

SGA passes two resolutions before new leadership takes office

JERRY DON BURTON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ALLIE CARSON

STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Association (SGA) passed resolutions SR 24/25-07 and ER 24/25-05 at the last meeting before the senate transition into new leadership. SR 24/25-07, presented by Senator Jake Williams, a sophomore business administration major from Piggott, Arkansas, would implement designated parking spaces for resident assistants (RAs) in front of their residence halls. The resolution does not propose the construction of new parking spots. Rather, it would designate some of the existing parking spaces at the front of residence halls to be used by the RAs of those buildings. After the resolution was presented and the floor was opened to discussion, several senators who also work as RAs offered suggestions and asked for clarification. Williams said resident assistants have a hard job on

campus and it is important SGA give them the best resources. "A lot of people do not understand the heaviness that comes along with being a resident assistant and the responsibilities," Williams said. "I hope they can have a spot in the front for safety, for cohesiveness and for everything to flow." Williams said his main motivation for bringing the idea to the senate was for safety and to help RAs being able to get back to the hall in a timely manner. "I think it's very important for RAs to have accessibility to the building where they live and keep it level with REC parking spots and where they live as well," Williams said. After the discussion, the senate voted and passed the resolution. "The next steps are to go to the parking committee and really get a solid plan, like a good timeline of what we're going to do and how we're going to do it," Williams said. The senators said the resolution could start the conversation for other parking issues around campus, SGA just needs the support and recommendations

from the student body to get those conversations started. The second resolution, ER 24/25-05, was presented by SGA President, Micayla McGowen. ER 24/25-05 is a resolution to create a mental health senate-appointed position and committee. McGowen, a senior marketing major from East End, Arkansas, said the mental health position would be responsible for creating mental health programming events and resources for all students. Whoever fills the position will also create a committee of between five and seven senators and one staff member to aid them in their responsibilities. McGowen said she felt motivated to propose the resolution because mental health is important for college students. "It's a very heavy topic that a lot of people don't want to talk about, but it's a very important topic," McGowen said. "I think starting it at the students and making it as relatable as we can is a really great way to start that conversation." After the floor was opened for discussion, Senator Jackson

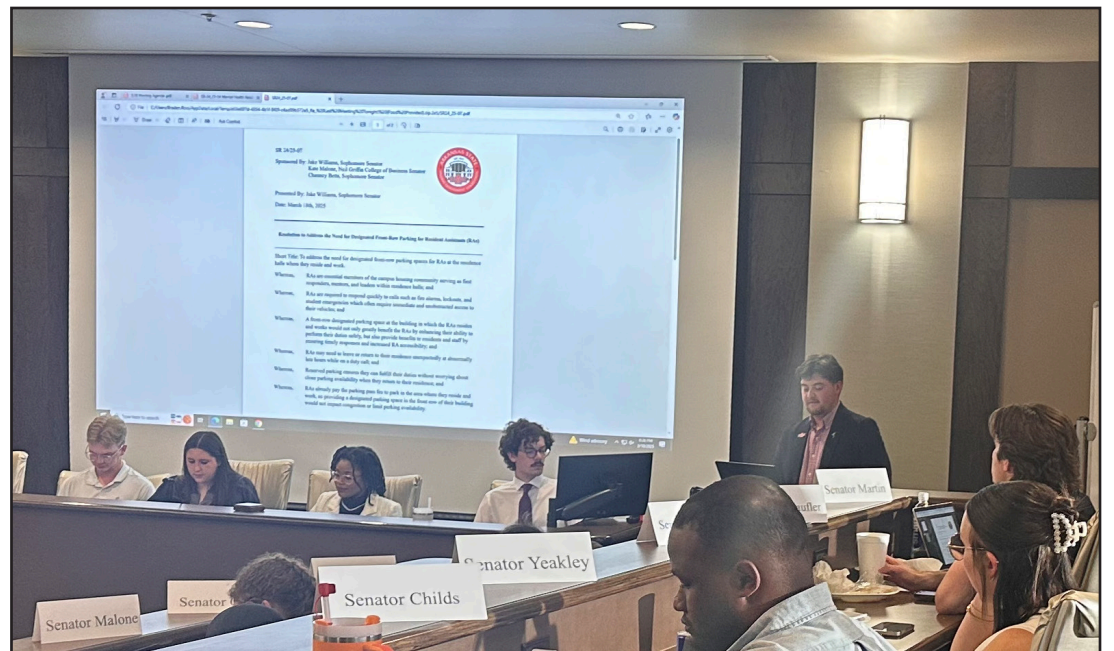


Photo by Allie Carson | Staff Writer

Senator Jake Williams presents SR 24/25-07, a resolution to implement designated parking spaces for resident assistants in front of their residence halls.

