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SWOSU and Yukon Public Schools Announce Expansion of Partnership



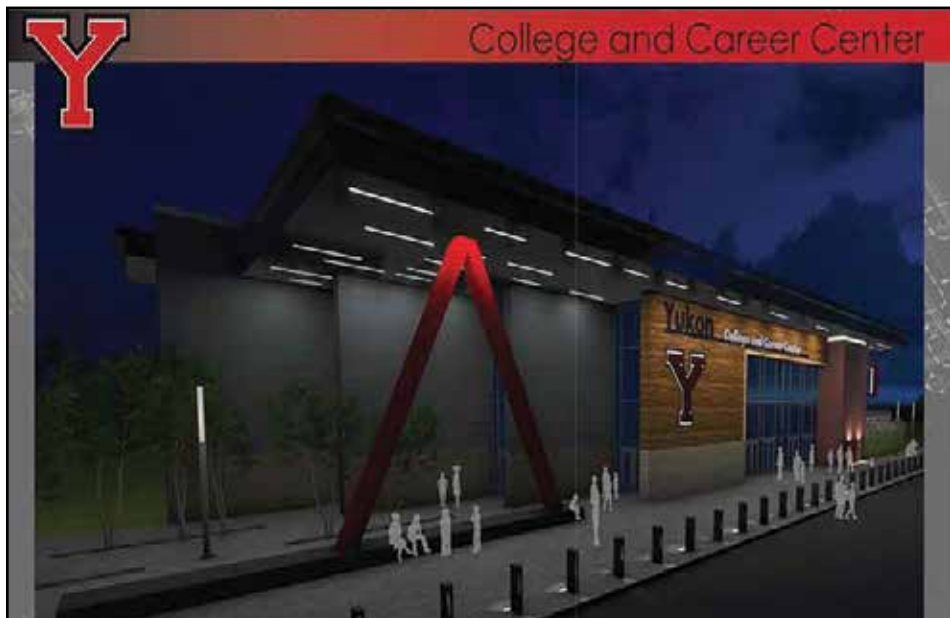
Both Yukon Public Schools (YPS) Superintendent Dr. Jason Simeroth and Southwestern Oklahoma State University President Dr. Diana Lovell were present at the recent YPS Board of Education meeting to formalize an agreement on the new YPS College & Career Center.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) and Yukon Public Schools (YPS) have announced a major expansion of the partnership, formed in fall 2020. On Monday evening, December 6, 2021, the YPS Board of Education formalized an agreement with SWOSU that will see the new YPS College & Career Center serve as host to the first SWOSU location in the Oklahoma City Metro.

“The agreement finalized between YPS and SWOSU serves as another reminder of how hard our public school districts work in cooperation with their higher education system to provide a bright future for Oklahoma students,” Oklahoma Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister said. “The State Department of Education wants to congratulate Yukon Public Schools on forming a first of its kind partnership with SWOSU.”

The Center will be the first-ever four-year university on an Oklahoma high school campus and will be built by YPS. This project was approved by over 70% of voters in the 2021 bond election. SWOSU will provide a capital contribution of \$5 million in exchange for a 25-year lease of approximately 12,000 square feet of space within the facility. SWOSU will be designated as

(See SWOSU, page 4)



A rendering of the proposed YPS College & Career Center.

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Steve Lenix Stroud

Steve Lenix Stroud passed away on December 3, 2021. Born in Weatherford, OK on May 24, 1930, to J.W. Stroud and Fern Stroud (Ward), Steve grew up south of Weatherford where he developed a lifelong love of the outdoors while riding horses and helping his dad and brother to care for the family's land, crops, and animals. He later attended Weatherford High School where he excelled in football and wrestling before obtaining a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.



Steve trained as a pilot before becoming a high school teacher and coach of basketball, swimming, wrestling, and football in Hennessey, OK, where one of his proudest achievements was taking the football team all the way to the state championship in 1955.

He then transitioned into the insurance industry, which would quickly become one of his greatest passions. He first worked for the Fireman's Fund, but when faced with the prospect of moving his then young family off to far away Chicago, he took a major leap of faith and decided instead to open his own agency in his hometown of Weatherford. He sold for a number of companies, including Hartford, and began to specialize in lines of insurance important to the rural people he knew best, especially after purchasing Austin, TX-based San Jacinto Insurance Company in the early 1970's and incorporating it into his agency.

After it became possible to begin directly selling multi-peril crop insurance in the early 1980's, Steve dove in headfirst, and his agency eventually became the third largest producer in the nation. Having long enjoyed vacationing in Ruidoso, New Mexico, Steve decided to move his agency there in the 1990's; and as a testament to the commitment of his employees, almost all of his Weatherford-based staff made the transition with him. Steve rapidly adjusted to life in the mountains and continued full steam ahead with his business efforts, with even the Governor of his new state recognizing him for his accomplishments as a businessman and his contributions to the community. In later years, he transitioned more heavily into the selling of farm and ranch insurance. All told, what began as a small agency in Weatherford, now employs a total of 14 people and leads a network of

roughly 700 independent agents in 18 states. While Steve began entrusting the operation of the agency to his son Steve Brian in recent years, he maintained a strong connection to the agency, insisting on "going to work" and being in the office as much as possible.

