January 15 - 21, 2025 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772 - 5939 • E-mail: Sales@WestOkWeekly.com • www.WestOkWeekly.com • Vol. 12 No. 3

CBA Boys / Girls Basketball Rank Top 3 in Burlington Invitational



Zach House / CBA

15 33 3 24 4 2 2 20 45

Zach House / CBA

This weekend, the Corn Bible Academy Lady Crusaders competed in the Burlington Tournament in far northern Oklahoma, making it all the way to the Championships before falling to Hillsdale Christian Academy 54-34, being crowned the runner-ups in the tournament.

The Crusaders boys walked away with a win over Shidler 48-43, bringing home the third place trophy. Both CBA teams braved the snow storm Thursday, like many teams did to make their way to the late afternoon games.





Zach House / CBA

Four Corn Bible Academy athletes (pictured, from left: Alli Slagell, Cate Stewart, Zack Zybach, and Liston Lively) were awarded commemorative plaques for making the All-Tournament Team at Burlington's New Year's Invitational.

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Jerry Gwartney

Marcus Jerry Gwartney, 84, of Hammon, Oklahoma was born on October 22, 1940 in Elk City, Oklahoma. He is the son of Jack Clifford and Rachel Marie (Allen) Gwartney and passed away January 4, 2025 at the Veterans Center in Clinton.



He grew up on the family farm northeast of Hammon, where he developed his interest in livestock. Here he had a loving childhood full of many adventures with his brother, Bill, and their pet raccoon, Mert. He graduated from Hammon High School in 1958. Right out of high school Jerry joined the United States Army and served his country proudly. He served during the Berlin Crisis and was honorably discharged in 1962. On his way home from the army, Jerry bought his first truck that he used to haul livestock.

Jerry married the love of his life, Mary Louise Gilbreath on April 9, 1966 in Mesquite, Texas. Jerry and Mary enjoyed many adventures together in their fifty-seven years of marriage, including ten years of team driving across the US and Canada.

They also devoted much of their time to the Gideons International Ministry and personally distributed thousands of New Testaments. Jerry was a lifetime member of Hammon First Baptist Church where he served in many capacities including being a deacon.

Jerry spent most of his adult life as a truck driver hauling livestock and working as an auctioneer. He continued truck driving until reluctantly retiring at the age of eighty.

In his free time he enjoyed riding horses and raising, or as he would say "chasing", the goats. He always had several different varieties of animals around the farm. He was also known for his story-telling and horse trading. Jerry loved his family most of all and cherished spending time with them.

Jerry gave his life to the Lord at a young age and served Him faithfully throughout his life. He raised his three boys in a Christ-centered household, leading them all to the Lord, and continued to set this Christlike example for his many grandchildren. He loved all of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and enjoyed making them laugh with his silly tales.

Jerry is preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his parents, Jack and Rachel Gwartney; brother, Bill Gwartney; and sister-in-law, Sherry Gwartney.

Jerry Gwartney (continued)

Cherishing his memory are his three sons: Mark Dale Gwartney and his wife, Sonja of Aurora, Colorado; Timothy Carl Gwartney and his wife, Kelly of Hammon; and Jeffery Dean Gwartney and his wife, Amy of Edmond; eight grandchildren: Mykel Cloyd and her husband, Ethan; Morgan Taylor and her husband Jeremy; Madison Gwartney; Hannah Keith and her husband, Joey of Post Falls, Idaho; MacKenzie Gwartney and Cooper Gwartney both of Aurora, Colorado; Ella Gwartney and Max Gwartney both of Edmond, OK; and two great-grandchildren: Elliot Louise Anderson of Hammon, and Amelia Keith of Post Falls, Idaho; among numerous other loving family members.

