

St. Jude Children's Hospital recognizes A-State leaders and educators Red Wolves for St. Judge reaches fundraiser goal

RACHEL RUDD

STAFF WRITER

Recently, St. Jude Children's Hospital recognized two leaders within the student organization Red Wolves for St. Jude. Katy Provence, advisor of Red Wolves for St. Jude and associate director of the A-State Leadership Center, was named the St. Jude Higher Education Professional of the Year. "It was very humbling to be acknowledged by an organization that is as amazing as St. Jude is. The mission of St. Jude is very personal to me, so to be able to work for a cause and just be acknowledged for my work was very humbling and generous of them," Provence said. Red Wolves for St. Jude used to be known as Up 'til Dawn, a collegiate program that raises money for the pediatric hospital. The hospital relies solely on fundraising, so organizations like Red Wolves for St. Jude raise money for cancer research and treatment at no charge to patients. "Students can sign up to fundraise themselves, so they can be directly part of this mission in fundraising for St. Jude," Provence said. "St. Jude has made it really easy for college students to get involved. We like to think that Red Wolves

for St. Jude is a way that our campus is part of something bigger than ourselves." Allysa Weaver, former Up 'til Dawn executive director at A-State, received the title of St. Jude Leader of the Year. She began working with the organization her freshman year. She started out as a fundraising participant and applied for the executive board her junior year. She served as the social media and marketing director. Upon reaching her senior year, she was appointed to the executive director position. "I definitely wasn't expecting to receive an honorable award from the hospital. I'm one in a million of people who fundraise, so it was a really big honor," Weaver said. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Weaver and her board set both a school and nationwide record for being the top fundraising school in the United States, raising \$106,000 for the hospital. For Weaver, earning the record was, at first, a way to leave a piece of herself behind after she graduated. "Going into last year, I wanted to set a record. I wanted to raise \$106,000 because the highest A-State has ever raised is \$105,000. I wanted to beat a record, I was going to do it,



Photo by Rachel Rudd | Staff Writer

Katy Provence.

I didn't care if we were in (a pandemic), I was going to make it happen. It was all about me," Weaver said. However, Weaver experienced a change of heart while fundraising. She realized raising money for childhood cancer victims was bigger than herself. She began to view it as a way to glorify the Lord. "In the middle of the fall semester, my gaze just really shifted; 'as a believer, why am I doing this to glorify myself?

The hospital is bigger than me and the Lord is bigger than me.' Whenever my gaze shifted toward that, it became less about the money and more about reaching people. (I was) making sure that I was leading my executive board in a way that they felt loved and seen and valued," Weaver said. In the end, Red Wolves for St. Jude hit its \$106,000 goal on the final night of fundraising, setting a new record for A-State. For Provence and Weaver, it



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALYSSA WEAVER

Allysa Weaver.

represented months of hard work and dedication. "It was really cool. Celebrating that was really awesome, I was really thankful we got to do that," Weaver said. "I'm just thankful that Katy was there and my team was there. If it wasn't for them it wouldn't have been possible anyway. Their hard work meant a lot to me." For Provence, being the advisor of Red Wolves for St. Jude has been a rewarding experience. She sees students get involved

and care about an issue that affects thousands of people. "It's been super rewarding seeing students care about something that's as big as the mission of St. Jude," Provence said. "It's great to see the students who have carried on their love of St. Jude even after graduation. It's really neat to see how students grow to care about something while they are in college and continue that."

STATE ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

- September 16**
Latin Food Festival
Multicultural Center w/
El Centro Hispano and
Hermandad de
Sigma Iota Alpha, Incorporada
Time: 6PM
Location: Centennial Hall
- September 21**
Hermana y Hermano Relay Event
Time: 5:00PM
Location: Heritage Plaza
- September 23**
Hispanic Heritage Museum
Multicultural Center w/
El Centro Hispano and
Hermandad de
Sigma Iota Alpha, Incorporada
Time: 6PM
Location: Centennial Hall
- September 27 - October 1**
Hermandad de
Sigma Iota Alpha,
Incorporada Week
- September 30**
Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha,
Incorporada Informational
Time: 6PM
Location: Cache River Room
- October 7**
Cooking with the SIAs
Time: 6PM
Location: Virtual
- October 11**
SIA Loteria Night
Time: 6PM
Location: Centennial Hall

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM @ astatemc



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALYSSA WEAVER

Allysa Weaver holding a check for St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital.

CAMPUS CRIME

COURTNEY EDWARDS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sept. 21 | 7:46 p.m.
Corporal Bowman was dispatched to 322 University Loop, Jonesboro in reference to suspect one walking around talking to himself and disturbing the library. Bowman made contact with suspect one and said he was able to identify that he has some type of "mental issue." Bowman removed a knife from suspect one's pants

pocket and escorted him to the library lobby. Bowman then searched suspect one with consent. No contraband or weapons were found. Suspect one was issued a Persona Non Grata and Criminal Trespass Warning. Suspect one refused to sign the form.

Sept. 22 | 3:56 a.m.
Suspect one was traveling northbound on Marion Berry and Aggie Road when Corporal Bowman observed him fail to stop at the stop sign. Bowman activated his emergency light and stopped suspect one at the

intersection of Marion Berry and Eldridge Street. Suspect one told Bowman he had a suspended driver's license. After Bowman confirmed suspect one did have a suspended driver's license, he was removed from the vehicle and placed in handcuffs. Bowman then conducted a search of the vehicle and found marijuana wrapped in receipt paper. Suspect one also had an active warrant out of Poinsett County. He was then escorted to the Craighead County Detention Center and booked in.