In addition to his achievements in the worlds of coaching and insurance, Steve refereed football games and oversaw the planning and construction of homes. True to his roots, he ran wheat harvesting crews that worked their way from south Texas all the way north to Canada and owned ranches in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Saskatchewan. He also exported cattle to Japan and held a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Steve enjoyed playing golf, travelling, and spending time with family. He also loved to be in the air, logging well over 6,000 hours as a pilot in command and particularly relishing his time behind the controls of his beloved Meridian prop jet. Later in life, he enjoyed splitting his time between Ruidoso, New Mexico and a vacation home in San Carlos, Mexico. A man of faith, he felt particularly welcome at the First Christian Church of Ruidoso, where he financed an expansion of the church in the early 2000's.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents; his older brother LTC J.R. Stroud, US Army retired; and his eldest daughter Deborah Jean Gale. He is survived by his sister Cleta Pergament of Atlanta, GA; his daughter Vickie Ayer and her husband Herley of Oklahoma City, OK; his son Steve Brian Stroud of Ruidoso, NM; his daughter Leslie Fleming and her husband Roger of Weatherford, OK; his grandson Michael Garretson and his wife Vilma of Yukon, OK; his granddaughter Amber Clear and her sons Jackson and Stone of Weatherford, OK; his grandson Matt Fleming, his wife Kodi, and their children Tayte and Josey of Weatherford, OK; his grandson Dr. Chase Stroud, his wife Khuyen, and their son Steven of New York, NY; his ex-wife and "good friend" Frankie Jameson of Weatherford, OK; and his beloved caregivers Betty and Ricky Phillips of Ruidoso, NM.

Throughout his life, Steve would often say, "Life is like a wagon wheel. Sometimes you're at the top of the wheel, and sometimes you're down in the mud and muck. His passing has certainly left his family and friends down in the mud and muck, but because of his sage words, they know they will eventually be higher on the wheel of life while always carrying in their hearts the memories of the hard-working, competitive, and perpetually optimistic man they knew and loved.

education at OU, receiving a Master's in Human Relations. She received her second Master's in Community Counseling from SWOSU. She became a Licensed Professional Counselor and worked as a mental health counselor for several agencies in the Weatherford area. She was currently employed at Red Rock Behavioral Health Services in Blaine County. Family and friends wishing to honor her memory may make a donation to Port Cemetery Fund % All America Bank, Sentinel, OK 73664.

Preceding her in death were her Grandparents Louis and Dosia Tompkins, Grandfather Joe Ryan, two Uncles, Barry Tompkins and Don Ryan.

Survivors include her parents Sam and Druanne Ryan, sister Starr, Grandmother Twila Ryan and Uncle Terry Ryan and family and Cheryl Ryan and family.

Margaret Jo Rollins

Margaret Jo Rollins was born March 7, 1927, in Woodward to George Irwin Corbett Sr. and Alvema Sarah (Brown) Corbett and passed away December 3, 2021, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford just 3 months shy of her 95th birthday, at the age of 94 years, eight months and 26 days.



Margaret was raised by her grandmother Minnie Estelle Corbett. She had a love for music and sang in many duets and school programs. Her love of music continued throughout her life, and she played piano and sang in the church choir many a Sunday. She married Carroll R. Rollins June 1, 1945, and made their home in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, N. Dakota, Wyoming, Indiana, Florida, Mississippi before moving to Weatherford in 2002 to be near her daughter. She and Carroll had three children and celebrated 67 wonderful years together before his passing in April of 2013. Margaret was a beautiful, kind and caring person, never spoke an unkind word about anyone. She was a loving and wonderful mother, having reared her children in Sunday School and church at an early age. She was a lifetime member of the First Baptist Church. Margaret will be greatly missed and always in our hearts.

Margaret is survived by two sons; Jerry Rollins of Benton, AR and Mike Rollins of Weatherford; one daughter Linda Riseley and husband Wendell of Weatherford; half sister Joy Briggs and her husband Sherman of Las Cruces, New Mexico; a half brother Terry Corbett of Las Cruces, New Mexico; three grandchildren; Shawn Riseley of Weatherford, Dianne Hughes of Benton, AR ; and Jack Rollins of Benton, AR. two great-grandchildren: Braden Hughes and Kaylen Hughes, both of Benton, AR; two step-grandchildren, Noah Holmes and wife, Debbie of Bartlesville and Aaron Holmes and wife, Anna of Albuquerque, NM; and three step-great-grandchildren, Cory Holmes of Colorado Springs, CO, Glenn Holmes of Bartlesville and Donald Rogers of Weatherford.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Carroll; her grandmother Minnie Estelle Corbett; four sisters: Edna Mari Corbett, Mary Katherine Sear, Aline Blumer and Dorthera Reeves; two brothers: George I. Corbett, Jr. and John Curtis Corbett who were stillborn; two daughters-in-laws Won Rollins and Diane Rollins; one granddaughter Kimber Riseley; one niece Evonne Blumer; and one nephew Darrell Blumer.

