



PHOTO, 4B
Game, groove, glory:
best man on campus

SGA unanimously votes to expand use of flex dollars

JERRY DON BURTON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In its penultimate meeting of the semester, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed a resolution to allow students to use flex dollars to buy merchandise at Textbook Brokers, filled an at-large senator position and elected a local government representative.

Senator Caleb Sterrett, a junior civil engineering major from Dumas, Arkansas, presented SR 25/26-03, which would allow students to use their flex dollars at Textbook Brokers to purchase merchandise, including apparel, accessories and spirit wear.

The resolution passed the senate in a unanimous vote.

“Official A-State merchandise can often be expensive for students, creating a barrier to full participation and supporting athletic events and campus traditions,” Sterrett said. “Greater access to merchandise would increase participation, unity and visibility in the student section.”

Flex is a declining balance account that operates like a debit card. Flex dollars are included in many meal plans and can be used in venues across campus, including the Acansa Dining Hall, Chick-fil-A and the Northpark Quads University Market.

Sterrett said Textbook Brokers is already embedded in the A-State system, as students can use financial aid funds to purchase textbooks. He said this demonstrates that integration



Photo by Ibuki Hinohara | Photo Editor

Carter Malone, a first-year computer science major from Forrest City, Arkansas, is sworn in as an at-large senator by SGA President Jake Williams.

with student accounts is possible.

Sterrett, who also serves as the director of athletic engagement for the Student Activities Board, said the resolution encourages the administration to explore a partnership with Textbook Brokers, ensuring the resolution supports student needs and existing vendor agreements.

Jake Williams, SGA president, said SR 25/26-03 can be very useful for students. He said he looks forward to working

with Sterrett to help him talk to the administration and move forward with the resolution.

In other business, SGA also filled an at-large senator seat and elected a local government representative.

Senator Clinton Gore, a political science sophomore from Marianna, Arkansas, was nominated and elected to fill the local government representative position.

Carter Malone, a first-



Photo by Ibuki Hinohara | Photo Editor

Caleb Sterrett, a junior civil engineering major from Dumas, Arkansas, presents SR 25/26-03, a resolution to allow students to use their flex dollars to purchase merchandise from Textbook Brokers.

year computer science major from Forrest City, Arkansas, filled the at-large senator seat.

“When I entered this room, I just felt the presence; it was just real civil and proper,” Malone said. “I just feel like I was meant to be here. I love being professional, I love handling business and I love taking care of other people.”

Malone said he feels like a great representative of first-

year students. He said he will listen to the problems first-year students are having and bring them to the senate.

One problem he said he has already noticed is cleanliness in the Acansa Dining Hall. Malone said he has talked to staff but is not ready to present a resolution yet.

CONTINUED:
SGA, 4A

Gradsgiving scheduled Thursday

The Graduate Student Council is hosting a Gradsgiving event for all 2025 graduating students. The event will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Nov. 20, in the Mockingbird Room of the student union.

Equestrian team hosting exhibition night Thursday

The Equestrian Team is hosting an exhibition night to fund the spring competition season for the team. Unlimited barrel and pole practice runs are available for \$15 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Nov. 20, at the Equine Center and Garry Meadows Arena.

Chili and Bingo night to be held Thursday

The Arkansas State Collegiate Cattlemen's Association is hosting a chili and bingo night starting at 6:30 p.m., Nov. 20, at the Judd Hill Farmers' Market. Admission is \$5 and bingo cards are \$1 each.

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DAILY DIGEST

THIS WEEK IN THE HERALD:

OPINION, 2A

- Thanksgiving is the only time white people can cook
- Why older people should have to retake the drivers test

NEWS, 3A

- First-year students showcase projects at annual expo
- BAM showcases local talent in the “Inspired 11” Exhibition
- Campus Crime
- This week's puzzle

SPORTS, 1B

- Arkansas State dominates CBU in home opener
- Red Wolves volleyball sweeps on Senior Day
- Will Livingston's college football pick 'em

ARTS & E, 2B

- Oh, “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy,” where do I even begin?
- “Now You See Me, Now You Don't” is fun, but forgettable
- “Dancing with the Stars” season 34 semi-finals set stage for explosive finale
- Colter Wall makes cowboy music and that's alright with me

LIFE, 3B

- Professor speaks: “What's your craziest story from your teaching career
- A-State Theatre's “The Thanksgiving Play” blends commentary and comedy

Japanese, Chinese and Korean Student Associations host East Asian Fest

SHAYAAN SAYEED

OPINION EDITOR

The Japanese, Chinese and Korean Student Association hosted the East Asian Fest on Thursday.

The event started with activities such as trivia and musical chairs. Then, a variety of food from East Asian countries was served to participants.

Marinated chicken, mung bean soup, hibachi, gimhap, rice gangjeong and matcha ice cream were some of the foods offered during the event.

Yuna Nakagawa, president of the Japanese Student Association, said events like the East Asian Fest help reduce homesickness and let students share their culture with others at Arkansas State University.

“As international students coming to A-state from different countries, we sometimes face homesickness or culture shock,” Nakagawa, a junior computer science major from Tokyo, said. “Events like these help create a welcoming space for students with similar backgrounds, while also allowing us to share our culture with domestic students.”

Nakagawa said the Japanese cultural events are especially

unique because the Japanese student body at A-State organizes them. They said this gives the students a valuable opportunity to present something they are proud of.

Danish Yaqub, a business analytics graduate from Lahore, Pakistan, said the diverse selection of Chinese, Japanese and Korean food made them want to attend the fest.

“I think it is very important so that you can know the culture, diversity, and you all can experience different Asian cultures. A lot of people don't know about Chinese, Japanese and Korean culture, so I think it is very good for them to experience this new thing,” Yaqub said.

Mizuki Kishi, the Japanese Student Association event coordinator, said one of his favorite parts of the event was the cooking. Kishi, a senior mechanical engineering major from Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, said the event was also a good occasion for making new friends.

“Some of our members don't have any American friends here, so it is actually a good opportunity for them to make other friends and for the American people to know other cultures,” Kishi said.



Photo by Ibuki Hinorara | Photo Editor

Members of the Korean Student Association pass out rice gangjeong to participants at the East Asian Fest. Marinated chicken, mung bean soup, hibachi, gimhap and matcha ice cream were also served.