wanted me to be," Rocole said. With bills piling up and money becoming an even bigger setback, Rocole was worried she would not be able to attend her dream school. She prayed every day that God would find a way to send her to the college she had always dreamed of attending.

Rocole's dad works at another university, meaning her tuition there would have been discounted, however, Rocole knew exactly where God wanted her. It was just a matter of how.

The verse Jeremiah 29:11 held a spe-

cial place in Rocole's heart before the wreck, especially when it came to future plans such as college. Throughout high school, she remained strong in her faith and knew that God had a very special plan for her life.

"I was so lost about school and what I was going to do with my life," Rocole said. However, one thing was still certain in her heart, even in the midst of all the chaos. Rocole never once doubted that God's amazing plan for her would prevail.

As Rocole watched her classmates discuss their future plans for college and pick out decorations for their dorm rooms, Rocole still had no idea where she would attend college in the fall. When people ask about her college plans, she would tell them that she knew she would end up where God wanted her to be.

"Two weeks before move-in day I still had no idea where I was going to college," Rocole said. Rocole prepared a schedule for both her dream school and at the university where tuition would be free. While comparing the two schedules and knowing that her family would be happy if she attended the school where her tuition would be free, her heart was still set on Ouachita.

She knew that she would attend Ouachita somehow. "God, how am I going to get there?" Rocole prayed multiple times per day. "Give me some kind of sign. Help me out." Doubt began to fill Rocole's thoughts, but just as quickly as the doug would come, God took it away.

Rocole's admissions counselor Ouachita called informing her of good news. Rocole's tuition had been drass cally reduced. While this was a blessing it still was not financially manageable for her family.

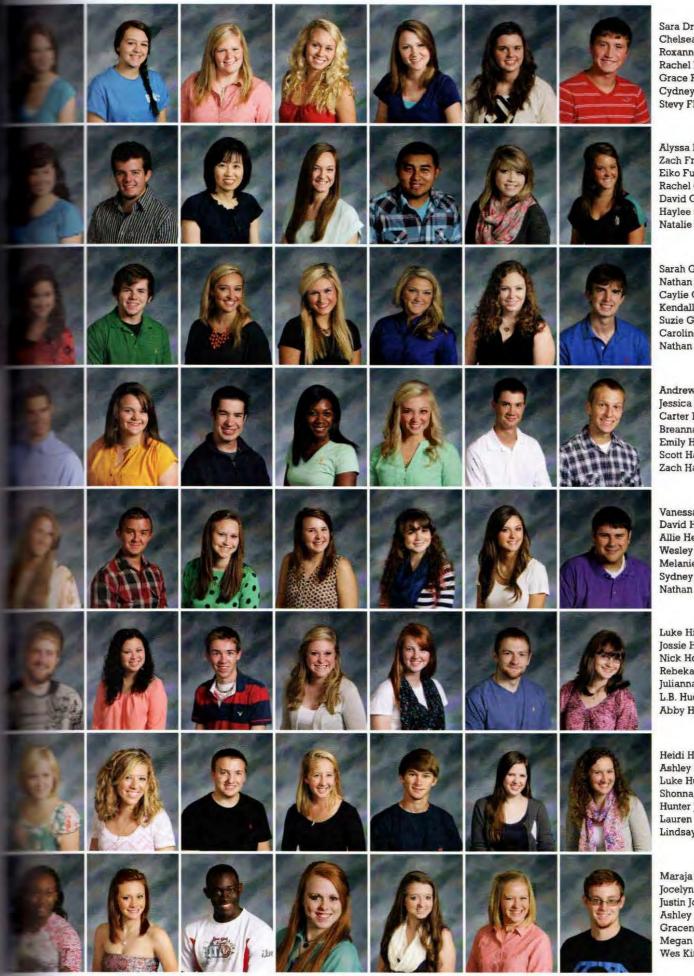
Rocole went to her pastor and talked with him. Rocole wanted nothing more than to follow God's calling for her limbut at the same time wanted the consect of her parents. Rocole's pastor told her go home and discuss the issue with be parents. He said nothing more.

"God is just so perfect and so how Rocole said. "I know that things are going to work."

Rocole arrived home to the most excel ing news. Someone from Rocole's church had called her pastor offering money from their own pocket, not knowing that the exact amount needed for Rocole = attend her dream school.

"My entire first year at Ouachita free," Rocole said smiling. God's plan prevail. Rocole has been blessed and has loved each and every day that she attend Ouachtia. Being at a campus when the student body and faculty share same love for God, and for other pecper could not make her happier.

"I just thank God every single day in the plan that He has for me. Ouachita is a huge part of that," Rocole said.



Sara Driskill McKinney, TX Chelsea Duke Oakland, TN Roxanne Easter Sheridan, AR Rachel Ewart Bossier City, LA Grace Finley Alexander, AR Cydney Fletcher Farmington, AR Stevy Flowers Texarkana, TX

Alyssa French Shawnee, KS Zach Fricke Guatemala City, Guatemala Eiko Funakoshi Fukuoka, Japan Rachel Gaddis Hanson, KY David Garcia Benyville, AR Haylee Garland Ward, AR Natalie Garner Hensley, AR

Sarah Gaskin Lawrence, KS Nathan Gilbert Lowell, AR Caylie Gillum Little Rock, AR Kendall Golden Camden, AR Suzie Gresham Hope, AR Caroline Groustra Little Rock, AR Nathan Hall Jonesboro, AR

Andrew Halliburton Bentonville, AR Jessica Hargis Camden, AR Carter Harlan Fayetteville, AR Breanna Harris Bryant, AR Emily Harris Benton, AR Scott Hartley Waxahachie, TX Zach Hawkins Columbia, MO

Vanessa Hays Fort Worth, TX David Headrick Farmington, AR Allie Hegi El Dorado, AR Wesley Henson Little Rock, AR Melanie Herring Rison, AR Sydney Heslep Mountain Home, AR Nathan Hill Bryant, AR

Luke Hillman Broken Arrow, OK Jossie Ho McKinney, TX Nick Holder Sour Lake, TX Rebekah Holiman Little Rock, AR Julianna Howard Clarksville, AR L.B. Hudson El Dorado, AR Abby Huggins Oakland, TN

Heidi Hughes Hot Springs, AR Ashley Huneycutt Arkadelphia, AR Luke Huneycutt Arkadelphia, AR Shonna Jasperson Houston, TX Hunter Johnson Benton, AR Lauren Johnson Rancho Mirage, CA Lindsay Johnson Cabot, AR

Maraja Johnson Surprise, AZ Jocelyn Jones Inez, TX Justin Jones Garland, TX Ashley Keathley Carlisle, AR Gracen Kelley Lee's Summit, MO Megan Kelley Little Rock, AR Wes Kimberling Fort Smith, AR

Jesse Kitchens Lewisville, AR Kayla Kreger Rowlett, TX Hannah Kuhn Gurdon, AR Dixon Land Little Rock, AR Ben Lange-Smith Harare, Zimbabwe Blake Langford Malvern, AR William Lawson Bryant, AR

Faith Ledbetter Arkadelphia, AR Ragan Ledbetter Little Rock, AR Maci Lewis Conway, AR Kristen Liles Whitehouse, TX Kenzie Lionberger Crownpoint, NM Danielle Love North Little Rock, AR Cassie Lynch Valley Springs, AR

Sammie Mack Little Rock, AR Bonnie Magee Conway, AR Tanner Mann Little Rock, AR Drake May Jonesboro, AR Rylie McConnell Sherman, TX Tavarus McIntosh Marion, AR Devin McKinney Flower Mound, TX

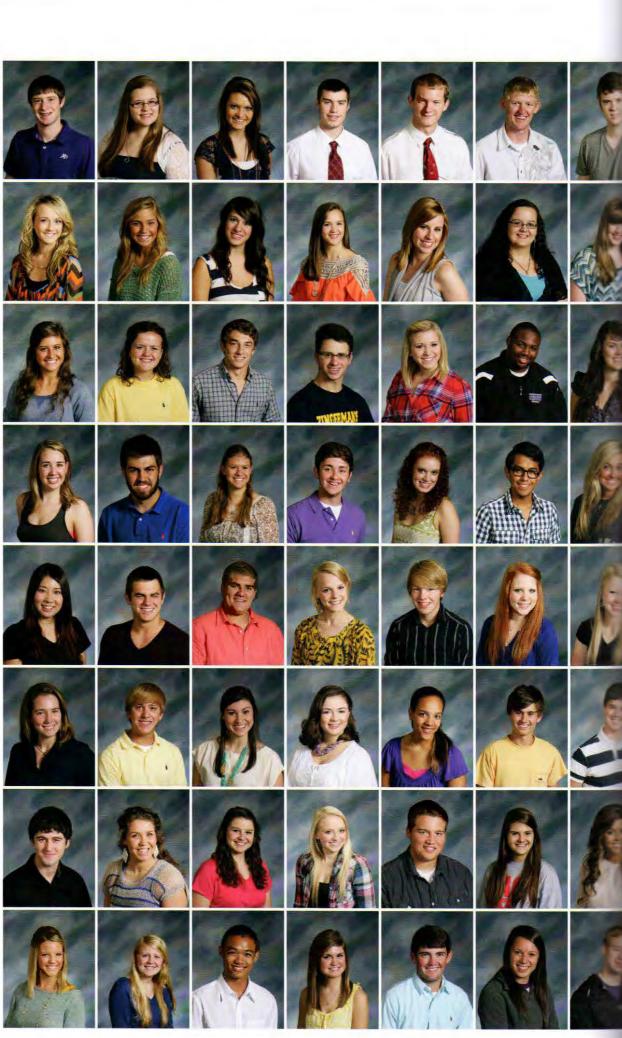
Taylor McKinney Little Rock, AR Keith McLeod Little Rock, AR Annie McMurray Lindale, TX Aaron Michau Hot Springs, AR Margaret Miller Carrollton, TX Jacob Moreno Mexico City, Mexico Brooke Murray El Dorado, AR

Nanako Nakaoka Fukuoka City, Japan Trevor Nix Benton, AR Brent Northington Fort Smith, AR Jenna O'Dell Farmington, AR Cody Osborn Alexander, AR Hannah Osborne Mineola, TX Lindsay Palmer Idabel, OK

Amber Parker Mount Vernon, AR Zach Parker Shreveport, LA Reagan Parsons Arkadelphia, AR Julia Paschall Mesquite, TX Maddie Patterson Allen, TX Griffin Peeples North Little Rock, AR Will Peevy Rogers, AR

> Scott Pfaff Hot Springs, AR Abby Pickett Texarkana, TX Tori Pierceall Mabelvale, AR April Pitts Ward, AR Tye Polk Wylle, TX Meaghan Pollizi Irving, TX Anna Pounders Arkadelphia, AR

Chandler Powell Arkadelphia, AR Ellie Quick Colonia Del Sacramen, Uruguay R.J. Quilao Benton, AR Emily Rankin Texarkana, TX Josh Reeves Munford, TN Ruby Richie Arcadia, LA Jacob Roberson Arkadelphia, AR



**128** freshmen **PEOPLE** 

"These people were all lost. I didn't meet a single person that knew Jesus."

### SYDNEY HESLEP

### Scott

"Then you look at Paris you don't think mp," said Sydney Heslep, a freshber ogy major from Mountain Home, "You think vacation."

Summer in Texas to apply for a rip to Paris through iGO Global. and if she should apply, Heslep about the opportunity that had presented to her, and she finally to apply.

went through intense training that three days, called Base Camp. "We wery prepared for all our situations," Eeslep.

Base Camp training, they re-enacted different scenarios that could occur they were serving in a different The team was informed about things, but most importantly they about the importance of prayer. is the basis for everything," said

The team Heslep worked with included other people. Paris does not have the second of assembly, which means that seam had to be very careful about reacing openly about Christ.

Tou can't just go and worship and talk jesus in a big group," said Heslep. It is the reason the group was made up a small number of people. They did not want to attract attention to themselves, or put themselves or other missionaries who live in Paris in danger.

Heslep and the rest of her missionary team's site was at a local park. They would get together in groups of two or three and pray. As people would come to the park to enjoy their lunch break, hang out, etc. the team would begin relational conversations with them. Heslep described this as "relational evangelism."

"It's not hard to just start up a conversation," said Heslep. Many people they came in contact with were very interested in what they had to say because they were from America. This worked greatly to the team's advantage.

The language barrier was not as big of a problem as Heslep imagined it would be. If the people were truly interested in what they had to say, they asked if they could use translators on their phone.

"These people were all lost," said Heslep. "I didn't meet a single person that knew Jesus." Heslep mentioned that Paris and the area that they were working in had an abundance of Muslims and Hindus.

One of Heslep's favorite days was when they went to their site in the park and there was a Nicki Minaj concert being set up. This gave the team an opportunity to speak to many different age groups, but mainly people of their own age. "It was the best day of conversation," said Heslep.

"One thing I never had a problem with

was turning conversation towards God," said Heslep. "If you have the intention of bringing up God in the conversation, it's easy." Heslep had a fear of not knowing how to answer questions. However, through Base Camp training and the power of prayer, this was not a fear for her once she was on site.

"A lot of times the people would be really interested and ask if we could meet back," said Heslep. In this case, they would say yes and also pass their information to the missionaries that lived in Paris. The missionaries then would be able to stay in contact with the people that they reached after the team had left.

"It's opened my eyes," said Heslep. In Paris, Heslep was very intentional about talking to people about Christ. Coming back from the trip, she realized how often we pass lost people by without making a genuine effort to show them the word of the Lord.

"These people were well off people," said Heslep. We often assume that because people live well that they know about Christ, but that is not the case. "We have to have a heart for them, too."

Heslep wants to go back this coming summer for the whole summer. However, she is worried about being homesick. She is taking what she has learned through Base Camp and the trip and giving it to God. "I've just been really been praying about it," said Heslep. "I had to quit training for my half marathon, and say goodbye to a trip to South Africa. I was crushed."

### SAM BEARY

### Sydney Bratton

While most students were headed home for Thanksgiving break, Sam Beary, a freshman church media production arts major from Batesville, awaited results from his doctor concerning his medical scare.

"I woke up one night with a massive headache. Thinking nothing of it, I took a 'Tylenol and went back to sleep," Sam said. After that night, Beary's abnormal symptoms of severe headaches and feeling unbalanced continued, leaving Sam very worried.

"I eventually talked to my doctor when I got home. He scheduled me for an MRI that day," Sam said. "After a long wait in the lobby, the doctors came in to tell me that I had a brain tumor. Next thing I knew, I was being rushed to Children's Hospital in Little Rock for what I assumed was emergency surgery."

After undergoing several tests and waiting to hear back about results, Sam was still in shock about what was happening to him. "My parents were freaking out," Sam said.

After spending a week in the hospital with no definite information on his medical status, the doctors finally determined that it was not a tumor on Sam's brain, but a clot of blood vessels that had hemorrhaged. The symptoms that he had been experiencing had been caused by the excessive amount of blood resting on his brain. "While this was good news in that the clot was not cancer, I had a long recovery ahead of me," Sam said.

Sam's doctor told him that it would take six months for his brain to heal and that because of his condition, he would have to begin making some serious lifestyle changes.

"I was told I couldn't drive until May," Sam said. "I had to quit training for my half-marathon, and say goodbye to a trip to South Africa. I was crushed."

Even with the disappointing news of the lifestyle changes Sam would have to make, he still had many reasons to be joyful in his life. "Fortunately, I was able to go home and celebrate a late Thanksgiving with my family before coming back to OBU the last two weeks and finishing the semester strong," Sam said.

