

## Students Howl Around the World at International Student Association event



Photo by Sooyeong Choi | Photo Editor

The International Student Association (ISA) hosted “Howl Around the World” on Tuesday, April 8 in Centennial Hall in the Reng Student Union. The event was a vibrant international festival celebrating cultures from across the world through food, music, dance, games, and student-led presentations. Students were able to get food provided by different cultures and try them. Attendees were able to explore interactive information booths hosted by student organizations and campus partners that offered opportunities to learn about different countries and traditions through the event.

## Unity drives campus-wide worship night

EVIE ELLIS

STAFF WRITER

With over nine different campus ministries, students have a variety of ways to get involved in faith-based communities. A worship night held on Thursday in the Auditorium brought each of these unique communities together to worship as one.

Representatives from these ministries all collaborated to help create a space where students could come together as one church body.

The night was entirely focused on worship, with scripture readings appearing throughout the service.

Because this event took place during Holy Week, the week leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus, the representatives with each ministry read through the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, guiding students through the story of Jesus’s life and sacrifice.

Organizers continuously highlighted the significance of gathering all the different

ministries on campus together. Macy Ward, a freshman member of 7-47 and Baptist College Ministries (BCM) majoring in elementary education from Barton, Arkansas, said the experience was encouraging for her to see.

“What a gift it is to have just a glimpse into heaven and what we’ll get to see one day as we all get to worship together,” Ward said.

Abby Kholer, an alumna of Arkansas State and assistant for Chi Alpha, said the importance of the theme of unity for the event.

“It was nice seeing students that I don’t normally see, getting to see just how, even though we work separately in the ministries, we’ve actually worked together to see students come to know Jesus,” Kholer said.

Chi Alpha is an interdenominational Christian fellowship that serves as a social club for students who want to be in community with other believers. The Arkansas State chapter was

started this year, showing this event’s dedication to involving all ministries across campus.

“I hope it helps with unifying all of the ministries,” Kholer said. “That we would realize that we all have the same mission and can work together to reach the rest of the campus.”

The environment of unity throughout this event allowed students to engage in reflection and prayer. Tamiyah Brown, a senior member of BCM majoring in nursing from Jonesboro, Arkansas, said her favorite part of the event was the time set aside for prayer.

“Honestly, I love those moments to just kind of marinate in it, to not just be reacting but thinking,” Brown said. As students filed out of the auditorium, the worship band members continued to play music, allowing students to stay as they pleased.

Organizers of the event say they hope that this event’s impact on connecting student ministries continues past the end of just one worship night.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAX ROBERTS

Worship night attendees pray over a fellow student during the night of worship and praise. The event was hosted by all of the campus ministries to bring all of the faith-based students and communities together.

## CAMPUS CRIME



ALLIE CARSON

NEWS EDITOR

April 5 | 6:00 a.m.

Patrol officer Rio Lingenfelter and Sergeant Jeremy Oswalt were dispatched to the Den Zone to respond to a fight.

Dispatch indicated that there were multiple calls from the location but was not able to identify a caller. Lingenfelter arrived first and observed a crowd of people leaving the scene.

Upon arrival, Lingenfelter was approached by the owner of the Den Zone and said that a fight had been taking place and one person may have been injured. There was still a large crowd of people in the parking lot and more people were continuously coming out of the Den Zone.

Lingenfelter identified Victim One as the injured person and radioed dispatch to send EMS. Victim One had visible injuries on his hands and had trouble standing.

Lingenfelter was told by an individual on scene that the suspect was an armed Hispanic male wearing a camo jacket and grey pants. Oswalt arrived and began talking with Victim One.

An individual told Lingenfelter that the large group of people who were arguing were the people who had instigated it. Lingenfelter approached the crowd of individuals, and the crowd began to disperse.

Lingenfelter collected written statements from Victim Two, Victim Three, Witness One, and Witness Two. Medic One arrived on scene and began talking with Victim One.

Victim One refused medical treatment and Medic One left the scene. After Medic One left, Victim One began to look for his keys that were lost at the time of the fight. After helping Victim One search for his keys, Lingenfelter approached Victim One and began speaking with him.

Victim One said he recognized two individuals out of the group that attacked him. He said they were individuals that he had met when Victim One was in jail. Victim One described them as two black males and said that he knew their names but refused to tell Lingenfelter.

