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October 8 - 14, 2025 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772 - 5939 • E-mail: sales@westokweekly.com • www.westokweekly.com • Vol. 12 No. 40

Weatherford Chamber Hosting Annual Boo Bash Event October 30th



Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Get ready for a spook-tacular night of fun and festivities at the Route 66 Boo Bash in Weatherford! This highly anticipated annual event will return on Thursday, October 30th, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at Heritage Park, located at 522 W Rainey Ave, Weatherford, OK.

Presented by the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce, the Boo Bash is the perfect way to celebrate the Halloween season with friends and family.

The event will feature a variety of exciting activities for all ages, making it the ultimate community Halloween celebration. Here's a sneak peek of what you can expect:

Carnival Games & Haunted Bus: Explore thrilling carnival games and check out the spooky Haunted Bus, by the YMCA. With over 1,000 prizes up for grabs, everyone has a chance to win!

Trunk or Treat: More than 30 Trunk or Treat booths will be set up, offering a safe and fun way for kids to load up on Halloween candy.

Costume Contest: The Boo Bash will host a huge costume contest, so come in your best Halloween attire for a chance to win prizes. There will also be a Photo Booth by Jessy Frizzell Photography.

Food Trucks: Bring your appetite and enjoy a wide selection of delicious treats from local food trucks. Grab dinner while you're there and make a night of it.

Live Music: Get into the Halloween spirit with live music from the Slim Pickens Band, performing spooky tunes to keep the energy high throughout the evening.

Tickets: Wristbands are required for entry to the carnival games and Haunted Bus, and they are available for just \$10 each. These wristbands ensure access to all the fun and activities throughout the evening.

Whether you're young or young-at-heart, there's something for everyone at the Route 66 Boo Bash and it's a fantastic way to celebrate Halloween. So, mark your calendars for a night full of fun that you won't want to miss!

If you're a local business or organization that's part of the council membership and are interested in being part of the Trunk or Treat, please reach out to the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce to reserve your spot. Contact them at (580) 772-7744 or email Director@weatherfordchamber.com for more information



Isabelle Scott / WM

Cutter Taff and Jaylen Byrd were crowned as Weatherford's Homecoming King and Queen for 2025. Pictured, from left: (Back row) - Preston King, Evi Bozell, Curtis Turney, Talyn Payne, Cutter Taff, Jaylen Byrd, Lukas Burd, Renzy Berry; (Front row) - Gwendolynn Bushong, Annie Howl, Wesley Howl, Troopyr Payne.

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M Sunny

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Clinton Regional Hospital Introduces New Life Saving Pritikin Cardiovascular Rehab Program



Someone in the United States dies of cardiovascular disease every 34 seconds with CVD accounting for nearly 2,600 deaths every day, according to the American Heart Association. Many of these lives are cut short due to the presence of preventable risk factors and comorbidities such as diabetes or obesity, multiplying the negative effects of CVD. However, research shows that with proper education, exercise, and nutrition, the trajectory can be changed

Clinton Regional Hospital’s Cardiac Rehab staff are taking action with the launch of their new Pritikin Intensive Cardiac Rehab (ICR) program to address this issue and educate patients that have experienced a cardiac episode in order to help patients recover from a cardiac event and reduce their risk of future episodes.

“You have traditional cardiac rehab and then you have Pritikin Intensive Cardiac Rehab... this is like the major leagues of cardiac rehab,” said Andrea Hammer, Pritikin ICR Director and Exercise Coach at Clinton Regional Hospital. “Compared to traditional programs, Pritikin ICR treats the patient as a whole—mind, body, and lifestyle.”

With this holistic approach, patients are guided to address three pillars of living a longer life that includes regular exercise, heart healthy nutrition, and building a healthy mindset.

The program focuses on three pillars of long-term heart health: regular exercise, heart-healthy nutrition, and building a positive mindset. Unlike traditional rehab, which typically provides 36 sessions, Pritikin ICR doubles the opportunity with 72 sessions of exercise training, cooking workshops, and interactive healthy-mindset classes.

“These aren’t just lectures,” Hammer explained. “Pritikin ICR patients are actively learning, and practicing strategies that make heart-healthy living sustainable.”

And the impact is measurable. A study published by the American Heart Association found that patients who took part in an ICR program were associated with a 12% lower all cause mortality rate than their counterparts who only took part in a traditional cardiac rehab program.

“Even though we launched just weeks ago, our patients are already reporting incredible changes,” Hammer said. “One told me, ‘I got on the scale this morning and couldn’t believe my hard work had paid off!’” Another patient stated, ‘my pants are fitting better! I’m not craving the same unhealthy foods anymore.’ Seeing those transformations—and knowing we’re giving patients tools that truly change lives—has been phenomenal.”

