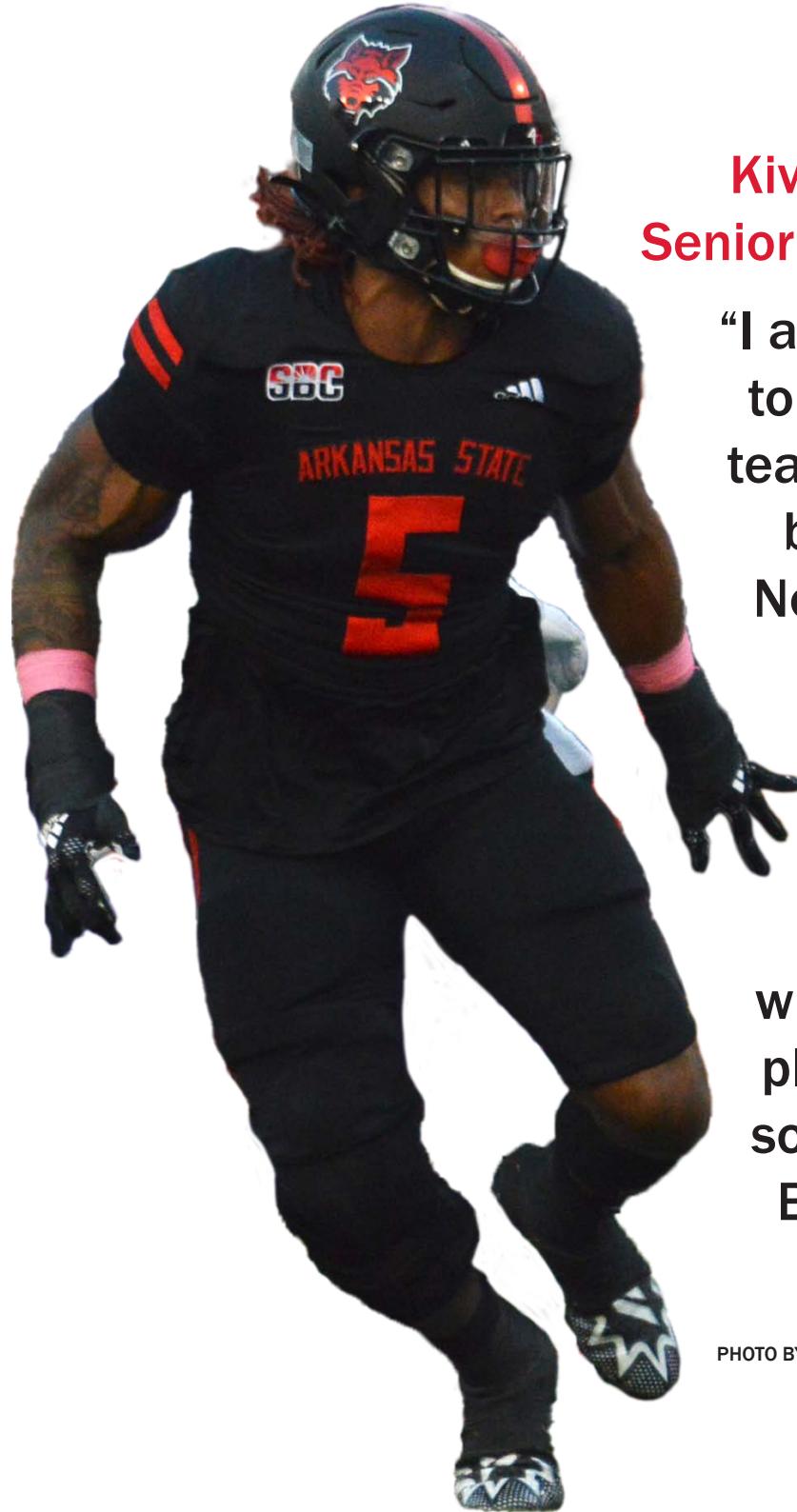


Sports

22 players, one mission

Team Statistics

25.89 points per game
 31.11 points allowed per game
 92.6 rushing yards per game
 152.1 rushing yards allowed per game
 235.11 passing yards per game
 251.67 passing yards allowed per game
 13 rushing touchdowns and 12 passing touchdowns
 32.82 % on third downs (43-131)



Kivon Bennett
Senior Linebacker #5

“I am just trying to be the best teammate I can be this year. Nothing makes me happier than seeing somebody make a play. I do not care who makes the play, as long as someone does,” Bennett said.

