

# WOLFTRACKS

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
FALL 2017







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# WOLFTRACKS

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
FALL 2017, VOLUME 96**

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# #WOLVESUP

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**Congratulations!**  
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- WILL METZGER
- LAMEN CRANER
- JAMAL RODGERS
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- CALEB FREEMAN
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- RASHAD KIRKSEY
- JILL TAYLOR
- JENNY KELLER
- PEYTON DEASON
- AMARI TURNER
- OLIVIA LEIBLE

16 6 Comments 10 Shares

**Arkansas State University Office of Recruitment**  
October 10

2018 Seniors: Mark your calendars & keep up with these dates and deadlines to ensure you're on track to be a part of the pack!

**FALL DATES/DEADLINES:**

- FAFSA OPENS: OCT 1
- HOUSING APPLICATION OPENS: OCT 18
- LAST ACT BEFORE SCHOLARSHIPS: OCT 28
- SENIOR PREVIEW DAY: NOV 4
- A-STATE ACT RESIDUAL: NOV 28
- SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE: DEC 1
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September 19

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# A-STATE EXPANDS ACROSS THE BORDER

Arkansas State University made its way across the border this fall, as Campus Querétaro opened in September. Arkansas State is the first comprehensive U.S. university with an American style campus in another country.

Two-hundred fourteen students enrolled in Campus Querétaro and began class on September 4. Seventeen faculty and nine academic support staff were welcomed to campus. Currently, the school is focused on three degree programs: business and communications; engineering and technology and science. Classes are taught in English to help emphasize the value of the American degree.

The grand opening was held on September 21. The Arkansas State System was well represented with ASU System President Dr. Charles Welch, Chancellor Kelly Dampousse, vice chancellors, board of trustees members and Student Government Association President Haley Stotts in attendance. The grand opening included a state dinner hosted by business and government leaders.

Stotts described this experience as a memorable one. She said there were many elements that made it memorable. Stotts spoke on meeting a chancellor's ambassador and connecting with her; she said it was as if they had been friends for years. "It was so neat to see the same elements we use right here in Jonesboro being used on a campus in Mexico," stated Stotts.

Additionally, Stotts found it interesting that the campus was isolated. "The purpose is to eventually build a larger college campus and town around ASU-Q," she added.

Six buildings have been completed, with four more being completed by the end of the year. Four residence hall buildings will be added by the end of next year, as well as a second academic building. The construction of these buildings will help to house the 5,000 projected students in three years.

Stotts said it was surreal to be there, because it had been a project talked about for so long, and for it to be complete was inspiring. Campus Querétaro was funded with \$75 million from private investor, Richardo Gonzales. This campus extension adds yet another fascinating feature to the Arkansas State University System and will no doubt be a staple for future Red Wolves. *Photos by: Travis Clayton*





# BLAZING THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Senior Blaise Taylor has had an amazing four years at Arkansas State University. Taylor, who is best known for his position as a defensive back on the Red Wolves football team, has certainly made the most of his time at A-State and is now arguably the most influential player in the Sun Belt Conference.

In his time at A-State, Taylor has set the school's record for career punt return yards with 1,089, making him the second best in Sun Belt Conference history, as well as the second best among all active players in the nation. Taylor broke another league record for punt returns for a touchdown. Additionally, he holds four of the top-ten marks in school history for punt return yards in a game and season.

This year has been an important year for Taylor's career. While he has served as team captain since 2014, he was also chosen for notable awards recognizing his hard work. This year alone, Taylor was chosen as one of 13 members of the National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete Class, the Hornung Award Watch List, SBC Special Teams Player of the Week and First Team All-SBC Defense.

"I knew growing up as a kid, watching some players not taking advantage of their opportunities off the field, that I wasn't going to be

that athlete that didn't take advantage of the resources provided to me and have very little to show for it," said Taylor. "I was going to make sure I maximized my benefits."

While Taylor has an impressive sports background, what he has done outside of his time spent on the field is even more outstanding. After earning his bachelor's degree in two and a half years, he also earned his Master's of Business Administration in August, leading him into his fourth and final season in the Sun Belt Conference with two degrees.