2025 SWOSU Homecoming Set for October 25



J. Boone Clemmons
SWOSU PR

The 2025 SWOSU Homecoming is set for the week of October 25. This year’s SWOSU Homecoming theme is “Bulldog Blueprint.”

Traditionally, SWOSU honors its Fifty Year alumni with medallions during its Homecoming festivities. 1975 SWOSU graduates (or other SWOSU graduates who have not yet received their Fifty Year Medallions) who would like to be recognized with Fifty Year Medallions are advised to register for the Homecoming Brunch by visiting SWOSUFoundation.com/hoco-50year so that they can be honored by SWOSU Acting President Dr. Janet Cunningham and the SWOSU Alumni Association.

Questions regarding the Fifty Year Medallions recognition may be directed to the staff of the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. by calling 580-774-3267 or e-mailing alumni@swosu.edu.

Updated 2025 Homecoming information is being published and is readily accessible at SWOSUHomecoming.com.

The site hosts a listing of events being held in conjunction with the 2025 SWOSU Homecoming—those seeking to submit a campus or community event for posting to the site may do so by clicking here and noting that the event is part of Homecoming on the appropriate menu.

More information may be accessed by visiting www.SWOSUHomecoming.com.

Key 2025 SWOSU Homecoming events
(and where to register online)

The Welcome Back Party
Lucille’s Roadhouse (1301 N. Airport Road)
Friday, October 24 | 6pm - 8pm
swosufoundation.com/events/hoco-welcomeback
The Homecoming Welcome Back Party is generously sponsored by Lucille’s Hotel & Restaurant, The Official Welcome Back Sponsors of SWOSU Homecoming.

The Brunch & Tailgate
SWOSU’s Timothy T. Day Business Center
Saturday, October 25 | 10am – 2pm
swosufoundation.com/events/hocobrunch-tailgate

Homecoming Parade
Saturday, October 25 | 10am
Float Entry: swosu.jotform.com/252366741101954
Band Entry: swosu.jotform.com/252475774212156
Entry Forms must be submitted no later than Noon on Wednesday, October 15.

Homecoming Game (SWOSU vs. ECU)
Flex-Chem Field at Milam Stadium
Kickoff at 2pm

HIGHER GROUND

Whatever Happened to Sin?

Jim Morrison

“Whatever Happened to Sin.” This was the title of a book written in the 60’s by psychologist Dr. Karl Menninger. He was responding to the perception of his peers that the problems of society as well as those of individuals must have their origin in some source other than a rebellion against God’s laws.

Sin became labeled as “a mistake” or “poor choice.” The idea of man being responsible and paying the price for his indiscretions was considered demeaning and might cause his self-esteem to be fractured.

A recent editorial by Mona Charen in the Daily Oklahoman mentioned that one of the presidential candidates had a “sanctimonious style” that might put off many religious voters. She went on to say that this “is not the sort of language most preachers, to say nothing of political figures, employ today. American religion these days is heavy on forgiveness and light on sin.” She said, “We’ve long since left Jonathan Edwards behind. Anything other than comic references to Satan are likely to give people the creeps.”

There is an old country saying that may apply here. “She is plowing too close to the corn.” This doesn’t just apply to preachers but to each of us. We love to read about, think about, and delight in the love of God.

We are grateful for the grace of God that covers all our sin. But we must be careful lest we get comfortable with our sin. While we should hate the sin and love the sinner, we must never come to the point that we love the sinner and wink at the sin.

Rebellion against God, which is the essence of sin, is a terrible thing. Satan, the thief, as described in John 10:10, is out to steal, kill, and destroy. Ask any child, whose family has fallen apart before his eyes. Ask the addict. Ask the man or woman incarcerated and separated from his loved ones. Ask the man who has spent his life seeking a dream that has failed to bring satisfaction and now he lives in quiet desperation and loneliness.

In our secular mind-set, we have tried to remove God from the landscape. With our American individualism, we have sought to build our castles in our own strength, but found them resting on a foundation of sand that could not stand the storms of life.

Joni Eareckson Tada shares that before her diving accident that left her permanently paralyzed, she was involved in some pretty immoral stuff.