Barri Hope Ryan

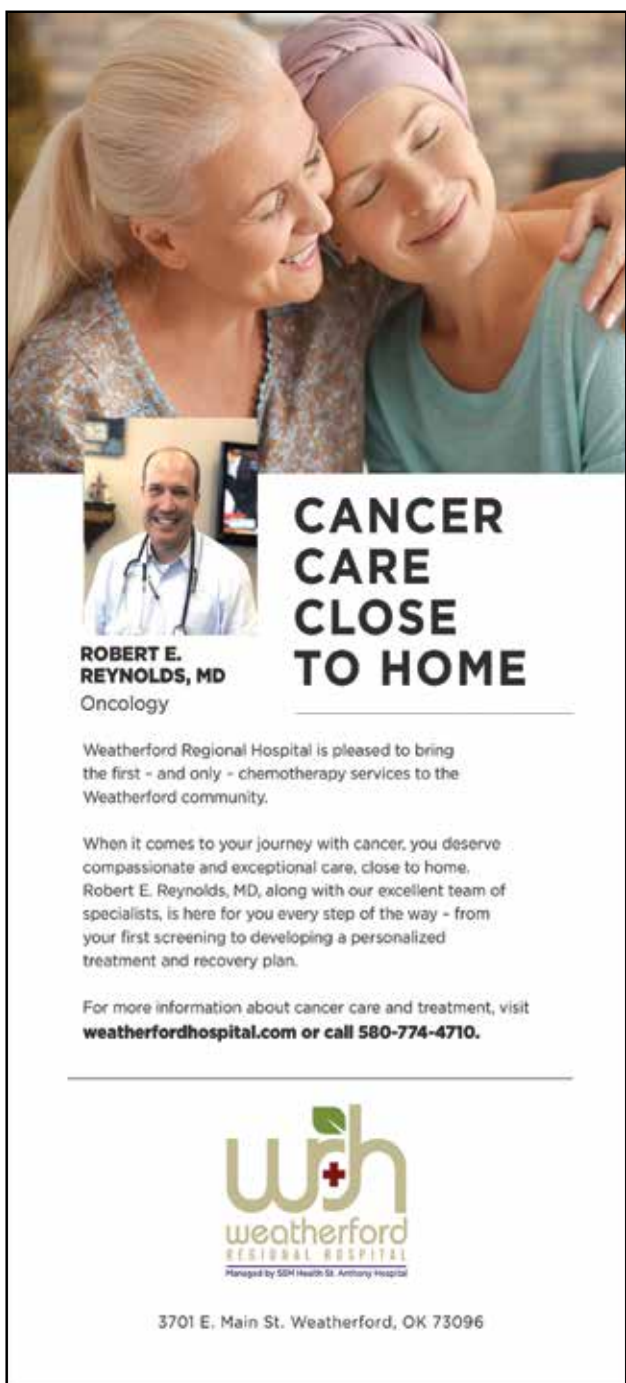
Barri Hope Ryan, Weatherford, OK, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on December 3rd, 2021. She was born on June 17th, 1976 in Hobart, OK, to Sam and Druanne (Tompkins) Ryan.



Barri Hope grew up in the Port community and graduated from Canute High School in 1994 as Valedictorian. She received her Emergency Medical Technician training at Redlands Community College, becoming a licensed EMT at age 19 while also completing her B.A. in Criminal Justice at SWOSU. She continued her

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SWOSU College of Pharmacy Honors Nine Alumni



Provided
 SWOSU College of Pharmacy alumni were recently honored with awards from the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association during a ceremony on the Weatherford campus. Honorees are (left to right): Young Professional Achievement Award winner Weston Lovell, McCurtain; Dr. H.F. Timmons Award winner Tom Davis, Edmond; Professional Achievement Award winners Martin Johnston, Granbury (TX); Shanna Hamilton, Amarillo (TX); and Bill Arrington, Stillwater; Brandy Alumni Award winners Sally and Steve Drinnon, Weatherford; and Randy Curry, Weatherford; Humanitarian Award winner Jerry Shelton, Parker (CO). Standing with award recipients (far right, left to right) are SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean Dr. David Ralph; Pharmacy Alumni Association President Becca Baugher Segrest, Edmond; and Pharmacy Alumni Association Past President Tracie Simard, Edmond.

Nine Southwestern Oklahoma State University College of Pharmacy alumni were recently honored on the Weatherford campus with awards from the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association.

Honorees were Bill Arrington, Stillwater; Randy Curry, Weatherford, Tom Davis, Edmond; Sally and Steve Drinnon, Weatherford; Shanna Hamilton, Amarillo (TX); Martin Johnston, Granbury (TX); Weston Lovell, McCurtain; and Jerry Shelton, Parker (CO).

The Professional Achievement Award recognizes outstanding professional achievement. The award recognizes individuals who have attained prominence in his/her field and also distinguishes the alumni who personify the SWOSU College of Pharmacy's tradition of excellence. Arrington, a 1977 graduate, Hamilton, a 1992 graduate, and Johnson, a 1981 graduate, were selected as this year's recipients.

The Young Professional Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding professional achievement in the pharmacy profession of an individual who has graduated from the SWOSU College of Pharmacy in the last 10 years. Weston Lovell, a 2011 graduate, was the 2021 award recipient.

The Humanitarian Award recognizes a SWOSU pharmacy graduate who has impacted lives through service and dedication. Jerry Shelton, a 1968 graduate, is this year's honoree.

The Brandy Alumni Award recognizes outstanding service to the SWOSU College of Pharmacy and the Pharmacy Alumni Association. It also recognizes the achievements of an individual working on behalf of the College of Pharmacy through service in alumni programs, on advisory committees or through efforts made to ensure the welfare of the College of Pharmacy. Randy Curry, a 1977 graduate, and Sally and Steve Drinnon, both 1993 pharmacy graduates, were selected as this year's recipients.

