



PHOTO, 4B

Here at A-State

## Red Wolves for St. Jude hosts Scarlet Formal to celebrate passing fundraiser goal

SHAILEY WOOLDRIDGE

NEWS EDITOR

Red Wolves for St. Jude hosted the Scarlet Formal April 3 at the Woodard McAlister Family Club to celebrate the end of the fundraising year with dinner from Olive Garden, dancing and giveaways.

At the end of the Scarlet Formal, Red Wolves for St. Jude executives announced the total amount of money raised in the 2024-25 fundraising effort: \$71,475, surpassing their goal of \$65,000.

Red Wolves for St. Jude is a philanthropic initiative organized and operated by students at Arkansas State University to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Ambassadors of this student organization can receive an invite to the Scarlet Formal by raising \$100 or more for St. Jude.

Olivia Wham, executive director of Red Wolves for St. Jude, said the Scarlet Formal is a culmination of everything they have worked towards for the year.

"Showing students that their hard work comes together is very important to create a sense of community," the senior finance and global supply chain double major from Mountain Home, Arkansas, said. "Red Wolves for St. Jude is not only an organization to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital but also an organization to spread awareness of what we have in our backyard over in Memphis."

Kristin Rodgers, a Jonesboro woman and mother of a St. Jude patient, attended the event.

Rodgers said St. Jude gives people hope in the darkest



Photo by Shailey Wooldridge | News Editor

Members of Red Wolves for St. Jude who attended the Scarlet Formal pose with a check of the amount raised for the 2024-25 fundraising year, totaling \$71,475. Members who raised \$100 or more for St. Jude were invited to the Scarlet Formal.

moments of their lives and allows them to focus on getting their child better.

"You don't have to worry about bills, you don't have to worry about where you're going to eat, anything like that. They just try to make it the happiest place for your child while they're sick and the least stressful place for a parent," Rodgers said. "We will do anything to help raise money for St. Jude because we've been the recipients of the money that's been raised."

Rodgers said she was blown away by how much money was raised by college students.

"I'm very thankful that college kids can think outside of themselves and do something for others when they could be doing so many other things. They are busy with college

and they choose to spend time getting donations and raising money for such a wonderful place," Rodgers said.

Wham said it's hard not to be passionate about raising money for St. Jude.

"St. Jude is a children's hospital that gives research from their findings all over the world and has significantly strengthened and advanced the medical community. They also give children world class medical care for free. So that takes a lot of stress off of families," Wham said. "In my family we've had people pass away from cancer and being able to give back and donate to a place that can advance medical care like this, it really warms my heart."

Christina Green, a first-year nursing major from

Memphis, raised \$1840 and was recognized as the highest individual fundraiser.

Green said St. Jude means a lot to her and her family.

"My mom always worked in the restaurant industry, but she always saw St. Jude as her dream job and she worked hard for it, and she got there, and she's been there for coming up on four years now and it moved us up to Memphis," Green said. "It's cool to know your mom works there, but to know you're making a difference, kind of on your own, it adds a little bit more. I feel a bit of pride for it, a good amount of pride."

Samarahh Levenson, a senior nursing major from Memphis, said she grew up with St. Jude right around the corner, but it wasn't until college

that she began fundraising thousands of dollars for it.

"I was like, 'I could never do that' but then here I am, three years later, continuing to do it and I actually am an executive board member now. So I'm hands on, hands on," Levenson said.

She is the Greek life director of Red Wolves for St. Jude. She said the organization did multiple collaborations with Greek life throughout the year, including a National Pan-Hellenic Council cookout that raised over \$700 in one night and a virtual 5k run in collaboration with Lambda Chi that raised over \$5000.

CONTINUED: ST. JUDE, 4A

## Delta Symposium to run through Friday

The theme for this year's symposium is "It's about Time" and will include presentations by physicist and novelist Alan Lightman. The Facet Dance Collective of Arkansas will stage its world premiere performance of "Movement in Time" to conclude the event. A full schedule of events can be found on the A-State website, or by scanning the QR code below:



## Autism acceptance 5K to be held Saturday

The Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, in collaboration with Ag for Autism, will host Alphas for Autism, a 5K walk and run. The 5K will start at 10 a.m., Saturday, at the student union. Attendees can sign up early for \$25 or on the day of the event between 8:30 and 9:30 for \$30.

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- Apathy is louder than protest at A-State

### NEWS, 3A

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- Lunch and Learn discusses future updates in NIL funds
- Access and Accommodation Services raises awareness for women with disabilities
- Campus Crime
- This Week's Puzzle

### SPORTS, 1B

- Ryan Pannone introduced as new RedWolves basketball head coach
- Red Wolves fall to top-ranked Razorbacks 7-3

### ARTS & E, 2B

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- "The Crux" by Djo is a project that will only get better with time
- "A Minecraft Movie" is undeniably stupid, but I love it anyway

### LIFE, 3B

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- Mental health matters: tips for a less stressful time at A-State

## SGA has first meeting with new administration

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During its first meeting under the new administration, the 2025-26 Student Government Association swore in new members, assigned senate committee positions, reviewed resolutions for grammar — including the budget — and settled committee chair appointments.

Jake Williams, SGA president and sophomore business administration major from Piggott, Arkansas, said the new administration is filling big shoes, but they have initiatives in the works.

"We're putting our energy towards creating a great senate atmosphere. That is something me and Kate have really been excited about doing," Williams said. "That's what SGA is about, representing people and students."

He said he got involved as a

freshman senator and has always wanted to advance within SGA.

"I feel very prepared. This has been a long time coming and I've definitely gotten a lot of advice, it's been a really good transition," Williams said. "I just couldn't be any more proud to represent and be the voice of the students."

He said a concern he has regarding being president is keeping senators and staff focused on SGA as they are also in other campus-related initiatives.

"I really want to make SGA for senators and everyone, something they're really excited and passionate about, and make sure every senator is here for a reason and that they're fulfilling their obligations," Williams said.

He said a big talking point among the administration has been about improving transportation for international students, particularly how there are not enough transport buses to and from the Memphis airport.

"That's a real issue, because it kind of puts international students at a danger risk for

taking rides with people they're not sure of. So we really want to offer more opportunities for rides," Williams said. "For example, they use a shuttle service and so we're definitely wanting to sponsor a couple extra buses to help within that."

He also said they've also discussed financial transparency and their readiness to initiate their campus connection meetings next year.

In addition, Vice President Kate Malone said the new administration will put their

energy into collaboration meetings across campus. Malone said it's a passion project for the administration and will be possible without taking money from the budget.

CONTINUED: SGA, 4A



Photo by Allie Carson | Staff Writer

The 2025-2026 SGA senate is sworn in. This was Jake Williams' first meeting as president. Williams is a sophomore business administration major from Piggott, Arkansas.