Taylor exemplifies what a student-athlete should look like. In addition to his other accomplishments, Taylor qualified for the A-State Athletic Director's Honor Roll, as well as numerous semesters on the A-State Dean's List. He was also selected for a Distinguished Service Award in 2017 as one of Arkansas State's most-outstanding graduates based on leadership, scholarship and citizenship.

Ultimately, Taylor has created a lasting impact at Arkansas State, and there is no doubt that he will continue to be an undeniable influence and outstanding alumnus regardless of where life takes him when he finishes his collegiate career at A-State.





## ROBERT HOBBS

Robert Hobbs is a first-semester freshman at A-State. Hobbs graduated from Marked Tree High School and is a creative media production major.

Hobbs is incredibly active on campus, particularly with ASU-TV and the Baptist Collegiate Ministry. Hobbs said he was drawn to ASU-TV because of his own personal interests. "I've always had a passion for film. I've enjoyed filming and editing since middle school," said Hobbs.

When asked what his favorite thing about ASU-TV was, Hobbs said, "My favorite part is the variety of shows that you can help out with. They are also there to teach you, so you don't have to have any background experience with cameras or editing."



## DR. LAQUITA SAUNDERS

Dr. LaQuita Saunders earned a master's degree in History from Arkansas State, and earned her Juris Doctorate degree from the University at Arkansas at Little Rock Law School.

Her areas of study have focused on 19th and 20th century American history, as well as legal and constitutional history. She has taught all of the survey classes, both American and World, as well as courses such as U.S. History since 1945 and The Gilded Age and Progressivism, although most of her courses involve the area of legal history. These have included Constitutional History, The History of Law, Law and Society in America, and The Supreme Court.

She was instrumental in starting the Pre-Law Center for the College of Liberal Arts and Communications, serving as the inaugural co-director for the center, as well as the first sponsor for the Pre-Law Club. In both capacities, she advises students of all majors who desire admission to law school. She also serves as an advisor for the department of history and teaches the department's First Year Experience class.

In 2007, she was the proud recipient of the "You Made a Difference" award, nominated and selected by students, for outstanding advising. This past spring, she received the A-State annual trustees award for excellence in advising. And this fall, Dr. Saunders was recognized by the Arkansas Academic Advising Network as the outstanding Academic Faculty Advisor for the state at a luncheon held in Hot Springs, Ark.

**EXCELLING AT A-STATE**

# HOMECOMING QUEEN 2017: JASMINE OKAFOR

Jasmine Okafor was crowned the 2017 Arkansas State University Homecoming Queen at the end of the 'Highway to Howl' themed spirit week. Nominated for the Homecoming Court by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Okafor has proven to be one of the best and brightest at A-State. She is involved in numerous organizations on campus including the Multicultural Center Ambassadors, A-State Reps, Campus Outreach, Spirit Squads, National Pan-Hellenic Council Executive Board and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Okafor chose to make A-State her home for her college years after being recruited by spirit squad coordinator Paige Pauley. Cheerleading was always a passion for Okafor, and she was thrilled to continue cheering for Arkansas State University.

When asked to give advice about how to get involved on campus, Okafor said, "It's easy to get involved, just find something you love and a group of people who share your interests! Being involved helps grow your experience at Arkansas State." Okafor has enjoyed meeting diverse people who have enhanced her social skills through her involvement on campus.

Although Okafor holds many A-State memories close to her heart, she said her favorite memory as a Red Wolf was cheering in

the rain at Order of the Pack her sophomore year. Even though cheerleading has brought Okafor some of her best memories, it also brought her one of her most embarrassing... busting a standing tuck at a game. However, she said every moment at A-State has made the journey worth it.

"It means so much to me to be able to represent Arkansas State University as Homecoming Queen," remarked Okafor. "It was a humbling honor to be marked in history as the 2017 Homecoming Queen, but it was an even greater honor to know how many minority girls I have inspired and will inspire with this title."

Okafor is thankful that her involvement on campus and her dedication to being a Red Wolf has opened so many doors for her. "My involvement on this campus has made me truly grow as a person," stated Okafor.

Currently a senior at Arkansas State, Okafor will graduate in May 2018 with a bachelor of science in biology. She is the daughter of Chika Okafor and Paulinus Okafor of Lee's Summit, Mo.

*Photos by: (bottom left) Travis Clayton, (bottom right and right) Julie Gaugury*





# HOMEcoming KING 2017: JON MARK HORTON

Jon Mark Horton was named Arkansas State University's Homecoming King during the pre-game ceremony on October 14 before the Red Wolves defeated the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers. The ladies of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority nominated him to run for Homecoming Court.