Beyond his excitement for getting to spend the rest of the holiday season with his family, Sam also found great happiness and peace in surrendering his circumstance to God.

"Throughout this experience God really taught me a lot about what it means to trust Him," Sam said. "When I was in the hospital, I tried so hard to figure out my circumstances by trusting in my own means. That approach led to nothing but frustration with God."

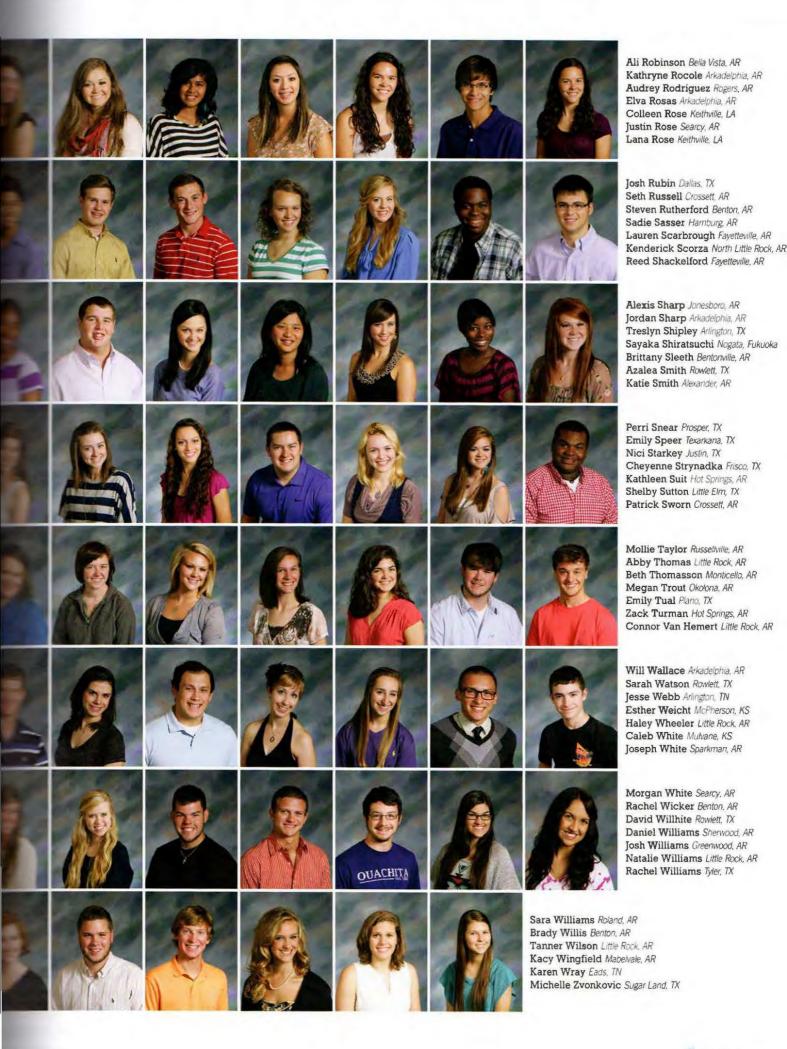
Over Christmas break Sam allowed what God had been teaching him through his recovery to take meaning in his life. "I was fortunately still able to go to Passion in Georgia and while I was there, God revealed to me the amazing truth that when we accept Christ, we are born again," Sam said. "We are given a new identity and com old self has died. We are no longer slaves to our sinful flesh and we have an etermareward as children of God."

As Sam rejoiced in what this difficult experience had taught him, he are delighted in the constant care that me given to him through the process.

"Something incredible about this experience was the support I received from Ouachita," Sam said. "The first night I was in the hospital I began receiving tons of Facebook messages, emails and terms messages full of prayer and encourage ment from friends, professors, staff, and even people from campus I didn't even know."

After facing this opposition in his Sam could have chosen to be consumed with worry and grief, but instead he chose to be consumed with joy and hope. "I know this health incident in my life is going grow me in ways I can't imagine," Sam said. "I'm still recovering, and I will be a while, but I know God and Ouachite "D be there to support me."

By staying strong and keeping a postive outlook throughout this difficult enter rience, Sam was able to use it to strengthen his relationship with the Lord, while and learning more about himself every day



Teodor Anghel Ploiesti, Romania Morgan Asbill Bentonville, AR Kaylee Barnett Mansfield, TX Jordan Beard Fort Smith, AR Marissa Beckwith Lonsdale, AR Kaitlyn Belk Jonesboro, AR Hailee Bezet Conway, AR

Scott Bohning Florissant, MO Hannah Gray Boren Star City, AR Mat Brockway Maumelle, AR Chase Brooks Houston, TX Ashley Bullington Woodstock, GA John Mark Burgess Texarkana, TX Nick Burt Wake Village, TX

Korey Byrd Cypress, TX Lauren Carpenter Little Rock, AR Hannah Carrigan Fort Worth, TX Dexter Carter Little Rock, AR Jackson Carter Hot Springs, AR Jessica Chang Olathe, KS Bailey Chitwood North Little Rock, AR

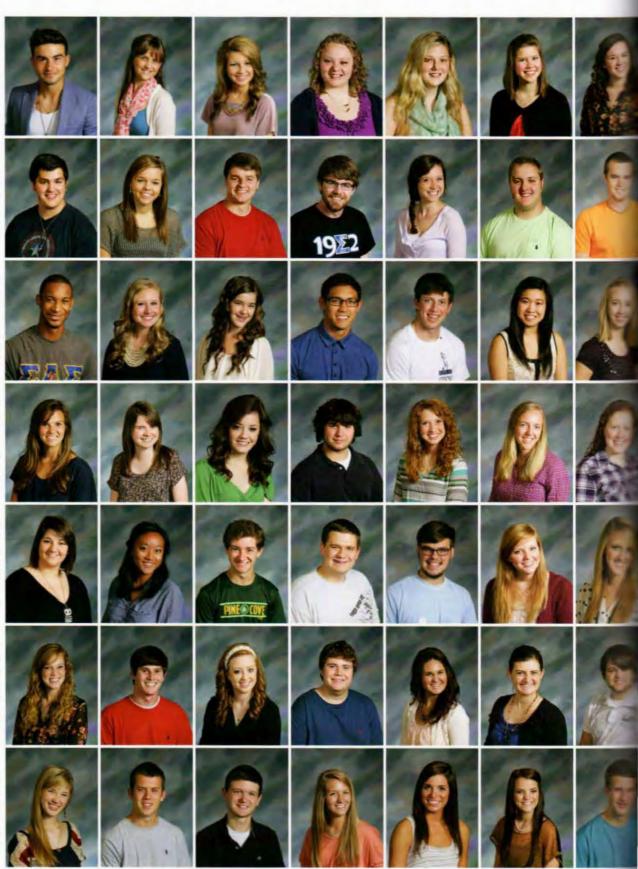
> Megan Clay El Dorado, AR Kathryn Coffey Royse City, TX

- Victoria Coleman Longnew, TX
- Jeremy Cooper Mesquite, TX
- Kendra Coyle Prairie Grove, AR
- McKenzie Cranford Coppell, TX Sarah Cranford Southlake, TX

Katelyn Cribb El Dorado, AR Mali Crumpton Sunnyvale, TX Stephen Curry Little Rock, AR Samuel Cushman Springdale, AR Beau Daggett Roland, AR Haley Dahl Red Oak, TX Sydney Daniell Arkadelphia, AR

Kristi-Paige Danielson Cabot, AR Joshua Davis Fayettevile, AR Shelby Davis White Oak, TX Tyler Davis Benton, AR Kayla De La Cruz Hot Springs, AR Sophie DeMuth Rockwall, TX Zack DeYoung Benton, AR

Hannah Diaz West Morroe, LA Jeremy Dixon Benton, AR Adam Dodd Batesville, AR Allison Drobena Hot Springs, AR Kelsey DuChemin Greenbrier, AR Lauren Dunklin Humphrey, AR Camden Dwelle Arkadelphia, AR



"Being away from OBU really put into perspective how many people are lost that I never come into contact with."

### **TYLER ROSENTHAL**

### In th

bundred students, 60 days, and 12
worth of course credit all added up
both of a lifetime for Tyler Rosenthal
the summer of 2012. Rosenthal, a
communications major from Little
was able to take a voyage around
through the Semester at Sea
program.

is an accredited study-abroad through the University of Virthat allows students to earn college while traveling across the globe."I while to take classes that subbed in for which the test is the subbed in for which test is the subbed is the subbed

a friend and then went online to a friend and then went online to the program. "I didn't think I was be able to do it at first because so expensive, but then I found all acholarships and applied for them. months and months of waiting and arching, I found out that I had been ed all the scholarships and I was like gosh, I guess I am going," said

Fine, Rosenthal and the rest of the sudents set sail and embarked on a month trip that made stops in Spain, Croatia, Greece, Turkey, Morocco Portugal. "Normally it takes four to cays to cross the Atlantic, but we took have more class time," said Rosen-

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Once the ship docked in a country, the students were free to do as they pleased. "For some people that would be really scary, but for me I really liked it. We really learned to be travelers," said Rosenthal.

Students had the option of staying on the ship while docked in the countries, or finding a place to stay inside the country. While in Greece, Rosenthal and a large group stayed in a Villa. "It was just like 'Mamma Mia,' white houses, blue roofs and we rode donkeys," said Rosenthal.

"I tried to do at least one organized tour with the ship in each country. Mainly to get oriented with the culture, but also to learn the history that I wouldn't get on my own," said Rosenthal.

Rosenthal, not one to usually get homesick, still missed a few things about home. "The main thing I missed about home was probably free refills. You also realize that you really take for granted how many spots there are for free Wi-Fi in the States," said Rosenthal.

Breaking free of the Ouachita bubble provided an eye-opening experience for Rosenthal. "A lot of the kids on the ship were just a bunch of spoiled kids there for a vacation. Most of them didn't share the same beliefs as me," said Rosenthal.

Being completely surrounded by an extremely secular culture presented its challenges, but Rosenthal used his environment as a ministry tool. "Being away from OBU really put into perspective how many people are lost that I never come into contact with," Rosenthal said.

The new environment not only allowed Rosenthal to reach out, but also helped him look inward and strengthen his relationship with God. "There were times where I was like 'Oh my gosh, what am I doing, why am I here? I am just surrounded by all of this.' But those times were the times where I could just cling to the Lord, which strengthened my relationship," said Rosenthal.

While overseas, Rosenthal had his 15 minutes of Turkish fame. "For about an hour, two news crews interviewed us about our experience there," said Rosenthal. "It's online, you can see me on the news. I start speaking in English, then some Turkish person dubs in over me."

While SAS was a once in a lifetime opportunity, it has also opened up many more opportunities for Rosenthal. "I got commissioned before I left by this Little Rock film maker who wants to make a documentary about my trip. I had to keep a daily video blog about what I did each day in the different countries. She is going to take all that and make a documentary about it that will hopefully be in the Little Rock film festival."

Rosenthal's advice for any student considering studying abroad is, "Do it. You get to see what the culture is really like because you aren't stuck on one huge American tour." "If I only had one day left, I'd want to spend it at the camp."

# MOLLY FREEL

### Noah Hutchinson

The mighty buck. Strong, agile, a crown of antlers sits atop his head, ready for anything that might oppose him. Anything, that is, aside from a rifle toting young woman in her house shoes.

Molly Freel loves hunting so much that her decision to come to OBU was partially due to its location in relation to her hunting camp.

"I've been hunting since I was 4 years old," said Freel. "I'd go with my pa-paw and my daddy and sit in the stand. That was the only place they could keep me quiet."

Hunting is a passion for Freel, to the point that she can tell where the deer will reappear when it moves out of her sight lines by predicting its movement patterns.

"It's always been mine, and my grandpa and my dad's thing, ever since I was a little girl," said Freel. "My sister does it too, but not like I do."

She describes her hunting camp as a place that's very important to her family. When her grandfather came back from WWII, he and his brother were two of the first 25 people to start the deer camp. He built the cabin with his own two hands. OBU is only an hour away from Freel's hunting camp, which was one of the reasons she chose to come here.

"I'll stay at the camp on Sunday and then come back Monday morning for class," said Freel. "I like to be on the stand anywhere from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. depending on daylight savings. I've gone out to one of my friend's camps that was about 30 minutes away before morning classes started."

It takes serious devotion to get up before 7 a.m. for anything. Freel's passion for hunting carries over into every aspect of the sport.

"I always skin my deer myself," said Freel. "I dated a guy once that tried to skin my deer for me. That was our first fight."

When she turned 18, she had the Browning logo tattooed on her ankle. That may seem extreme, but that's exactly how much Freel loves to hunt.

"The tattoo was much to my mother's dismay," said Freel. "I also talked my dad into buying me a bow rather than a class ring."

Some people put all their time and money into a hobby only to see themselves never become more than mediocre. That, however, is not the case with Molly Freel.

"I've killed at least one deer every year since the seventh grade," said Freel. "I try to one up myself every year. My pride and joy is what we call the 'house shoe deer.' It was a huge 10 point, it scored 137. I was being really clumsy that day. First I forgot my gun, then after I killed the deer I noticed I was in my house shoes when I came down from the stand."

The "house shoe deer" is more than just a good story, it has special significance to Freel as both her biggest deal and the deer that got her into the familitrophy room.

"Our cabin also serves as a trop room," said Freel. "That's where we have all the biggest deer. There's an elk well as a sand bar deer that my dad k when we lived in Australia. My grandpa best friend died of cancer, and the where we've got all of his biggest deer his honor. I was the first grandkid to a deer hung in the big trophy room kind of a big deal."

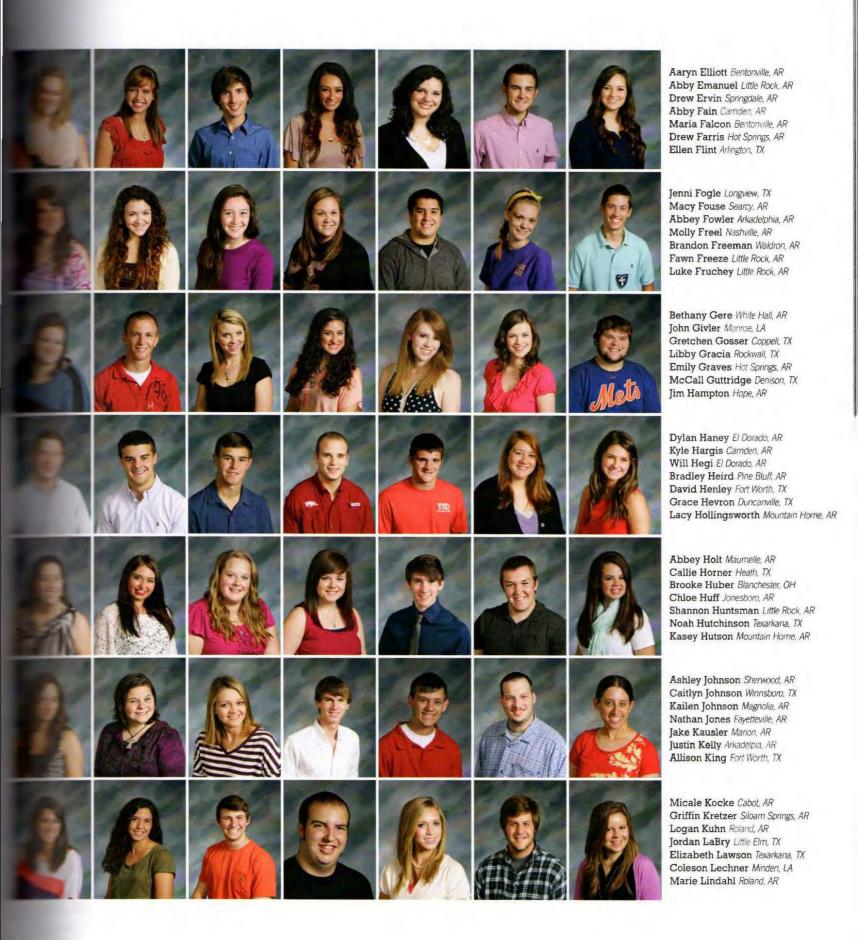
For Freel, hunting isn't just about ing everything in sight.