PHOTO BY JESSICA McMILLAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Individual Statistics

James Blackman:
 1872 passing yards
 11 passing touchdowns
 Only one interception
 67.32 completion percentage
 234 passing yards per game
 142.74 QB rating

Seydou Traore:
 521 receiving yards
 Three receiving touchdowns
 57.89 receiving yards per game
 Team leader in receiving yards

Dominic Zvada:
 13-13 on field goals
 Longest field goal from 46 yards
 Tied for first in the nation in field goal percentage

East:

8-1



4-5



5-3



5-4



5-4



5-4



3-6



Sun Belt Conference standings

West:

7-2



7-2



5-4



3-6



4-5



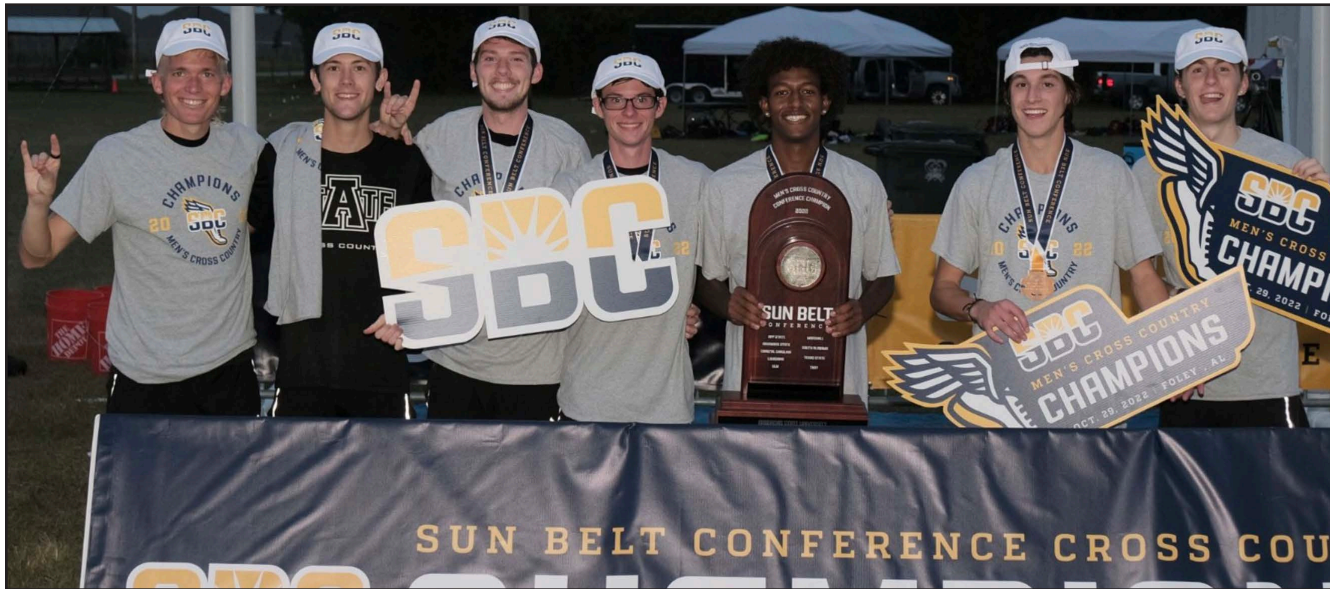
3-6



2-7



Men's cross country team wins second straight SBC title



COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

Men's cross country team celebrating their second straight Sun Belt conference title.

BRAYDEN MORSE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Arkansas State men's cross country team won its second Sun Belt Conference title in a row at Graham Creek Nature Preserve, thanks to a strong finish down the home stretch. A-State trailed South Alabama until the 6K mark, when the Red Wolves took over first place in the team standings and won the league championship trophy behind seven top-15 finishers and four of five top-10 scorers. All seven runners were named all-league from the tournament.

The Red Wolves' women's team finished second to Southern Miss, with 71 points.

A-State kept it close from start to finish in the women's 5K, finishing second behind

the eventual champion Golden Eagles at both the 2K and 3K splits. Jaybe Shufelberger was seventh with a time of 17:12.8, and Sophie Leathers was eighth with a time of 17:28.8. With their results, both earned second-team all-conference honors.

Elizabeth Martin finished 17th in 17:55.5, while freshman Cadence Lapp finished 18th in 18:04.4. Ann-Marie Braese, a first year, finished 21st in 18:12.9 as A-State's fifth best scorer. Olivia Walter (31st - 18:29.6) and Emma Hurlbut (34th - 18:33.5) also ran but did not finish.

South Alabama led through the 2K and 4K splits behind eventual individual champion Kirami Yego, but A-State overtook the Jaguars before the 6K mark and continued to move

up to successfully defend its title.

Two Red Wolves finished in the top four and were named first-team all-conference. Grayson Young's third-place time of 24:21.1 was the best time by an A-State runner. Dawson Mayberry finished fourth with a time of 24:25.5. Jacob Pyeatt finished sixth with a time of 24:33.2 and Nati Enright finished seventh with a personal-best 24:37.9, both earning second-team all-league honors. Enright finished first among first years, earning the league's Freshman of the Year Award. Rylan Brown finished with a time of 24:58.4 to place 12th and earn a spot on the third-team all-league honors. Nathan Herbst finished 13th with a time of 24:59.2 and Ethan Mychajlonka finished 15th with a time of

25:10. They both finished in the top 15 to also earn third-team all-league honors.