Horton described the experience of being named Homecoming King as an inexpressible honor. He noted that his high school plans did not originally include attending A-State; however, after his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, Horton knew he needed to stay close to home for his college years. "I am incredibly thankful for Alpha Gamma Delta for allowing me to share the experience of walking across the field escorting my mother. It's a memory we will both cherish forever, and that alone is the most humbling experience I have ever had," remarked Horton.

During his two and a half years as a Red Wolf, Horton has been involved on campus in a variety of capacities. He currently serves as the vice president of the Student Government Association, director of marketing for the Chancellor's Ambassadors, director of events and recruitment for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, vice president of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and president and co-founder of one of A-State's newest regis-

tered student organizations, Global Pack Tracks. Horton is also a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and numerous other campus organizations.

Although he cherishes every memory made during his time at A-State, Horton said his favorite memory has been running in the Student Government Association election. He enjoyed meeting and interacting with students, faculty and staff and has fun serving in his position.

Horton's advice to students is to pour everything they have into what fits them at Arkansas State, because each student gets back what they put in. "Some students like research, others spend more time focusing on religion and some just focus on grades. No matter what you pour in here, it's the focus of A-State to pour right back into you," said Horton.

Horton is the son of Mark and Debra Horton of Jonesboro. He is majoring in exercise science and will graduate in May 2019. Upon graduation, he plans to obtain his Doctorate of Physical Therapy.

*Photos by: (below left) Travis Clayton, (below right) Brooke Lasley, (right) Travis Clayton*





## JENNY KELLER

Jenny Keller is the daughter of Mary Below and Robert Keller. She is from Sikeston, Mo. Jenny is a junior majoring in strategic communications and was sponsored by her sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi.

Keller has served as the president of the National Panhellenic Council and a Student Government Association senator. She loves her university and stated, "A-State continues to give me so many reasons to be thankful."



## SYDNEY HICKERSON

Sydney Hickerson is the daughter of Sandie and Joe Wells. Her hometown is North Little Rock, Ark. Sydney is a senior majoring in multimedia journalism. She was sponsored by the A-State Diamond Dolls.

Hickerson said, "A-State has provided me with lifelong friendships and opportunities you can't get anywhere else." On campus, Hickerson is involved in ASU-TV, Diamond Dolls and the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.



## CLAUDIA RAFFO

Claudia Raffo of Jonesboro is the daughter of Paula and Tommy Raffo. Claudia is a senior chemistry pre-pharmacy major. Her sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta, sponsored her for court.

Raffo is a Red Wolves dancer and was recently awarded fourth runner-up in the Miss Arkansas pageant. Raffo described being named to court as an honor: "I couldn't be more thankful, or think of a better way to end my four years here at Arkansas State."



## HALEY STOTTS

Haley Stotts is the daughter of Karen and Jeff Stotts. Haley is a senior from Little Rock, Ark. majoring in creative media production. The Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity sponsored her.

Stotts currently serves as the 2017-2018 Student Government Association President. She is also a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. A long-time Red Wolves fan, Stotts said, "A-State holds a very special place in my heart as it has shaped and molded me into who I am today."





## CHRISTIAN CANIZALES

Christian Canizales is the son of Lea Saldana and Tereso Canizales. A native of Jonesboro, Christian is a junior majoring in Spanish. He was sponsored by the Delta Zeta sorority.

Canizales serves as A-State's Student Philanthropy Council president and a Delta Zeta Sweetheart. He says A-State has given him a family that "supports, encourages and challenges" him everyday.



## XAVIER FLOWERS

Xavier Flowers is the son of Donna Edmond. Xavier is a senior interdisciplinary studies major from Helena, Ark. He was sponsored by the Black Student Association.

Xavier has served as the president of Brother 2 Brother and as a tutor mentor for the Upward Bound program and was honored with the Excellence of Student Diversity Award. Flowers said, "Arkansas State has molded me into the leader I am now, and for that I'll forever hold Arkansas State close to my heart."



## JOSEPH INMAN

Joseph Inman is the son of Tammy Inman of Highland, and David and Terri Inman of Jonesboro. He is a Jonesboro native and a senior biology pre-professional major. He was sponsored by the ladies of Chi Omega.