Dorothy Keevert

Dorothy Mae Keevert, 88, of Elk City, Oklahoma was born on April 30, 1936 in Pratt, Kansas. She is the daughter of Merle Adelbert and Beulah Verona (Stover) Robbins. Dorothy went to hold the hands of her Lord and Savior on



Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at her residence in Elk City, Oklahoma surrounded by her loving family.

Dorothy married her best friend and soul mate, Clinton James Keevert on December 23, 1956 at Hutchinson, Kansas. Together they spent forty-one wonderful years of marriage together. He preceded her in death on August 3, 1998.

Dorothy treasured spending time with her grandchildren, family and friends. She enjoyed sewing and painting. She enjoyed traveling with her husband James, they were always on the go.

Cherishing her memory is two sons; Howard Quincy Keevert of Elk City, Oklahoma Karl Kevin Keevert and his wife Carol of Elk City, Oklahoma; one daughter, Konnie Kay Still and her husband Russell of Manhattan, Kansas; five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her husband, Clinton James Keevert; her parents, Merle and Beulah Robbins; two brothers, Jake Sims and Shorty Robbins; three sisters, Sue Christensen, Lucy Green and Rita Whitfield.







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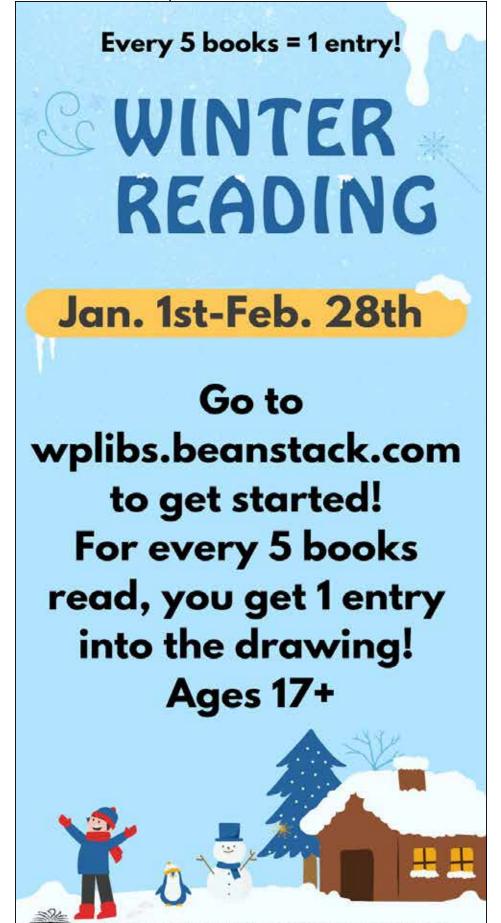
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Wednesday



Thursday



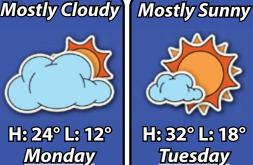
H: 58° L: 40° Friday





Sunday

H: 24° L: 12° **Monday**







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Oklahoma History: US Marshall Jack Abernathy, "Catch Em Alive Jack"



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

Jack Abernathy was the last U.S. Marshall in Oklahoma Territory from 1906 to 1910. Pictured above is Jack with President Theodore Roosevelt.

Chase Wright Staff Writer

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, one man rose

above the rugged plains of the American West to carve his name into legend: John R. Abernathy, better known as "Catch 'Em Alive Jack." Famed for catching wild wolves and coyotes with his bare hands, Abernathy's incredible feats were documented in books, newspapers, and personal accounts that made him one of the most unique figures of the Old West.

Abernathy's legend began in 1891, as a 15-yearold cowboy in West Texas. Frustrated with the toll wolves were taking on livestock, Abernathy began hunting them with his greyhounds. During a hunt, one of the wolves spun around to lunge at his dogs. Armed only with his courage, Abernathy leapt off his horse and threw a punch at the animal. The wolf snapped back at the same time, and in a moment, Abernathy felt his hand ensnared by a row of sharp teeth and a hot breath, but even more surprisingly felt no pain.