In addition, the Dr. H.F. Timmons Award recognizes a SWOSU College of Pharmacy faculty, staff or administration member who has demonstrated extraordinary dedication and service to SWOSU, College of Pharmacy, Pharmacy Alumni Association and the community. Honored this year is Tom Davis, a 1970 pharmacy graduate and associate professor in the SWOSU College of Pharmacy.

The SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association in Weatherford is accepting nominations until March 10 for the following pharmacy alumni awards: Professional Achievement Award, Young Professional Achievement Award, and Humanitarian Award.

Patti Harper, pharmacy alumni and development director at SWOSU, said the nomination forms can be found online at www.southwesternpharmacy.com/nomination. For more information, contact the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Alumni & Development Office (swpharmacy@swosu.edu; 580-774-7197).

The SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association (PAA) exists to support the SWOSU College of Pharmacy students, alumni, faculty and friends. Through annual and lifetime memberships and numerous alumni volunteers, the PAA assists the College of Pharmacy in its efforts to educate pharmacy students, provide opportunities for interaction with SWOSU pharmacy alumni, and recognize the contributions and achievements of its pharmacy alumni.

Pro Tem Greg Treat comments on Oklahoma's legal challenges of federal vaccine mandates



Oklahoma Senate President Pro Tempore Greg Treat, R-Oklahoma City, released the following statement following updates from Gov. Kevin Stitt and Attorney General John O'Connor on the state's legal challenges of federal vaccine mandates:

"I appreciate Governor Stitt and Attorney General

O'Connor for leading our state's legal efforts to stop President Biden's vaccine mandates. It is the right move in the right venue, and we are prevailing in court. The effort to protect the sovereignty and power of the states will be led by Oklahoma and other freedom-loving states. Oklahoma is fighting and winning against this egregious federal overreach, just as we promised to do. The Tenth Amendment reserves authority not specifically granted to the federal government to the states, and I am confident Oklahoma will prevail in this legal fight and further solidify federalism and separation of powers. This is exactly why the Senate successfully advocated for and appropriated an additional \$10 million this year for the AG's Office to fight the continual onslaught of unconstitutional federal power grabs."

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Yoder Article Appears in Academic Advising Today

Dr. Wendy Yoder, director of the Academic Support Center at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, was recently notified that an article that she wrote was accepted into an electronic publication of the National Academic Advising Association (NAAA).

The article, "Supporting Students as Faculty Advisors: Lessons Learned from Navigating Pandemic," appeared in Academic Advising Today.

Yoder's article focuses on the role that faculty advisors play in supporting student retention and how advisors can turn the experiences of the COVID pandemic into a positive learning opportunity to increase flexibility in advising practices. The article can be found at: <https://nacada.ksu.edu/Resources/Academic-Advising-Today/View-Articles/Supporting-Students-as-Faculty-Advisors-Lessons-Learned-from-Navigating-a-Pandemic.aspx>

The journal exists to provide a venue for sharing of advising experiences and discussion of ideas related to the theory and practice of academic advising in higher education.



SWOSU

Continued from Page 1

YPS's preferred provider of concurrent programs and associate, bachelor and graduate degrees.

"We thank the leaders of YPS for their trust and collaborative approach to our shared educational mission," SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell said. "The university is grateful for the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., Trustees, Regional University System of Oklahoma Regents and former SWOSU President Randy L. Beutler whose vision and stewardship have helped make this important strategic action possible."

SWOSU will offer coursework to the general public with plans to emphasize nursing, education, allied health, engineering technology, aerospace and other workforce-aligned disciplines and programs to help meet the present and anticipated needs of Oklahoma businesses and

agencies. The SWOSU location in Yukon has grown from 30 students to 130 in one year.

"We have started on a path that will provide greater opportunities for work and college unlike any other school district." YPS Superintendent Dr. Jason Simeroth said, "We are thrilled to begin our future in collaboration with Southwestern Oklahoma State University and even more excited about the opportunity that this will provide our current students and community."

Dr. Lovell said the establishment of the learning location in the heart of Canadian County represents a huge step for SWOSU towards better meeting the university's objectives of providing Oklahomans with quality, affordable, accessible higher education programs and opportunities.



Chad Gray/WW

The Hydro-Eakly Lady Bobcats went undefeated to claim the Championship title at the Comanche Nation's Geronimo Dome Classic tournament held this past Weekend. The Bobcats defeated teams from Verden, Frederick, and Duke in order to win the Tournament.



Jim Morrison

HIGHER GROUND

What about the future?

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Steven Covey, in his book, 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, makes the classic statement; "Begin with the end in mind." It simply means to visualize your final objective. Another way of saying it is to think, "What do I want the final result to be." A farmer who plans his year is thinking, "What kind of a harvest do I want to have?" Of course there are a lot of variables for a farmer; rain, insects, cost of labor and fuel, fertilizer, etc. But there are still a lot of things left to his responsibility. He must choose quality seed, upgrade his equipment, plan the timing, and choose

the best time to prepare the soil and planting. And most of all, be prepared to work hard. He can't leave the harvest to chance or when it is easy.

The construction worker has in mind the end result of the house he is building and follows those plans accordingly. He must plan ahead to order the materials, where the electric outlets will be, the water lines, and the location of the heat and air conditioning vents.