“Even though I was a Christian, I was sinning big-time, heading down a wrong path. Deep in my heart, I know that if my accident hadn’t happened, I would have completely ignored my convictions in college.” When asked if she believed God was punishing her with a broken neck, she said, “Yes, I believe He was.” Obviously, not all accidents, or tragic events are the results of sin, but “the Lord disciplines those He loves.” Heb. 12:6

We are all sinners in need of a Savior. I hate the sins of envy, pride, selfishness, lovelessness, self-satisfaction and apathy that seek to destroy my effectiveness. If I relax they will dull the edge so that I am no longer the tool that God wants to use to advance the Kingdom.

I pray that I never decide that I’m OK and you’re OK. I thank God for His grace but I need to be constantly reminded that “sin stands crouching at the door seeking to devour (me).” Gen. 4:6b

To comment: jhm82@outlook.com

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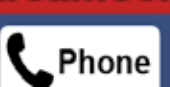
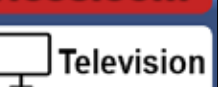
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Terror Trot Comes to Weatherford October 25

Terror Trot 2025



FUN RUN FOR CONNECTIONS FOOD & RESOURCE CENTER
REGISTRATION: 5:30PM RUN STARTS: 7PM
OCTOBER 25
PRAIRIE WEST GOLF CLUB
SIGN UP AT www.runsignup.com & SEARCH TERROR TROT

SWOSU’s Parks And Recreation Management Department is set to host their 2nd Annual Terror Trot at Prairie West Golf Course in Weatherford on October 25th with races beginning at 7pm that night. The 5K and fun run event puts a Halloween-themed spin on the running competition format, with SWOSU students planning to dress up in costumes to scare participants along the course.

“So we’re putting on a 5K and a one-mile fun run for all ages. Anybody can come, and we’ll also do a costume contest,” said Tatum Cummings, a Senior In SWOSU’s Parks and Recreation Management Department as well as a student in the upper level Parks and Recreation Community Recreation Class that’s coordinated the event the past two years. “All of the money that we make towards the fun run and the 5K we will donate to Connections Food and Resource Center,” added Cummings.

Last year over 130 runners participated and the Parks and Recreation Community Recreation Class presented the Connections Food & Resource Center with a check for \$6,411.78 as well over 200 pounds of food donations.

“It’s just a gift that we weren’t expecting,” Said Elizabeth Amen, Director of Connections Food & Resource Center, “and for [them] to do it again this year, and... the students learning how to work and be a part of your community is a huge, huge, huge blessing.”

The Parks and Recreation Community Recreation

Class “started off as a lecture class but... it’s kind of just morphed over the years,” said Paul Hummel, the SWOSU Parks and Recreation Instructor responsible for encouraging SWOSU students to host the Terror Trot.

Every facet of the event has been organized by the class, and “They’ve been going out into the community, they’ve been getting sponsorships, they’ve been organizing... I think that they’re doing a great job with it and I think that they are aware that there is a need in it,” added Hummel.

Along with the 5k race and fun run there will also be food trucks, a costume contest with two categories, and face painting for kiddos. “All ages are welcome, meaning that if you have a little kid that doesn’t want to be scared as much, we will give them a glow stick that will indicate that the scare should be light for that individual who is running,” said Cummings. And this year’s 5k races will be chip-timed races with finisher medals and t-shirts presented to participants.

To register for the Terror Trot you can visit www.runsignup.com and search for Terror Trot. It is \$25 to register for the 5K run, \$20 to register for the 1 mile fun run and \$35 to register for the virtual 5k run. Registrants are also asked to bring a canned good to donate to the Connections Food and Resource Center. General canned food donations will also be accepted at the event with race participation not a prerequisite for donating.

WASHITA CO / PURSUIT - Officials with the Washita County Sheriff’s Office recently stated that a juvenile was safely apprehended after stealing a vehicle and fleeing from law enforcement, leading to a large presence of officers in the Canute area. Canute schools were placed on a brief lockdown as a precaution. Several law enforcement agencies provided assistance in helping Washita County deputies during the incident, including the Elk City Police and Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

HYDRO / FIRE DEPT. GRANT - The Hydro Fire Department has been awarded funding through FEMA’s Assistance to Firefighters grant program to build a brand-new water tanker. “This could be a once-in-a-career opportunity for us, so we’re making sure we do this right [and] spend the money wisely,” expressed Hydro Fire Chief Ben Slagell. “We’re going [over] everything with a fine-tooth comb, making sure we’ve got everything that we want and can afford with this grant.” As for how long before the new truck is in service, “if it’s custom built, it could take anywhere from 12 to 14 months; if it’s a stock unit that’s readily available, it could be anywhere from two to four months,” according to Slagell. The new tanker will greatly improve the ability of the department to respond quickly and effectively to fires and emergencies.

