# ASU - Beebe

Volume 1

CHANGES & CHALLENGES

August, 1995

# Message From The CHANCELLOR





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The past year and a half has been a time of changes and challenges for the university. In the spring of 1994, John Mangieri, president of the university system, was fired by the Board of Trustees; and Bob Hoskins, the vice president for academic affairs, was appointed interim president. Then Bill Owen, chancellor of the Beebe campus, died unexpectedly on May 15 from an apparent heart attack. Bob Hoskins suddenly became ill and died in late July. Mossie Richmond guided the university until Eugene Smith, president emeritus, returned as interim president in September. Then, David Moseley, who had been chief fiscal officer of the Beebe campus for nearly a decade, took a job at Arkansas Tech University.

#### Wyatt, McKay Appointed

By July 1, 1995, these challenges had been met, and all positions had been filled by people committed to the long-term development of the university. Dr. Leslie Wyatt, who has served as executive vice president at the University of Mississippi, was appointed president of ASU effective July 1, 1995. Dr. Eugene

McKay, who had been serving as interim chancellor since the death of Chan-





President Wyatt Chancellor McKay

cellor Owen, was appointed chancellor February 16. McKay has been at ASU -Beebe since 1966 and had served as vice chancellor for academic affairs since 1987.

As chancellor, I plan to continue the ASU - Beebe traditions of being a student-centered, open-door university. Those traditions have served the university and the community well, resulting in student enrollment going from 693 in the fall of 1985 to 1926 for fall 1994. These numbers do not include the 350 to 400 students per eight-week program enrolled at the ASU - Beebe program at the Little Rock Air Force Base. In addition, in 1992

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### Message from the Chancellor

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White River Technical College in Newport became a branch campus of ASU - Beebe. The ASU Board of Trustees also appointed Dr. Ed Coulter chancellor of the ASU - Mountain Home campus effective July 1, 1995.

#### **New Programs**

ASU - Beebe has added several new programs during the past year. Beginning in the fall of 1995, an applied science degree in Business Technology, with several option tracks, will be offered to students who want to go

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to work after two years of college. The medical records track is a cooperative program with Foothills Technical Institute.

This fall ASU -

Beebe will begin offering an applied science program in Agri Equipment Technology to train students to work on John Deere equipment. This cooperative program with John Deere will have 69 credit hours, with at least 21 being general education and the remainder being John Deere specific courses. John Deere will provide over \$1,000,000 worth of lab equipment and on-line parts and service. Governor Tucker has committed \$400,000 from the General Improvement Fund to build an Ag Tech building.

Last spring the General Assembly created a commercial truck driving institute at the Newport campus. Governor Tucker has committed \$800,000 to establish the program. Within three years over 1200 students are expected to be enrolled in a six-week, intensive program with 270 hours of classroom and driving activities.

Beginning this fall, ASU will offer the Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in technology at the Beebe campus. This degree allows students to choose one of three emphasis areas: manufacturing-industrial, technology management, or technical studies. The ASU Department of Engineering and Applied Science will offer this program. It provides working students a great deal of flexibility, and credit may be awarded for work experience. People interested in this program should contact the office of Continuing Education at ASU.

### North Central Accreditation

In 1992, ASU - Beebe received a ten-year accreditation by North Central Association with two required reports: one on outcomes assessment and the other on long-range planning. The chancellor received notice in June 1995 that the outcomes assessment report was approved and another letter in June 1995 that the longrange planning report was approved. No further reports are required, and the next NCA scheduled evaluation will be in the year 2001.

Although the university has had significant losses during the past year, many good things have also happened. Because faculty, administration, and the community worked together during these difficult times, the university seems poised for greater development. The future looks promising — if we continue to work together to make it so.

### Student Affairs

# **Upward Bound Begins This Fall At ASUB**

Mr. Ben Pickard. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, announces the Office of Students Affairs will be adding an additional program in the fall of 1995. The Upward Bound program is a federally funded program which will bring numerous prospective students on campus, lead to an even greater level of cooperation with area public schools, and bring well over a million dollars to the institution over a five-year period.

The program will serve 50 students, two-thirds of whom will be first generation college students from low income families, and one-third of whom will be from first generation and/or low-income families. The selected students will have academic potential, but lack the motivation and preparation necessary to

complete high school and pursue postsecondary education.