"I don't just go out there and shoct thing passing by," said Freel. "I only a buck if its in its prime. If it's got ing to do, I'll let it walk," said Freel grandpa won't shoot a doe at all, becau he doesn't believe you should kill girs

Freel also believes anyone was against killing animals is misinformed

"Some people say it's wrong to kines mals, but to be honest, some things not to die," said Freel. "If they don't, they nover populated, which isn't good for health."

Freel continues a family tradition being an avid hunter as well as being part of the family camp, which will ab a have a special place in her heart. "I my hunting camp," said Freel. "If I had one day left, I'd want to spend it as camp."



Abby Lindsey Van Buren, AR Jeb Little Warren, AR Katherine Love Covington, LA Danielle Mainord Shirley, AR Nate Malone Mayflower, AR Tracey Mardis Springdale, AR Haley Marshall Malvern, AR

Craig Martin Harare, Zimbabwe Madeline Martin Garland, TX Blake Maynard Sherwood, AR Karissa McCalip Irving, TX Jancy McCarty Pottsville, AR Kasey McLeane Camden, AR Bailey McMullen Irving, TX

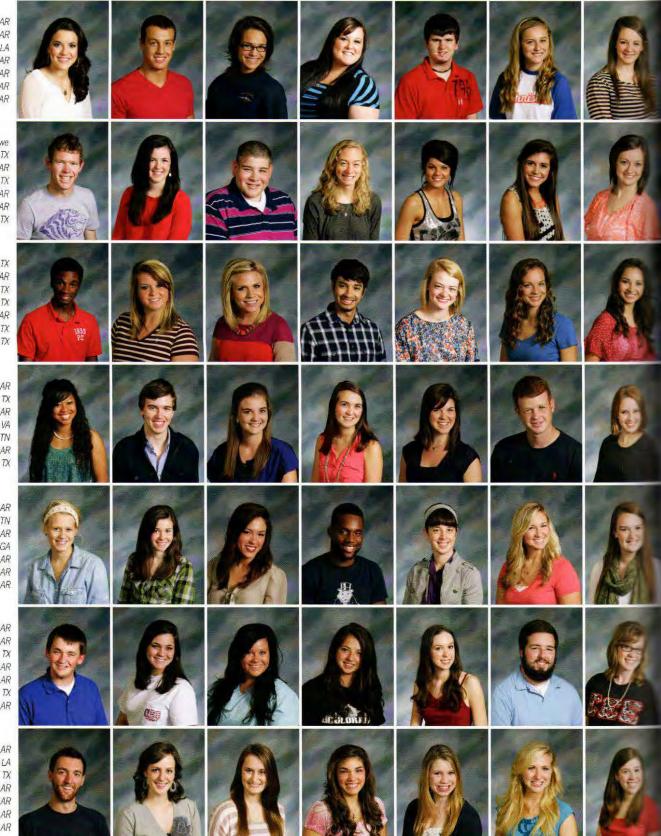
Todd McNeel Grand Prairie, TX Shelby McWhorter Bearden, AR Katie Meador Spring Branch, TX Jose Medina Arlington, TX Katherine Melson Batesville, AR Jessie Meyer Woodway, TX Kelly Mezzanatto Murphy, TX

> Mariah Miller Conway, AR Brian Monk El Paso, TX Melanie Morse Benton, AR Anna Moxley Bluefield, VA Jeneal Murphy Memphis, TN Jon Murry Camden, AR Kaylee Nebe Mesquite, TX

Caroline Nimocks Forrest City, AR Alana O'Brien Bartlett, TN Paige Onyuru Hot Springs, AR Antwion Patterson Atlanta, GA Emily Payne Eureka Springs, AR Lauren Perry Springdale, AR Rebekah Raine Little Rock, AR

> Josh Reaper Searcy, AR Emily Reeves Hot Springs, AR Krista Reitz Wylie, TX Sam Riggs Mountainburg, AR Rachel Roberts Jonesboro, AR Austin Roden Allen, TX Sarah Rogers Camden, AR

Tyler Rosenthal Little Rock, AR Alayna Rutledge West Monroe, LA Molly Salmon Henderson, TX Rebecca Sanchez, Romance, AR Kaitie Scott Little Rock, AR aura Grace Shaddox, North Little Rock, AR Hannah Shull Little Rock, AR



**136** sophomores **PEOPLE** 

"We lived on that bus. We were always sleeping in a different place than we performed that night."

### **ELIZABETH LAWSON**

### --- Smith

For most people, summer vacation about getting away from the grueling medule of school, taking some time to an having an internship or job, or even racing their favorite summer camp. Elizabeth Lawson, however, this past remer was all about realizing a life-long team.

Lawson, a sophomore music education or from Texarkana, Texas, spent her mer as a part of the Drum Corps Intertional (DCI) on a coast to coast tour perming in cities across the nation.

According to Lawson, anyone who has connection to marching band knows cout DCI. Lawson can remember hearbe about it as young child.

Drum Corps International is a professerial marching band league. It is comsed of over 25 world class corps and 20 pen class corps that are based across the mation. The corps are made up of students senging 15 to 21 years in age. The world class corps toured the entire summer competing in 40 different competitions and well as four regionals that all led up to sationals in Indianapolis, Indiana.

\*Anything you ever do in high school college you compare to DCI, because it the best," said Lawson. When Lawson was in middle school, several students from her dad's band graduated and participated in DCI. It was these same people who inspired and encouraged Lawson to tryout for DCI herself.

Each corps has auditions in their own city. The audition process began with a demanding three-day weekend with 11hour days.

"They expect you to do it and do it now. And they expect you to do it their way, because they are a top corps," said Lawson.

Lawson began the audition process with one corps, but ended up being cut during the last round of try-outs. Lawson did not let this setback stop her however.

"I knew that I still wanted to march. I wanted to do this. It was a big deal to me," said Lawson.

Lawson immediately started contacting other corps and sent off a video of her skills. Within three days, she was offered a spot on the Color Guard of the world class Crossmen Drum Corps based out of San Antonio, Texas. A few days later, Lawson had to pack up and move into the San Antonio housing for training. Training was three solid weeks of ten-hour days filled with physical training, flag skills and dance technique.

After three weeks of training, the corps immediately set out for tour. Competing in

40 shows in two months made for a travel filled summer. "We lived on that bus. We were always sleeping in a different place than we performed that night," said Lawson.

Sometimes the corps would have a day or two where they didn't have a show that night. These days resulted in free days. The corps had a total of five free days over the course of the entire summer. On these free days the corps members would be taken to a mall or let loose in a town and told to be back at a certain time.

"On free days they told us 'Don't go out and drink sodas, it will kill you tomorrow," said Lawson. "And it did, I would drink soda anyway and it would kill me at practice the next day."

Two months on the road led all the corps to Indianapolis, Indiana, for nationals. After two nights of competition only 12 corps advanced to finals. The Crossmen Drum Core was one of those teams.

"For us, it wasn't about winning, it was about the fact we made it to finals. It is just the best experience to feel like you accomplished something real with your show." Lawson continued this thought by saying, "You know you struggled so hard over the summer. You gave so much blood, sweat and tears, and then you get to the end. We had an amazing show, and we had an amazing run. It was just the greatest experience ever." "We all agreed that Gruden would be a good choice and so we wrote the song in about an hour."

### TYLER DAVIS & WILL RICHIE

### Ben Cline

At OBU, rewriting the lyrics to popular songs is nothing new. Each year during Tiger Tunes, students can be heard singing the catchy new words to popular songs from today and some from the past as well. But using their new words to these songs to become an overnight YouTube sensation? Now that's definitely something you don't see from three college students every day.

For sophomores Tyler Davis and Will Richey, and Henderson State's Caleb Conrad, their clever rendition of "Hey Jude" landed them over 183,000 views on YouTube, star appearances on the news, and a movement among Razorback fans all over the state.

The two hog fans originally wrote the song to pass the time on a slow Saturday night.

"We were sitting around at Tyler's house one Saturday after the Razorbacks had been beaten pretty handily by Mississippi State, and we were just talking about who we thought would be a good candidate to replace John L. Smith. We all agreed that Gruden would be a good choice and so we wrote the song in about an hour," said Richey.

The state was buzzing over what coach was going to be hired to replace John L. Smith, and Richey and Davis were endorsing their selection for the next coach of the Razorbacks, John Gruden. They cleverly changed the Beatles song "Hey Jude" to "Hey Grude" and a YouTube hit was born.

"We had no clue it would be this successful. The immediate response from YouTube definitely surprised. Soon after that, we were getting calls from local news and radio stations," Richey continued.

As soon as the song hit the web, the call for John Gruden as the Razorbacks' head coach was everywhere. The hashtag #HeyGrude could be seen dominating the OBU twitter sphere with links to the video. Davis and Richey became overnight stars on campus. Richey's favorite part of the "Hey Grude" hysteria was performing the song for Razorback fans in Fayetteville.

"I personally loved singing at the Northwest Arkansas Razorback Club tailgate before the LSU game. It was awesome getting to take our song with us to Fayetteville and singing it for the people that had been hearing it and watching it on YouTube all week long leading up to the game," Richie said.

As for Davis, his favorite memory was having the opportunity to watch his video views on Youtube climb by the thousands in such a short period of time.

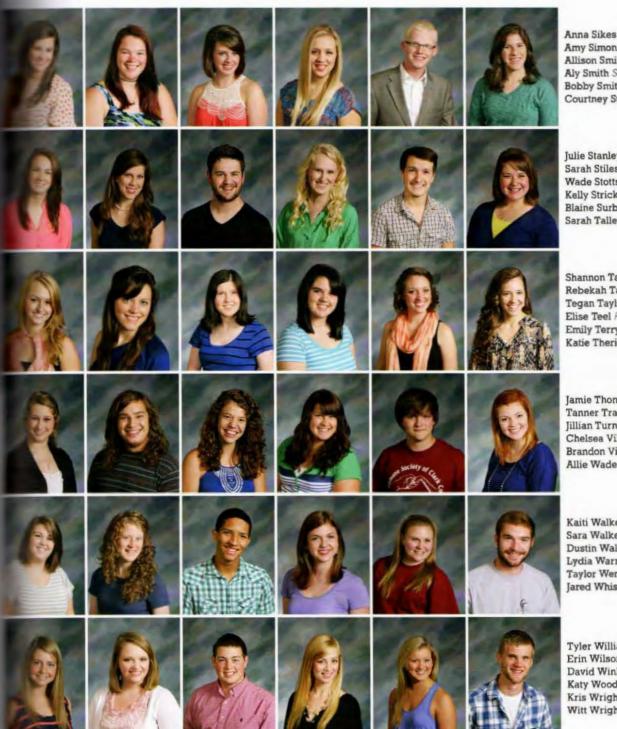
"I would have to say my favorite moment would just have to be sitting at the computer that Sunday and watching our video go nationwide," Davis said. "It started with a few retweets and favorites, but within the hour, we already had articles written about us. We would literally get a retweet every few seconds and they were from people I didn't know at all. Within three days, we had 180,000 views. I couldn't believe it," Davis added, enthusiastically.

The three all have extensive backgrounds in music, and have been singing in choirs for many years. "Will, Caleb, and myself have all been singing individually and in choirs since we were really young, but we've only been singing as a group for a couple of years. Hopefully that continues for awhile," Davis said.

Although John Gruden did not end up becoming the head coach at Arkansas, the song definitely put the three Arkadelphia students on the map. The three make up the musical group "Triple Threat." They traveled to New Orleans, La., in April for the hit television show "X Factor" and plan to keep singing wherever they can.

"Right now, we plan to keep practicing and singing new songs for whatever gigs we can get," Davis said. "Eventually, we might come out with a song with Bret Bielema's name in it, but you'll just have to wait and see."

Triple Threat is looking forward to continuing its work together in order to wow crowds in the future. With such a popular start, it is apparent that the sky is the limit for these talented Tigers.



Anna Sikes Conway, AR Amy Simon Katy, TX Allison Smith Jonesboro, AR Aly Smith Sherwood, AR Bobby Smith Sherwood, AR Courtney Stanage Hol Springs Village, AR

Julie Stanley Vilonia, AR Sarah Stiles Aubrey, TX Wade Stotts Jonesboro, AR Kelly Strickland Arkadelphia, AR Blaine Surber Sulphur Springs, TX Sarah Talley Bella Vista, AR

Shannon Talley Celina, TX Rebekah Taylor Hol Spings, AR Tegan Taylor Carksiale, AR Elise Teel Poyen, AR Emily Terry Bryant, AR Katie Theriot Alexandria, LA

Jamie Thompson Clarendon, AR Tanner Trantham Benton, AR Jillian Turner Fort Worth, TX Chelsea Villanueva Bentonville, AR Brandon Vining Heber Springs, AR Allie Wade Hot Springs, AR

Kaiti Walker Benton, AR Sara Walker Sulphur Springs, TX Dustin Walter West Memphis, AR Lydia Warren West Monroe, LA Taylor Wentz Little Rock, AR Jared Whisenhunt Little Rock, AR

Tyler Williams Benton AR Erin Wilson Bismarck, AR David Winkler Little Rock, AR Katy Wood Plano, TX Kris Wright Glenwood, AR Witt Wright Kingdom City, MO Tori Abellera Garland, TX Chelsea Ariola Springdale, AR TJ Bailey Fort Smith, AR Elizabeth Baker Grapevine, TX Kristen Barnard Hot Springs, AR Sarah Bishop Paron, AR Molly Bowman Greenbrier, AR

Hannah Bridges Clarksville, AR Ashley Briggs Alexander, AR Allie Brown Rosston, AR Pete Brunson Monticello, AR Ashley Bundy Justin, TX Barrett Burger Camden, AR Brooks Burleson Camden, AR

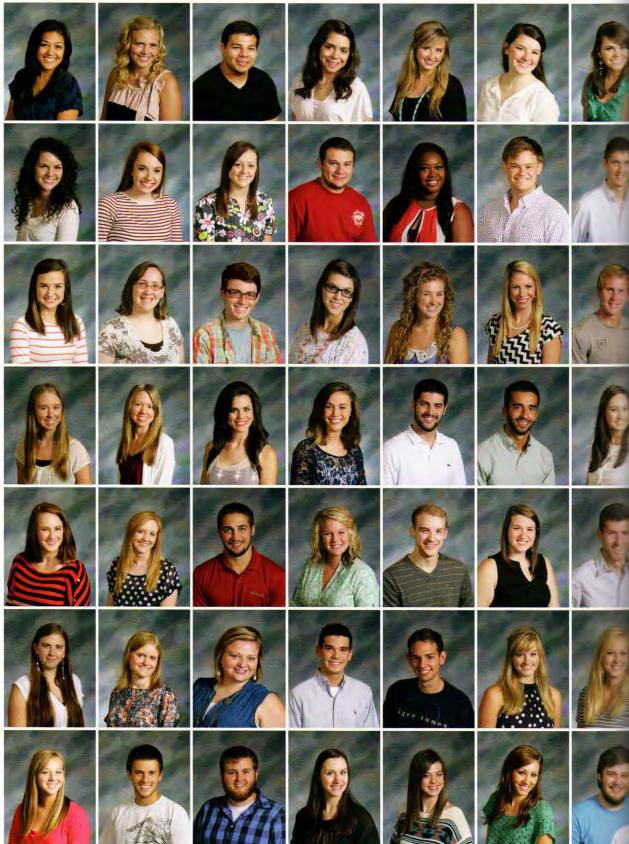
Hannah Bushey Stuttgart, AR Stephanie Butcher El Dorado, AR Rusty Butler Little Rock, AR Chelsea Byers Campbell, TX Amy Campbell Russellville, AR Ashleigh Canada Rogers, AR Jared Carlin Lubbock, TX

Rachel Carr Cherokee Village, AR Sarah Carr Cherokee Village, AR Sarah Liz Carter Norphlet, AR Johanna Casey Lowell. AR Jacob Catlett Malvem, AR Rizvan Ceka Coppell, TX Kirstin Changose Little Rock. AR

Stephanie Chontos Wylie, TX Emory Clayborn Camden, AR Ben Cline Little Rock, AR Kate Cody Sulphur Springs, TX Jake Coffman Tyronza, AR Kate Collins Texarkana, AR Matthew Cook, Harrison, AR

Rachael Cook Pernyville, MO Jennifer Coon Conway, AR Cara Cox Bentonville, AR Michael Crowe Donaldson, AR Jonathan Curry Little Rock, AR Cara Curtis Stuttgart, AR Jensen DeGroot Allen, TX

Rebekah Dindak Allen, TX Josh Emery Collierville, TN Josh Esgar Webb City, MO Ashley Evans Austin, AR Megan Evans Mesquite, TX Brittany Ewart Bossier City, LA Jake Fauber Marion, AR



"Sometimes I would stop singing, and it was so encouraging to look around and see 60,000 other believers worshiping."

