



Senate Resolution #3029

TITLE: Retiring #17 on the Football Team in Honor of Josh Allen
DATE INTRODUCED: 02/04/2025
AUTHOR: Chief of Staff Hennigar
SPONSORS: President Murfitt; Vice-President Knull; Director of Wellness and Sustainability Malles; Senator(s) Bogani, Brown, Christensen, Davies, Harper, Heffley, Holt, Jackim, Keasling, Morales, Robertson, Saint, Shosh, and Ward; Student-at-Large(s) Brock Peterson, Morgan Doherty, Ella Bifulco, Zach Mansheim, Brett Jones, Aidan Jones, Vada Burns, Janet Peacock, Wyatt Olivas, Max Seibold, Penelope Seibold


1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Senate is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, as is outlined in Addendum A, it is no secret that sports, especially football,
4. hold a significant place in most Wyomingites' hearts; and,
5. WHEREAS, each year since 2016 the Wyoming football team alone has brought in over
6. \$40 million dollars of revenue for the University according to the NCAA Sports Data
7. Tracker; and,
8. WHEREAS, this just further showcases how big of a role football plays in the day to day
9. life of students and Wyoming residents; and,
10. WHEREAS, since 1936, Wyoming has had ninety-three (93) players go to the National
11. Football League (NFL); and,
12. WHEREAS, of these ninety-three (93) players, nine (9) are currently still playing in the
13. NFL organization; and,
14. WHEREAS, the nine (9) players are the Bengals' Logan Wilson; the Broncos' Frank
15. Crum; the Jaguars' Tashaun Gipson Sr, Chad Muma, and Andrew Wingard; the Raiders'
16. Marcus Epps; the Saints' Carl Granderson and Treyton Welch; and finally, the Bills'
17. Josh Allen; and,
18. WHEREAS, while all of the named players have done incredible work for the University
19. of Wyoming and the Cowboy name, Josh Allen arguably is the most famous and
20. impactful; and,
21. WHEREAS, his time as a Cowboy lead us to two (2) bowl games and two (2)
22. consecutive eight-win seasons; and,

23. WHEREAS, as the seventh (7th) pick in the first round of the 2018 NFL Draft, he is
24. the highest drafted player from Wyoming in history, further marking his significance in
25. the sport and Wyoming; and,
26. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming had been the only school to let Allen onto their
27. team after he emailed countless teams across the nation; and,
28. WHEREAS, the gamble the University took on him paid off in ways no one could
29. have anticipated; and,
30. WHEREAS, data from University of Wyoming fan Instagram accounts—Barstool
31. UWYO, Beer Snake Wyoming, and Friday Beers Wyo—have been collected over the
32. past semester and has been presented in Addendum B, showing that the majority of
33. students and Cowboy Football fans surveyed are interested in seeing the University
34. honoring Josh Allen by retiring his number; and,
35. WHEREAS, Josh Allen won the NFL most valuable player for the NFL 2024-2025
36. season, further solidifying his legacy; and,
37. WHEREAS, the University has never retired a football player's number before, and
38. Josh Allen would be an impactful first; and,
39. WHEREAS, the University has retired two men's basketball players numbers due to the
40. impacts they had on the University; and,
41. WHEREAS, these players were Kenny Sailors, number four (4), and Fennis Dembo,
42. number thirty-four (34).
43. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
44. (ASUW) Student Government that the University of Wyoming should retire the number
45. seventeen (17) in order to show our appreciation to Allen and his continued impact in the
46. NFL; and,
47. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that this ceremony should take place during the
48. 2027 football season's Homecoming game to mark the ten (10) year mark of when Allen
49. graduated from the University of Wyoming; and,
50. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution and the letter in
51. Addendum A be sent to the University of Wyoming Athletics Program, the University of
52. Wyoming Football Coaching staff led by Jay Sawvel, the Board of Trustees, and
53. President Seidel; and,

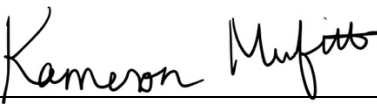
Passed 17-1-1

54. THEREFORE, be it resolved that this resolution be sent out at the earliest convenience
55. of the ASUW President in order to give the Athletics and Football programs ample time
56. to discuss and review this document.