(Continued on page 4)

# Student Affairs Disbursed Over \$2 Millon

The Student Financial Aid Office disbursed a record \$2,250,961 to 1152 students in the 1994-95 school year. Director of Financial Aid Ms. Rita Toland reports the following breakdown: Pell Grants. \$1.004,627.50 Federal Stafford Loans. \$460,670,80 Arkansas State Grants. \$63,256.00 Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), \$15,750.00 Institutional Scholarships. \$82,290.00 College Work Study, \$13,183.50

Satisfaction with Financial Aid at ASU -Beebe is very high, she reports. On a Graduating Class Exit Opinion Survey students rated Financial Aid services a mean of 4.12 on a scale of one (very poor) to five (very good).

# Career Planning Only Part Of Counseling

The Counseling Center is located in the heart of Owen Center (formerly University Center). Services it offers include personal counseling, academic advising, career counseling, withdrawal interviews, testing, housing, scholarship application/information, disability services, and a variety of special on-campus programs including career planning seminars.

Some 3,516 contacts were made in the last academic year with students, prospective students, faculty, staff, and community persons. A team of three professionals, Dr. Mark Taylor, Ms. Cathy Jones, and Ms. Rae Thomas coordinate the Counseling Center activities.

### Over 1,000 Students Used Learning Center

The Learning Resources Center, open daily and some evenings. provided assistance to 1.086 students over 12,655 attendances covering 16,061 of individual assistance during the 1994-95 school year. The director and other instructors tutor students not only in reading, math, and English, but the various sciences and technical programs. Located on the east side of the Owen Center, the LRC is equipped with 24 personal computers and numerous programs that aid in learning.

Mrs. DeborahBeeman became the director of the LRC July 1. She replaces Dr. Judith McKay, associate professor of English, who will return to teaching in the classroom. Another new face in the Learning Resources Center will be instructor Ms. Jolene M. Howell.

### Fiscal Affairs

## State Hall Gets New Interior With Renovation Project

Under the oversight of vice chancellor for fiscal affairs Jerry Carlisle, the maintenance department at ASU - Beebe has renovated the second floor of State Hall. Some of the classrooms are now administrative offices. The chancellor's office is directly to the right at the top of the stairs. The vice chancellor for academic affairs is to the left. Computer services will be across the hall on the north side of the building. Three large classrooms have been reserved on the ends of the building, each finished with new paint and carpeting.

With the move upstairs completed, changes will begin downstairs. The business office will overflow into the chancellor's old area, public information into the academic affairs

area, and student affairs into the public information/computer area, which leaves growth space for the registrar/admissions office.

Increased enrollment and number of employees have dictated the expansion.

State Hall, located at N. Palm and Iowa, was built in 1938, right after the old Agriculture building (the oldest structure on campus) and at the same time as the Student Center/ Bookstore (across the street). For some, it is a landmark of the school, which was called Junior Agriculture College of Central Arkansas at that time. The building faces south and has a large, distinctive window on the second floor above its entrance. Concrete ramps make the ground floor accessible to handicapped individuals.

The old Agri Building

(also across the street) is now a Math and Science Annex. The Agri Department moved to its new location in the Applied Arts building in the spring semester of 1994. The new building is located on the north part of campus, facing Mississippi Street.

#### Business Office Receives Another Clean Audit

As usual, the University received "No Exceptions" when the auditors held their exit interview. The state legislature requires the annual audit, and it is unusual for agencies to receive a perfectly clean audit report, much less year after year.

Mr. Jerry Carlisle replaced David Moseley as vice chancellor for fiscal affairs last fall. Mr. Moseley is now at Arkansas Tech in Russellville.



#### **Upward Bound**

(Continued from page 3)

This project will provide students with the additional skills and motivation needed for them to successfully enter and complete courses at the college level.

Students from grades ten through 12 will be selected from 13 targeted high schools in Lonoke, Prairie, White and Woodruff Counties. They will come to the ASU - Beebe campus for classes and tutoring for 28 Saturdays. A six-week summer residential component is also included. During the second vear, some of the students will enroll in two college courses and will be provided academic and personal counseling and tutoring services.