### ASHLEY BRIGGS & PAUL HUENEFELD

### Eannah Shull

Three hours. From sending in her clication to being accepted, that is all time it took for Ashley Briggs, a junior urch music major from Alexander, Ark., and out she had been selected to sing in Passion Choir.

Passion was a four-day event in Januthat was sponsored by Louie Giglio the Passion City Church in Atlanta, Sixty-thousand college age students all over the world came together in Georgia Dome to glorify God through trahiping together and listening to wellthown speakers such as Beth Moore, sencis Chan and John Piper.

Ashley was an intern at Fellowship the Church in Little Rock with the stutrainistry and attended a youth workconference in Dallas in November. The at the conference, she got word a fellow youth worker who had a meetion to the Passion City Church Passion needed people to sing in the four Ashley filled out an application and in a three-minute video of her sing-

A couple of days later she was told that Passion needed more people to sing in the moir, so she told her friend Paul Hueneed to audition. His application process was the same as Ashley's.

We were asked to fill out an application and send in a video of us singing a to make sure we could actually sing and look happy," Paul said.

Paul and Ashley arrived in Atlanta a day earlier than the rest of the Passion attendees and began rehearsal. Up to this point, the choir members had never heard the songs for Passion. Their first night in Atlanta, they had rehearsal at Passion City Church that was led by Daniel Carson, the guitarist for Chris Tomlin, and Kristian Stanfill, one of the main worship leaders for Passion.

"In my experience at home, rehearsal and worship are not the same. This was completely the opposite for the Passion Choir," Paul said. "Every rehearsal we had was not a monotonous chore we had to get done to learn the songs. It was an incredible worship experience with 100-200 other people to get our hearts and minds prepared for worship with the other 60,000 in the Dome."

Ashley and Paul also had rehearsals throughout the week in between the main sessions. At rehearsals, choir members practiced the songs for the main sessions, had small group time and had their own time of worship and testimony sharing.

"Honestly that was the coolest thing I've ever been a part of," Ashley said. "I was so humbled to be around [the worship leaders]. They emphasized we are just like you and we are here to worship God, not worship us."

The Passion Choir members were encouraged to dance and be as expressive as possible while singing in the choir, as a way of encouraging the crowed to feel free to worship however they felt led. The choir stood around the stage in the middle of the Dome floor.

"It was just so cool to be in the middle and realize how much fun you could have worshiping with other believers," Ashley said. "Sometimes I would stop singing, and it was so encouraging to look around and see 60,000 other believers worshiping."

Paul and Ashley both enjoyed meeting some of the biggest names in contemporary Christian music and they both found comfort in "realizing that they are normal people like you and me," Paul said. "They are so humble and devoted to God's calling for their life."

Ashley agreed with Paul's statment by saying, "I was really impacted. It made me want to be a better worship leader and think about who I was leading for."

Paul and Ashley's incredible experiences, however, didn't stop at the Dome. One night after the main session for Passion was over, a few of the choir members met up at Waffle House. While they were there, numerous people came up to them and asked them about what God was doing in their lives. This was just a small part of the mission of Passion.

"We aren't here just to charge you up," Ashley said, quoting Giglio. "They are going to send you out." "The Lord used this opportunity to break down walls in me."

# **GRANT NOVAK**

### **#Sydney Bratton**

Grant Novak, a junior biblical studies major with a minor in Greek, from Bossier City, La., did not just spend the majority of his summer volunteering his time at a church in Chicago, Ill. Grant also spent countless hours volunteering his mind and his heart to be greatly transformed by an entirely new culture and community.

The opportunity to work as a churchplanting intern for the Mosaic Church of Chicago came to Grant through mutual friends he had with the pastor of the church. "We both have mutual friends from Ouachita and my hometown that got us connected," Grant said. "We hit it off from there and then I found myself several months later working for a church in the inner city of Chicago."

When Grant began his internship, he immediately became very involved in the church and came to understand the hard work it was doing in the community. "The purpose of the Mosaic Church is to enable the Gospel of Jesus Christ to communal and personal change in the people around the church," Grant said. "Mosaic seeks to plant churches in all 78 neighborhoods in Chicago. Their vision is that each church would be a 'glocal' church, meaning that it would be 'globally and locally minded."

The mission of the Mosaic Church was to engage the community and share the gospel with them. Many people within the church were able to volunteer their time to going out and socializing with the residents of the community. By forming these deep, personal relationships with people of the surrounding community, it was much easier for the church members to see religion from a completely different point of view and to explain the gospel in terms that were more relevant to their everyday lives.

Not only was Grant dedicated to working to fulfill the ongoing mission of the church, but he also was able to get plugged into the community on a much more personal level.

"My duties were to strategize and mobilize people to assist in the planting and scoping out of possible church sites for new evangelical church plants," Grant said. "Also, on Wednesday and Friday nights we would have a Kids Youth Club in which we would share the Gospel and go deeper with the kids who were believers. Our free time consisted of playing a lot of basketball and feeding underprivileged kids at our loft."

Grant joked that playing basketball actually meant getting "schooled by the inner city kids." By getting the opportunity to interact with the kids in public schools, they were able to take their ministry efforts even further into the heart of the communities in the Chicago area.

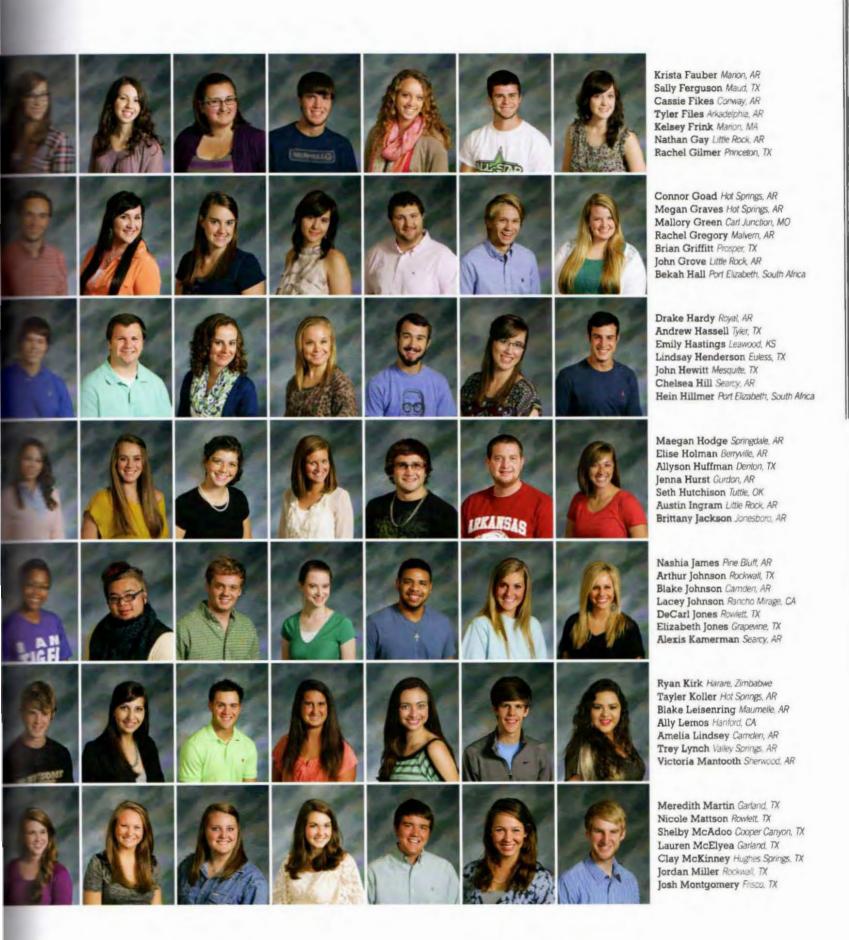
While Grant's time working with the

church was training him in the field d church planting, he also had a change d heart and cultural perceptions as well.

"The experience changed my perspective on how I see church," Grant said "I used to see it from a completely Cascasian stand point, but the Lord real" worked on my heart to see how the Gospet transcends cultures. Also the experience taught me not to impose my culture another and not to look down upon the people I am serving but to walk with the life on life."

The valuable time that Grant was able to spend working with the Mosaic Church and the surrounding community was at amazing opportunity that he beleives has shaped him into the man and the dedicated Christian that he is today. With out this opportunity, Grant feels as if would not have been able to see different aspects of Christianity in a different cuture than somewhere where the majorical of the population is Christian, much the the Ouachita community.

"The opportunity to work at Mosan Church changed my life," Grant same enthusiastically. "The Lord used opportunity to break down walls me. The experiences also developed broader Biblical view of who God is and how he moves in this world rather that what I knew just from Shreveport, Louis ana."



Chelsea Morehead Mabelvale, AR Asaf Moreno Mexico City, Mexico Austen Morgan Sunnyvale, TX Danielle Moses Texarkana, AR Taylor Neeley Carnden, AR Alex Nelson Frisco, TX Brittany Nolan El Dorado, AR

Hannah Nolan Sherwood, AR Andrew Norcross Tyler, TX Grant Novak Haughton, LA Daniela Novotna Teplice, Czech Republic Daniel Ogier San Antonio, TX Trey Oliveto Searcy, AR Ian Olmsted Peryville, AR

Sara Owen Little Rock, AR Chanmi Park Kolkata, India Emma Patterson Garland, TX Bethany Peevy Rogers, AR Katie Pesek Texarkana, TX Shelby Pierceall Mabelvale, AR Morgan Pitchford Columbia, MO

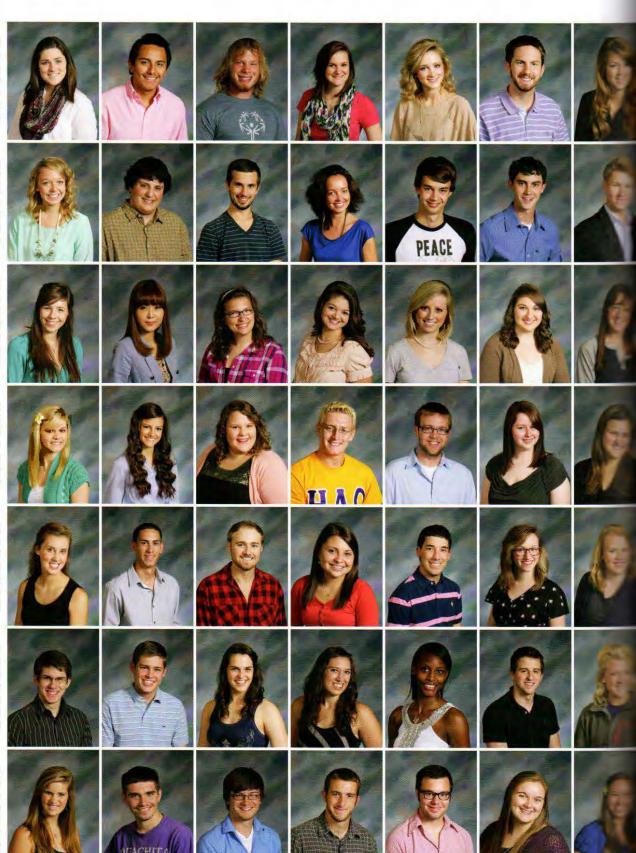
LeeAnne Polk Greenville, TX Sarah Pollock North Richland Hills, TX Kathleen Post Grand Prairie, TX Dawson Pritchard Denton, TX Matt Ray Plano, TX

- Sandy Robinson Waco, TX Kayla Roop Maumelle, AR
- Hannah Rucker Hot Springs, AR Jerry Ruiz Indio, CA Brandon Sanders Franklin, TX Emily Sanders Conway, AR Austin Sarabia Houston, TX

Carli Sasser Hamburg, AR Megan Scarbrough Fayetteville, AR

> Ben Schleiff Manila, AR Buck Schroeder Conway, AR Caitlin Secrest Arkadelphia, AR Marissa Selden Marion, AR Erica Sharp Jonesboro, AR Daniel Sims Conway, AR Emily Sinclair El Dorado, AR

- Cara Smith Longview, TX Kevin Smith Bay, AR Luke Smith Paron, AR Wayne Smith Texarkan, TX
- Zach Smith Batesville, AR Mauri Sparks Queen City, TX
- Jessica Stanley Mesquite, TX



"It gives you great confidence in the fact that you can be completely uprooted from everything comfortable and still survive."

# MOLLY BOWMAN

### Ledbetter

you have ever had a conversation Molly Bowman, a junior mass comencations and Christian studies double from Conway, Ark., you can tell that is something very unique about her. has a confidence and happiness shines through in everything that she What some people don't know, is some of her confidence and joy came her spending a year studying abroad Beijing, China.

Then Molly attended to a youth confere at age 14, she heard a woman speak mission opportunities in China and knew immediately that God was going se her to speak to those people.

"After the conference, I told my parthat I wanted to go and I think they eght I was crazy," Molly joked. Molly c to raise a certain amount of money order to participate, so some of her erds held a fundraiser and contacted sple who wanted to donate in order to rtribute to Molly's dream.

"My friends had a surprise party for and surprised me with a check. I am schounded by truly amazing people," by said. It empowered her to know that many people who are close to her supacted her, not only emotionally, but finanby as well.