Inman is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. He has served on the Interfraternity Council Executive Board and as a Pack Leader. Inman said, "I love Arkansas State and am honored to be on court."



## ROBERT MORRIS

Robert Morris is the son of Rebecca and Earl Morris III. He is from Jacksonville, Ark. Robert is a senior strategic communications major. He was sponsored for homecoming court by the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.

Morris is the philanthropy chair for his fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha. He has a passion for service and is active on the St. Jude Up 'til Dawn Executive Board and in A-State United Way. Morris said, "I am so grateful A-State has given me experiences I wouldn't trade for the world."

# MEET YOUR HOMECOMING COURT



# THE PACK GIVES BACK

Photo provided by: A-State Up 'til Dawn



## STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DEAD DAY

Every student looks forward to 'Dead Day'. It's the one day you get to sleep in before spending the next day and night cramming for your first final. However, some students took time out of their 'Dead Day' to give back this holiday season.

Volunteer A-State organized events for students to get involved and give back in the community. Student leaders rang the bell for the Salvation Army at Kroger. The Leadership Center also spent the day setting up an Angel Tree to sponsor children for Christmas. *Photo provided by: Peyton Newlon*



## DOOR DECORATING FUN FOR LOCAL SENIORS

Members of Volunteer A-State enjoyed taking a day to visit with residents at St. Bernards Benedictine Manor, a local assisted living center for senior citizens. Students worked together to decorate doors and common areas to brighten up the space for the holiday season.

Volunteer A-State member Jack Baran (far left) said, "Getting to decorate the doors of residents in assisted living brought pride and joy not only to the residents but also to Volunteer A-State and the University. Always be the helping hand." *Photo provided by: Lydia Belew*





## RED WOLVES ROLL UP THEIR SLEEVES

Volunteer A-State hosts two blood drives each year on the A-State campus, providing students and community members the opportunity to volunteer and/or donate blood or platelets. During this fall's blood drive, 134 units of blood were collected.

Volunteer A-State President Marisa House (pictured) said, "My dad was the first person to inspire me to give blood! He has given over five gallons now. I hope if I needed blood that I would receive it immediately because there should be an abundance of it. It is up to us to ensure those in need receive it!" The next blood drive will be held February 6-7 in the Spring River Room of the Student Union. *Photo provided by: Marisa House*



## BANKING OUT HUNGER BENEFITS PANTRY

The Arkansas State University Campus Food Pantry provides food to the one in four college students, faculty or staff who is food insecure. This year, pantry volunteers hosted "Banking Out Hunger" to stock the pantry's shelves. Local banks competed to see who could collect the most non-perishable food items and monetary donations from their customers, as well as employees. The drive was held in early October in conjunction with A-State's Homecoming Week. Centennial Bank took home first place and the inaugural plaque. Donations totaled 1,464 items and over \$700.

*Photo by: Katey Provence*



## CITYYOUTH COOKIES & CRAFTS

Members of A-State United Way spent the afternoon of November 30 volunteering at a local non-profit after-school care center, CityYouth Ministries. The students made Christmas crafts and enjoyed cookies and punch with the children at CityYouth. Crafts included creating paper wreaths and popsicle stick ornaments.

A-State United Way Executive Board member Emma Hoggard said she enjoyed spending time bonding with the kids at CityYouth, especially around the holiday season. *Photo by: Katey Provence*



## FUNDRAISING RALLY HELD AT ST. JUDE

More than 40 Arkansas State students and staff participated in a fundraising rally at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis on November 2. The group toured the facility and then attended the rally with the University of Memphis and Christian Brothers University. More than \$5,000 was raised for A-State Up 'Til Dawn that night.

Participant and Up 'til Dawn Executive Board member Rachel Treece said, "It was such an awesome experience! Every time I get to visit St. Jude I fall in love even more!" *Photo by: Katey Provence*

# BACKING THE PACK

Every student who has attended Arkansas State University can attest to the fact that it leaves a lasting impact on your character. For this reason, Arkansas State has some of the most dedicated and generous alumni. Jim and Wanda Lee Vaughn were no exception to this ideal. The Vaughns, both A-State alumni, left \$3.69 million of their estate to the Arkansas State University Foundation, marking the largest such gift in the institution's history.