### Academic Affiars

### New Degree Approved For ASU - Beebe

At its October board meeting, the State Board of Higher Education approved an Associate of Applied Science in Business Technology. It will begin with the fall semester, 1995. The board also approved an articulation agreement

with Foothills Technical Institute of Searcy to include medical records technology as an option in the program.

The program has the following majors: management, marketing, computer applications, office systems, medical records technology, and legal assistant. Job preparation rather than transferability is emphasized. The purpose is to provide an option for students who desire a program of study leading to a job after two years of college.

### **Upper Level Business Courses Offered**

Arkansas State University's College of Business will begin offering upper level courses this fall at ASU -Beebe.

The courses will lead toward a bachelor of science degree in business administration, according to Dr. Stephen Replogle, coordinator of distance learning programs for the College of Business.

Courses will be taught via interactive television, allowing students at the ASU - Beebe site to see the professor, ask and answer questions, and

interact with students on the Jonesboro campus. ASU has been successfully utilizing this technology for three years, offering programs in other areas.

One course will be offered this fall through the joint program with ASU - Beebe. That course is "Organizational Management," 12:30-1:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning August 22. This core course is common to all business majors.

The cost is the same as for students in

Jonesboro, \$82 per credit hour (\$246 per course). Students must be have been admitted to ASU - Jonesboro and have completed 54 semester hours, including several basic business courses, in order to enroll in the upper level courses.

For more details about admission procedures and enrollment in the program, prospective students should contact Dr. Hazel Dickey, chair of the Division of Fine Arts, at 882-8246.

#### New Faculty Named For Fall Semester

Seven new faculty members will begin the fall semester on the Beebe campus. Two from Math/Science are Melissa Meador, assistant professor of biology, and Qifang He, assistant professor of physical science. Charles E. Moore, associate professor of electronics. joins the faculty at ASTI. In the division of Education and Social Science is Billy Powell who be teaching psychology. John Brazzell is instructor of Agricultural Equipment Technology, Jolene Howell will be Learning Resources instructor. Charles Wisdom is the new agriculture instructor.

Barbara G. Banks is the new girls' resident hall director. Ms. Billie Healy retired this year. Michael Keith McClanahan joins ASU - Beebe as Industrial Relations Coordinator.

On the Newport campus, Ira (Ike) Wheeler is instructor of social sciences.

### Arkansas State Technical Institute

## **ASTI Economic Development A Boon To Area Industry**

In 1993-94, with a \$40,000 economic development promotional grant, Arkansas State Technical Institute purchased ten Allen-Bradlev SLC 500s and six TI Siemens 545 PLCs. These computers are used in industry to control machinery and processes. Training sessions for faculty and industrial personnel, on-site training, and two credit courses are the results of this equipment acquisition.

For the fiscal year 1994-95, the economic development office received another grant in the amount of \$39,188 and purchased 11 computers to be used to support PLC training on and off campus. Also, the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville developed a software program that is a computer-based, selfpaced Programmable Logic Controller training program used to shorten

and enhance formal PLC training.

Several area industries have taken advantage of the program.

#### Tech Prep Helps Articulate With Area Schools

During the last academic year, a consortium consisting of 15 secondary and postsecondary institutions in North Central Arkansas was formed. Students who qualify can take an approved, two-semester high school class and receive three hours of college credit when they earn their associate's degree.

Areas in which students can earn credit are agriculture, electronics, business, computeraided drafting and design, and computer information systems. For example, a student can take two semesters of General Horticulture in high school, and three hours of credit would be "banked" when he/she enters a postsecondary institution. The credit is added to the student's transcript when he/she earns the associate's degree.

Member schools of the consortium are ASU - Beebe and ASU -Beebe/Newport; Foothills Technical Institute in Searcy; Gateway Technical College, Batesville; ASU -Mountain Home, Mountain Home; and Delta Technical Institute, Marked Tree.

ASU - Beebe received a grant of \$176,000 from Vocational Technical Division of Arkansas State Department of Education to form this consortium to promote techprep in the state.

Director of this grant-funded program is Ms. Karen Chisholm.