When asked about the Sun Belt Conference title and his overall performance, sophomore Grayson Young said, "It felt great knowing that the work I put in everyday is starting to pay off, however, performing well as a team was what made it all feel special. I am definitely amazed at what we were able to accomplish at the meet, but I am more excited for what is in store for the future of this team."

The NCAA South Central Regional Championships will be held Friday, Nov. 11, in Bryan-College Station, Texas, with the top two teams in each race immediately qualifying for the NCAA Championships.

Men's basketball team squanders Harding 86-55 in season opener

BRAYDEN MORSE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Arkansas State men's basketball team won an 86-55 victory over the Harding Bisons in the team's season opener at First National Bank Arena.

Avery Felts #2, a sophomore guard, scored a career-high 16 points and had a career-high seven assists. Felts was one of three A-State players in double-digit points, along with senior guard Markise Davis and sophomore forward Julian Lual, who each had 14 points. Senior forward Omar El-Sheikh led the team with eight rebounds to go along with nine points and three steals.

"The coaches talk to me about being aggressive. (Caleb Fields gets mad at me if I do

not shoot the ball. They help me with my confidence," Felts said.

A-State outrebounded Harding 40-30 and finished with 29 assists. They also submitted a .563 shooting percentage. Defensively, the Red Wolves held the Bison to a .375 field goal percentage, tallied 15 steals and scored 19 points off turnovers. The Red Wolves trailed the Bison 24-14 after 12 minutes, but closed the first half on a 26-4 run and outscored them 46-27 in the second half. There was a fair share of playing time for the team as 12 different A-State players saw action on the court. 10 of the players played at least 10 minutes.

Arkansas State led 40-28 at halftime and scored 36 of the first 43 points of the

second half to extend its lead to 76-35 with 7:38 remaining. Essentially, they ran away with the game. Later in the game, the Red Wolves matched their largest lead of 41 points before winning by 31 points.

"I think not scoring early affected our focus on defense. You have to focus defensively and all of a sudden you are up 10. We were down and we were able to respond early. We did a pretty good job of taking care of the ball. We have a tough game this Saturday against LSU, but I am going to enjoy this win for a moment and then get back to watching film. I will try to find ways for our team to get better," Head Coach Mike Balado said.

The Red Wolves won their season opener for the second year in a row. This is the first

time Arkansas State has won back-to-back season openers since 2004-05 and 2005-06.

The Red Wolves have a tough opponent ahead as they travel to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to play LSU on Saturday at 5 p.m. on SEC Network+.



COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

Sophomore guard #2 Avery Felts

Volleyball team snaps 18-game losing streak

BRAYDEN MORSE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Arkansas State volleyball team won a Senior Day sweep over ULM 3-0.

Senior outside hitter #20 Macey Putt finished her last match inside First National Bank Arena. Putt led A-State offensively, with 22 kills on 34 attacks with just two errors for a blistering .588, while also tallying 10

digs on the defensive side.

The Red Wolves, who hit .294 as a team, held the Warhawks to a .150 hitting percentage, and won the digs battle 60-45.

In the last set, A-State never trailed, leading 10-5 and forcing an early timeout on a block by Yazmyr Billings and Maddie Wiersema. The Warhawks stayed within four points until a 4-0 run extended the Red Wolves' lead to 21-

15. ULM battled back to tie it at 21-all, urging an A-State timeout, which proved useful as Arkansas State won the set and took a 2-0 lead in the match.

Arkansas State surged from an early third-quarter deficit to take a three-point lead on Billings' kill. ULM kept the score close until one of Putt's two aces made it 18-13 and forced a timeout from the Warhawks. ULM would only score twice the

rest of the way, as A-State won the set and the match with seven of the final nine points, sweeping the weekend series.

The Red Wolves hit the road for their final regular-season test, traveling to Huntington, West Virginia, for a pair of matches at Marshall University on Thursday and Friday at 5 p.m. CT on ESPN+, first serve inside the Cam Henderson Center.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, Nov. 10

- The women's basketball team will play at Louisiana Tech in Ruston, LA at 11:30 a.m.

- The volleyball team will play at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia at 5 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12

- The football team will play at home against UMass at 2 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 14

- The women's basketball team will play at UT Martin in Martin, Tennessee 6 p.m.

Bowling team looks to continue winning ways



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

The Arkansas State bowling team is 10-4 with a six-game winning streak. The Red Wolves will travel to Kenosha, Wisconsin to compete in the Ladyjack Classic on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.