Molly has a great passion for underting different cultures and interacting people from all over the world. She has a heart for people who have grown up in different places and she enjoys hearing about the different aspects of their lives.

While some students study abroad through various programs here at Ouachita, Molly had the opportunity to study through an organization called Operation New Generation. Before going to Beijing, Molly, along with many other international students, spent two weeks in Taiwan in order to complete cross-cultural training.

"I went with a team of three students, me and two other guys from the region, one from Arkansas and one from Mississippi," Molly said. "I knew them before but none of us knew we were going together until the interview." She was amazed at the way that God had worked in all three of their lives by preparing them to work together.

During her time in Beijing, Molly lived in International Student Housing, which she said was "basically like a big dorm for students and adults from all around the world." Molly not only made friends from China, but from countries all over the world, such as France, Japan, Mongolia, and Germany. Even though Molly was constantly forming relationships with people from all over the world, she enjoyed being able to spend time with some familiar faces during her time there as well.

Molly's mom came to visit her in China

for her birthday and for Christmas, which are only five days apart. During the holiday season, Molly definitely realized how different the environment was that she had been living in. In China, Christmas is not readily celebrated as it is in the U.S. and in other places in the world. Molly also had the opportunity to travel to the Philippines to visit some friends that she has there.

Even though being away from her family was hard, Molly used this experience as an opportunity to grow in her relationship with the Lord. Because the Internet is censored and communication can be difficult at times, there were days where Molly was not able to talk to anyone.

"There were days when it was just me and God, hanging out, which taught me that I had to rely on Him no matter how difficult the circumstances were," she said. "To be outside the Bible belt and realize that we have so much religious influence in our lives from school, radio, television, etc., was such a different experience. I had to learn how to rely strongly on myself to influence my faith instead of depending on people and activities around me."

Molly strongly recommends traveling abroad to other students. She said, "It broadens your horizons and gives you a more in-depth understanding of the world. It gives you great confidence in the fact that you can be completely uprooted from everything comfortable and still survive." "I saw this as God giving me a brand new start with a new family that showed me love in a way I had not seen before."



## **KELSEY HIMES**

### **#Sydney Bratton**

Transitioning into college proved to be a very challenging time for Kelsey Himes, a junior early childhood education major, from Arkadelphia. "As a graduating senior at Arkadelphia High School, I was being abandoned and in essence, left to my own defenses," Kelsey said.

Despite the opposition that Kelsey found herself facing inside of her home life, she found refuge in getting involved in various activities at school.

"Life was difficult with the way I grew up, and so choir was a place where I could ultimately forget about everything at home," Kelsey said.

Kelsey did not only find peace of mind by being a part of the Arkadelphia High School choir, but also found hope for her future as her choir teacher opened up her home to Kelsey during her time of need.

"Laura Cornelius had been my choir teacher all through high school and she and her husband, Dr. Kevin Cornelius, took me in after I told her that I was being kicked out of my house and didn't know where I was going to go," Kelsey said. "In the beginning we thought I may end up back with my biological family, but figured out quickly that it wasn't going to happen that way."

After almost two months of examining various options and speaking with an attorney, the Cornelius family officially became Kelsey's legal guardians. "[Dr. and Mrs. Cornelius] decided after much prayer, to invite me to become a part of their family," Kelsey said. "This included asking their other two children, Caleb and Jessica, how they felt about my becoming a part of the family. They were both equally excited."

Through the process of joining the Cornelius family, Kelsey had become very acquainted with her new, loving family members.

"Laura and Kevin let me decide what to call them," Kelsey said. "I decided that after everything they had done for me, the names 'Mom' and 'Dad' would suit them quite well. I knew that it was going to take a while to get used to getting to know the family. The first trip in which I met extended family was the day after the judge signed off on the guardianship papers."

After finalizing all of her custody information, Kelsey began planning for her next four years in college.

After going through the steps to get Kelsey into college, they found out that because of her new legal guardianship, she would be able to receive a substantial discount that would allow her to attend Ouachita. "I saw this as God giving me a brand new start with a new family that showed me love in a way I had not seen before," Kelsey said.

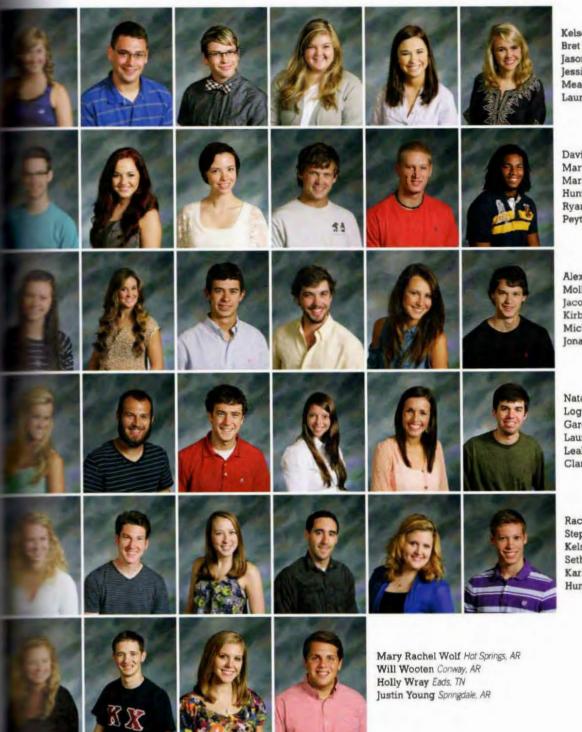
While many things during this time seemed to be moving in a positive direc-

tion for Kelsey, she was still suffering with conflicts she was having with her biological mother.

"The road hasn't been all lollipops and rainbows," Kelsey said. "There was a phase where I went back and forth between talking to my biological mother and not talking to her. Each time, my parents saw me crumble emotionally after conversations with her. There came a point where I had to put boundaries in place and enforce them for my own mental health."

Through each of the trials that Kelsey faced while adjusting to her new family life, she knew she could always rely on her new family to support her. "Now, three years into college, I am doing the best I have ever done academically and even socially," Kelsey said.

"My mom and dad have treated me more like a daughter in the three years! have been with them than in the 17 years I was with my biological family. I gave up a lot when I chose to become a member of the Cornelius' family and it has been difficult at times, but the reality is I gained so much more than I ever would have thought." Kelsey went on to say, "Being able to see how a family is supposed to be in a Christian setting was something I had not seen in my previous home. As gradue ation is looming in just a year, I see my future as bring and loving with my family celebrating events together, both big and small."



Kelsey Stawasz Rockwall, TX Bret Steed Idabel, OK Jason Stevenson Guy, AR Jessica Stewart Mansfield, TX Meagan Stiles Conway, AR Laura Strossner Conway, AR

David Sypult Rogers, AR MaryLacey Thomson Plano, TX Marissa Thornberry Mabelvale, AR Hunter Threadgill Cordova, TN Ryan Tibbets Scurry, TX Peyton Tolliver Wake Village, TX

Alex Trevino Hughes Springs, TX Molly Anne Turner Sherwood, AR Jacob Vickery Jonesboro, AR Kirby Von Edwins Little Rock, AR Michelle Waddel Manon, AR Jonathan Waddell North Little Rock, AR

Natalie Way England, AR Logan Webb Benton, AR Garet West Bolivar, MO Lauren West Hot Springs, AR Leah Whitlow Bentonville, AR Clark Whitney Searcy, AR

Rachel Williams Sherwood, AR Stephen Williams Roland, AR Kelsey Willis Redfield, AR Seth Wilson Hot Springs, AR Karissa Winfrey Stuttgert, AR Hunter Wolf Waco, TX

Brynn Alford Rogers, AR Kristen Ashburn Sachse, TX Rebecca Atkinson Arkadelphia, AR Kolby Ball Mananna, AR Lindsey Barnhart Maud, TX Stacy Beck Sheridan, AR Katelyn Bell Des Arc, AR

Catie Bennett Nixa, MO Cory Bennett Beriton, AR Wendy Berry Little Rock, AR Baronger Bieger Rockwall, TX Hannah Bishop Conway, AR Elizabeth Blankenship Casscoe, AR Kristin Bodine Webb City, MO

Robert Bond Mesquite, TX Sara Booker Prescott, AR Shelby Briley Siloam Springs, AR Brandon Briscoe Prosper, TX Judith Brizuela San Pedro Sula, Honduras Lacey Brooks Benton, AR L. J. Brooks Houston, TX

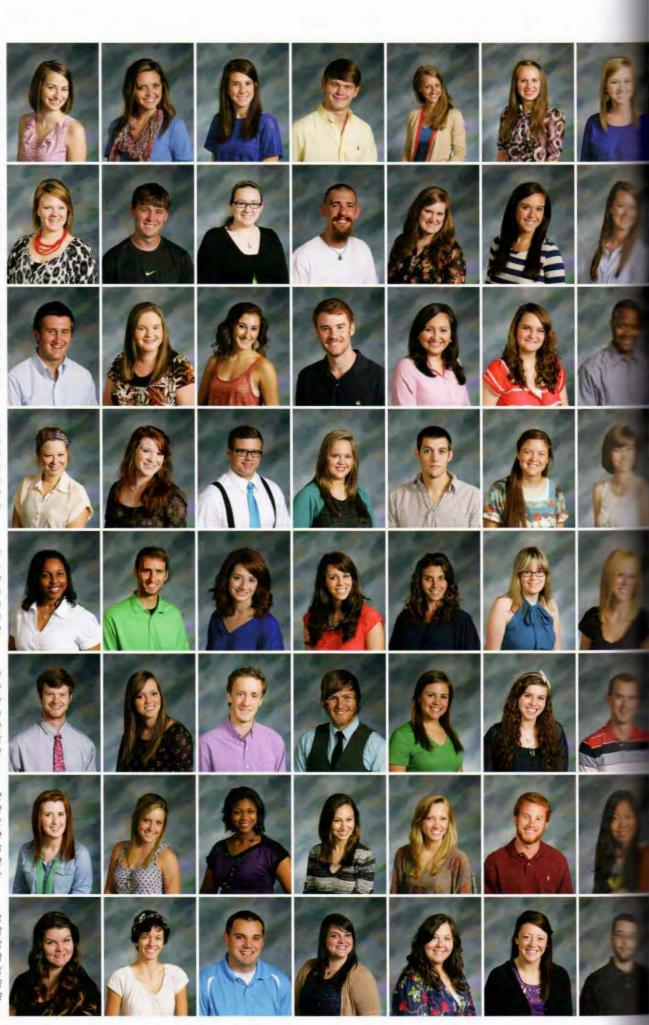
Macy Buchanan Hallsville, TX Breanna Bullington El Dorado, AR Chad Bullington Hot Springs, AR Harmony Bussell Fouke, AR Aaron Butler Mabelvale, AR Deborah Caldwell Siloam Springs, AR Jessica Caldwell Clarendon, AR

Rennetta Carter Arkadelphia, AR Clayton Case Santiago, Chile Mary Castleman Batesville, AR Callie Chancey Branson, MO Annaliese Clark St. Charles, MO Shelby Cobb White Hall, AR Rebecca Cochrum Arlington, TX

Joel Coleman Hot Springs. AR Whitney Collier North Little Rock, AR David Connell Little Rock, AR Teddy Cross Hot Springs, AR Samantha Cummins Rogers, AR Sarah Davis Bedford, TX Mark Dewbre Siloarn Springs, AR

Brittney Dickerson Arkadelphia, AR Keena Dickey Crossett, AR Breana Dillard Cedar Hill, TX Kate Dodge Conway, AR Erin Edge Southaven, MS Jake Edwards North Little Rock, AR Tuyajargal Enkhbayar Ulaanbaatar

> Alyssa Eskelsen Bryan, TX Ellen Eubanks Arkadelphia, AR Josh Fink Forney, TX Kelsey Finney Arkadelphia, AR Molli Flurry Carrollton, TX Lindsey Fowler Arkadelphia, AR Reece Franklin Arkadelphia, AR



148 seniors PEOPLE "I'm a filmmaker, so I can edit my mistakes, and a Christian, because I am aware of them."

## **BEN THOMAS**

### Coffman

college students, summer vacation
mean a few things. It can mean an
mage summer job, such as a fast food
ishment, an interactive summer job,
as a camp counselor, or a practical
mer job, such as an internship. For
Thomas, a senior mass communica major from Keller, Texas, it meant
atter, but with far more expectations
miginally anticipated.

Lest summer, Ben interned with a continuent studio in Las Colinas, Texas, CRM Studios, where his countless descriptions varied from project to ect, ranging from running a camera criting the floor, to directing shows on the worked.

someone were to glance at Ben's merary for the summer, they would be impressed to see names such as the Cowboys, the Texas Rangers, and Each, among other high-end names, is list of jobs that would eventually up on TV.

" got to see a large portion of my work "," said Ben. "In the video industry, pecially in a major market like Dallas, huge to have a production credit, and is immensely blessed to have my first so early in my career."

Even with all of the huge market jobs Ben had the chance to participate in, stood out among the rest, and it was completely separate from his internship. A band by the name of Family Force 5 was shooting a music video for their song "Cray Button" and Ben was chosen to be a part of the production team.

"They put out a crew call and I was selected as one of three production assistants for the shoot," said Ben. "We had a five person crew: director, assistant director, and three production assistants to shoot the video, so I ended up doing a significant part of the production work."

After its release, the video became the number one most watched video on MTV's website for a few days and even saw some airtime on MTV. It was also nominated for Christian music video of the year.

"It was a three-day shoot and we ended up working on set for close to 45 hours; some of the shoot was even shot on top of my car!" said Ben. "By the end of the three days, we had all become pretty close with the band, so much so that they asked us to come up on stage with them during their concert at the end of the shoot. It was by far one of the craziest videos that I had worked on up until that point, but it was worth every second."

After his time with the internship was up, Ben received another offer. A friend of his recommended him for the position of Worship Video Director at The Church at Rock Creek in Little Rock.

"While I was driving back to Arkadel-

phia to start the new year, I got a call from someone in Little Rock," said Ben. "They drove down to Arkadelphia to interview me and ended up offering me the position that very Sunday. The whole situation kind of took me off guard, but in the best way. I had been praying for job opportunities in Little Rock for the week prior to the call and then the job fell into my lap."

Throughout all of Ben's experiences with internships and job opportunities, he has come to rely more strongly on God and has realized that He will put His children where He wants them to be, exactly when He wants them to be there.

"The best advice I can give someone interested in going into the production world or any type of job market would be to embrace the word 'no,'" said Ben. "Out of the 20-something internships I applied for, I was only offered two of them; that means 18 told me 'no.' You won't be able to succeed in your field if you dwell on rejection."

Ben truly feels that he has found his niche with video production and filmmaking and believes that this is what God wants him to do with his life. Even with this realization, Ben still acknowledges that he is human, and he always remembers to trust in God for everything.

"I'm a filmmaker, so I can edit my mistakes, and a Christian, because I am aware of them," Thomas says. "There's a level of trust and companionship there that you just don't really find on the field or in a social club."

**JOHN WILLIAMS** 

### Katie Vaughn

Being a student at Ouachita, it's not uncommon to hear about fellow students spending their summers working at Kanakuk, Pine Cove, Sky Ranch or other Christian camps spread across the country. It's also not uncommon to hear about Ouachitonians serving as missionaries around the world to spread the word of Jesus Christ. It's not so common; however, that we hear about students serving in the ministry at Noah's Ark.