His fist was preventing the wolf from biting down, snarling standoff. Jack's friend caught up to him and helped free him, catching the wolf alive and in awe of what happened.

By holding the jaws open, he was able to safely subdue the animal without being bitten. Abernathy recalled in his memoir, Catch 'Em Alive Jack (1924): "I figured I could make a business out of it, and I sure did."

He established a homestead in Oklahoma and began touring the region, perfecting his skill. This technique became known as the "jaw-hold method." It was as dangerous as it sounds, but Abernathy claimed he never feared the wolves, writing: "They're not as mean as some men I've met in my life!" By the end of his career, Abernathy had caught more than 1,000 wolves and coyotes alive, often selling them to circuses, zoos, and collectors.

Abernathy's fame caught the attention of President Theodore Roosevelt, a fellow outdoorsman and hunting enthusiast. In 1905, Roosevelt traveled to Oklahoma to witness Abernathy's wolf-catching skills firsthand.

Roosevelt was also a superior horseman and renowned hunter, even leading the wolf hunt in some areas as the group pursued some fresh tracks. Abernathy in action. In a flash, Abernathy leapt on a wolf nipping at one of the dogs and jammed his right hand into its mouth.

Keeping it held down, Jack recounting that Roosevelt rode up in excitement, hopped down to Abernathy's level and casually mentioned, "I'd like to shake hands with you. I sure wish you could get that right hand free".

Abernathy, having perfected the technique, but requiring assistance usually, wrote that "I shoved my left thumb into the wolf's mouth, prying the jaws apart. Then I grabbed the jaw with my left hand, freeing my right....then reached up, shaking hands with the President."

The president was so impressed that he wrote about the experience himself, recounting the moment. After another successful few days, the President left Oklahoma, mentioning the fun he had and that the next time he visited, he hoped it would be officially a state.

He and Abernathy became fast friends as he invited Abernathy to Washington, D.C. many times over the next years, introducing him to several of the great and talented people of the time. Later he appointed Abernathy as a U.S. Marshal for Oklahoma Territory in 1906, making him the youngest U.S. Marshal in history. Abernathy soon moved his family to Guthrie, the capital at the time. Roosevelt described Abernathy as "the most fearless and fascinating man I've ever met" (Morris, 1979).

The two continued to developed a strong friendship, and Abernathy often regaled Roosevelt with tales of his adventures. Roosevelt even included Abernathy in his entourage during hunting trips.

Jack's sons, Temple and Bud Abernathy, carried on the family's adventurous spirit. They became famous in their own right for their daring crosscountry horseback rides and automobile journeys as children. After his marshal appointment ended, Abernathy faced financial struggles during the Great Depression. Despite his challenges, he never lost his sense of pride or the daring spirit that defined him.

Jack Abernathy passed away in 1941, but his story remains an enduring symbol of the rugged individualism and ingenuity of the American but he and the wolf remained stuck, locked in a Catching up to a wolf pack, the President got to see frontier. His legacy endures in history books, museums, and the adventurous spirit of the American West, including the autobiography "Catch 'Em Alive Jack".





Great is Thy Faithfulness



A phrase from that grand old hymn has been on my mind of late. "Strength for Today, Bright hope for Tomorrow." Because of the Holy Spirit's presence and the promises of God we can pray for and be assured of strength and hope from the One who loves us most.

I find myself asking God for strength for each day. Life is full of struggles and questions and each day brings it share of both. You would think that at my age I would be able to handle things better and be filled with joy even when things do not go well. But with my human frailties, I don't live up the truths I know. But I will keep trusting; knowing

that nothing will come my way that hasn't passed

through the filter of God's love. Paul was told by the Father that his weakness allowed the strength of God to be put on display. "My strength is made perfect in your weakness." (11 Cor. 12:8) So, when I get caught up in my self-sufficient lifestyle and in my pride; when I give attention to the applause of men, then I am sure to fall, because God will not share his glory with another. I wish some political leaders would grasp this truth.