The gift will be allocated to the following:

- A gift of \$250,000 to establish an endowed professorship in the College of Education & Behavioral Science. The first recipient is Dr. John D. Hall, professor of psychology and counseling.
- A gift of \$250,000 to establish an endowed professorship in the College of Sciences and Mathematics. The first recipient is Dr. Argelia Lorence, professor of metabolic engineering.
- A gift of \$250,000 to establish an endowed professorship in the College of Liberal Arts and Communication. The first recipient is Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch, professor of history (pictured far right).
- A gift of \$175,000 to establish the Jim and Wanda Lee Vaughn Endowed Scholarship in the College of Education and Behavioral Science for an aspiring educator.
- Creation of the Vaughn Gallery in the Bradbury Art Museum with a gift of \$175,000, helping leverage a match from the Bradbury family to fully fund the Bradbury Art Museum endowment.
- A gift of \$2 million to establish the Vaughn Excellence Fund for special university initiatives.
- The Vaughn Gap Fund, \$400,000, which will generate income to support scholarships for promising students who receive some financial aid but who still have major need.
- Naming of the public reception area adjacent to the Reng Student Union third-floor auditorium as the Vaughn Student Lounge.

"Generations of A-State students will enjoy enriched lives because of the educational opportunities and initiatives Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn's generosity is making possible," stated Chancellor Kelly Damphousse. "We are indeed very grateful for their gift and their foresight."

The couple's involvement with A-State also included Mrs. Vaughn's service on the board of the ASU Foundation, Inc., and Mr. Vaughn's membership in the Chancellor's Cabinet and the ASU Museum Advisory Council. The couple also established the Jim and Wanda Lee Vaughn Athletic Endowment for student-athletes. *Photos by: Travis Clayton*







Photo by: Travis Clayton

# FINDING YOUR FAMILY IN GREEK LIFE



## NPC WOMEN RUN TO THEIR NEW HOMES

The National Panhellenic Council at A-State holds its formal recruitment week each fall before classes begin. This year, 291 eager women walked through the five campus sorority houses, anxious to find their new sisters, best friends and mentors.

Prior to recruitment, the women participated in a service project to help them learn and understand the value of philanthropy, a key pillar in any sorority. Potential new members were assigned to various sites around campus and the community such as the A-State Food Pantry, Craighead Forest Park, Salvation Army and more. *Photo by: Brooke Lasley*



## GREEK GODDESS & ADONIS CROWNED

Annelize Collins of Alpha Gamma Delta was crowned Miss Greek Goddess by the men of Lambda Chi Alpha on October 3, while Alpha Omicron Pi took home the Cream of the Crop award based on a sisterhood chant, academics, and donating non-perishable food items to the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas. The event raised 64,073 lbs. of food.

Caleb Freeman of Lambda Chi Alpha was named Mr. Greek Adonis by the ladies of NPC on November 7, and his fraternity won Best Men on Campus based on GPA, campus involvement, and service. The event raised over \$2,000 for Circle of Sisterhood and 397 lbs. of food for the A-State Food Pantry. *Photos by: (left) Marisa House and (right) Brooke Lasley*



## AGR DONATES TO UP 'TIL DAWN

The men of Alpha Gamma Rho hosted the annual Greek Rodeo on October 5. A-State fraternities and sororities competed in rodeo-style games and activities at the Equine Center on campus.

Proceeds from the event totaled \$5,800 and were donated to A-State's St. Jude Up 'til Dawn (UTD) program. Up 'til Dawn is a national collegiate fundraising initiative benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. A-State UTD has set a goal of \$90,000 for the campus to raise by its finale event on March 9. *Photo by: Brooke Lasley*



## NPHC HOSTS HUMP WEDNESDAYS

Vincent Hegler, Marvin Davis, and Justin Bryles, members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., strolled at one of the National Pan-Hellenic Council's Hump Wednesday events in September. Hump Wednesday is held weekly during warm weather months at Unity Park.

"Hump Wednesday is really just a chance to get together with the rest of the NPHC organizations to stroll, cook, and just have fun," Davis said. *Photo by: Brooke Lasley*



## IFC MEN PARTICIPATE IN SERVICE PROJECT

The Interfraternity Council is a self-governing body representing the nine active fraternities on the campus of Arkansas State University. IFC men place a high value on promoting excellence and service.

