

Red Wolves volleyball wins first ranked match, splits series with Mizzou

TREVAN SHUBURTE

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

ALLIE CARSON

NEWS EDITOR

The Arkansas Red Wolves volleyball team took on the #16 ranked team in the nation, the Mizzou Tigers. The Red Wolves came into Game 1 with a 1-2 record. This is the first time the Tigers have been to Jonesboro since 1988.

Mizzou took the first set from the Red Wolves 26-24. A-State and Mizzou were even in terms of kills in the first set with 13 apiece. The only stat Mizzou controlled in the first set was blocks.

Arkansas State took set two 25-16. The Red Wolves posted 14 kills, .344% hitting percentage, and 3 blocks during this set. They dominated in every major stat going into set three. With both sides exchanging momentum, the Red Wolves leaned on their balance and depth. A-State's

front row delivered key blocks in critical moments, while the backcourt defense kept rallies alive. Mizzou took the 3rd set, with the final score of 25-19, with 15 kills, 36 attack attempts.

A-State dominated the fourth set with 16 kills, two blocks, and one ace. The set ended 25-22. The Red Wolves setters were dominant up to this point making key plays and dominating the assists numbers in the game.

During the fifth and final set Arkansas State Volleyball made history. The Red Wolves beat the Tigers 15-11, and made history with this historic upset. Outside hitter Kaitlin Whitlock was too much for the Tigers to handle. Whitlock posted 19 kills with a .333% hitting percentage on the night. The Tigers had no answer for her in this loss to the Redwolves.

"I think we play fifth sets really well," middle blocker Daedrianna Cail said. "We do huddle together, like we all had the mentality of we were

going to win this set regardless of anything. Like, yes, we make errors, but it didn't stop us from keep pushing and keep grinding"

Coach Brian Gerwig praised his team, saying the team was communicating at a high level in a crucial time.

Gerwig said "I don't know if the media caught it or anybody noticed, but the team huddled together and I didn't have to go there, over there and say anything like they were motivated."

A-State fell to the Tigers in a five set match at Blazer Arena. After a back and forth beginning in the first set, many errors by the Red Wolves led them to fall 25-19 in the first set.

While the Red Wolves fell early on in the second set, they came back on multiple scoring runs, leading A-State to tie the match 1-1 after winning set two 25-21.

The Tigers won another set with the help from multiple scoring streaks. The third set ended before the Red Wolves could reach 20



Photo by Shay Sayeed | Opinion Editor

Middle blocker Daedrianna Cail serves to the Tigers.

points, ending set three 25-18.

Arkansas State went on a 7-0 run to start set four and keep a safe lead for the rest of the set. The Tigers got close at the end of the set but

the Red Wolves closed out set four with a 25-21 win.

After a back and forth fifth set, the Red Wolves were ahead 10-8 before the Tigers scored four in a row. A-State managed

to tie it up at 12-12 but Mizzou ultimately won the match 15-12.

The Red Wolves are 2-3 on the season and face off against Florida Atlantic at 10 a.m. in Orlando on Friday.

Red Wolves fall to Hogs in historic game

WILL LIVINGSTON

SPORTS EDITOR

For the first time ever, the Arkansas State Red Wolves played the Arkansas Razorbacks in football, and it did not go well for the Red Wolves.

Both teams entered War Memorial Stadium 1-0 after playing teams in the Football Championship Subdivision last week. The Red Wolves defeated Southeastern Missouri State 42-24, and the Razorbacks defeated Alabama A&M 52-7.

Right away, the Hogs came out swinging with four first quarter touchdowns. Razorbacks running back Mike Washington Jr. ran for a 53-yard touchdown on the second play of the game. The Red Wolves offense failed to respond and the Hogs scored another touchdown after Razorbacks quarterback Taylen Green completed a 37-yard touchdown pass to Razorbacks wide receiver Raylen Sharpe.