Every parent looks at their newborn child and shudders at the new responsibility he/she faces. They dream of the mature, responsible, God-fearing adults they will become. If they are wise they will do all they can to develop parenting skills, model good character before them, demonstrating the kind of love that they would like to see reproduced in their child.

The newly married couple doesn't leave their marriage to chance. They don't say "Oh, everything will work out. We love each other and we will do on-the-job training." The Apostle Peter says, "Husbands consider your wives." That means, learn all you can about the needs and expectations of your wife. Examine your tendency to be self-seeking and prideful.

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

Hydro Main Street Christmas Slated for December 18th

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The Hydro Chamber of Commerce is excited to host the wonderful holiday event, Hydro Main Street Christmas! Bring your Christmas spirit with you to Hydro on December 18th, beginning at 9:45 AM with drinks and coffee. Then, at 10:10 AM, join together for some caroling until the sleigh bells announce Santa's arrival at 10:30 AM! Families and children can meet Santa, grab a picture, and every child will get a goodie bag from Santa and the local firemen!

The big holiday drawings begin at 11 AM, must be present to win. Entries to the drawing tickets can be picked up by shopping any day in Hydro leading up to the event! This will be a Christmas to remember!



Tree Lighting, Chamber Bucks, and Pickle Day Winners stand in front of the Hydro Christmas Tree.

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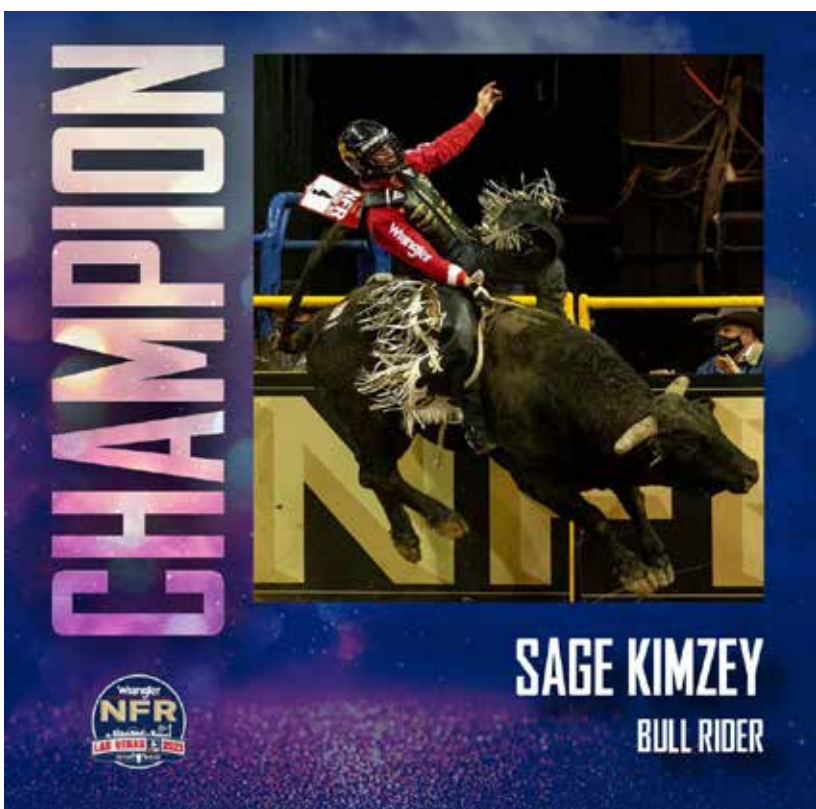
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Kimzey Claims 7th World Championship; Five SWOSU Alum Compete at 2021 Wrangler NFR



which he earned twice during the event on day two and 10. Despite the third-place finish, he still out earned competitor Josh Frost on the year by nearly \$50,000 to claim the world title. Kimzey is now one world championship away from tying Don Gray's record of eight.

Beisel, a native of Weatherford, finished tied for fourth for the event and third in the world standings in barrel racing. She had her best ride in round five of the NFR, where she won the round with a 13.43 second time – the fastest time in any of the 10 rounds.

Domer finished eighth at the NFR and fourth overall in the world standings in breakaway roping. Her best placing came on day two when she tied for first place in the round with a time of 2.4 seconds.

Herrin ended up 15th in average and 13th in the world standings for tie down roping. He won round eight when he posted a 7.1 second time and finished with 81.6 seconds overall on six head.

Green, riding saddle bronc, ended sixth in the average and seventh in the world standings. His best ride came in the eighth round when he tied for first with a score of 91.0, and he finished with a point total of 749.50.

The Wrangler NFR is the season-ending championship event for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) and is widely acknowledged to be the world's premier rodeo. Held annually since 1959, the Wrangler NFR is ProRodeo's richest and most prestigious rodeo, and it showcases the very best cowboys, barrel racers and livestock in the world.

Sage Kimzey was one of five SWOSU Rodeo alumni in action at the 2021 Wrangler National Finals Rodeo that spanned December 2-10. Other former Bulldogs included Emily Beisel, Kelsie Domer, Hunter Herrin and Layton Green.

All five members of the Bulldog family posted a top-two finish in at least one round of the event, including four being able to win at least one round.

