

Local Schools



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County Students Earn Honors At ASU

JULY 05TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

County Students Earn Honors At ASU

JONESBORO, Ark. - More than 2,000 students have been named to the Chancellor's and Deans' lists for the spring 2012 semester at Arkansas State University. The two lists recognize students who achieved the highest grade point averages while enrolled in 12 or more credit hours of study.

The Chancellor's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.80 to 4.0 for the semester. The Deans' List includes students with a grade point average of 3.6 to 3.79.

Students from Stoddard County earning academic honors at ASU this past semester as reported by the ASU Office of University Communications include:

- **Grant Cagle**, Bernie, Chancellor's List
- **Morgan Hedrick**, Dexter, Chancellor's List
- **Timothy Moore**, Dexter, Chancellor's List
- **Andrew Robey**, Dexter, Dean's List

Arkansas State University is a public university and is the flagship campus of the [Arkansas State University System](#), the state's second largest college system and third largest university by enrollment. It is located atop 800 acres on [Crowley's Ridge](#) at [Jonesboro, Arkansas](#), USA. The university marked its centennial year in 2009.

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Dexter Firm Awarded \$2.2 M Project At TRC

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Dexter Firm Awarded \$2.2 M Project At TRC

POPLAR BLUFF – A Dexter construction firm has been awarded the contract for a \$2.2 million project at Three Rivers College.

C.A. Walker Construction in Dexter was awarded the contract for the renovation of the Three Rivers College’s Academic Resource Commons. The Academic Resource Commons (ARC) will provide a centralized location for all the campus’ academic support services.

The Three Rivers Board of Trustees awarded the renovation contract C.A. Walker Construction at its June meeting.

The ARC currently includes the Rutland Library and the Public Computing Center. The renovated ARC will also house all academic assistance programs, with spaces for tutoring, Student Support Services, the TRIO program, study rooms and more.

The renovation project will be paid for with funds received several years ago from the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority for building projects, said college president Dr. Devin Stephenson.

“This cost will not come out of college reserves and is not included in the FY13 budget.” Stephenson said.

“The renovated ARC will be that one-stop academic support center that will really be the hub for non-classroom learning and student interaction,” said Dr. Wesley Payne, Vice President for Learning at Three Rivers. “We’ve designed this with a very friendly and welcoming environment that is very holistic in the way that it approaches student need.”

The new ARC will also be the home of the re-designed Remedial Developmental Education Program, which Payne describes as “a federally funded effort to find a more effective way to bring students up to college readiness standards.”

“A number of students that we admit need basic instruction in English, math and reading,” said Payne. “Traditionally, it takes them a long time to get through it. By redesigning how we instruct these students, and by moving to a competency-based model, we hope to increase the success of the students and decrease the time it takes them to become ready to take college-level classes.”

The ARC also is the genesis for the more traditional architecture the college is moving forward within the campus’ master plan designed by Dille and Traxel architecture firm, Stephenson said. It will be the first building to receive this new look.

“I feel confident about this decision,” said Board Chair Randy Winston. “With Walker Construction located in Dexter, we’re still taking a ‘local’ bid and utilizing our local workforce. We’ve all been very pleased with the work Mr. Walker did at our Center in Dexter, and I think we can expect more of the same.”

“This is the launch of the future of the college,” said Stephenson. “This project is our number-one priority on campus. The Academic Resource Commons is the fulfillment of a dream in our promotion of student success and academic achievement. It will be a key element in our efforts to move students toward their educational goals and help them realize their dreams for a brighter future. We’ve been working for over a year and a half to get to this point. I’m overwhelmed to see this approval vote today.”

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Elder Selected For Missouri Ag Academy

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[Elder Selected For Missouri Ag Academy](#)

Photo Above: Kendra Elder of Bloomfield receives a certificate from Tony Anderson, Division Director with the Agriculture Business Division with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, Elder was selected and participated in this summers Missouri Agribusiness Academy. The presentation was made in the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City. (Missouri Department of Agriculture photo)

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

JEFFERSON CITY - A Stoddard County student is one of 30 of Missouri's high school sophomores join an elite group this summer at the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.

Kendra Elder, the daughter of Jerry and Pam Elder of Bloomfield, represented Southeast Missouri in the 2012 Missouri Agribusiness Academy. She is a sophomore at Bloomfield High School and an active member of the school's FFA chapter, which is led by advisor Chad Upchurch.

The Missouri Agribusiness Academy is a hands-on agriculture career academy with students from throughout the state. Students were selected through a competitive interview process to meet with leaders from agribusinesses specializing in animal health, communications, sales and financial management in Columbia, St. Louis and Jefferson City.

"The Agribusiness Academy is an opportunity for bright young folks in our state to sit down with top leaders in agriculture, government and education to explore the many diverse opportunities ahead of them," said Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler. "Agriculture impacts every sector of our economy and every community in our great state. There is a bright future for young people in agriculture and it is vital that we attract the next generation of agricultural leaders."

The students gathered in Columbia to begin the week exploring the University of Missouri's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. They traveled to St. Louis where they toured facilities and met ag leaders, and returned to Mid-Missouri Thursday. They ended their week in Jefferson City with a graduation ceremony at the State Capitol. Missouri's 2011 Ag Educator of the Year, Dr. Terry Heiman, gave the keynote address during the afternoon ceremony.

During the week, the students met with and worked alongside staff and leadership at Ad Farm, the Danforth Plant Science Center, Monsanto, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Begin New Adventure Center at St. Patrick's Center. The 2012 MAbA class also toured St. Louis-area farmers' markets and urban gardens, including City Seed Urban Farm.

Since 1988, the Missouri Agribusiness Academy has awarded more than 700 academy memberships through a competitive application and interview process. The students represent more than 25 4-H clubs and FFA chapters from all regions of Missouri.

To be eligible for the Agribusiness Academy, students must come from a farming family or be an active member of the National FFA Organization or 4-H.

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Young Bearcats Learn Cheer Skills

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Young Bearcats Learn Cheer Skills

The Dexter High School Cheerleaders hosted a special camp last week for young girls in the community.

The girls worked with the high school cheerleaders on some basic cheer skills and stunts plus they learned a dance routine. The girls were divided into six groups, and each group worked throughout the week with a set of DHS Cheerleaders.

The highpoint of the week was on Friday, when the girls all performed before a large and enthusiastic audience of parents, family and friends in the DHS Gym. The girls were enthusiastic and energetic, showing Bearcat spirit.

After the final large group cheer, little girls wanted to pose for photos with their "cheerleader buddies" and were treated to "treats" for the hard work, energy and effort throughout the week.

ShowMe Times Photo Gallery

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Cheer Squad Prepares For Upcoming Season

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[Cheer Squad Prepares For Upcoming Season](#)

The Dexter Competitive Cheer Team held a carwash last weekend to raise funds for the upcoming year. The girls had a successful day at the Auto Zone in Dexter - raising over \$600! On hand were cheer squad members (from left) Victoria Trammell, Taylor Allen, Miranda Rogers, Madison McGowen, Kristina Harris, Jessie Gott, Courtney Potts, Shyann Jines, Sydney Graves, Brooke Duckworth and Jessie Norman. The girls plan to use the funds to purchases equipment for the upcoming competitive cheer season. (Photo by SMT Reader and Cheer Mom Stacy Blocker ... Thanks, Stacy!)

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