According to senior John Williams, Noah's Ark is, "an outdoor outfitting company that uses the outdoor experience for a platform for ministry." Williams first visited Noah's Ark the summer after his junior year of high school, and he was hooked. He has served as a guide at Noah's for the past four summers.

Located in Buena Vista, Colo., Noah's Ark employees work with camps, churches or families looking for an adventurous week. The company offers everything from rock climbing and rappelling to backpacking and white water rafting.

Williams has experienced four years of hiking up mountains and sailing down white waters, but his most exciting experience thus far is The Great Llama Chase.

"We took a llama off by itself on the trail which is usually a no no, and the last day of the trip...the other guide was unhooking it from the ground and it escaped," said John fighting back a smile. "Llamas are pretty expensive, so we had to chase it. Five other guys came up, and we spent the next eight hours trying to catch a llama. It was like trying to chase a Labrador puppy that was as big and as fast as an elk... It was type two fun, which is not fun in the moment, but fun looking back on it," laughed John.

Before the groups set out for their adventures, the Noah's Ark guide meets with the leader of said group. Often the person doing the meeting is John. He finds out what principles that the leaders are wanting taught for each trip, and he strives to teach these principles to the kids.

"You get to put [kids] in a new environment, something they're not used to. You get to take them away from the daily distractions of life like cellphones and TV and media. It's more of a pure way to get to know somebody."

Sometimes the kids learn life principles without them even having to be planned. Last summer, a bear came to where John had backpacked with a high school leadership class, and ate some of their food.

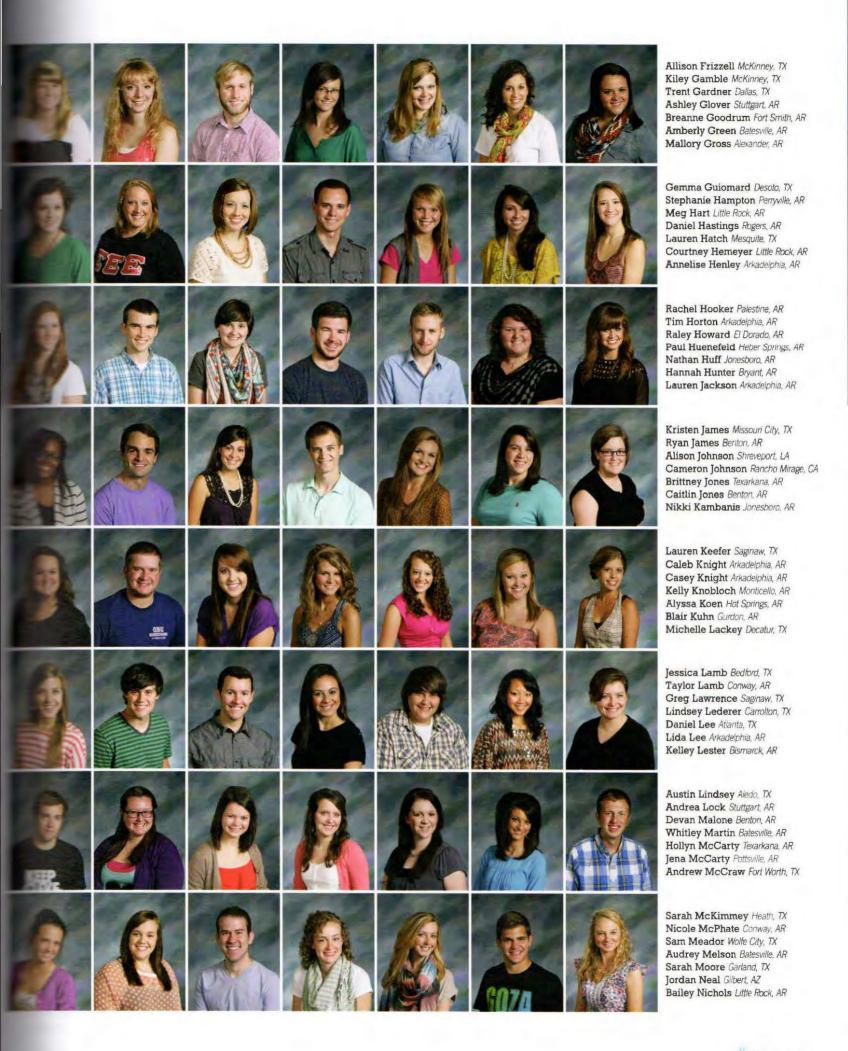
"It was day two, so I took it as an opportunity to discuss facing adversity and how you react to those situations in life. As a leader you have to react, and you can't control every variable," explained Williams calmly. "We took all of the meals that were still edible, we rearranged them and planned them out for the rest of the week. The class really liked it. They had less food to eat, but they were able to see how it applied to life."

It's through random happenings a bear eating your food or losing llama that relationships with customers begin form.

Relationships with customers were the only relationships John built over past four years. "I really enjoy the community and the staff that I work with. We all very close... A lot of that is because have to trust each other. Some of the access ties that we do can be pretty dangercess and there's a level of trust and comparship there that you just don't really I guess on the field or in a social class Although he loves his co-workers, line with 18 other guys while sharing only bathrooms and one kitchen can be a of patience.

"I think overall you're just constant testing yourself as far as how well you serve your community that you're involve in, your customers and... the people you're working with guiding; helping the care of them the best that you can."

Through physical trials, testing patience, and becoming a self-proclained "Ilama whisperer," John has developed love and passion for his job at Noah's This summer he'll be returning to plete his fifth summer with the program and he'll be serving as Assistant Program Director with the adventure program



Valerie Nickel Richardson, TX Elliot O'Connor Montrose, CO Tiffany Ohman Haltom City, TX Lara Overman Longview, TX Alexis Pace Sugar Land, TX Emily Parker Shreveport, LA Matt Peckat Cabot, AR

Zach Penny Texarkana, AR Michelle Perez Maracaibo, Venezuela Brandon Perry Arkadelphia, AR Hannah Pilcher Maumelle, AR Erica Porter Azle, TX Sarah Porter Bernyville, AR Rebekah Poynor Aubrey, TX

Phebe Pruett Summers, AR Courtney Puddephatt Little Rock, AR Krystal Qualls Texarkana, AR Stephen Raines Camden, AR Jacob Ramaly Longview, TX Hannah Ramsey Naperville, IL Chris Redmon Little Rock, AR

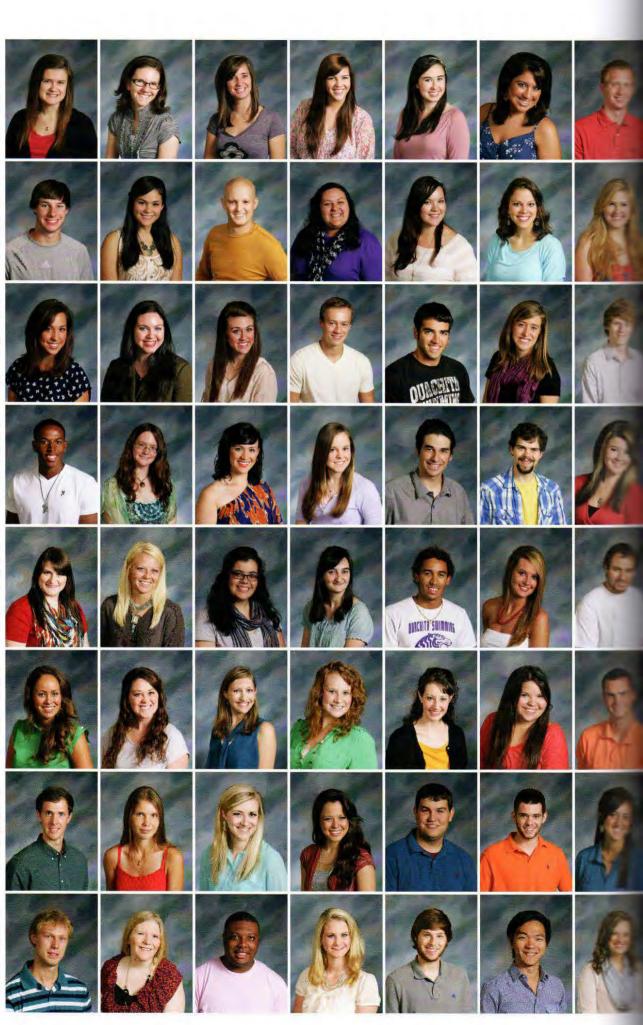
> Brett Reece Houston, TX Shelbie Reed North Little Rock, AR Alyssa Reynolds Sanger, TX Crista Riggs Edmond, OK Andrew Roberts Plano, TX Joel Rogier Glen Carbon, IL Becca Rutherford Bay, AR

Ryleigh Salmon Henderson, TX Bailey Sanders Joshua, TX Audra Sargent Fort Smith, AR Diane Satterlee Monticello, AR Marcus Schlesinger Nuevo, CA Madison Scott Little Rock, AR Ken See Mesquite, TX

Elyse Senteney Plano, TX Courtney Sharp Cherokee Village, AR Lauren Shawver Grapevine, TX Rachel Shrader Litchfield, IL Stephanie Simpson Jonesboro, AR Abbey Smith Gurdon, AR Tyler Smith Shreveport, LA

Jordan Snook Little Rock, AR Lilia Sokolova Yoshkar-Ola, Russia MyLisa Speer Texarkana, TX Taylor Stanford White Hall, AR Jacob Stephens New Boston, TX Ryan Strebeck Texarkana, AR Samantha Street Duncan, OK

Cody Stroud Cabot, AR Lauren Telford Texarkana, TX Demarcus Thornton Plano, TX Carrington Tillery Lonsdale, AR Jacob Tinklenberg Arlington, TX John Tneoh Sungai Petani, Malaysia Emily Treadway New Boston, TX



"It's not just about getting on stage and looking pretty."

### MISS OBU KILEY WRIGHT

### Kare Scott

Ley Jane Wright, a senior biology from Glenwood, was crowned Miss on March 2. "I went in with an attibe to have fun," said Wright. "I wanted to bring a little joy to others."

MISS OUACHITA BA

Wright succeeded in both having fun bringing joy to others. Wright's presand poise on stage reflected her and outer beauty. With little pagbackground, Wright had much supfrom her parents and sister. Wright blessed to have her older sister, who been involved in Miss Teen Arkansas, her throughout Miss OBU. Wright even able to wear some of the dresses sister had worn in her pageants. "My and my sister were there the whole " said Wright. "[They] were my two breest supporters."

A funny memory that Wright has was her sister was helping her with her "I felt like the Princess Diaries," said the Wright struggled with her walk her dad was able to relate to a love has for animals. "It's like showing a rse" her dad told her. "You have to keep the upper body still and look natural." the that small piece of advice, Wright's was perfected.

During the pageant, Wright was asked what qualities should Miss OBU possess. Wright responded with - hard working, a set that shines, and one who stays true to reself. Wright exemplifies these qualities on and off campus.

Wright encourages young girls to stay true to themselves. The swimwear was nerve-racking to Wright, but she showed confidence. Wright won the swimwear award along with her title of Miss OBU. "It was encouraging to know that I'm not a size zero and still did well," said Wright.

Wright is an active member of the Women of EEE. She was a team member for her social club's intramural basketball team, involved in service projects with her social club, and dedicated to her studies. "I try to stay involved on campus as much as I can," said Wright.

Future plans for Wright include going on to veterinary school. Wright's platform for Miss OBU was Fighting Against Animal Cruelty. "I love horses," said Wright. Having four horses, two dogs, and a cat, Wright's love for animals has turned into a passion for a future career. "I want to be an equine veterinarian," said Wright.

Ever since Wright was little she told her mom she was going to help animals. Wright is maintaining the hard working quality that Miss OBU should possess by studying diligently and working toward her life career goal by applying to veterinarian schools.

Wright mentioned that sometimes it is difficult to follow your dreams. "Keep going and keep chasing after what you truly want to do," encourages Wright. "If you've dreamed about it for so long, you just can't give up on it."

When difficult times do arise, Wright remembers to stay true to herself. After she was crowned Miss OBU, Wright was able to talk to the judges. The judges said she was different and was not just like every other girl that they had seen. Being genuine and true to who you are is what Wright also encourages others who are following their dreams to do. "It was definitely a confidence booster," said Wright.

After winning Miss OBU, Wright prepared for the Miss Arkansas Pageant in July. "I am really excited about having a completely different experience," said Wright. Working with her pageant directors, Justin Harper, Kirt Thomas, and Amy Witherow, she has learned a lot more about the pageant world. Wright never imagined that she would be privileged to be a part of Miss Arkansas.

When speaking of Miss OBU and Miss Arkansas, Wright said, "It's not just about getting on stage and looking pretty." Wright hopes and has succeeded to bring smiles to peoples faces and to be kind to all. "These are real girls doing amazing things and working really hard to do better things with their platform," said Wright.

"I am so grateful for everyone here on Ouachita's campus," said Wright. "Everyone is so supportive." Wright has continued to be a light for Ouachita's campus by brining joy and a smile to everyone she encounters. "My encouragement to people would be to carry on the message LJ carried and to value your friendships because unexpected things happen all the time."

\_J BŔ



### Emily Terry

Familiar faces often have a way of working their way into our hearts, whether we ever realize it or not.

For Ouachita students, hearts were heavy over the sudden loss of one of campus' most familiar faces.

Lester Ivan Brooks Junior, or LJ as he was known across campus, died early on December 2, 2012, after a difficult fight with kidney problems. A senior Christian studies and Biblical languages major from Houston, Texas, LJ was one of two regular speakers at Refuge and a highly respected and cherished member of the student body.

"His sophomore year, he spoke at Noonday once and I was just really impressed with his heart there. At the end of the year, I approached him and asked if he would be interested in applying to be one of the speakers at Refuge," said James Taylor, Director of Campus Ministries. "I don't know if he would have sought that out himself or would have even thought about it."

LJ went on to become the first person, at least in recent years, to be a regular speaker at Refuge as a junior.

One consistent aspect of LJ's character and ministry was his genuine concern and love for people.

"He really cared about people. A lot of

times, people that others might overlook, LJ didn't overlook," said Kendall Calvert, Assistant Director of Campus Ministries. "People that really needed loving, LJ loved them. Not because he felt bad or pitied them, but because he really did care about them with Christ's love."

<u>1991-2012</u>

Grant Novak, a junior Biblical studies major from Haughton, La., remembers LJ as simply enjoyable to be around.

"He made everything fun and interesting; there was never a dull moment with him," Novak said. "There was always a smile and he was always carrying on genuine conversations with people."

His genuine spirit and caring heart have since been an encouragement and a challenge to those who saw the love of Jesus radiating from his life.

"It's something that's really been challenging to me since he's been gone," Calvert said. "Just to keep my eyes open to people others may not see."

LJ taught everyone around him the love of Christ, but for his girlfriend, Kelsey Frink, a junior early childhood education major from Marion, Mass., this memory of genuine love is especially prominent.

"He showed me so much love and was the most Christ-like person I've ever met," Frink said. "I don't think about him just as the boyfriend that I loved or my first love. He was just so loving to everyone and kind. People that couldn't give him are thing in return, he loved them. That's the was."

This loving, genuine man of God and only loved people, but he made them laugh.

"When we were in Athens last sum" = we were walking around the Parthener and I went to buy water without realizing all they had was carbonated water, which I think is disgusting. I went to drink it and it was so gross and I was being so the matic, I started crying!" Calvert said a reminiscent laugh. "LJ was like, We I don't have any water, but you can wear my hat.' He had this hat he wore the whole trip and we all made fun of him for it, and I really wanted to wear it and he never me. So, he said I could wear his hat a would make me feel better. He was just funny and really selfless like that."