WEATHERFORD / WASTE DISPOSAL - The Weatherford City Commission acting as the Public Works Authority has decided to approve a waste disposal rate increase from Republic Services. Starting November, “the new disposal rate will increase to \$63.73 per ton, plus fees,” according to Mayor Mike Brown. The commission will consider customer trash rates at a future meeting this fall.

WEST OK / OBN SEARCH - The marijuana enforcement teams of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) recently served a search warrant at New Good Harvest in Chester as part of an ongoing investigation into illegal cultivation and trafficking of marijuana on the illegal market. Agents seized more than 18,000 plants, 577 pounds of processed marijuana, and two people were taken into custody by ICE agents. Authorities say additional arrests are expected. Several agencies assisted in the investigation, including the Dewey and Blaine County Sheriff’s Departments.

BECKHAM COUNTY / HART - A Muskogee man is charged in Beckham County District Court with human trafficking. 20-year-old Malachi Hart allegedly influenced a 17-year-old female to run away and the two were in a relationship. Court records alleged Hart assaulted the girl on multiple occasions. Additionally, Hart had the girl meet another man at an Elk City convenience store who paid her \$100 in exchange for lewd acts. The youth told authorities that she did not want to engage in the act but complied due to prior threats by Hart, including threatening to kill her and her family if she reported him.

WEATHERFORD / INDUSTRIAL PARK - Weatherford Economic Development Director Yolanda Creswell revealed that a new business is considering setting up shop in Industrial Park’s Lot 3. “When you come up on Airport Road, you’ll run right into it. We have somebody [interested]; hopefully soon, we can make that announcement.” Creswell added that the official announcement on the project could come as early as December 2025 or January 2026.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!



Happy Day TO YOU!

Want to share a birthday?
Email a.shook@wright-media to announce it here for FREE!

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 October 8th - Peggy Constein, Sarah Ferrero, Lisa French, Danielle Goodall, Tamarcus Hardy, Laura Hopper;

October 9th - Jeff Berrong, Pat Cornell, Brenda Fast, Jarret Jones Kayleigh Kauk, Brooke King;

October 10th - Jeannie Adams, Linda Allen, Jeannette Bellew, Dacia Brittenham, Aaron Golden, Courtney Graybill, Austin Kerr, Courtney Skinner;

October 11th - Ashlee Bishop, Roy Cisco, Chism Holt, Doris Jaimes, Delanna Kirk, Cameron Lohman, Neta Norman, Amanda Ricks, Debbie Ridgeway, Cooper Taff, Randy Voyels;

October 12th - Kayla Dunn; McKinley Fuentez, Erin Funk, Leta Giblett, Les Guesby, Terri Hulsey, Madison McClemore, Lloyd Mitchell, Lloyd Mitchell, Reason Moore, Alan Palesano, Bryce Reeves, Clayton Taylor, Shelby Thomas, Shelby Thomas;

October 13th - Shelby Cook; Yolanda Delgado, Ethan Downs, Mike Mapel, Michael Rivera, Larry Schwartz, Pat Smith, Jeff Smith, Guy Sperle, Carol Jane Uranek;

October 14th - Glenda Atkins, Tiffany Dyer, Sara Hollan, Alena Miller, Judy Moore, Betty Palesano, Wyatt Peterman, Traci Calhoun Sanders.

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Dune Buggy Frame - Looking to Trade OBO. 405-639-9667.

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MISC.

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Crav'n Fudge Cookies (Asst Varieties)	2 for \$4.00	Red Seedless Grapes	\$1.59 lb.
Food Club Vegetable Oil, 40oz.	\$2.59	Yellow or Zucchini Squash	\$1.59 lb.
Bugles Snacks, 14.5oz.	2 for \$7.00	Yellow Onions	\$.039 lb.
Food Club Macaroni and Cheese Dinners, 7.25oz.	2 for \$1.00	Cantaloupe	\$2.59 each
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Food Club Skillet Dinner (All Varieties)	4 for \$5.00	Quick Steak Sliced Sirloin, 10.8oz.	\$5.99
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Western Oklahoma Christian Schools Name August Students of the Month



WOCS Weatherford Campus Students of the Month for August are Clara Navarre (left), representing grades 3rd through 6th, and Indie Collins (right), representing grades Pre-K through 2nd, both of Weatherford.



Dora Miller (right), WOCS Head of School, congratulates Averley Eminger of Hinton as the WOCS Hinton Campus Student of the Month for August. She was recognized for her character, effort, and leadership.



WOCS Clinton Campus Students of the Month for August are Darcy Funk (left) of Clinton, representing grades 3rd through 6th, and Presley Crawford (right) of Hydro, representing grades Pre-K through 2nd.



