

Sigma Gamma Rho and Iota Phi Theta complete Divine 9



PHOTO BY CIDNEY DAVIS

CIDNEY DAVIS
LIFE EDITOR

Sigma Gamma Rho inc. And Iota Phi Theta inc. Make plans to return spring 2022 bringing all Divine 9 (D9) organizations back to A-State. Both the Fraternity (Iota Phi Theta) and Sorority (Sigma Gamma Rho) have been absent from campus due to most members graduating coupled with low interest. The last line of Sigma Gamma Rho members was 2005 with Iota Phi Theta following in 2019. Nora BouzihayAssistant Director of Multicultural Affairs, Charter member of Mu Phi Sigma chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho in Dubai UAE and on campus advisor is excited for the return of her sorority sisters and is looking forward to planning events. “I have been working on bringing back Sigma Gamma Rho for several years now. I’m looking forward to all the

Divine Nine back on campus together. I’m looking forward to more Greek Unity within the campus. In all, just everybody coming together with the same purpose.” Bouzihay says. In regards to representation of the D9, Doug Lockhart A-State alumni and Graduate Advisor for Eta Phi Theta chapter, believes Arkansas State could do better in supporting its Black Greek organizations. “Over the years, the minority or Black population has been going down significantly and I feel as though the D9 is one of the pivotal points A-State can use to help with that recruitment. As of right now, all A-State can do is support the Black Greek organizations,” Lockhart says. He believes one way this can be achieved is through older alumni investing and reaching out to younger D9 organizations. Mays Booker III, Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life and member of

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity inc. Is grateful for the return of both organizations and wants the D9 organizations to remain at A-State. “I don’t want us to get all nine here and then a few years later we’re back to whatever six, seven ... not all nine orgs there. We want to ensure we put a plan in place to keep all Divine 9 on this campus for a very long time and continue to provide them with resources they need to be successful” Mays says. Sigma Gamma Rho has already hosted an informational mixer on January 19th to recruit incoming members but Doug Lockhart will be hosting an interest meeting February 7th in the Student Union. Both organizations will also have their own individual flag raising ceremony at Unity Park where their flags will be displayed alongside other D9 organizations.

“Bridge The Gap”



PHOTO BY CIDNEY DAVIS

CIDNEY DAVIS
LIFE EDITOR

To bring in the first day of Black History Month, University Housing put on an event “Bridge The Gap ” put on by University and Kay’s hall. The event was designed to allow students to have an open discussion on Black history and Black culture. Hosted in the U-Hall Den, students were given a safe space to express their feelings around hard hitting questions such as “Why did you choose a predominantly white institution over a Historically Black College or University?” And “What does Black culture mean to you?” All A-State students were welcomed to attend the event even if you aren’t a resident of Kays or University hall.

Allysa Weaver, Graduate School Resident and Education Coordinator over Kay’s Hall planned the event with coworker Jenny Keller Residence Education Coordinator Over University Hall and Greek Village before the beginning of the semester to ensure students are given a safe space to share their feelings and ideas. “I am extremely happy with how it turned out and I hope that the conversation was productive,” Weaver says.”It was extremely encouraging to me as an individual and a full time staff member and you know as a white person who desires to be more educated and be an ally” Black participants were very vocal about their experiences with racial discrimination in and out of educational settings while white

students acknowledged and listened to their peers. The event was very well received by participants and encouraged to continue beyond Black History Month. “ I think this was pretty helpful and really relaxing to get a lot of this stuff off your chest, ” said participant Cheneria Boykins, freshman criminology and sociology major from Forrest City. Another participant, Jasmyn Turner, freshman civil engineering major from Forrest City said “I feel this event was very encouraging. It was progress, progressive education is elevation and it was a stepping stone towards a bigger better future for white culture, Black culture and cultures all around us.”

Interested in reporting? Join us every Monday at 5 p.m. in room 224 in the Communications Building.

HOROSCOPES

w - IN SEASON

MYSTIC CORRESPONDENT

ARIES
(March 22 - April 19)

You will not be able to control every situation. Trust the process and the people around you.

TAURUS
(April 20 - May 20)

You need to take more time for yourself. Other people are not entitled to your time.

GEMINI
(May 21 - June 20)

Be flexible and communicate with others. You can be a voice to guide people in the right direction.

CANCER
(June 21 - July 22)

Experience your emotions as they come instead of trying to control them. This will give you a better handle on your reactions.

LEO
(July 23 - Aug. 22)

Are you acknowledging your accomplishments? You are more self-reliant than you think.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Don't let yourself worry over things with seemingly no reason. If you don't find the root of your concern, it will eat away at you.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Open yourself up to love from others. Strengthen your relationships with the people who care about you.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You are ready to move on and focus your energy on positive changes. There won't be a winner in every situation, but you can handle that.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You need to slow down. You are taking on too much right now, and you're going to get overwhelmed if you don't stop while you're ahead.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Don't give up on things so easily. You are capable of breaking negative cycles in your life.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You need to take off your rose-colored glasses. If you leave them on, you won't see the red flags.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 - March 21)

Don't let imposter syndrome hold you back. You are perfectly capable of reaching your goals, even if you need to ask for help.