We see Lincoln on his knees at Gettysburg. Spurgeon with hundreds of men praying for him in the basement. George Mueller praying for provisions for the orphans under his care. And every pastor worth his salt broken before God before he goes into the pulpit.

And there is that great hope for tomorrow; that eternal promise that gives us strength to carry on when the way grows weary. We do not operate out of the great wisdom or knowledge of our finite being. Any gift we have comes from the Father as an act of Divine Grace.

God speaking through the prophet Isaiah says, "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would be like a river and your righteousness like the noonday sun. (48:17-19)

The hope for tomorrow is not just for the rewards to be handed out in heaven, but the certainty that God is real, he loves me, and I can trust Him. We may not understand and wonder where he is taking us. But our "God knows the way through the wilderness. All we have to do is follow."

When I am about to lose hope and see the clouds rather than the sun, I remind myself that this too will pass and good days will come if I obey and rest in his faithfulness.

"Lord, may my days be filled with joy and hope. May I not let Satan eclipse the power of faith and obedience as I trust you. Impart to me the strength to see the difficulties of the day as stepping stones to make me more like Jesus."

To comment: jhm82@outlook.com, 580-302-1142









The Thomas Terriers boys at the Okeene Tournament following their semifinals victory against the Okeene Whippets (56-37). They would go on to face the Waukomis Chiefs in the Championship game. The Lady Terriers would fight for 3rd Place against the Waukomis Chiefs after falling to the Canton Tigers.









Weatherford celebrated the re-opening of Airport Road, along with the "Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford Memorial Interchange" at the Stafford Air & Space Museum.





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Congratulations to the Weatherford Rotary Students of the Month Neelie Lindamood and Chandler Jackson.

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BECKHAM CO / ACEVEDO - An Elk City man charged with first degree murder in Beckham County District Court will return to court March 11th for a preliminary hearing. 37-year-old Jose Acevedo is accused of selling drugs to a man who overdosed and died. A search warrant executed at the home of Acevedo uncovered evidence linking Acevedo to the distribution of fentanyl-laced pills. Officers reportedly found a glass pipe that tested positive for methamphetamine residue.

WEATHERFORD / TEACHER OF THE YEAR A 4th grade teacher at Stafford Elementary in the Weatherford school district has been named District Teacher of the Year. "Andrea's philosophy involves building strong relationships with her students and making them feel involved, safe, and comfortable in her classroom," commented Principal Brad Howl. "She wants her students to feel comfortable coming to school and to feel like they belong here." Tamara Misak was named Volunteer of the Year and the Support Staff of the

Year honor went to Isaac King.

ELK CITY / BEAM SIGNING - The Elk City Fire Department had a beam signing in connection with its new fire station says Elk City Fire Chief Kyle Chervenka. Chervenka estimated the fire house to be completed by the last quarter of this year. The signed beam went up on Saturday, January 11.

WEATHERFORD/TROLLEY - Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown says a trolley has been donated to the city that will be utilized for shuttle service. Brown says it will take residence to and from the future community center that will run through Rader Park. Brown says the trolley is expected to be up and running sometime this year.

WEATHERFORD / STRUCTURE FIRE – A fire recently broke out in Weatherford and damaged a home on East 1000 Road, says Weatherford Fire Chief Kory Selman. "They might be able to salvage some stuff from inside the home with some smoke damage, but the home itself is going to be a loss." Selman says no injuries were reported and the cause of the fire is under investigation.



Alcohol causing problems? Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information. Christian Free Store – Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. Alfalfa, OK, Community Center "Bible Study," Every Monday Night from 7:00 to 8:00 Hwy 58. Five miles South of Hwy 152. For more information contact (405) 643-9211. Free and Open to the Public. OK Parkinson's Alliance, monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, excluding December, at 5:30 p.m. at Weatherford's Pioneer Center, 1000 Gartrell Place. Patients, caregivers, family or friends are welcome. Questions? Contact OK Parkinson's Alliance (405) 810-0695 or info@OKpa.org. Iron Sharpens Iron is a Christ-centered adult support group every Tuesday night at 7pm. 233 E Main in Hydro, First Christian Church.