"You have to start fast and this is two weeks where we

haven't started fast," Red Wolves head coach Butch Jones said. "We had way too many missed assignments on both sides of the football. We did not tackle well starting the game, where I thought Arkansas was a really good tackling team on defense, we were inept and didn't have the ability to beat man coverage."

The Red Wolves finally responded, not on offense but special teams. WR Chauncy Cobb, who had taken over for RB Ja'Quez Cross after Cross tore his ACL, returned a kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown, making the score 14-7. The Razorbacks scored another two touchdowns in the first quarter.

The Red Wolves defense helped A-State get back into the game in the second quarter. While looking completely lost in the first quarter and allowing four Razorback touchdowns, they looked different in the second quarter. The Red Wolves held the Razorbacks to one touchdown at the end of the half, and forced their second

interception of the game.

QB Jaylen Raynor led a successful drive down the field and threw a touchdown to offensive tackle Cameron Ambrose on a trick play. This was the Red Wolves only offensive touchdown, as the previous drive saw a 21-yard passing touchdown to WR Hunter Summers called back after an illegal hands to the face penalty on A-State.

The Red Wolves did not score again. The second half resulted in a beatdown from the Hogs, with 21 unanswered points. The Red Wolves lost 56-14.

"I'm just disappointed because we didn't compete up to the Arkansas State standard," Jones said. "We didn't compete, we didn't play with the effort that's needed."

The Red Wolves will be at home to take on the fourteenth-ranked Iowa State Cyclones, the highest ranked team to ever travel to Jonesboro. The game will be Saturday at 3 p.m. in Centennial Bank Stadium.



Photo by Ibuki Hinohara | Photo Editor

Red Wolves WR Chauncy Cobb runs around a Razorbacks defender after a catch.

Red Wolves soccer breaks records and the Golden Lions 10-0

AUGUST NELSON

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The Arkansas State Red Wolves (1-1-2) faced the Arkansas-Pine Bluff Golden Lions on Sunday, September 4. The Red Wolves did not disappoint and secured a crushing 10-0 victory.

The game opened with UAPB kicking off and making some aggressive moves. The Red Wolves' defense quickly regained control and sent the ball downfield into Lion territory, where it stayed for the majority of the match. A-State struck early when midfielder Keelyn Peacock delivered an assist to

midfielder Kennedy Horn, who headed the ball into the net.

The Red Wolves' offense stayed relentless throughout the first half. After several close shots on goal, forward Alexia Watts set up a corner kick to Horn, who scored the second goal. Soon after, Peacock fired a close-range shot that was blocked by the Pine Bluff goalie but rebounded perfectly for forward Ava Riehl, who buried the ball in the top corner.

Three more goals followed before halftime—scored by Riehl, defender Sydney Veatch, and Watts with an impressive assist from Veatch.

In the second half, the Golden

Lions opened aggressively but still couldn't keep the ball away from Arkansas State. The Red Wolves continued their offensive push with back-to-back goals from defender Leigha Dobbins and midfielder Larkyn Griffin. Watts netted the ninth goal with a header, and Horn closed out the match with another header, sealing the 10-0 shutout.

It was a game for the record books. Horn scored four goals, which ties the current record set in 2003 in a game against Jacksonville State. The Red Wolves took 58 shots and 32 shots on goal, with 10 assists and 30 points, all of which set new program records. The teams' 10

goals also ties the record set in the 2003 Jacksonville State game.

Horn (obviously) led the team in goals with four. Peacock led the game in assists with two. Golden Lions goalkeeper Makaila Riedel had 21 saves. No A-State goalkeepers had a save, as the ball was rarely in their side of the field.

The Red Wolves outshot the Golden Lions 32-0 in their fifth regular-season game, showing a formidable defense and foreshadowing a promising year ahead. They now turn their focus to the season's first Sun Belt Conference matchup next Sunday against Troy.



Photo by Ibuki Hinohara | Photo Editor

Midfielder Keelyn Peacock battles UAPB forward Keissy Hopes-Lopez for control of the ball.