Galloway, a senior electrical engineering major from Little Rock, said he liked the resolution but questioned if mental health is the responsibility of the Wilson Counseling Center, rather than SGA. "This position will definitely focus more on bringing events that students would actually want to see coming from students, so it's easier to make that

connection," McGowen said. The resolution passed unanimously. McGowen said she plans to contribute to the resolution and SGA even after the new leadership takes office and she stops serving in an official capacity. "I plan to work closely with whoever the new president and vice president is and

help them out with some first initiatives they might have to do," McGowen said. "I just want to be a helping hand and just make sure that they're making decisions that they're confident in." Following the election Thursday, the new SGA leadership will be sworn in at the next meeting April 8.

Thankful Thursday celebrates women on campus

The Multicultural Center hosted 'Thankful Thursday,' a tabling event dedicated to expressing gratitude and appreciation. This event provided an opportunity for individuals to pause, reflect and write heartfelt notes to the women who have encouraged, empowered, advocated or educated them along their journey. The theme of this event was to celebrate the strength, wisdom and influence of women at A-State. Trinity Haynes, education

program coordinator for the multicultural center, tabled the event. She was able to set up a table and hand out free cards, flowers and bags to show her appreciation for A-State staff. "When we think of Women's History Month, we always go back in history and we pull women who, of course, have done amazing things, which we do appreciate, but we also want to appreciate the women that are here presently making a difference on campus," Haynes said. She said the main goal of

the table was to spread the message of self-love showing women why it is important to care for themselves. "We wanted to do something that was very simple, that would approach the students more so than all of the women that we have on campus, and just let them know that we appreciate them for Women's History Month," Haynes said. She said women are often identified as family members rather than contributors to society, but women are much more than just mothers or sisters.

"I think Women's History Month is so important because women have poured into this country for so long and I think a lot of times it can be overshadowed by multiple things," Haynes said. "I love just pulling out those parts of women that you really don't hear about, besides being a mother, a sister, things of that sort, with so much more than just those identities, and that's what we wanted to relay." Brief by Benjamin McDowell | Staff Writer



Photo by Benjamin McDowell | Staff Writer

MSA breaks fast with campus community during Iftar

HOSSEIN RASTEGAR

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) hosted a Ramadan Iftar event where members of the campus community broke their fast and prayed together. The event took place at the Pavilion, where they served traditional middle eastern food and desserts. During this time, many who observe the holy month fast for 30 days. Aaliyah Mahmoud, vice president of the MSA, said Ramadan is a very important and spiritual time for Muslim people. "Ramadan is the month for worshipping and remembering God in our hearts and our minds," Mahmoud said. "Ramadan is the month for cleaning our soul from bad habits and sins." During Ramadan, Muslims cannot eat or drink from sunrise to sunset. After sunset, they break their fast with prayer and begin their meal with food and water. Salma Abdel-Karim, president of the MSA, said the



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION INSTAGRAM

Members of the Muslim Student Association members serve dessert at the Ramadan Iftar event. The event was organized to bring the community together and teach students about Islam. "We know that they (Muslim students) are far away from their home, so we want them to make this place for them like home," Abdel-Karim said. "We want our community to feel the spirit of Ramadan." Ali Burianek, a junior

medical student from Chicago, said Ramadan is about recognizing important aspects. "One, that our creator is always providing for us and second, that it reminds us of people who are struggling with hunger around the world," Burianek said. Ramadan officially ends on Sunday, March 29.

CAMPUS CRIME



SHAILEY WOOLDRIDGE
NEWS EDITOR

March 16 | 1:51 p.m.
Officer Caleb Lawson responded to Kum and Go for a report of shoplifting. He made contact with an employee and the suspect upon arrival. The employee said the suspect opened a packet of allergy medicine in the store but was unable to pay for it. The employee said they had previously had an issue with the suspect trying to steal from the store and he had been banned by the manager. The suspect is in the H.O.W.L. transition program currently. He told the store employee that his roommates were sending him into the store to take things. The suspect was banned from the store and the incident was logged with A-State and the Jonesboro Police Department dispatch.

The store manager said she did not want any action taken other than the suspect being banned from the store. **March 15 | 5:51 p.m.**
A complainant came to the University Police Department dispatch lobby to file a report about damage to her vehicle in a collision with a Sodexo Kiwi Bot. The complainant said she was entering the Pack Place parking lot and as the gate rose she began to travel through it. There was a Kiwi delivery robot on the sidewalk waiting to cross the street behind the gate. The complainant said her view of the bot and its marker were obstructed by a plastic traffic block. The bot proceeded as she did into the parking lot area and they collided causing damage to her vehicle. She contacted Sodexo following the incident and they said she would have to file a police report. It is unknown at this time if any damage was

done to the delivery bot. **March 15 | 3:17 p.m.**
Officer Robert Kary took a report of a theft that occurred at the Red Wolf Den. The victim said he recently purchased a pair of Louis Vuitton shoes worth \$3,500. He said he wore them to class at 9 a.m., Wednesday, and returned them to his dorm before going to the football facility. He said he did this because he didn't want his expensive shoes laying in the locker while he was at football practice. The victim said he has a bad habit of leaving his door unlocked and wasn't sure if it was locked Wednesday. He said he had other valuable items like computers, a TV and a PS5 in the house but the shoes were the only thing taken.

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CAMPUS CRIME, 4A