

**CANOE,
CONTINUED**

The boat also had a specific gravity of 1.07, meaning in terms of gravity, it was barely heavier than water. This also helped the canoe float.

Before the canoes can be raced, they must undergo a "swamp test," where it is submerged in water. If the canoe resurfaces, the team can move on to the rest of the competition.

During the swamp test for A-State's canoe, water got under one of the Styrofoam pieces, causing it to pop out of the canoe. The issue was fixed on site.

"We didn't have any issues with the concrete getting a hole or cracking or anything, so our mix was really really good," said Dorsey Spears, a senior civil engineering major from Sheridan, Arkansas, who was the captain of the canoe team.

The concrete canoe competition also sees the designers of the boats race each other. There were five different race events, the men's and women's sprints, men's and women's slaloms and the co-ed sprint. How the teams do in the races is 25% of their point total.

While A-State did not place in the concrete canoe competition, Spears said it was

still a great opportunity for him.

"I had a really good group of people that were with me that helped me design the whole thing and fabricate the whole thing. We took it to a competition and we did well, (although) we might not have gotten the results that we wanted," Spears said.

Another event was the steel bridge competition. Like the concrete canoe, the designers were given a rules packet in September and spent all of last semester designing it.

The steel bridge was part of the senior design class, which is a two semester course. The first semester was spent designing the bridge, while the second semester saw the construction of the bridge. The bridge was required to be between 23-24 feet long, less than five feet wide and tall and hold 2,500 pounds.

At the competition, the bridge held 2,300 of the 2,500 pounds. Colton Couch, a senior civil engineering major from Paragould, said his team encountered some difficulties when designing the bridge.

"It was hard to get the program (we used to design the bridge) to understand what



PHOTO COURTESY OF COLTON COUCH

Members of the steel bridge team posing with their bridge. Bridges had to be constructed in less than 45 minutes in order to win.

you wanted from it," Couch said. "(We also had to) make significant changes to the bridge design because there were things we hadn't considered before we actually tried to build it."

Despite the setbacks, the students involved saw the competition as a learning opportunity.

"My team and I have definitely learned lots of practical knowledge about the fabrication of things that we design that we may not have learned without being on the front and back end of the process," Couch said. "Our abilities as engineers have grown significantly, as has our perspective on how

hard something is to actually create in the real world versus how it looks on paper."

Spears said Stewart had both design groups write a "lessons learned report" for the upcoming teams.

"They'll learn about the things that we did right and the things that we did wrong and

things that we would change and the things that worked really well for us," Spears said. A-State won the UESI Surveying Competition and finished second in the Construction Institute competition.

**TITLE IX,
CONTINUED**

"We see that a lot in our office that they're coming in and having sexual experiences for the first time and don't know that they could say no, or that it didn't have to turn into XYZ. They're not even sure of their own power in that way," Nelson said. "We see it in the comfort of our students as well. How they may or may not feel as though they belong here because of the things that are happening are being said surrounding sexual assault."

People are encouraged to report sexual assault not only to address and correct the behavior, but also because there are many resources available to people who experience it.

Title IX is jurisdictional, meaning it only includes

encounters that happen on campus, at buildings owned by A-State or at any A-State related functions.

There may be things happening to students and faculty that don't meet the requirements for Title IX, like things that happen outside of this jurisdiction.

There are still resources and support available for the victims of these incidents, such as NEA Family Crisis Center, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Support Group and the Arkansas Crisis Center, among others.

Tristian Kalanges, director of student development of athletics, said that there are situations where people have a bad feeling about a

situation, but a lot of times don't know how to approach it.

"They do not know how to be an advocate for themselves or for others. They may think a lot of the times that you know, when it comes to victim blaming victim mindset, things like that. There's a lot of ways where they feel isolated and alone and a loss of control with themselves and their lives around them. Knowledge and advocacy really helps provide that support, either internal or external," Kalanges said.

The Wilson Counseling Center is just one example of support that is offered, acting as a space that's different than other spaces on campus that deal with sexual assault.

Typically, when one talks

about sexual assault with someone on campus, they are a mandated reporter, meaning by law they are required file a report about what was told to them. The Wilson Counseling Center is exempt from that and can keep things confidential.

"We're in a good space for survivors or victims to come to when they're not sure if they want to report or what they want to do about that incident," Nelson said. "They can talk to us about it, and we can help them get the right resources, get education on what their options are and process that through with them."

The cost of the Wilson Counseling Center is also already built into student fees, so they do not charge students



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The office of Title IX can be contacted at 870-972-2015 or at title9@astate.edu.

for services or bill insurance.

For sexual assault awareness month, A-State is hosting the following events that are open to the public:

April 12 - UpStander training at 11 a.m. in the Cache River Room

April 18 - Nameless Screening & Lunch with HopeFound in the Humanities

building 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

April 24 - Walk a Mile in Her Shoes and candlelight vigil at 7 p.m.

All month in the A-State Museum, the exhibit "What Were They Wearing?" will be on display, which will detail what sexual assault victims were wearing at the time of their assault.

The paths of destruction of the Little Rock and Wynne tornadoes



PHOTO COURTESY OF USA TODAY

A satellite image of the tornado's path in Wynne, Arkansas. The town of Wynne was devastated by an EF-3 tornado on Friday, leaving four dead. The tornado destroyed several homes and buildings, including Wynne High School. The storm touched down in Wynne, as well as Covington and Adamsville, Tennessee. For the full story, see page 1A.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO NEWS

A satellite image of the tornado's path in Little Rock. Little Rock was struck by a tornado on Friday, with one confirmed death. Like Wynne, the city was struck by an EF-3 tornado. The twister was part of four that triggered a tornado emergency, which is "reserved for rare situations where the threat to human life is imminent or ongoing and where catastrophic damage is imminent or ongoing," according to AccuWeather. For the full story, see page 1A.