Referred to: ALL STANDING COMMITTEES

Date of Passage: February 11th, 2025 Signed: 
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on February 11th, 2025, I do hereby sign my name
hereto and approve this

Senate action.” 

ASUW President

Addendum A

Dear President Seidel, Members of the Board of Trustees, University Athletics Program, and Coach Sawvel,

We, the members of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) Senate, write to you with a proposal that reflects both the pride and admiration our students have for the University's legacy and the remarkable achievements of one of our own: Josh Allen.

The ASUW Senate recognizes the purpose of this body is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible. In light of this, we would like to highlight the immense communal and economic significance of the University of Wyoming's football program, particularly in regard to its contributions to the university and to the state of Wyoming. Football holds a deep and significant place in the hearts of Wyomingites, and, notably, the University's football program.

Furthermore, the University of Wyoming has a long history of sending talented players to the National Football League (NFL). Since 1936, ninety-three (93) Wyoming football players have gone on to play professionally, including current players such as Logan Wilson (Bengals), Frank Crum (Broncos), Tashaun Gipson Sr., Chad Muma, and Andrew Wingard (Jaguars), Marcus Epps (Raiders), Carl Granderson and Treyton Welch (Saints), and Josh Allen (Bills). While all of these athletes have represented the University and the Cowboy name with pride, Josh Allen's contributions are arguably the most profound and far-reaching.

Josh Allen's time at the University of Wyoming was marked by impressive performances, including leading the team to two bowl games and two consecutive eight-win seasons. He made history as the highest-ever drafted player from Wyoming, selected as the seventh overall pick in the 2018 NFL Draft, an achievement that solidified his place in both the sport and the state's legacy. The University of Wyoming was the only institution that believed in Allen's potential, offering him a scholarship after he had emailed numerous other schools with no response. The gamble the University took on him has paid off, as Allen's success in the NFL has not only elevated his career but also brought significant attention to the University.

In recognition of Josh Allen's extraordinary contributions to both the University of Wyoming and the state of Wyoming, we propose that the University retire the number 17, which he wore during his time as a Cowboy. This gesture would honor his legacy and continue to inspire future generations of athletes and students. A recent survey of students conducted during the past semester has shown overwhelming support for this idea.

It is worth noting that the University of Wyoming has never retired a football player's number before, though it has retired the jerseys of two basketball players—Kenny Sailors (number 4) and Fennis Dembo (number 34)—due to their significant impact on the university's athletic history.

Passed 17-1-1

Given Josh Allen's tremendous influence both during and after his time at Wyoming, retiring his number 17 would be a fitting and impactful tribute.

We propose that this retirement ceremony take place during the 2027 football season's Homecoming game, marking the ten-year anniversary of Josh Allen's graduation from the University of Wyoming.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response and to the possibility of honoring Josh Allen in a meaningful and lasting way.

Sincerely,

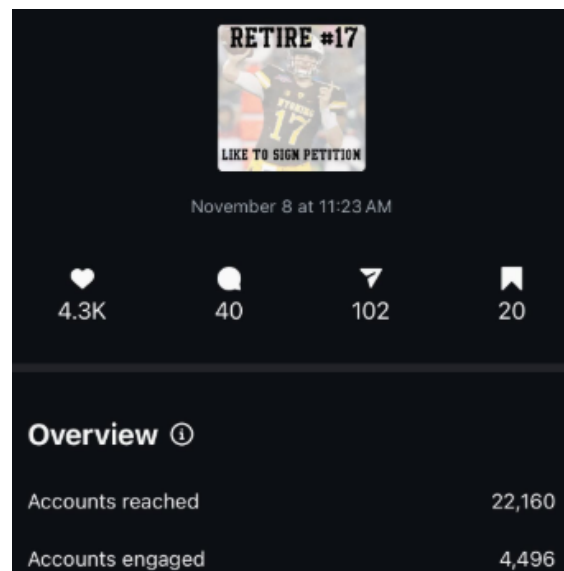
The Associated Students of the University of Wyoming Student Government

Addendum B

Thank you to the fan accounts that were reached out to and contributed to providing us data from students and University Cowboy football fans in order to present a project the students are interested in and in favor of.