Happy Birthday Wishes for January 15 - Martha Barber, Kaye Black, Steven Buckner, Jason Daniel, Robert Deela, Ramona Duff, Rocky Hylton, Cherise Musselman, Shawn Smith, Cheryl Stephens; January 16 - Marybeth Cornell, Ester Demetreu, Linda Dimitris, Zoe Jackson, Joni Johson, Garrison Mendoza, Landon Smith, Anna Tags, Yolanda Vasquez, Alice Whitetail, Barbara Williams, Titan Yoder; Jan. 17 - Jennifer Avey, Haddie Mae Haynes, Jodi Lambert, Patsy Moseley, Bryan Reed, Fredona Rose, Donna Schwartz, Stephenie Watson. Jan. 18th - Chris Cote, Brianna Etheredge, Jeremiah Lopez, Dennis Robison, Sandy Rothmeyer, Hal Stambaugh, Kelly Tautfest, Rebecca Thomason, Chrisse Warrior; Jan. 19th - Brodey Davis, Mary England, Allen Entz, Raydon Epp, Ryan Foster, Amy Haris, Garrett Hoffman, Jo Klingman, Candace Lanier, Phil Schmidt, Darrell Sheperd, Gracie Snow, Faye Trent, Delenna Williams; Jan. 20th - Kurt Conway, Gena Cornell, Christy Green, Carolyn Keeton, Logan Moser, Stephanie Schaunaman, Scott Steinly, Marie Stelting, Michelle Wolf; Jan. 21st - Brent Bellamy, Richard Carpenter, Daniel Funkhouser, Nicole Garcia, Steve Gilbert, Cassey Green, Kim King, Pamala Knuaf, Tracee Mcphearson, Danielle Merchant, Kelsey Schumacher, Joyce Skipworth, Betty Watson;

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Blackberries-Blueberries-Raspberries 6 oz	2 for \$5.00
Hass Avocados	2 for \$4.00
Sugar Bee Apples	\$1.49 lb.
Baby Red or Baby Gold Potatoes 1.5 lb.	\$2.99
Dole Salad Blends All Varieties	2 for \$4.00
Broccoli Crowns	\$1.99 lb.
Roma Tomatoes	\$0.99 lb.
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Tai Pei Entrees All Varieties Meat	2 101 \$6.00
Toi Bai Entraca All Variation	2 for \$6.00
Cooked Perfect Italian Meat Balls 13oz	\$3.99
Ore Ida Potatoes All Varieties	\$3.99
New York Texas Toast or Breadsticks	\$2.39
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Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sandwiches All Varieties	\$5.98

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Baby Back Ribs	\$3.39 lb.
Chicken Fry Steaks	\$5.99 lb.
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Hormel Smoked Pork Chops Thin Cut 125 oz.	\$6.99

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Lemi Shine Booster 20 oz.	\$5.99
Charmin Bath Tissue 9 roll	\$11.99
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Estate Planning & Tax Prep Edition

Carissa King (King Legal) Looks Forward to Protecting Your Legacy



Western Oklahomans are enduring people. Hard work, grit and determination, and an eye on the long-term mark life, family, and community in this wonderful part of the world.

After a lifetime of labor and investment, you most likely want to make sure that your legacy will be protected.

This is where attorney Carissa King can step in and ensure that you and your life's work are prepared for whatever may come your way.

"Carissa walked my husband and I through the process of setting up our trust." These were the words a previous client expressed. "She and her team were with us every step of the way, and made what we expected to be a difficult process actually very enjoyable! We highly recommend her."