# Freeman Named Outstanding Technical Student

Gregory D. Freeman, from Cleveland. was selected as the 1994 Outstanding Technical Student for the Mississippi River Gulf Region of the American Technical **Education Association** (ATEA). An electronics engineering technology major, Greg received his award on November 17, 1994, at the regional ATEA meeting in Metairie, LA. He was selected because of his outstanding academic achievements and his impact on fellow students and the institution he represents.



### ASU - Beebe/Newport

### ASU - B/N Sets New Enrollment Record

The 1994-95 school year was a successful one for Arkansas State University - Beebe/ Newport. Total enrollment over the previous academic year increased as this relatively new, two-year college continued to develop as a branch campus of ASU - Beebe.

Community interest was an active component of the success evident in the number of scholarships given, requests for more programs and services, and continual support by the ASU -

Beebe/Newport Charitable Foundation.

Last fall's enrollment was a record 426, and in adult education, the cumulative enrollment was 527. The Truck Driver Training program numbered 548.

Jennifer Methvin, was a presenter at the Community College Communications Conference, a national conference in Washington, D.C., last March.

A new student organization was established. It is designed to develop leadership

skills, provide involvement activities and to serve as a vehicle to promote positive communications between the students, faculty and administration. Members of the new organization, known as Student Union Body (SUB). participated in the **Newport Christmas** parade, the Three Rivers Fair in McCrory (Drug Awareness Booth), the local March of Dimes Campaign and volleyball tournament, and sponsored a spring break dance.

In addition to the SUB, a biology club was organized to promote student interest in biological sciences. Mr. David Jamieson is the club's sponsor.

Other highlights for the campus included an appreciation luncheon for State Senator Steve Bell, two theatrical productions, Story Theatre and Readers Theatre. The school year ended with a commencement celebration for approximately 60 graduates with a standing room only audience.

### ASU - Beebe Center Named In Honor Of Bill Owen

"In paying tribute to our friend, Bill Owen, there would be no more fitting memorial than the dedication of this building on the campus he revered and worked so hard to advance." Congressman Ray Thornton wrote these words referring to W. H.

Owen, Jr. who was chancellor of ASU -Beebe and died suddenly a year ago.

The University
Center, located in the
middle of the campus, is
the hub of activity for
students and a large
number of the faculty.

Because of the former chancellor's devotion to education and to the students and his faculty, this building was chosen to honor his 35 years of service to the university.

Participating on the program were Dr. Eugene McKay, present

chancellor; State
Senator Mike Beebe;
State Representative
David Choate; Mr.
Wayne Hartsfield, ASU
Board of Trustees; Dr.
Eugene Smith, Interim
President of ASU; and
Mr. David Owen, son of
Bill Owen.

### **LRAFB Program Lauded By QES**

According to Director of Continuing Education Robert Lashlee, the Quality Education Systems (QES) team that reviewed ASU - Beebe's programs at the Little Rock Air Force Base (LRAFB) liked what they saw. "The university received several commendations for its overall support of the program and for outstanding attention to detail and design used in the self-

study report," he said.

The QES team granted a special commendation for the Outcomes Assessment Plan. The director was asked to share the document with other onbase institutions so they might use it as a model in the development of their individual plans.

Mr. Lashlee plans to offer additional computer courses within the Computer Information

System department at LRAFB. Over 350 students enroll in each of the five 8-week programs at the Base.

The department of Continuing Education offered classes last spring and fall at Bald Knob and Foothills Technical Institute at Searcy. When needed, courses are taught in other near-by towns, such as Heber Springs or Carlisle.

### **ASU - Beebe Meets United Way Goal**

Faculty, staff and students reached ASU - Beebe's goal of \$3500 for the 1995 United Way of White County campaign. The entire campus community rallied to the call of the 14 agencies which United Way supports in areas around White County. The "Meal on Wheels" and Senior Citizens' Center are located in Beebe. Buses transport children and

workers to and from the Sunshine School and Newhope Industries in Searcy. Other organizations which the United Way funds are Group Homes, the Literacy Council, Boy and Girl Scouts, the Arthritis Foundation, Rape Crisis, Wilbur Mills Center, and Red Cross.

The Red Cross was the first to offer aid to burn out victims when the apartments on College Street in Beebe burned last summer and again when the 12-unit apartment on Terra Drive burned in July.

Payroll deduction is available for employees' convenience. The Agri Club and the Leadership Council each contributed from the student area.

The campaign is held each fall.