Lingenfelter collected four written statements from Victim Two, Victim Three, Witness One, and Witness Two. From the four combined statements, Lingenfelter arranged the events that led to the injury of Victim One in chronological order:

Victim One went to the bathroom. Multiple individuals began yelling outside of the building. Multiple individuals surrounded Victim One. Victim One exited the building. Victim Two, Victim Three, Witness One, Witness Two exited the building at roughly the same time. The group of individuals followed Victim One.

Victim One ran from the group of individuals. A group of

more than 10 people followed and pushed Victim One to the ground. A male and a female drew firearms on Witness One. Multiple suspects “trampled” and “swung on” Victim Two.

Den Zone security came outside of the building. All suspects fled. Lingenfelter reviewed the camera footage and identified the following time stamps:

At 1:14 a.m., a crowd of people exited from the front entrance and multiple individuals began arguing north of the building. Two males attempted to strike one male and multiple individuals became involved in the fight. It was difficult to see due to the camera angle.

A crowd of approximately 33 individuals began walking towards the parking lot off camera. Victim One followed and ran alongside a female.

At 1:16 Victim One walked backwards while talking to three males and a female who all followed him. The three males began to chase Victim One and are followed by multiple individuals off camera. The group of individuals moved quickly to the west side of pavilion and an individual fell down. Multiple individuals stop near the fallen individual.

At 1:17, 10 individuals crouched and stood in a pile. The group of individuals proceeded to leave. Victim One became prone on the ground behind a tree.

At 1:18 an individual, possibly Den Zone security, began to tend to Victim One while he was on the ground. At 1:19 Victim One stood and walked to sit at a stone picnic table. The Suspects left and Lingenfelter arrived on the scene.

Victim One did not appear to instigate the initial fight. Victim One was involved in the second fight. Multiple individuals were seen stomping what seemed to be Victim One. Lingenfelter did not identify any firearms being drawn during the fight.

April 2 | 2:35 p.m.

Patrol officer Marcus Caskey responded to the dispatch center in the Student Union to take a harassment report.

After arriving on scene, Caskey made contact with The Complainant, who said that he was being harassed by his ex-girlfriend, identified as The Suspect.

He said that on April 2 at approximately 2:00 a.m., he began receiving harassing text messages from an unknown cell phone number, which he believed to be The Suspect using a fake number to contact him. Screenshots of these messages, provided by The Complainant, have been attached to this report.

The Complainant said the incident was caused by The Suspect being upset about him having a child with another woman. He further explained that he went to The Suspect’s dorm room to gather his belongings. While there, a verbal argument

occurred, which escalated into a physical altercation.

He said that as he was attempting to leave, The Suspect grabbed him in an attempt to prevent him from leaving, at which point he pushed her off of him. He further said The Suspect attempted to stab him with a marker and threatened to pepper spray him before he left the scene.

The Complainant said he did not have any bruises or visible injuries but did have an ink stain on his red sweatshirt from the marker. Caskey collected the remainder of the necessary information, and The Complainant said he wished to pursue charges against The Suspect.

Caskey obtained a written statement from him prior to his departure from dispatch.

At approximately 12:30 p.m., Caskey responded to Arkansas Hall with Corporal Robert Kary regarding The Suspect, who also wished to file a report regarding the incident involving The Complainant.

Upon arrival, Caskey made contact with The Suspect and Kary.

Kary said that Suspect One wished to pursue charges against The Complainant. Caskey then informed Kary of the incident from The Complainant’s perspective. Kary read The Suspect her Miranda rights, and she said she understood them.

Officers then questioned The Suspect regarding the incident. The Suspect said The Complainant arrived at Arkansas Hall and an argument began because she was recording him. She said the argument became physical after they left her room and entered the building stairwell.

She said both parties were pushing and hitting each other. She also denied having any bruises.

Caskey requested dispatch review camera footage of the incident. Dispatch said that The Suspect followed The Complainant into the stairwell, where silhouettes of both individuals could be seen grabbing and pushing each other.

Caskey informed Kary of these findings, and he continued questioning The Suspect. The Suspect then provided officers with a cell phone video recording of the incident. In the video, it is unclear who the primary aggressor is.

Officers could hear The Complainant making statements about slapping The Suspect, and The Suspect making statements about pepper spraying The Complainant. Suspect One denied multiple times that she attacked The Complainant with a marker.

Due to conflicting statements from both The Complainant and The Suspect as well as the camera footage showing both individuals appearing to engage in mutual physical contact, a primary aggressor could not be determined.