Born, raised, and now bringing up her own family in Western Oklahoma, Carissa is focused on meeting the needs of her clients.

"I want people to feel comfortable when they come into my office, and work with them to answer their questions and come up with a customized plan to meet their goals," said Carissa in an interview with the WestOK Weekly.

No matter if you are a fifth-generation farmer or just getting started in your career, we all have people we want to provide for and a heritage we want to pass on.

"I want to provide my clients with a big city service combined with small town feel nd a feeling of familiarity," said Carissa.

Whether you need an estate plan, a probate, a deed, or general business assistance, Carissa King has years of experience to help you reach your goals.

To learn more about what attorney Carissa King and King Legal can do for you, you can visit their website at www.kinglegalok.com or give her office a call at 580-302-5282.

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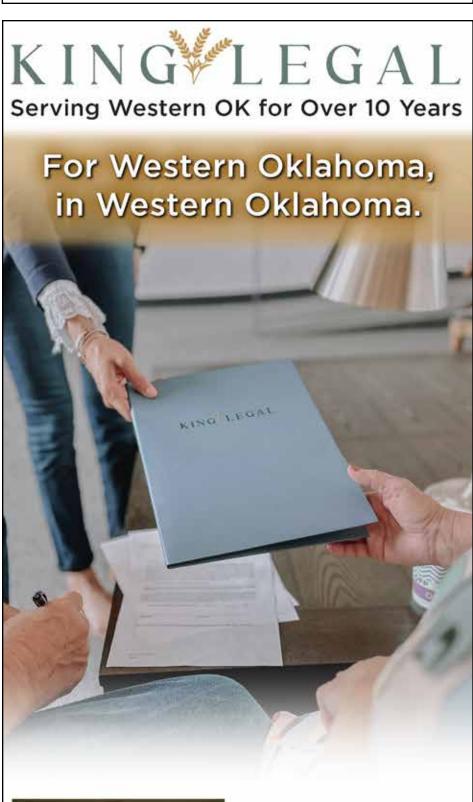


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Estate Planning & Tax Prep Edition

Graft & Walraven on Estate Planning: Separating Fact from Fiction

Andy Carruth and Staci Masquelier-Sweeden, attorneys at Graft and Walraven, PLLC in Weatherford, routinely address common misbeliefs about estate planning and elder law. They both agree that helping folks learn the truth about estate planning and nursing home care is one of the most rewarding aspects of their jobs.

The Will and Probate Myth: "One of the most common myths we see is that wills avoid probate. Wills are important, but they do not avoid the costly and time-consuming probate process, which requires going through court. Proper planning, such as with a revocable living trust, can help families avoid probate," Andy explains.

Nursing Home Benefits Myths: There are many myths about nursing home care benefits. The most common is that a person must be completely destitute to qualify for help with nursing home costs. "This is typically not the case," Staci explains. "The rules and criteria are a complex web of state and federal rules.

We navigate those rules to help clients preserve family resources and legacy assets like land and minerals." In short, you might be surprised at the resources available to you or your loved one to help with nursing home costs.

Joint Ownership: Another frequent misconception is that joint ownership is an easy way to avoid probate. "Joint ownership is certainly appropriate for a husband and wife and in other limited circumstances. However, in many cases your wishes can be defeated when ownership designations don't provide the intended result," Andy points out.

Estate Planning Isn't Just for the Wealthy: "Many people think estate planning is only for the wealthy, which couldn't be further from the truth," Staci explains. Estate planning is beneficial for everyone. It ensures that during your lifetime and after, your assets and income are handled by the people you trust according to your wishes and your family is taken care of.

Power of Attorney: "There is a broad misunderstanding about powers of attorney," says Andy. "It's a powerful tool, but only during the principal's lifetime. After your loved one passes away, it is useless for managing their affairs."

Graft & Walraven is committed to helping clients understand how land, minerals, and other assets pass from one generation to the next. Andy & Staci agree that "the best estate plans result from collaboration between an informed client and an experienced attorney dedicated to taking care of people."