### Lecture/Concert Series Touts Top Performers

The 1994-95 lecture/ concert series was, as usual, outstanding. Legendary superstars of the 50's. The Platters. opened the season in September to a full house. Next. The Americus Brass Band an authentic recreation of the regimental brass band music of the Civil War, performed. In February, three celebrated, shining talents of the stage and screen -- Tom Kay, Pamela Myers, and Mac Frampton -- delighted the audience with a night of musical magic. And finally, the Riverboat Ragtime Revue performed such songs as "Here Comes the Showboat" and "Hello. My Baby."

These performances are advertised locally and open to the public. Ms. Teddy Davis heads the committee that selects the shows.

# North Central Approves ASUB Long-Range Plan

The North Central Association of Schools and Colleges sent a letter of approval for ASU - Beebe's long-range plan submitted in March of this year. This completes the accreditation process until the year 2001-2002.

The visiting team which evaluated the institution in 1991-1992 required two reports: long-range planning process and an outcomes assessment plan. The outcomes assessment plan was approved by NCA in 1994. The longrange plan includes specific goals and timelines and covers the period from 1993-1997. It also establishes a regular yearly process for planning, coordinated with Arkansas' biennial budgeting cycle.

A June 1, 1995, letter from Dr. Stephen Spangehl, Associate Director at North Central, gave the final touch to the comprehensive evaluation: "No further reports are required."

#### Moore Picked For Owen Scholarship

Michelle Moore, of Ward, was selected as the 1995-96 recipient of the William H. Owen, Jr. Scholarship. Moore is a liberal arts major at ASU -Beebe and plans to pursue a career in law.

The William H. Owen, Jr. Scholarship is awarded each year to an ASU - Beebe sophomore in honor of former Chancellor "Bill" Owen, who died last year. The recipient is selected on the basis of high academic achievement and contribution to the university community.

Recipients for 1994-95 were Vanessa Kiihnl from Austin and Deborah Robberts from Cabot.



NEW ASU PRESIDENT Dr. Les Wyatt, second from right, recently visited the ASU - Beebe campus to help inaugurate the John Deere program. Chatting with Dr. Wyatt are, from left, State Representative David Choate, Roger Jenkins of Dallas, John Deere manager of program resources, and Chancellor Eugene McKay. Dr. Wyatt voiced his support for the new John Deere program as well as the technical programs offered through ASTI.

### Davis, Hill Win Top Awards

Crystal Davis of Fox and Dan Hill of Jonesboro were presented Arkansas State University - Beebe's highest award, the Citizenship Award, at the university's annual awards banquet. The Citizenship Award is not only for academic achievement, but also for contributions to the university, partici-

pation in co-curricular activities, and potential for future success. Davis is a sophomore majoring in liberal arts at ASU - Beebe and Hill is a sophomore electrical engineering major.

The Positive Teacher Award was presented to Wendell "Buddy" Phillips.

# Private Donors Help Many Students Get An Education

In the 1995-95 academic year, scholarships to both ASU -Beebe and ASU - Beebe/ Newport campuses climbed to just over \$81,000. These are scholarships from businesses and private donors who usually but not always name the recipient. There is a wide variety of donors: school districts, clubs with special interests, memorials, trusts, individuals, business and industry.

The Beebe campus received a total of \$39,093 in scholarship gifts. The largest corporate donor was Wal-Mart which granted \$4,250 to specified students. The Newport campus received \$25,459. Its largest donor was Medallion Foods with a gift of \$14,250 to specified students. The ASU - Beebe/Newport Charitable Foundation was the second largest donor.

The Foundation also provided extensive support in other areas: tractors and trailers for the Truck Driver Training program (TDT); computer system and copier for the TDT; and a pledge of \$150,000 for Phase II of Samuel Moore Walton Hall Phase II will accommodate the expansion of the library, three additional classrooms, six faculty offices and a large classroom for physical education. The Foundation also provided portable stage lighting system for theatrical productions; a new sound system with wireless microphones, production of a news magazine, "Ridge to River": and the development of a brochure

The memorial scholarship set up for William H. Owen, Jr. upon his death last year has reached a total of

\$16,485. The largest corporate donor was ASU - Beebe/Newport Charitable Foundation with a gift of \$500, and the largest individual donor was Mr. Roy Simmons, whose gift was \$500.