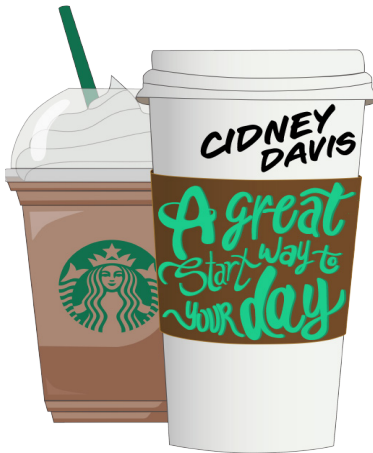
Campus Starbucks Morning Tips

CIDNEY DAVIS
LIFE EDITOR

For any student wanting to get a fast hot breakfast before class or simply wanting to spice up their morning routine, they might turn to the Starbucks in the Student Union. Located on the second floor, this Starbucks serves hundreds of A-State students daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays . While I have been a Starbucks customer since 2015, I have never had the opportunity to enjoy their food

items beyond the Cheese Danish and the now discontinued Morning Bun. Tuesday morning I chose to get their staple breakfast item, the Sausage Egg and Cheddar Sandwich with a Venti Iced Blonde Vanilla Latte. The items were completed relatively quickly, giving me enough time to enjoy them before my 9:30 lecture. Though I paid with Flex, the meal was reasonably priced at \$8.40. The sandwich had a fresh taste to it. Upon first bite I recognized a sausage patty that was well cooked along with an English muffin bun

that was nicely toasted. The scrambled egg was average in taste, its pairing with the other ingredients made up for the lack in flavor. The Blonde Vanilla Latte was a fun boost to my morning. While still giving the intensity of 20oz of coffee, the drink was sweet enough to comfortably sip. I would recommend this drink for beginning coffee drinkers who want a boost to their day but want to steer away from the natural bitterness of coffee.



The Beginning of Lunar New Year



LILY CABIBI - WILKIN
LIFE EDITOR

Lunar New Year, one of the most important celebrations of the year among East and Southeast Asian Cultures, began yesterday. Known as the Spring Festival or Chūnjié in Mandarin, Seollal in Korean and Tết in Vietnamese, the new year is a time for food and family, as well as honoring the household. The year 2022 is the year of the water tiger, which arrives every 60 years. The water tiger represents bravery, strength and clearing away evil. Each year in the Lunar calendar is

represented by one of the 12 zodiac animals: the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. The five elements of earth, water, fire, wood and metal are also represented. Next year will be the year of the water rabbit. Traditional Lunar New Year foods include rice ball soup, rice cakes, fruit and dumplings. Celebrations also include giving money in patterned envelopes, and the last day of the New Year in China is commemorated with the Lantern Festival, which includes parades, dances, fireworks and games.

THIS WEEK'S POP PICKS

LILY CABIBI - WILKIN | OPINION EDITOR



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PARADE & SPOTIFY



Jimmie Allen

Genre: Country

The first Black singer to have a debut single at number 1 on the country radio charts and winner of the 2021 ACM award for New Male Artist of the Year, Allen has collaborated with fellow country singers Brad Paisley and Charley Pride.

Top tracks include “Best Shot,” “Freedom Was A Highway” and “Good Times Roll.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEW YORK TIMES & SPOTIFY



Meet Me @ the Altar

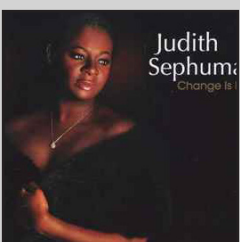
Genre: Pop punk

Formed in 2015 by Téa Campbell, Ada Juarez, and Edith Johnson over collaborations on the Internet, this band got their start posting covers on YouTube. Drawing on their own influences of pop, gospel, and punk, they have been celebrated by fellow pop punk artists Dan Campbell, Alex Gaskarth and Halsey.

Top tracks include “Garden,” “Hit Like A Girl” and “Morris Farm Drive.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JUDITH SEPHUMA.COM & SPOTIFY



Judith Sephuma

Genre: Jazz and gospel

Originally from Polokwane, Limpopo, Sephuma has been dubbed “queen of Afro Jazz.” Having worked with international artists like Kenny G, Al Jarreau and Chaka Khan, her music touches on a variety of sounds and even languages.

Top Tracks include “Ngisize Nkosi,” “Here I Am to Worship” and “Power of Dreams.”

THE HERALD

NOW HIRING

Writers

Columnists

Copy Editors

Videographers

Photographers

Graphic Designers

Sports Editor

All Students Welcome!

Join us Mondays at 5 p.m. in Comm 224

Questions?

Contact Rebecca Robinson, Editor-in-chief

heraldonline1921@gmail.com