Kimzey, after having his six consecutive world championship streak snapped last season, rebounded to earn his seventh world title in bull riding. At the Wrangler NFR, he placed third in the average with a total of 506 points. His best placing was second,

WESTERN OKLAHOMA/SALES TAX- Official sales tax receipts have been released by the Oklahoma Tax Commission for October sales. The City of Weatherford was up nearly 28.5% at just over \$1.08 million. The City of Clinton was up 16.3% at a shade over \$489,000. Thomas had a 23.6% hike to a little more than \$44,000. Elk City had an increase of 26.2% at \$1.17 million. The City of Cordell had an increase of 6.5% at \$92,500.

CLINTON BUSINESSES- In an interview with Wright Wradio, Clinton Chamber of Commerce president Julie Caldwell gave an update on new businesses coming to Clinton including a boutique that will be opening soon downtown and Sutherlands that will be in the old K-Mart building in 2022. Caldwell also says that Lily and Rose will be moving in to the old Tautfest building on Gary Boulevard.

CUSTER COUNTY JAIL CONSTRUCTION- Custer County Sheriff Dan Day gave an update to county commissioners this week on construction that needs to be done on the south side of the county jail where sewage has begun to leak out on to the road. The construction would include tearing up an area of concrete to repair the pipe. Day says that a preliminary quote came in at

\$1,095 but did not include re-pouring the concrete.

CUSTER CO ACCIDENT- A 17-year old Elk City female was hospitalized and last reported in guarded condition following a one vehicle accident on I-40 near eastbound Exit 66 in Clinton. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said the juvenile was driving and exited I-40 near exit 66, circled back around and struck a tree head-on. The name is withheld due to her juvenile status.

ARPA GUIDELINES- The Custer County commissioners approved a resolution, regarding pay guidelines using ARPA funds. Commissioner chairman Lyle Miller said the Emblem Strategies advised the commissioners on the resolution to set up a one-time payment to county employees, using ARPA money. The commissioners unanimously approved the resolution.

WEATHERFORD/GRANT APPLICATION- Weatherford economic development director Yolanda Creswell said she continues to wait on word regarding a grant application in an effort to make upgrades to the municipal swimming pool. Creswell said the city is seeking \$500,000 in the land and water conservation grant to be applied to another \$500,000 in city funds for what would be a \$1 million upgrade.

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Happy Birthday Wishes for December 15th- Lorna Kay Altland, Jo Crowdis, Maegen Fite, Kandy Harrall, Jared Hildebaugh, Clint Holsted, Patricia Keezer, Keryl Lacy, Ray Lee, Scooter Leggit, Lynn Martin, Scott Sanders, Debbie Sanders, Kelsey Pugh, Sheree Wood, Margaret Wright; **December 16th-** Amanda Arriaga, Renee Basgall, Todd Doyals, Betty Goldman, Steven Green, Christine Irish, Victor Izagurre, Steve Josey, Ben Kuykendall, Melissa McCoy, Richard Palmer, Brandon Pounds, Peggy Reynolds, Ashley Ricks, Ronnie Skinner, Mike (Newsman) Smith, Slyvia Spain, Karey Stufflebeam, Steve Tomkins; **December 17th-** Willie Eaton, Holly Gay, Myra Jarvis, Carrie Johnson, Saige Keeton, Josette Kubrak, D.W. Logan, Taylor Matthews, Katy Rose; **December 18th-** Jan Bowden, Matthew Davenport, Collin Dixon, Caydee Glossen, Adrian Huiatt, Jeff Holiday, Jackie Nutry, Justin O'Conner, Phillip Payne, Tyler Shadid, Kit Stephenson, David Wood; **December 19th-** Bekcy Barton, Ranea Bryan, Matt Cox, Kent Dewees, Jasi Fronenberger, Devan Hewitt, Darrell McCray, Mark Hix, Joyce and Ron Norris, John Page, Kim Richmond, Sharon Segress, Steve Spain, Harold Washa; **December 20th-** Dr Michael Aaron, Donna Durnell, Edward Engel, Norma Fisher, Melanie Gates, Phyllis Gibson, Larry Howes, Burl Kenedy, Ernie McCoy, Lela Mae McGill, Victoria Rodriguez, Jared Sisler, Laura Toczko; **December 21st-** Leslie Acuna, Boyce Ashcraft, Sonya Blagg, Jackie Flaming, Wendy Garrison, Nicole Bryson Gance, Paul Harner, Damon Kautz, Sandra Kidd, Anna Koop, Lynn Koop, Trapper Roark, Maria Settles, Dalton Sisson, Allen Tipton, James Vanderbroeck, Jylian Voigt.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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SPORTS *Presented by:*



Bulldog Trio Named to United Soccer Coaches All-Region Teams

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Three from SWOSU Soccer have been named NCAA Division II United Soccer Coaches All-Central Region selections.

Nicole Petrino was placed on the first team while Elizabeth Moreno and Brianna Benitez both found homes on the second team. This, for SWOSU, is an identical all-region selection outlook as the D2CCA teams announced two weeks ago.

Petrino adds to her collection of 2021 postseason accolades and is now a two-time first team all-region selection this season, alongside the GAC Defensive Player of the Player and a first team all-conference player.

Moreno gets a second team all-region nod that matches her D2CCA selection. She is a first team all-conference player and has been named all-region in multiple seasons for the Bulldogs.

Benitez also finds herself on the second team. Identical to Moreno, she is also a D2CCA second team selection in the Central Region. As SWOSU's leading scorer, Benitez is a first team all-conference winner.