### ASU - Beebe Theater Crew 'Breaks A Leg'

The theater in the Owen Center (formerly University Center) is one of the busiest areas on campus. Last year's performing season began when over 60 children, ages six to 12 performed in and helped produce a series of children's plays.

October brought another community-wide effortwith The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. ASU - Beebe students performed as well as handled technical aspects. Their next performance was Inherit the Wind, performed as ASU - Beebe's

entry in the Kennedy Center/ American College Theatre Festival in November, taking six awards, two acting awards, and two technical awards. Two students were named to the festival honors crew.

The spring Shakespeare Festival marked its 30th year at ASU - Beebe. It is the oldest continuous Shakespeare festival in the Mid-America region and the biggest theater festival in the state. Over 2,000 area high school students from 50 plus schools participated in the production and educational displays. They also had the opportunity to participate in a composition contest and an art contest as well as win awards for themselves and educational materials for their schools.

The musical Brigadoon rounded out the winter season. Mr. Rod Williams, drama director, says the department provides technical support to various high schools in the area throughout the year. This support ranges from advice on technical problems, to providing costumes and scenic units, and to serving as the host site for state high school Thespian theater festivals.

# Campus 'Plugged-In' To Computer Internet

Not long ago, most of us took "wired" to mean nervous or high-strung. Being "plugged in" meant "in the know," privy to inside information. And PC humorously stood for privileged character.

Today these terms have special meanings in the realm of PC -- personal computing. Much of the world is "wired" with the Internet, or international network. Millions of users -- academics, stars, school children -- are "plugged in" with their own addresses on the I-way.

Internet is physically hooked up in State Hall at ASU - Beebe. As soon as modems can be purchased and connected as receivers to the State Hall system, those with modems on their office computers will be able to dial in and log on to Internet. When fiber-optic cable and associated hardware/ software are available,

direct log on without the use of modems will be possible.

Other major advances in the computing area include an expansion to the Administrative Multi-user System (main frame). A dedicated telephone line to the ASU - Beebe/ Newport campus enabled the addition of eight new terminals there and another eight this fall. The first eight are on-line, that is, when a student registers on the Newport campus. his/her record is immediately entered into the university's main frame. Before, all recordkeeping -- registrar. business office, financial aid -- had to be hand delivered either by disk or on paper. On some occasions, a telephone call between campuses would suffice. In the near future. ASU - Beebe at Little Rock Air Force Base will be online.

The computer dept-



COUNTY FORESTER R.L. Prestidge, right, presents a check for \$9,769 to Physical Plant Director Rommie Davenport. The funds were presented to pay for the recently planted trees on the ASU - Beebe campus. The grant money was given by the Arkansas Forestry Commission as part of its Urban Forestry Program. Over 100 trees, 12-15 feet tall, were planted throughout the ASU - Beebe campus.

ment also reports that the hard disk space has been tripled, an auxiliary backup system added, and a VAX work station added.

At present, there are 85 computers for administrative and

faculty use on the ASU - Beebe campus. There are 306 in use campus-wide, with ASTI and Applied Arts having the greatest number for classroom purposes.

### Community Support A Key To ASUB Success

Most will agree that ASU - Beebe is an asset to this community and other communities of central Arkansas. Quite often the community shows its appreciation through donations and other forms of support for the university.

Last February, the Beebe Chamber of Commerce and the three financial institutions serving Beebe, Charter State
Bank, Citizens Bank and
First National Bank, along
with Quattlebaum Music
Center of Searcy, donated
\$2,000 for the purchase of
a new sound board for the
ASU - Beebe theater
department. The new
equipment replaced a
worn sound mixer and
provided the university
with state-of-the-art
electronic equipment. The

new equipment not only produces an improved sound, but also provides better training for theater students.

The Beebe Chamber of Commerce again demonstrated its support for the university recently by financing the production of 3,000 bumper stickers. The stickers highlight ASU - Beebe along with Arkansas State

Technical Institute and the City of Beebe. They were distributed at several points around the city as well as on campus.

The University appreciates the Beebe Chamber of Commerce and the community for their support. Such support helps make ASU - Beebe one of the top two-year educational institutions in Arkansas.

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