One of the IFC Executive Council's philanthropy activities this semester involved packing holiday food bags for the A-State Food Pantry. The council packed 100 bags with items that were donated by more than 30 campus registered student organizations. The bags were then distributed by the A-State Food Pantry to students, faculty and staff during November and December. *Photo by: Katey Provence*



## NPHC REPRESENTATIVES VISIT DC

Representatives of the National Pan-Hellenic Council Executive Board traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the 2017 Harbor Institute's Annual Miseducation of the Greek Roadtrip in October. The conference included interactive presentations, workshops, group meetings, competitions, panels and additional special events.

Students were able to explore applicable ideas for A-State fraternities and sororities, while also getting to experience the culture and history of the nation's capital. *Photo provided by: Booker Mays*

# RED WOLVES CELEBRATE WINNING FOOTBALL SEASON

Football season at A-State is arguably one of the most important parts of the Fall semester. Whether you spend it tailgating in The Pines or in a band uniform preparing for the big game, it is a fun experience for all.

The Red Wolves started the season at the University of Nebraska, where they narrowly fell to the Huskers 43-36. Due to Hurricane Irma, week two's game against Miami was canceled because of travel safety concerns. In week three, the Red Wolves won by a landslide against the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff at home with a score of 48-3. To wrap up non-conference play, Arkansas State traveled to Southern Methodist University, where the Red Wolves swallowed a tough 44-21 loss.

In the conference opener, A-State topped Georgia Southern 43-25 in Statesboro. During Homecoming Week, the Red Wolves to the "Highway to Howl" on their way to a 51-17 victory over Coastal Carolina. Quarterback Justice Hansen contributed five touchdowns in the win.

Arkansas State took down Louisiana-Lafayette by a score of 47-3 in a mid-week matchup at Centennial Bank Stadium before traveling to New Mexico State to close out October. A-State brought home a 37-21 win over NMSU. After a weekend off, the Red Wolves hit the road again to take on the Jaguars of South Alabama. USA came out on top 24-19.

A-State returned to Jonesboro just before Fall Break, claiming a 30-12 win over Texas State on November 18. The Red Wolves then spent the Thanksgiving holiday prepping to take on Louisiana-Monroe on November 25. A-State topped ULM 67-50.

In the final home game of the season, A-State and Troy faced off to see who would be crowned the 2017 Sun Belt Conference Champions. The game was one of back-and-forth scoring and exciting plays, all leading up to a heartbreaking end for the Red Wolves. The Trojans won 32-25.

At the conclusion of the season, A-State was invited to its seventh consecutive bowl game, the longest streak of any school in the state of Arkansas. The Red Wolves faced the Blue Raiders of Middle Tennessee on December 16 in the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl in Montgomery, Ala. A-State fell short 35-30. Despite the loss, Red Wolves fans would agree that 2017 was one for the books. *Photos by: (left) Brooke Lasley and (right) Travis Clayton*







# CAMPUS LIFE AS A RED WOLF

Photo by: Julie Gaugury



## LIVING IN LUXURY AT A-STATE

Ground broke on the new Pack Place residence hall in May 2016, and students anxiously filled the halls on Move-In Day for the Fall semester. Pack Place consists of two residential buildings with two- and four-bedroom apartments that include a furnished laundry room, kitchen, living room and private bedrooms, bathrooms and walk-in closets.

Resident Tassie Murphree (left) said, "In Pack Place, I feel like I am living a life of luxury compared to most college housing!" Photo provided by: Tassie Murphree



## 1,474 DIPLOMAS CONFERRED IN FALL '17

A-State Chancellor Kelly Damphousse conferred a record 1,474 diplomas during the December commencement ceremony held on December 9 at First National Bank Arena.

Nathan Johnson of Jonesboro spoke on behalf of the graduating class, saying, "When we leave this campus, we will forever remain representatives of our community at Arkansas State University. We will represent our jobs, our relationships, our families, ourselves to the world around us showing that every Red Wolf counts, that what every Red Wolf has to say matters and that every Red Wolf is capable of taking action." Photo by: Travis Clayton





## WELCOME BACK TO THE PACK

It was a howl of a week as students returned to campus for the Fall 2017 semester. Welcome Week aims to get every Red Wolf involved at the start of each academic year and introduces freshmen to campus life and traditions with First Year Convocation.