The All-Region teams are selected through voting by member coaches in their respective divisions. Student-athletes earning First Team All-Region honors are now eligible to earn All-America status.



The SWOSU Lady Bulldog soccer team hold up the bulldog hand sign during one of their games. The Bulldogs finished their 2021 season 13-7-1 and multiple members of the team have won postseason honors including Nicole Petrino, Elizabeth Moreno, and Brianna Benitez.

Thornton's 36 Gives Bulldogs Boost in Overtime Victory

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

With 16 seconds left on the clock in overtime and the game tied at 73-73, Damion Thornton nailed the go-ahead game winning 3-pointer to give SWOSU their first conference victory of the season.

Thornton, playing in his first game of the season, had a big game and finished with a career high 36 points.

SWOSU shot the 3 ball very well early, going 4-of-6 from beyond the arc and built a 14-6 advantage early in the game. The Bulldogs kept up their intensity and led 37-26 at halftime.

SWOSU made more than half of the 3-pointers they shot in the first half, going 8-of-15 from beyond the arc. Thornton scored 12 points in the first half including 2-for-2 from deep. Kamden Gipson scored nine points and was 3-of-5 from beyond the arch. The Bulldogs not only shot the 3-point ball well, but they scored well from the field and in the paint too, scoring



10 points inside the paint and shooting 46.4 percent overall as a team. East Central slowly crept back into the game though. The Tigers opened the second half on a 10-4 run five

minutes into the second half. The Tigers then tied the game at 45-45 with 13 minutes left in the game.

The game went back and forth nearly the rest of the way. There were 10 lead changes and 10 ties throughout the game. Both teams had chances at the very end to take the lead, but neither capitalized and the game went into overtime.

East Central scored the first five points in overtime. However, SWOSU cut the lead to 71-69 with 1:47 left in the game. Thornton tied the game a few seconds later when SWOSU forced a turnover. With the game tied, Thornton snagged a rebound with 40 seconds left to play and inevitably knocked down the game winner shortly thereafter.

Gipson finished with 13 points and Chris Braggs, Jr. added 12. Mark Berry led the Bulldogs in rebounding with six boards.

SWOSU improves to 2-5 on the season and is 1-2 in Great American Conference play.

21st Ranked Lady Bulldogs Extend Win Streak

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

The No. 21-ranked Lady Bulldog Basketball Team won their eighth straight game after a 76-50 win over East Central on Saturday afternoon inside the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

SWOSU started slowly out of the gate, but they picked it up as the quarter went along and found themselves ahead 18-8 at the end of the first quarter. Macy Gore had the hot hand for SWOSU with four 3-pointers and 12 of SWOSU's 18 points in the first quarter. Makarya Tramble was efficient passing the ball with four assists.

SWOSU continued to shoot the three ball well,

opening the second quarter on a 9-0 run. The Lady Bulldogs played outstanding on defense in the first half, only allowing 18 points and was ahead 34-18 at halftime. The Lady Bulldogs forced nine turnovers in the first half and held East Central to 22.2 percent from the field.

East Central opened the third quarter on a 9-5 run and cut SWOSU's lead to 12 points midway through the third quarter.

SWOSU responded to the run with Tramble burying two contested 3-pointers. The Lady Bulldogs closed the third quarter on a 17-4 run and were ahead 56-31 going into the fourth

quarter.

SWOSU won the game 76-50 and they outscored East Central in every quarter. The Lady Bulldogs won their third straight conference game with this win.

Lauren Ramey had a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Tramble scored 25 points, Macy Gore finished with 19 and Morgan Smith added 10. Karly Gore played well on defense, as she recorded six rebounds and four steals.

SWOSU improves to 9-2 and is 3-0 in Great American Conference play.

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Thornton and Tramble Named Bulldogs of the Week

DAMION THORNTON

MAKYRA TRAMBLE

BULLDOGS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 15 - DECEMBER 6-12

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

SWOSU Basketball scorers Damion Thornton & Makyra Tramble have been named the latest Bulldogs of the Week after stuffing the stat sheet on Saturday. The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the home of the Bulldogs over the airwaves on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Thornton, playing in his first game of the season, scored a career best 36 points to help SWOSU defeat East Central 76-73. The junior from Edmond connected on the go-ahead game winning three-point shot with 16 seconds left to play in overtime that sealed the deal and gave the Dawgs the win. Thornton finished 11-of-21 (52%) from the field overall including 4-for-6 from beyond the arc and added five rebounds and three steals.

Tramble (Shawnee, Okla.) scored 25 points for the No. 21-ranked Lady Bulldogs in their 76-50 win against ECU and notched a career best eight assists along the way. She also added seven rebounds and one block and steal apiece. SWOSU has now won eight games in a row on the season and is a perfect 3-0 in conference play. Tramble, a sophomore, ranks second in the conference in scoring currently, averaging 21.4 points per game.

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Trent Boesen

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It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service as a Proof 67 (a mere 3 points from being perfect). It sold for \$72,000.

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Elf "The Musical" Premieres at Southwest Playhouse



Chad Gray
Staff Writer

The Christmas Film "Elf" is by most accounts a modern day family classic and audiences are sure to fall in love with this Western Oklahoman musical retelling of the smash hit film from 2003. Directed by Ashby de la Plaine and starring Sean Todd Williams as Buddy the Elf, and Emily Gill as Jovi, Southwest Playhouse's Elf "The Musical" follows the same plot of the all too familiar film, but with the fun addition of musical numbers scattered throughout the tale.