In addition to being the kind-hear a selfless friend, Novak remembers LJ being the jokester and instigator who compares the sistently found ways to embarrass him.

"Freshman year, we were in Green and it had snowed, so LJ convinced me throw snowballs with him at Dr. Dodson when he walked in the door," Novak sam "So, we proceeded to throw snowball except LJ doesn't throw his, so he



Emily Tucker Hot Springs, AR Lindsey Upshaw Sheridan, AR Earl Waddell Arkadelphia, AR Shatelia Walker-Scott Texarkana, AR Tanner Ward Bryant, AR Adam Webb Houston, TX

Natalie Whisenant Fort Worth, TX Mary Whisenhunt Little Rock, AR Alyssa White Tyler, TX Elizabeth White Searcy, AR Heather White Houston, TX John Williams Little Rock, AR

Monica Williams Carrollton, GA Danielle Wilson Simla, CO Preston Winstead Fort Smith, AR Adam Wood Carrollton, TX Tristan Wooster Mansfield, TX Kiley Wright Glenwood, AR

serves me hanging throwing snowballs at Tectson while he's just laughing at me."

Whether he was making others laugh ending a hand to those in need, LJ was serve encouraging those around him and pushing his friends to do more than be ever thought possible.

"He would push me to do things that he I could do that I didn't think I could He always saw something in me that I act t see," Novak said.

Frink said LJ consistently encouraged

"LJ knew a lot more about the Bible I ever did. At first, that really intimitaned me. I come from the north where Christian culture doesn't exist. Other than if family and a select few people, I didn't ways have people to have real converscions with," Frink said. "After having get line conversations with him, I realized I ve had a completely different walk can he has. I've had different challenges and my faith grew in different ways than is did. I realized we could just learn and grow from each other. He pushed me to isk questions and be bolder in admitting that I didn't know things."

Seeing people come to know Christ and grow in their faith was LJ's greatset passion and lifelong mission and he worked to live it out every single day. "LJ's message to the world was Jesus, as cliché as that sounds," Novak said. "His drive was to see people not just mentally change, but morally change for the kingdom of God, to see people whollistically change through the power of Jesus Christ and be genuine. That was his drive for knowing Greek and knowing Hebrew, at least having some relative knowledge of it. Everything for him was about how to advance Christ's name and make Him known."

Making Christ known was something LJ did very clearly in his life. So much so that his message and story have carried over to make a Kingdom impact in his death from others hearing about LJ's passion for the Lord and from the gospel being presented during the weekend of his memorial services.

LJ's funeral was about more than grieving for his loss. It was a time for his family to rejoice in his life and in the hope given to his family and loved ones by the fact they will one day be reunited. It was also an incredible opportunity to share this hope of the Lord with others.

"I was sitting on the front row at his funeral and when they did the alter-call, 30-something people came up and gave their lives to Christ," Frink said. "I was crying but I felt this overwhelming joy. I wasn't happy that he died or thankful or excited about it at all, but I was overwhelmed because these people may not have had this opportunity to come to know Christ."

LJ not only led others to the Lord through his passing, but his short time here on earth have made those who know him cherish and value every moment and every friendship.

"People should slow down and realize how precious life is. You don't know when one of your best friends is going to be taken. You have to make the most of every moment with that friend," Novak said. "My encouragement to people would be to carry on the message LJ carried and to value your friendships because unexpected things happen all the time."

Those who were close to LJ mourned the loss of a great friend but looked forward to the day when they would be reunited with him to pick up right where they left off.

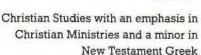
"On our first official date, we went mini-golfing and we're both pretty bad. On the second to last hole, he loses his ball in the water. So I let him use mine and he lost that one too," Frink said. "We never finished that game. He still owes me a game of mini-golf. Maybe we'll get to play it in heaven."

### Early Childhood Education

President of the Women of EEE # OSF Co-Chair of Student Recruitment # Homecoming Steering Committee # Founder of Boomalacka.com # Secretary of Kappa Delta Pi # FBC Arkadelphia nursery worker # College Homegroup # TranServe # Tiger Serve Day # campus tours # plans

to obtain a teaching job in Texas and work toward her Texas Teaching Certification, attend Baylor University to earn her master's in Educational Leadership and eventually become an elementary school principal





WOW Steering Committee # Beta Beta Men's Social Club Chaplain and Master of the Handshake # Student Senate # Fellowship Church # Student worker for Dr. Jackson #

Kanakuk Kamps # Prestonwood Baptist Church Intern # San Diego and Brazil mission trips # plans to become a youth minister and a high school strength and conditioning coach





### **Psychology and Business Administration** with an emphasis in Management

OBU Enactus President and project leader for the International Project in Honduras # OSF History and Traditions Co-Chair # Hickingbotham School of Business Student Advisory Board # International Club # CM Tiger Tunes # Fellowship

Church Worship Team # 2012 International Service Award # 2012 Zeitgeist Psychology Award # 2011 Psychology Faculty Award # Beta Gamma Sigma # Alpha Chi Honor Society # Psi Chi Honor Society # President's List # Resident Assistant # TranServe # Tiger Serve Day # Southern Bancorp Student Advisory Board # plans to attend law school in San Pedro Sula



ROSPER. TX









### Mass Communications and a minor in Psychology

OSF # Campus Ministries 2012 Tiger Tunes Ass set Director # AWANAS and teaches a Pre-K and K Sunday school class at Cross Roads Missionary Church # Second Baptist Crossroads # Dean's



President's List # Ashley Home F OBU Post Office # Habitat for Hum United # plans to pursue a career relations



### Biblical Languages and Christian Studies with an emphasis in Biblical Studies

Refuge speaker # ROMS Chaplain # Freshman \*leader at Fellowship Chuch # Assisstant Pastor = 5 Church # WOW leader # Tiger Serve Day # plans pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from Duke D



School and work for a church fune was voted by his fellow students and ulty & staff to Who's Who in the ta and passed away on December 2



### Instrumental Music Education

International Club # CNAfME Secretary # Alpha Kappa Lambda # WOW leader # Tiger bands # Fill ..... delphia # Cosh and Borland Home Group # Presa # John Brown University summer grounds crew = Interlochen Arts Camp # Disaster Relief # FBCA



Music Skills and Aural Skills tutor me to pursue a Master of Music degree mance from Kansas State Univers







156 who's who PEOPLE



### Christian Media/Communications and Mass Communications

Ministries Special Events leader # women's = # OSF Special Events Co-Chair # OSF Tiger # Fellowship Church # Ouachita Trustee's = President's List # Andrew and Harriet Grant

re Ministerial Award # 125th = Tiger Leadership Network # Bornad # FBC Arkadelphia media ct ta Annual Fund Phonathon # ah Teams # plans to pursue a e in journalism and work for a non-profit or missions publication





BATESVILLE, AR

COLUMBIA. MO

CURINS

### Speech Communication

Beering Committee # EEE Women's Social Club 2010 pledge class chaplain # EEE chaplain # Vice President # Campus Ministry leader # Family Group mom # Noonday leader # Miss contestant # Intramurals # Fellowship Church

Benton youth intern # Project: The Crossing in Columbia, Mis-Congeniality in Miss OBU 2010 # 3rd runner up Homecoming 2 # Kanakuk Kamps, K7 # Tiger Backyard Bible Club Princess Figure and the set of to Jamaica # plans to work at urch in Columbia, Missouri, as Te female Middle School Director



Music and a minor in Christian Studies

President # Kappa Chi Treasurer 2011-2012 # Bass Section Leader # Ouachita Jazz Band ta Jazz Combo # Ouachita Wind Ensemble # Reed Ensemble # Fellowship Church Wor-- - - Group # Dean's List # Bassist # Audio Engi-

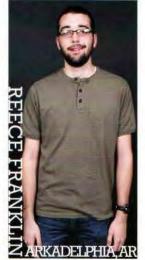
\_ zeard # Compassion International monue playing bass in studio and keep developing and producing tor clients and run live sound











### **Business Administration**

Beta Beta Vice President # Student Senate Senior Class President # Eddle Ary Student Investment Fund # Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock, AR # Camp War Eagle counselor # Lakewood Pool lifeguard # Gildner AutoGroup office assisstant # OBU Phon-A-Thon caller # Tiger Serve



Day Leadership Team # plans to work as a sales representative for Advanced Tissue in Little Rock



Student Senate Vice President # OSF Special Events Co-Chair # Women of EEE spirit leader # Campus Ministries Africa summer missions team # Arkadelphia Chamber of Commerce Student Ambassador # Hickingbotham School

> of Business Student Advisory Board # FBC Arkadelphia Homegroup # Mrs. Betty Grant award for Outstanding Sophomore Woman # Lions Club Political Science Award # 2011 Presidential Award for Volunteerism # President's List # Dean's List # Elrod Center Thanksgiving baskets # Tiger Serve Day # New Orleans Habitat for Humanity # CM NYC mission trip teaching ESL to immigrants # plans to attend law school

### Church Media/Production Arts and Christian Studies with an emphasis in Philosophy

Intramural sports # Marching Band # FBC Arkadelphia youth helper # FBC Arkadelphia youth intern # FBC Arkadelphia media intern # President's List # Dean's List # traveled with the Mike Huckabee tour to Israel as a videographer #



freelance photography # plans to search for a job in a church, working "behind the scenes"



in some media capacity

157 who's who PEOPLE





Kinesiology with an emphasis in Fitness, and Christian Studies with an emphasis in Biblical Studies

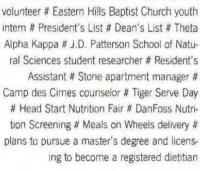
OBU football # Men of Beta Beta # EEE Beau # Phi Epsilon Kappa # Fellowship of Christian Athletes # FAITH organization # Fellowship Church # Dean's List # Christ-

mas project for kids with the football team # plans to work with kids either as a coach and teacher, a youth pastor or a camp director/counselor





2012 Campus Activities Tiger Tunes Director # Dietetics Club, Co-President, Fundraising Committee # Eta Alpha Omega Sweetheart # OSF # WOW leader # NSR leader # Freshman Family Group mom # Fellowship Church youth volunteer and mentor # Park Hill Baptist Church AWANA





#### History, Psychology and Graphic Design

OSF # Student Senate Junior Class Secretary # Women of Tri Chi Sergeant of Arms # Phi Alpha Theta National History Honors Society # FBC Arkadelphia # President's List # Dean's List # Campus Ministries mission trips # TranServe # plans to study history in graduate school















### Biology and Pre-Dental Hygiene and a minor in Dietetics

Women of EEE Intramural Director # Big Sister Tiger Serve Day leadership team # Tri-Beta Biolog Society # Talent Search mentor, TRIO program # Church # K-group # President's List # Dean's List



OBU Runner-Up # Dr. Bell's office assistant # Tiger Serve Day # Missou cleanup # Backyard Bible Club # performance become a dental hygienist after attendental-hygiene school



Kinesiology and Leisure Studies with an error and in Recreation and a minor in Christian Studes

Reaching Out to Multicultutal Students President = Kinesiology Club Special Events Chair # Phi Epsi # Theta Alpha Kappa # Wind Ensemble # Clarnet # WOW leader # Children's Ministry Bible Study

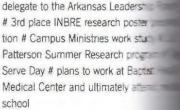


Houston, TX # Outstanding Kines Lesiure Studies Recreation Studer Oliver Grant Endowed Award # Counseling Office Telecounselor # Health Club Kids Club Leader # T Day # plans to own a recreation facility and complex for Houston s youth

#### Biology and a minor in Chemistry

OSF Co-President # Tiger Serve Day Leadersh p Ta-WOW Steering Committee # Homecoming Steer mittee # EEE Beau # American Chemical Society Arkadelphia # Homegroup # Presidential Service Richard H. Brown Outstanding Student in Biolog





### **158** who's who **PEOPLE**

#### Athletic Training and Biology

Eming Committee # OSF # Kinesiology Club # Cub # lota Tau Alpha # Honor Society # Phi Honors Society # President's List # Dean's - ta Scholars Academic Scholarship # Camp counselor and top staff # Athletic Department

- cans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham for physical therapy school

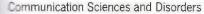




### Christian Studies with emphases in Biblical Studies and Theology

- Day Leadership Team Logistics Chairman # mes Tiger Tunes, Champion 2009, Runner-Up ral Football, Basketball, Soccer and Softball - - - - Foor # Biblical Studies summer trip to Turkey

==== # FBC Benton mission trips and Ecuador # Tri Chi Beau # = FBC Arkadelphia Student Minis-= FBC Benton Student Ministry = Campus Ministries New Orleans = plans to go to seminary for a ty in theology at Mid-America reclogical Seminary and pursue collegiate ministry



President # Tiger Nation Student Leadership Fall Chair # Women of EEE # NSSHLA # OBU = # FBC Arkadelphia # Homegroup # 2012 Grid--omecoming Representative # Tiger Serve Day # e a master's degree in speech pathology from

Louisiana Tech University











LIPHIA AR





#### Business Administration with an emphasis in Management

who's who

Men of Eta Alpha Omega, 2011 Social Director and 2012 Vice President # Student Senate, Sophomore Class Vice President and President, Junior Class President # Tiger Nation Leadership Team # Tri Chi Beau # Fellowship Church



K-group # FBC Arkadelphia Homegroup # Riley-Hickingbotham Library student assistant # Assistant Sports Information Director # Tiger Serve Day



#### History, Political Science and Russian

ROMS # OSF Secretary # Gridiron Girls, Secretary and Treasurer # Intramural football, soccer and softball # Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society # Study Abroad in Costa Rica and Moscow # FBC Arkadelphia Homegroup # Lion's Club Curtis Echols Award # Dean's List # Football Fieldhouse secretary



# Academic Success tutor # ESL summer workshop at HSU # Tiger Serve Day # TranServe # HSU Archaeological Digs # plans to pursue a master's degree in international development at the University of Denver

#### Mass Communications and Speech Communication

WOW Steering Committee # Alpha Chi # Women of Tri Chi, social chair, web master, philanthropy chair # Student Senate, sophomore and junior representative, senior class secretary # OSF, communications co-chair, co-president # Homecoming Steering Committee # Campus Ministries Missions and Pub-



licity Ministry Leader # Second Baptist Church Crossroads # 125th Community Service Award # Homecoming Court 1st Runner-Up # OBU Phon-A-Thon caller # Park Hill Baptist Church Nursery Worker # Elrod Center Thanksgiving baskets # Tiger Serve Day # CM South Africa mission trip # CM New Orleans mission trip # Christian Focus Week volunteer # Operation Christmas Child # plans to pursue a career in non-profit public relations





#### Chemistry and Biology

Women of Tri Chi Treasurer # American Chemical Society Student Chapter President # Alpha Chi Honors Society # Tri-Beta Biology Honors Society # Tiger Network Leadership Award # OBU Trustee Scholarship # Outstanding Freshman of Chemistry # Mondy-Provine Scholar # Summer 2012

Research Intern for Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Instutute # ElderServe # Tiger Serve Day # plans to attend medical school to become a physician

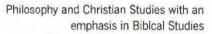




OSF Communications Co-Chair # Flag Football Intramurals # Second Baptist Church Arkadelphia # SBC Crossroads # Bill Downs Outstanding Sophomore Scholarship # President's List # Dean's List # Communications Intern at Arkadelphia Public Schools # Graphic Design Intern at First Baptist