Welcome Week 2017 included traditional events such as the Community & Organization Fair, but the Student Activities Board amped things up with a midnight dance party, canvas painting on the lawn of the Student Union and late-night laser tag. *Photo by: Travis Clayton*



## LIMEBIKES INTRODUCED TO CAMPUS

Arkansas State, the first Bicycle Friendly University in Arkansas, added another first to its record in October when the institution became the first in the Mid-South to welcome LimeBike to its campus. LimeBike is one of the fastest growing bicycle share companies in the country, and its signature green and yellow bikes can now be seen on campus and all over the Jonesboro community. A-State students can enjoy a ride at a discounted price of just 50 cents per 30 minutes of ride time.

Student Cameron King said, "My friends and I like to see how many LimeBikes we can get together in one group. It's so much fun!" *Photo by: Travis Clayton*



## THE PATH TO A NEW YEAR

The first day of fall classes at A-State was a total eclipse from the start. First day jitters turned into excitement when an eclipse could be seen throughout the Jonesboro area around 2 p.m. on August 21. Eclipse safety glasses were distributed, and Red Wolves could be seen in every corner of campus catching a glimpse.

Students in the Arkansas Balloon SAT team lucked out and were invited to watch the eclipse in Fulton, Mo. where it could be seen in totality. The team led a project sponsored by NASA. *Photo by: Travis Clayton*



## HOWLING AT ORDER OF THE PACK

Arkansas State University students conducted the 21st annual Order of the Pack on Sept. 14 at Centennial Bank Stadium. Order of the Pack is a campus tradition conducted annually to welcome a new class into the Red Wolves family.

Student Government Association and Student Activities Board representatives welcomed the crowd, ROTC cadets presented the colors as the A-State Choir sang the national anthem, Spirit Squads taught game day traditions and prizes were given out for most overall school spirit, best body art and most spirited sign. *Photo by: Brooke Lasley*

# ATHLETICS RECEIVES \$10 MILLION FOR EXPANSION

December 11 would have just been another dreary and cold day of finals at A-State if not for Centennial Bank and the Johnny Allison family announcing their \$10 million donation to the A-State Athletic department.

The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees voted to name A-State's football field "Allison Field" and its future north end zone facility "Centennial Bank Athletics Operations Center" in recognition of a combined \$10 million from the Johnny Allison family and Centennial Bank to the Red Wolves Foundation. In 2014, Allison, founder and chairman of Home BancShares, made a \$5 million contribution to the Red Wolves Foundation that matches his latest personal gift commitment as the largest in A-State history.

A-State Athletic Director Terry Mohajir thanked the donors by saying, "On behalf of our intercollegiate athletics department, I would like to thank the Allison family and Centennial Bank for their belief and support in us that we can be more than we are," he said. "This sponsorship and gift will help allow us to build an athletics operations center as nice as there is in the country, guaranteed."

"Allison Field" will proudly be displayed in numerous locations on the field, as well as the tunnel entrance into the Centennial Bank Athletics Operations Center, honoring the A-State letterman. Allison not only played on the 1968 football team, but has also served on the ASU Board of Trustees and was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 1998. The Centennial Bank donation extends the previously acquired naming rights of Centennial Bank Stadium to 2037.

"The Allison family is delighted to be able to make this contribution, alongside the Centennial Bank contribution, with the goal to provide the student-athletes at Arkansas State University new opportunities for additional success in multiple areas," said Allison. "We couldn't be prouder to assist and be associated with such an impactful project for Arkansas State University."

Chancellor Kelly Damphousse stated, "On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Arkansas State, I want to add my appreciation for not only today's generous gift, but for a lifetime of service to our university by Johnny and the Allison family." He also added that the North End Zone project will include space benefiting all 17 sports on campus, not just football. *Photos by: Travis Clayton*



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# EVERY HOWL IS HEARD

Arkansas State is dedicated to diversity, offering many activities that showcase a variety of cultures. The Multicultural Center is committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all students thrive. It provides social, cultural, educational and leadership opportunities with specific attention to the needs of underrepresented and marginalized students.