The play opens in Santa's workshop in the North Pole with Santa telling the story of Buddy the Elf, who isn't really an Elf. After failing to meet his toy building quota, it's revealed to Buddy that he is actually a human and he has a human family in New York City. So, with Santa's blessing Buddy makes the journey to New York City where he meets his family, falls in love, and comically spreads Christmas joy and cheer to the hardened and cold residents of New York City.

Playing with themes like the importance of family in the face of uncompromising commercialism, this musical makes light of our modern world's obsession with money-making while championing the power of love. Accompanied by a cute set design

Jovi, played by Emily Gill, and Buddy, played by Sean Todd Williams, talk after their shift at Macy's in the Elf "The Musical" playing now at the Southwest Playhouse. Shows are scheduled for 7:30pm on Friday and Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm through December 19th.

that smashes the holly-jolly Christmas cheer of the North Pole with the colorful graffiti'd walls of New York City, and large scale song and dance numbers this musical is a treat for the whole family that you won't want to miss.

The Southwest Playhouse has scheduled performances for December 17th and 18th at 7:30pm with a 2:00pm matinee on December 19th. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$12 for students (with a valid student ID), and \$10 for Children. Visit Southwestplayhouse.com to purchase tickets or for more information.

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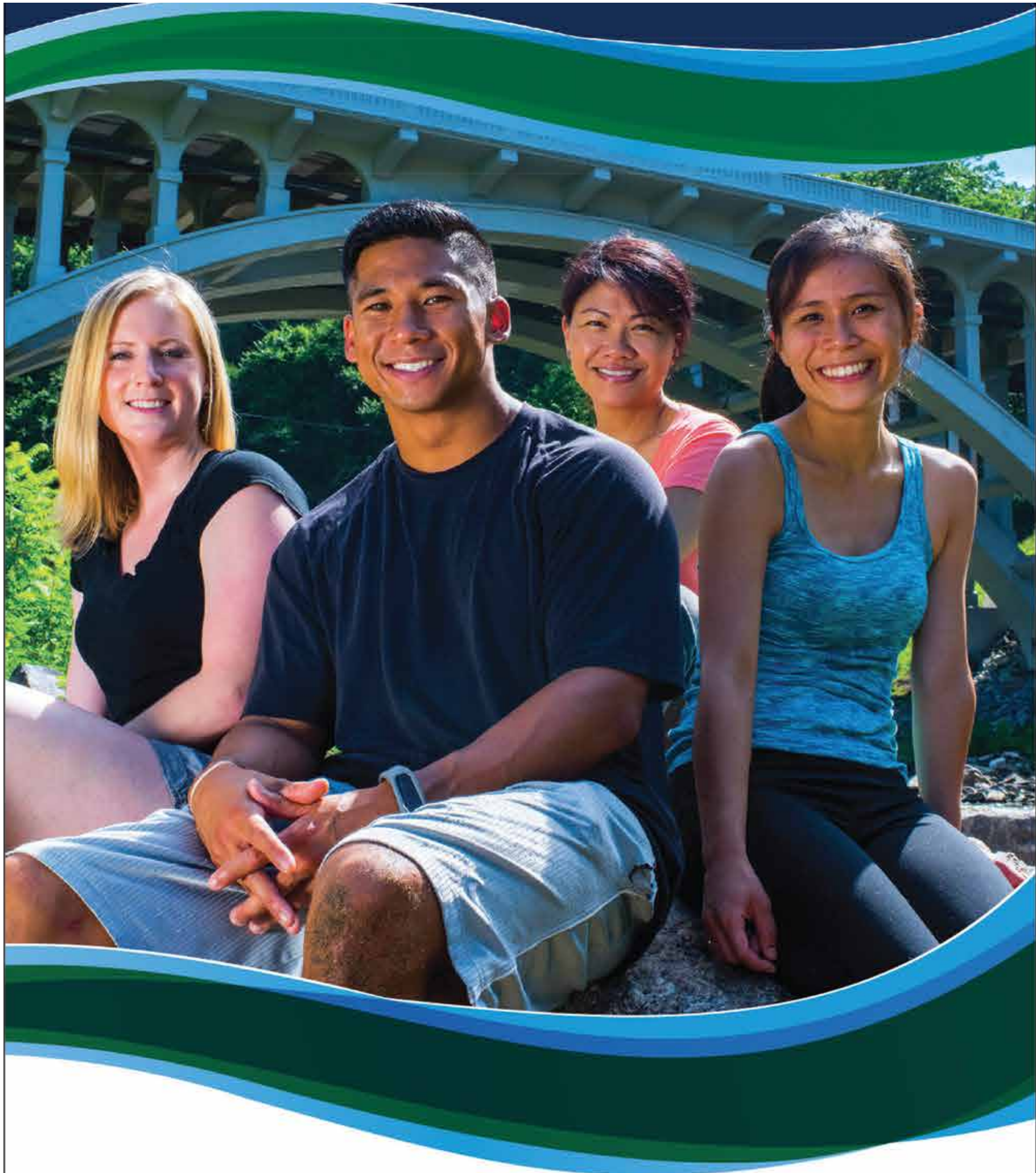
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