



## ARKANSAS STATE POSTGAME NOTES

Arkansas State vs UMass | September 30, 2023 | McGuirk Alumni Stadium

### TEAM

- Senior LB **Melique Straker**, junior OL **Jacob Bayer**, junior S **Justin Parks**, sophomore OL **Makilan Thomas** were A-State team captains and represented the Red Wolves at midfield for the coin toss.
- Redshirt DL **Kadan Lewis** made his first collegiate start, giving the Red Wolves 34 different starters (17 offense/17 defense) used this season. Nineteen (19) of those 34 players are in their first or second year in the A-State program.
- The 52-28 victory gives A-State a 50-point game for the 17th consecutive season ... That is the second-longest streak nationally behind Oklahoma (18).

### OFFENSE:

- Arkansas State scored on its first possession of the game for the third consecutive outing, including a TD on its first drive of the last two games.
- Arkansas State posted 556 yards of total offense, most since totaling 572 vs Grambling in the 2022 season opener. The Red Wolves averaged 8.6 yards per play, tied for the ninth-most in a game and most since averaging 8.9 vs ULM in 2020. A-State's 383 passing yards were its most since passing for 444 at ULM back on Nov. 13, 2021.
- True freshman QB **Jaylen Raynor** has now thrown at least one TD pass in all three of his games played, including a career-high five (6) vs UMass ... His six passing touchdowns tied Justice Hansen (vs SEMO, 2014) for the single-game program record ... He joins Caleb Williams (Oklahoma vs Texas Tech, 2021), Justin Herbert (Oregon at California, 2016) and Patrick Mahomes (Texas Tech vs Baylor, 2014) as FBS true-freshman quarterbacks since 2013 with six or more touchdown passes in a game ... He has 10 TD passes over the last three contests ... Five of the six passing TDs today went to a different WR ... His 418 total offense yards are the 10th most in program history.
- Sophomore RB **Ja'Quez Cross** posted his team-leading third rushing TD of the season – all three of those scores have come over the last three games.
- Junior WR **Adam Jones** hauled in his first touchdown reception of the season and second of his career, first since the 2021 season ... Jones finished with three receptions for a game-high 105 yards.
- Senior WR **Jeff Foreman** hauled in two TD receptions, tying his career-high set last season at Southern Miss ... This was his second consecutive game with a touchdown reception, giving him 12 for his career.
- Junior WR **Courtney Jackson** posted at least one receiving TD for the third consecutive game and now has a team-high four this season, giving him eight for his career.
- Junior TE **Emmanuel Stevenson** recorded his first receiving TD this season, but now has three for his career. He found the end zone for the first time since 2021 – his freshman season.

- Junior WR **Regan Ealy** found the end zone for the first time of his A-State career, hauling in a 33-yard TD catch in the third quarter.

#### DEFENSE:

- Arkansas State forced at least one turnover for the second consecutive game, recording its third interception over that span.
- Senior safety **Eddie Smith** posted his first interception of the season and third of his career. He is third different A-State player to pick off a pass this year, joining Melique Straker and Trevian Thomas.
- Redshirt-freshman LB **Javante Mackey** had a team-high eight tackles, including seven solo stops ... Two of those stops were sacks, the first two sacks of his career.
- Sophomore DE **Keyron Crawford** tied his season high for tackles with six stops (all six came in the first half) ... Crawford also finished with a season-high 2.5 TFL, giving him 5.5 this year.
- Junior LB **Charles Willekes** finished with seven tackles (six in the first half), his second consecutive outing with seven stops.

#### SPECIAL TEAMS:

- Sophomore K **Dominic Zvada** totaled 10 points, one field goal and seven PATs, and now has 115 points in his career ... Zvada converted a 44-yard field goal in the first quarter improving to 6-of-8 from 40-plus yards in his career.
- Sophomore RB **Ja'Quez Cross** had three kick returns for 113 yards ... He finishes with 150-plus all-purpose yards for the third consecutive game.
- Senior P **William Przystup** had only one punt in the game, but it went for 50 yards, his 16th punt in his two years at A-State covering 50 or more yards.