Church # OBU Photo Editor # Tiger Serve Day # plans to pursue a career in communications or graphic design





Refuge Leader # Eta Alpha Omega Spiritual Director # Midtowne Church Assistant Youth/Youth Worship Pastor # FBC Farmington Youth Intern # Worship Leader for Youth Events # Full Time Student # Boss Team BBO # plans to serve

as an intern at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas and pursue a career in music and music ministry and own a barbecue restaurant

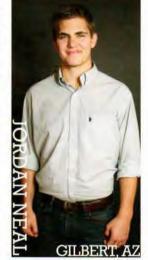
















#### Secondary Education and Mathematics

Backyard Bible Club Ministry Leader # OBU A\*\* cian # Fellowship Church Children's Minister # Fellowship Pastor # 2-time Rowland Me award for Excellence in Mathematics and Compare # President's List # plans to either teach high s

mathematics, coach men's and basketball or teach education at Call



#### Secondary Education and Spanish

CM Big Sister Ministry Leader # CM Big Sister = Activities Board # CAB Co-Chair # OSF Studer Committee # NSR Steering Committee # Secon. Church # SBC Crossroads # D-NOW Leader = Kappa Delta Pi # 2012 Homecoming Queen # P



List # Dean's List # 125th Serve AICU Scholarship Recipient # A Office Telecounselor # Annual F A-Thon for Development # Arkanse Summer Camp # Tiger Serve # OBU Experience Facilitator # trip to Santiago, Chile # WOW leader # plans to enter Christian

Biology

Men of Beta Beta, Athletic Director, Secretary, dent, President # Intramurals # Fellowship Conteam electric guitarist # President's List # Dear Nathan Reyna summer research student # James T. Raines, D.D.S. # OBU TRIO Talent



# Lifeguard # Beta Beta service Tiger Serve Day # Big Brother # \_\_\_\_\_ pursue a career in dentistry



#### English and Secondary Education

# Backyard Bible Club # Princess Academy # Scipleship Leader # OSF Student Recruitment ama Tau Delta Historian # Women's Chorus # stries Tiger Tunes # Campus Activities Tiger

ship Church # K-Group # Outsectomore in English # President's \_\_\_\_st # Presidential Scholarship # -ward # Covenant Harbor Bible selor and Women's Team Coun-South Africa mission trip # CM TranServe # Tiger Serve Leader # considering a career comen's ministry or missionary or a combination of the three



#### **Vocal Performance**

EEE # OBU Opera Theatre Workshop # OBU Teatre Workshop # OBU Theatre Productions # - Chor # Featured Soprano Soloist in the Choir at merian Church, Arkadelphia # 2012 Friends of Vocal Scholarship # First Place in 2012 Mary

Competition for Singers # mulerds in State and Regional level ettons # J&S Framing employee Day # Give Me a Chance Equine sue volunteer # plans to make a profession as a singing actress





**Communication Sciences and Disorders** 

\_\_\_\_\_der # WOW Leader # Freshman Family Group Tiger Tunes # Concert Choir # Student Senate, representative, junior vice president, senior resentative # Kappa Chi Lil Sis # Kappa Tunes Tutor # NSSLHA OBU chapter # Women of

resident of PC '10, spirit officer, Teer Tunes director, keeper of the = FEC Texarkana, TX # Dean's List # -arrecoming Court, 4th runner-up # TX, youth intern # Tiger Serve eration Christmas Child # plans to s degree in speech pathology University of Central Arkansas



#### Chemistry and a minor in Biology

of EEE # American Chemical Society Social Coordinator # Alpha Chi Honors Society # Tiger \_\_\_\_\_\_eadership Program # Fellowship Church Youth Program # K-Group # Mondy Provine Schol-= ¥ ss OBU 2011 Academic Award # Miss OBU

and Outer Beauty Award # 2011 \_\_\_\_\_cent Leadership OBU Delegate # esearch in the summer of 2012 at Center for Toxicological Research # Hope Crisis Pregnancy Center Pine Bluff # Tiger Serve Day # Cancer Society events # plans to ersity of Arkansas for Medical College of Pharmacy to pursue a career in pharmaceuticals





















ITTLE ROO









OBU Women's Soccer # CM Women's Bible Study # CM Tiger Tunes # NSSHLA Special Events Coordinator # OSF Special Events # Intramurals # helping with UMK kids # President's List # Dean's List # 2009 All-Academic Women's Soccer Team # 2011 All-Conference Women's Soccer 2nd



Team # 2012 Conference Tournament All-Conference Women's Soccer Tearn # Kanakuk Kamps # plans to pursue a master's degree in speech pathology at the University of Central Arkansas

161 who's who PEOPLE

### Accounting and Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance

Women's Tennis # Women of EEE # Student Senate, sopphomore and junior class treasurer # Alpha Chi Honors Society President # Hickingbotham School of Business Student Advisory Board # String Ensemble # FBC Rogers Church

Orchestra # FBC Arkadelphia # FBCA Homegroup # President's List # Sophomore Class Homecoming Representative # 2011 Gulf South Conference All-Academic Tennis Team # Tennis Instructor at Heflin Tennis Center # Camp War Eagle Counselor # Walmart Summer Intern, Tax Department # Big Sister # Relay for Life # Tiger Serve Day # mission trips # plans to take the CPA exam and begin her career in public accounting with BKD accounting firm in Rogers

Kinesiology with an emphasis in Fitness and a minor in Dietetics and Nutrition

OBU football team

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Leader # OBU Football # Special Olympics # HomeGroup, Faith and Bible Study Group # OBU Football Team Captain # 2011 All-Conference Linebacker # Special Team Player Spring 2011 # 2 time

Player of the Week # Super Tiger # Upward

Bound # Talent Search # Christmas Project

Beehive # New Orleans mission trip # plans

to pursue a master's degree in sports science

while working as a graduate assistant for the

#Tiger Serve Day # Helping Hands at the





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**162** faculty **PEOPLE** 



"It is truly an honor to be nominated for the AFCA Board of Trustees and represent one of the greatest professions in the world."

### **TODD KNIGHT**

Brandon Smith

To be as good as it can be, a team to buy into what you as the coach are tang. They have to feel you're a part of the and they're a part of you."

The statement was made by Bobby Lenght, one of the greatest coaches in maked basketball history, when asked what the key to coaching. Knight was an example passionate coach who will go the most notable coaches a state basketball history.

Although Ouachita Tiger Head Foot-Coach Todd Knight does share the last name as Bobby, there is no buily relation. The two men are similar, the week, in the fact that they both are cremely brilliant at getting their playto buy into their coaching system and training them to perform extremely well.

Todd Knight has been coaching at Chachita for 14 seasons, leading the team integrity, passion, and an appetite for success.

Knight first came to Ouachita as a dent-athlete, playing football under the egendary Tiger football coach, Buddy benson. Coach Benson, was inducted into Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame, NAIA Eall of Fame and OBU Athletic Hall of Fame, was the perfect leader for Knight to pay for and have the opportunity to learn ander.

After graduating from Ouachita, Inight began diligently pursuing his career in coaching, and landed his first head coaching job at Delta State in 1993.

In 1998, he led the Statesmen to an 8-3 record, including a visit to the NCAA Division II Playoffs. His team was named GSC champions and he was awarded the GSC Coach of the Year honor. After that extraordinary season, Coach Knight returned to his alma mater, Ouachita Baptist University, as the head football coach.

In his 14 seasons as head coach at OBU, Knight has established a premier football program. While playing in the GSC, the Tigers have earned huge victories, including first ever wins against national powerhouses such as Valdosta, Delta State, and North Alabama.

While at Ouachita, Knight has established the football program as an elite program among all Division II institutions. He boasts a Great American Conference Championship in 2011, the first year of play for the conference. The team finished the season with a record of 7-3. This record tied the best season record for Ouachita football since Knight joined the staff. The same year, Coach Knight earned his second conference coach of the year award, this time winning it in the GAC.

Knight has coached 23 All-Great American Conference players in the first two years of the conference's existence.

Although the 2012 season had a rocky finish, Knight and his team started the

year with an undefeated record of 6-0, and were at one point ranked tenth in the nation, according to the AFCA poll. The Tigers finished the 2012 season at 6-4.

The Tigers are the only team in Arkansas, in all divisions of collegiate play, with five consecutive seasons with a winning record, cracking the AFCA top 25 in all five of those seasons.

Earlier this year, Coach Knight was elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Football Coaches Association. Being elected into this association meant Knight would be joining widely known college football coaches such as Mack Brown of the University of Texas, Mark Richt of the University of Texas, Mark Richt of the University of Georgia, and Gary Patterson of Texas Christian, in helping the AFCA formulate policy and provide direction.

"It is truly an honor to be nominated for the AFCA Board of Trustees and represent one of the greatest professions in the world," Knight said. "I will not take this appointment lightly and look forward to working with other coaches to help ensure our great game a very productive future."

Knight is already an active member on the NCAA Rules Committee, and is committed to progressing the game of football to its highest potential. Although he is a member of these groups, his first priority is the OBU Tigers, as he prepares his team in hopes for a conference championship and a sixth consecutive winning season. "The grant has allowed us to transform the way we teach science in our classes and in our research."

# LORIHENSLEY

### Heather Francis

One of the greatest research projects of our time is finding a cure for the modern plague - cancer. Curing cancer is one of the biggest concerns of our society today, a concern deeply shared by Dr. Lori Hensley. She is currently researching a drug that could possibly help with the treatment of cancer, and might be able to aide scientists in finding a final cure for cancer.

This in-depth research program was made possible after Dr. Hensley received a grant in order to help with the funding of the project.

"I received the grant from a program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health called IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence," said Hensley. "The program was designed for states receiving below the median level of funding from the NIH in an effort to get students interested in biomedical research at the undergraduate level."

Dr. Knight and Dr. Jeffers were the first to receive this grant, which equipped them with the initial funds they needed in order to build an extensive undergraduate research program. Dr. Hensley has written for two, five-year renewals for that grant program.

"Receiving the grant has provided my students and I, as well as the biology department and School of Natural Sciences, with equipment, supplies, and opportunities we would not have had otherwise," said Hensley. "The grant has allowed us to transform the way we teach science in our classes and in our research. I feel very blessed to be part of it."

The grant has opened the door for many opportunities, including funding the research and experiments being done by Dr. Hensley as well as her student researchers.

"I started off working with a drug called ajulemic acid, investigating its effects on neuroinflammation in the disease multiple sclerosis," said Hensley. "In 2008 our focus shifted to its effects on pediatric cancer. The drug is a synthetic compound that is structurally similar to tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active compound in the Cannabis plant."

The drug being researched "is a synthetic derivative of THC. Ajulemic acid has some of the same medicinal effects as marijuana does without the psychotropic high because it is structurally similar but is not the same," said Ryan James, a senior biology major from Benton, Ark., who works with the project.

"While this drug seems to provide many of the positive medicinal benefits associated with marijuana, it provides no 'high', and is therefore much less controversial as a potential therapeutic drug," said Hensley.

In addition to Dr. Hensley, those working on the project include Mrs. Amy Eubanks and Dr. Marty Perry, alongside a very talented and passionate group of students. Each semester, four students are able to work on the project. During the summer, an additional 2-3 students are given the same opportunity. "Working with the students is the best part of the research," said Hensley.

Not only are these faculty members and students able to be a part of this verimportant research, but the exciting prospect of hopeful results is what gives them the drive to finish their tasks each day.

"We do see very promising results with our data," said Hensley. "We can show thability of this drug to kill tumor cells in the lab and in a mouse model of Ewing's sarcoma we created. Ewing's is an aggres sive pediatric bone cancer with a less than 30 percent, five-year survival rate."

The research is yielding very promising results, which could mean adding countless new options for cancer therapy in the near future. "We can also inhibit the ability of the tumor cells to migrate, which may translate into lower rates of spread throughout the body," says Hensley.

These students have received at amazing opportunity, not only for valuable experience that they need for their future careers, but for a once in a lifetime chance to engage themselves in one of the lead ing scientific searches of our time - finding a cure and more in depth treatment for cancer.



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"With something like theatre, every day is a new experience."

# **ERIC PHILLIPS**

Scah Hutchinson

"What'd you do at work today?"

"Oh, you know, kicked gravity in the seand made it so that two people could a 2,000 pound set across the stage cout any difficulty. No big deal." Not set y people get to answer this question way, but for Eric Phillips, technical/ director for all theatre productions at every day is a new challenge.

Twe always loved theatre," said "saips, who serves as professor of therearts. "I went to school at a liberal arts salege, similar to OBU, and I thought it sight be scary to audition during my first sar there. I decided to try working in the nop instead, and I realized that I really and some skills that carried over into that fed."

As a boy, Phillips had several hobbies he believes added to the skills that ared him to be a successful in the techal aspect of theatre.

"My friends and I used to make little -cries with Legos," Phillips said of his stry years. "We had to go borrow our parents' camera, and it wasn't some fancy spital thing like they have now." Phillips mes a few of his experiences outside of the theatre to mold his students into better mage workers.

Phillips says that the most enjoyable per of his job is the fact that every day is a me challenge. Most people can draw on projects to do things in the future, but Phillips says that he's rarely encountered anything that he has already done.

"With something like theatre, every day is a new experience," Phillips said. "One day I'll have to make it rain on stage, then another I'll need a giant arm to fall down in the middle of everything."

With every show, Phillips accumulates more and more stories to tell about all of the larger than life events that he's had to simulate on the stage.

"I've had to build two different elevators, and people had to be able to tap dance inside of them," Phillips said. "On top of that, it had to be raining inside of one of them. We used a locking safety pulley to lift the elevator into the air, so that as it went up, the pulley wouldn't let it come back down."

Along with the elevators, Phillips has had to construct a 16 foot long, 4 foot tall arm to simulate a giant being killed and falling to the ground off stage.

"I've always liked drawing, and comics and graphic novels," Phillips said. "I draw out how I want the set to look, and then I build it. For "Machinal," we wanted to have a kind of terrifying maze. It had to seem stationary at times, but also like a matrix where everything is moving around you."

Phillips' costume work is just as fascinating and masterful as the work he does on the set, oftentimes using complicated techniques to get everything just right.

"For one show, we had to have masks that changed little by little throughout the show as the characters developed," Phillips said. "So we made an exact mold of the actors faces with dental gel, and then put clay over the top of them. One mask got progressively evil throughout the show until at the end it was a twisted monster face."

With a job like this, Phillips has to be able to trust his own skill set. He can't back down from a project just because he doesn't know how to do it right off the bat. He has to invent his own solutions.

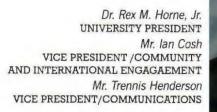
"It usually takes anywhere from two to three tries to get something right if it's really complicated." Phillips said.

Although Phillips faces new challenges every day, his experience gives him the knowledge of techniques and materials that he can bend to whatever he's trying to accomplish.

"I've been working here for 20 years, which means that I've done about 100 plays," Phillips said. "Theatre has a tendency to take from other things. We'll take something from metal working, or something from sailing, whatever we need to make the set work."

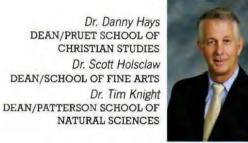
At the end of the day, being a master craftsman who can take audiences into mind blowing new worlds is all fine and good, but to Phillips, it's nothing if he can't keep his students safe in the process.

"You have to plan everything out and make sure that it's safe first. That's always been something that my students have said they liked about me: my concern for their safety," Phillips said.



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