The Multicultural Center, better known on campus as “The MC,” provides services and programming in the areas of cultural programs, multicultural education and leadership & success. Events include lectures, celebrations, workshops, peer mentoring, etc. The MC also serves as a resource to many multicultural student organizations including the Black Student Association, Brother to Brother, Circle of Trust, the Gay-Straight Alliance, Hispanic Outreach & Latino Appreciation (HOLA), the International Student Association, the Student Veterans Organization, the Multicultural Ambassadors and more.

Fall 2017 was packed full of events for students, faculty and staff to enjoy. The semester kicked off with a Multicultural Mixer before classes began to welcome students to campus and educate the campus community on what the MC offers. Welcome Week continued with partnerships with the fraternities and sororities of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, as well as the Student Activities Board.

September kicked off the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, while also encompassing Campus Safety Week, Sexual Assault Awareness Week and a candlelight vigil in honor of victims of domestic violence.

In October, the MC hosted a DACA Forum along with Multicultural Monday, a non-traditional student panel and a LGBTQ+ gender expression lecture.

November included Native American Heritage Month celebrations, as well as International Education Week, observance of Transgender Day of Remembrance and the annual Miss Essence pageant hosted by the Black Student Association. Khagji Warren was named the 2017 Miss Essence.

When asked about the busy semester, Director of the Multicultural Center, Dr. Evette Allen replied, “Fall 2017 has been an awesome semester. This semester we have collaborated with more than 12 departments and organizations to produce over 20 programs and initiatives to best serve our students and enhance understanding of social justice.”

*Photos by: (left) Travis Clayton and (right, top to bottom) provided by Brother to Brother, Brooke Lasley, Julie Gaugury, and Brooke Lasley*



# LETTER FROM YOUR SAB PRESIDENT

Welcome back, Red Wolves! We hope you had a safe and relaxing Winter Break and are now revitalized for this semester.

Fall 2017 was a whirlwind, from Welcome Week and Order of the Pack, to Homecoming Week and Fall Fest. Student Activities Board is always grateful for your continued support. We are always trying to bring new ideas and fresh faces to campus, so we appreciate the feedback you have provided.



Last semester at A-State was impressive and innovative and has made me prouder than ever to be a Red Wolf. One of our most exciting accomplishments last semester was the revival of the Homecoming Parade, which is the first one we've had in years. History and culture run deep on this campus, and SAB is so excited to be apart of re-establishing this tradition. I can't wait to see how the parade grows and transforms in years to come.

We'd like to give a special shout-out to all the organizations and offices that have supported or partnered with us throughout the semester. Thank you for all you do!

We look forward to seeing you this semester at some of our favorite events like Pack Pride Day, Springfest, or Day at the Park! Be looking for dates on these events in the near future.

If you have an idea for an event, questions, or concerns, feel free to either email [sab@smail.astate.edu](mailto:sab@smail.astate.edu) or stop by the SAB office in the Leadership Center!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaylianne Weber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kaylianne Weber  
2017-2018 Student Activities Board President



# RED WOLVES REVIEW

**VB:** **AT-LARGE SELECTION TO NIVC**  
FOURTH-STRAIGHT 20+ WIN SEASON

**SOC:** **FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR & 3 ALL-SBC SELECTIONS**  
HIGHEST SEED AT SBC CHAMPIONSHIP IN SCHOOL HISTORY

**BKB:** **WOMEN TOP GATORS ON THE ROAD**  
MEN OPEN LEAGUE PLAY WITH WIN OVER ULM

**T&F:** **9 EVENT WINNERS AT KICKOFF KLASSIC**  
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY FINISHES FOURTH IN SBC

**BOWL:** **FIRST AT WARHAWK CLASSIC**  
HOSTS MID-WINTER INVITATIONAL IN JANUARY



**ARKANSAS STATE**  
RED WOLVES

# ARKANSAS STATE BASKETBALL



# IT STARTS HERE

## 2017-2018 SUN BELT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

LOUISIANA-MONROE  
**DEC 29TH**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

LOUISIANA  
**DEC 31ST**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

TEXAS STATE  
**JAN 11TH**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

UT ARLINGTON  
**JAN 13TH**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

GEORGIA STATE  
**FEB 1ST**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
**FEB 3RD**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

LITTLE ROCK  
**FEB 17TH**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

APPALACHIAN STATE  
**FEB 22ND**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

COASTAL CAROLINA  
**FEB 24TH**  
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS



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