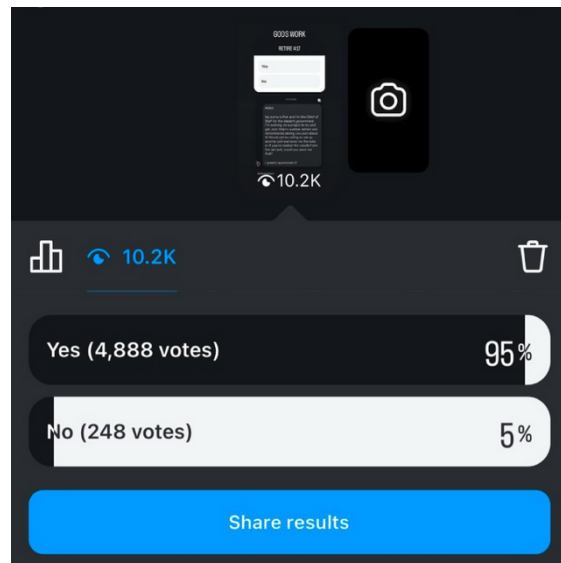
While none of these accounts are directly related to the University, their ability to connect sports fans and influence fan culture made them appealing groups to reach out to in order to collect the below data.

Barstool – Hosted two separate polls roughly a month apart. The first was a post asking fans to like it if they believed Josh Allen’s number should be retired. 22,160 people saw the post and 4,496 people liked it

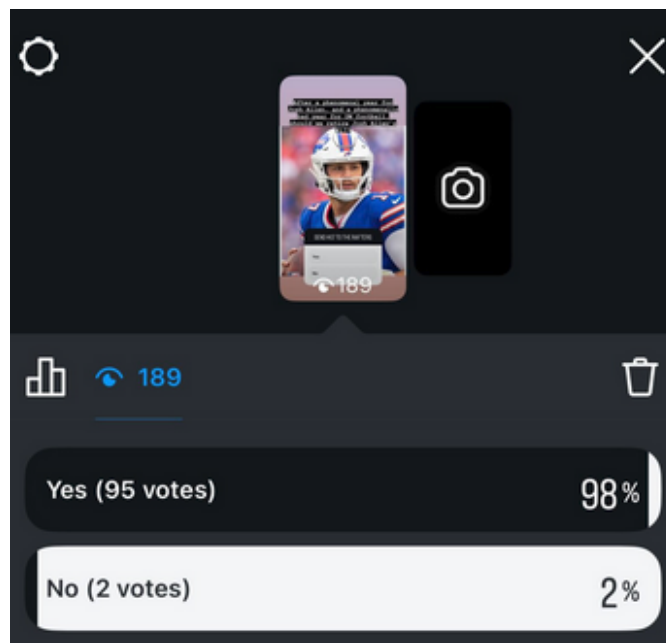


The second post from them was a poll on their Instagram story on December 5th, 2024. This poll was viewed by over 10,000 people, a total of 5,136 people voting with 4,888 voting in favor and 248 voting against retiring Josh Allens number.

Passed 17-1-1



Beer Snake Wyoming – Posted a poll on their Instagram story on December 5th, 2024 that was viewed by 189 people and received 97 votes. There were 95 votes in favor of retiring his number and 2 votes against.



Friday Beers – This fan account also posted an Instagram story poll on December 5th, which was viewed by 1,553 people. A total of 895 people voted with 838 being in favor and 57 people being against retiring Josh Allen's number

Passed 17-1-1