For over 50 years, the attorneys at Graft & Walraven have served and advocated for the people of Western Oklahoma. "G&W clients know we are here to stand beside them, not just for their lifetimes, but for generations that follow."

Schedule a consultation with Graft and Walraven by calling (580) 772-7721 or visit www.gwlawok.com for more information.



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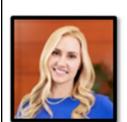


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SWOSU Men and Women Teams Fall to Ouachita in Latest Away Game



Women's Basketball: 50-57

The SWOSU Lady Bulldogs had to weather a quick start from Ouachita who knocked down their first four shot attempts and got ahead by as many as five in the early minutes of the game.

The second quarter saw SWOSU raise their output on both sides of the ball, after the Tigers took a 21-17 lead with 7:34 left to go in the half they would not score again. The Lady Dawgs would go on a 19-0 run to close out the half. SWOSU only allowed the Tigers to shoot 2-9 from the field in the quarter and forced nine turnovers to just two for themselves. SWOSU went 6-10 from the deep ball in the quarter which is the most in a single quarter this year.

A late 9-0 run by Ouachita made the score 48-37 going into the final frame and had taken all the momentum away from the Lady Dawgs. SWOSU shot just 5-15 in the guarter and 1-6 (16.7%) from the three.

The Tigers found their groove in the fourth quarter and stifled the Lady Bulldogs for the last 10 minutes of the game. They outscored SWOSU 20-2 in the quarter and held the Lady Dawgs without a made basket for over 10 minutes of game time. After SWOSU went up by 20 in the third quarter, the Tigers went on a 28-0 run, which matched the scoring output of the whole game

Men's Basketball: 62-75

SWOSU's offense got into a quick rhythm right out of the gate. All five starters each had their own time to shine, with the first five made baskets going to each player, giving the Dawgs a quick 11-2 lead. However, the Tigers continued to fight back and stay in the game before a 12-0 run for the home team gave them their first lead with 3:13 to go in the half. SWOSU kept it within reach thanks to five big points in the final minute by Denali Alexander, making the score 30-36 at halftime.

The second half saw SWOSU make their first two shots, with the scoreboard at 36-34, just down two to the Tigers. The game remained a one-possession contest for the first 12 minutes of the half, making for an exciting finish. However, Ouachita capitalized on their threepoint attempts at a higher rate than the Dawgs. SWOSU was only 1-9 (11.1%) from the deep ball, compared to 4-9 (44.4%) for the Tigers, which allowed them to open the game in the final five minutes, winning 75-62.

MJ Warrior had a great game, loading up the stat sheet. He finished leading the team with 19 points, seven rebounds, five assists, and four steals.

SWOSU will be ready to return to the PEC after a three-game road trip when they host Southern Arkansas on Thursday, January 16, 7:30 pm.

Chloe Cantrell & MJ Warrior Earn Latest SWOSU Bulldogs of the Week



Jon Chidester Chloe Cantrell and MJ Warrior have been named the latest Bulldogs of the Week. The weekly studentathlete recognition is brought to you by Wright Media, the home of SWOSU Athletics for both

livestream and radio.

Cantrell (Anadarko, OK) scored a season high 14 points in an 89-83 win against Henderson State on Thursday.

She missed just one time in nine attempts, shooting 4-of-5 from the field and a perfect 4-for-4 at the free throw line, and added three steals on defense. Against Ouachita Baptist on Saturday, she grabbed a team high six rebounds and had four points.

Warrior (Oklahoma City, OK) averaged 16.5 points, five rebounds, and five assists in SWOSU's two games last week.

His 19 points against Ouachita was one point shy of tying his career high, while his four steals matched his career best. He shot 48% from the field on the week and 82% at the free throw line.







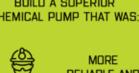




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