

## Overview of the A-State Honors College

AMANDA YIELDING

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

Arkansas State University's Honors College is a hub of enrichment and opportunities for its students.

The Honors College celebrated its 40 year anniversary on April 23. The program has spent the last four decades growing and adapting to offer the best support to its members.

When incoming first-years apply to Arkansas State, they are screened for the Honors College. If they have an ACT score of 28 and a 3.5 grade point average, then they are admitted. Transfer students with a 3.25 grade point average and an advisor recommendation can submit the transfer form found on the Arkansas State website to be admitted as well.

Current students with 18 college credit hours can

also apply for the program with the same requirements.

The Honors College offers many ways to get involved within their program and the campus as a whole. The Honors Ambassadors positions allow for current students to aid incoming honor students through the year.

"It's a good program if you want something to be able to push yourself in college," Faith Stephens, a sophomore biotechnology major from Malvern and a current Honors Ambassador, said. Stephens can be found working the desk in the Honors office once a week. Her other duties include meeting with potential students as well as sending letters out to those who were recently admitted. She gives tours and greets visitors at events like Pack Preview.

Another way honors students stay connected is by living in the

Living-Learning Community. The LLC is made up of three exclusive honors dorms, the new business dorm and the ROTC/STEM den. All honors students are welcome to live in the LLC.

The Honors College also hosts their own welcome week events. This year they held Wingo Bingo, a movie night, Grillin' on the Grass and other events like an ice cream social.

For students interested in travel, The Honors College also takes annual trips. Study abroad opportunities are offered during the odd years and 'Brainy Breaks' are offered during the even years.

The last study abroad trip was in 2019, as COVID-19 halted all travel, but in May of 2023 Honors students will be traveling to the Netherlands and Belgium. Interested students take a course in the spring semester tailored to the culture of the destination.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

### Honors students in a meeting.

Once the semester is over, students have a week to prepare for their two week trip.

During the years that Honors isn't traveling internationally, they travel around the United

States. 'Brainy Breaks' occur during spring break and give students a chance to visit parts of the country they may never have experienced.

CONTINUED:  
HONORS, 4A

## Information Technology Services completes 19 year long project Project provides wireless internet to entire campus

REACE BARNETT

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

Information Technology Services, or ITS has completed an over 19 year-long endeavor: providing the entire campus with wireless internet. As of Oct. 28, there are now 1,217 access points that have been installed around campus.

The resident hall network has been completed for a few years now and consists of 1,313 access points. These access points act as a place for people to connect to wireless network services such as the internet.

In 2003, the campus had only 80 access points. While laptops did have wireless cards, they usually were not built in and had to be added in by the user. Because of this, ITS had a very small deployment when it came to their wireless network.

ITS put up wireless access points where they were requested, or where they might be requested next. This changed with the advent of the iPhone and smartphones in general, as wireless internet demand began to increase.

When Arkansas State University realized that its

wireless internet was going to be a necessity, the budget began to marginally grow. Up until recently, the wireless budget was sparse and the staff allotted to working on it was usually just one staff member and one student worker.

Around 2018, the team grew to two people along with the occasional student worker and a budget large enough to finish the project. Before getting this larger budget, ITS received around \$100,000 a year which could get about 100 access points installed.

The project has experienced

some roadblocks, namely with COVID-19 and supply chain disruptions. Thus, they ended up having to wait for the last batch to come in.

With everything finally installed and properly functioning, the whole campus can enjoy wireless everywhere about campus. Now ITS is focused on keeping these access points up and running properly and preparing to install wireless at the new farmers market, and upgrading all of the switches in the residential halls.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

### A-State students working on computers.

## North Park Quads students get in the Christmas spirit



Photos by Rachel Rudd | News Editor

Despite the small living space of North Park Quads, one group of students isn't letting that keep them from feeling the Christmas spirit.

"We didn't have room for a big Christmas tree or anything, but we wanted to still have some decorations since Christmas time was coming up. So we just got a little Christmas tree to put on our desk and then we just got many things since (the space) is so small," said Andie Kruse, a first-year agriculture business major from Dexter, Missouri.

Along with the small tree, the group also decorated with a Christmas pillow, hanging signs and various knick knacks. To save money, they purchased most of their decor from the \$5 section at Target.

Kruse said the decor makes their living room more cozy. She added that she and her roommates enjoy making hot chocolate and watching Christmas movies in the space to take a break from studying for finals.

"College can be stressful at times and our living room is where we sit and do homework together, so the Christmas decor makes everything a little less stressful and reminds us that Christmas break is just around the corner," said Cloyee Chambliss, a first-year business administration major from Bald Knob.

Kruse said even though she will be living in the Alpha Omicron Pi house next year, she plans to return to help decorate.

"Three of us plan to live together next year, so this will definitely become a tradition for us," Chambliss said.

Chambliss and Kruse added that decorating helped combat homesickness.

"I definitely would recommend it to freshmen, especially just because it's different, not being at home. I know my family was at home decorating and it kind of got me down, but I think it helps that I got to decorate here too," Kruse said.

## CAMPUS CRIME



RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

Dec. 3 | 5:30 p.m.

Officer Jeremy Oswalt was dispatched to Pack Place in reference to a domestic disturbance. Upon his arrival, I met with victim one who stated she and her boyfriend, suspect one, got into an argument around midnight the previous night and he had refused to leave.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., victim one said she pushed suspect one out of her room and demanded that he leave. Suspect one then grabbed victim one by the throat and pushed her up against the wall. Suspect one left the room at this time and victim one called the police.

Upon inspection of victim one, Oswalt did not notice any visible injuries. Suspect one could not be located at the time. At approximately 7:12 p.m., Officer Justin McMillen was dispatched to the visitors parking lot across the street from Pack Place in reference to suspect one coming back.

Oswalt told McMillen that if he was able to locate suspect one to place him under arrest for 3rd degree assault on a family/household member.

Upon McMillen's arrival, he found suspect one in a dark blue 2009 Chevrolet Impala. McMillen arrested suspect one and Oswalt transported him to the Craighead County Jail.

Oswalt also issued a persona non grata to suspect one, banning him from the entire Arkansas State University campus.

While Oswalt was en route to the jail, McMillen spoke to victim one and she asked why suspect one was going to jail. McMillen explained the charges to her and she said he never put his hands on her. McMillen told Oswalt this and he told McMillen to arrest victim one for filing a false report with a law enforcement agency.

Dec. 2 | 6:10 p.m.

Officer Justin McMillen was dispatched to a call in regard to a violation of a no contact order given to two students by the university. The no contact order was given due to a physical altercation that took place prior to this most recent incident.

Once McMillan arrived on scene, he spoke with a friend of victim one and she informed him of the previous incident and showed McMillen text messages and videos that were sent to victim one from suspect one. In

said video, suspect one is seen standing out in the open holding a handgun while ordering victim one to come outside. Due to the threats and comments, it led McMillen to believe that suspect one was actively outside 1115 University Loop East when he sent the video. Suspect one has been banned from all university property and is not allowed to contact victim one, nor can he possess a handgun on school property.

Victim one said suspect one has even made threats in regard to his family members.

At approximately 9:06 p.m., Officer Andrew Thrasher was contacted by suspect one. He said he was not in Jonesboro and sent Thrasher his location from his iPhone, which showed him to be in Chicago Heights, Illinois.

Thrasher informed suspect one he was committing a felony and that it was going to get him sent to prison. Suspect one stated that the other people had contacted him first threatening him. Thrasher told suspect one to call the police and report harassment. Thrasher also told suspect one to change his phone number so the alleged calls and texts would no longer reach him.