WOCS Elk City Campus Students of the Month for August are Skye Sloan (left), representing grades Pre-K through 2nd, and Laynie Dyck (right), representing grades 3rd through 6th, both of Elk City.

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Lindel Fields Appointed State Superintendent



Two days after the resignation of Ryan Walters, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt (left) appointed Lindel Fields (right) as the next State Superintendent of Public Instruction at an event in Tulsa. “Today is about steadying the ship; if you’re not taking care of the students, take care of someone who is,” Fields said before thanking the teachers and principals in attendance for their contributions to the state’s education system.

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CAMERON TURNER
Senior • Volleyball

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Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

Maria Velilla and Cameron Turner have been selected as the latest Bulldogs of the Week. This weekly student athlete recognition is presented by Wright Media, the official partner for SWOSU athletic livestreams and radio broadcasts.

Velilla (Calatayud, Spain) earned the honor after finishing as runner-up at the Newman Invitational last week. In just her second collegiate tournament, the freshman shot rounds of 71 and 72 to finish one-under par and help the Lady Bulldogs secure a top-three team finish.

For her performance, she was also named the Great American Conference Women's Golfer of the Week.

Turner (Deer Creek, Oklahoma) averaged 11.3 assists per set while leading the Bulldogs to a pair of conference victories. Against Southeastern, she dished out 41 assists — the highest single-match total in the GAC this season for a three-set match. Turner followed with 27 assists, 10 digs, and four kills in a sweep of Northwestern.

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Strong Start, Late Push from Bulldogs Not Enough vs Henderson State



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Football led Henderson State 17-7 at halftime and mounted a late fourth-quarter surge with two touchdowns surrounding a recovered onside kick, but the comeback bid fell short after a controversial offside call on a second onside attempt denied the Bulldogs one final chance to tie or take the lead in the final minute. The Bulldogs ultimately fell 35-32 to HSU in Saturday's Flex-Chem Classic.

The Bulldogs saw Henderson State score 28 straight points on four consecutive possessions after halftime before answering late. Trailing 35-17, SWOSU finally got a stop on defense and marched 69 yards in 12 plays, capping the drive with a two-point conversion to trim the deficit to 10.

On a wild sequence from HSU's six-yard line, MJ Rivers' pass deflected off the hands of a well-covered Bodie Boydston and into the waiting arms of Michael Doctor in the end zone for the touchdown.

On the ensuing kickoff, Ethan McBee delivered a perfectly placed onside kick that was recovered by the Bulldogs, immediately giving them the ball back with 1:21 to play. It took just one minute of game time for SWOSU to strike again, as Rivers found Justin Underwood from 14 yards out to pull within three at 35-32.

On SWOSU's second onside attempt in as many minutes, McBee again executed a beautiful kick that was caught in stride by Ethane Hyche — but an offside flag negated the play.

The Reddies recovered the re-kick and ran out the clock to hold on for the win. It was Henderson State's explosive third quarter that ultimately made the difference. The Reddies racked up 215 yards of offense in the first 15 minutes after halftime, averaging 9.8 yards per play during a 21-point frame. That outburst came in response to a strong second quarter from the Bulldogs, who had scored all 17 of their first-half points.

McBee put SWOSU on the board with a 36-yard field goal before Rivers connected with Zion Mercer for a 44-yard touchdown to give the Dawgs a 10-7 lead. That score followed a missed HSU field goal that shifted momentum in SWOSU's favor. With 19 seconds left in the half, Rivers added a seven-yard rushing touchdown to stretch the lead to 17-7 heading into the break. Henderson State opened the day's scoring with a touchdown on its opening possession but was held scoreless for the remainder of the first half.

Rivers finished 13-of-27 passing for 170 yards and three touchdowns while adding 90 yards on 20 carries. Doctor and Underwood both recorded the first touchdown receptions of their careers. Red Martel and Ethane Hyche combined for 17 carries and 62 yards out of the backfield.

Defensively, neither team forced a turnover. Felipe Tristan led the Bulldogs with eight tackles, followed by Malcom Gooden with seven. HSU outgained SWOSU 497-323 overall. Reddie quarterback Andrew Edwards totaled 198 passing yards and 135 rushing yards, accounting for three touchdowns.

The loss drops SWOSU to 2-3 on the year heading into a road matchup at Southern Arkansas next Saturday, October 11, in Magnolia, Ark. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. The Bulldogs will then face Southern Nazarene on a short week the following Thursday (Oct. 16) before returning home October 25 for Homecoming against East Central.

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