

Town of Hinton Makes Proclamation to Become Purple Heart Town



Officials from the Town of Hinton joined American Legion members from their community in order to proclaim their town a Purple Heart Town. Pictured, from left: Trustee Jessica Nance, Trustee Brian Sweany, Randy Vandenburg, Mayor Brandon Hill, Vice-Mayor Casey McCloud, Allen Dillard and David Laughrey.

On Tuesday, November 18th, 2025, the Town of Hinton took formal steps to recognize the armed service members of their community who were willing to pay the ultimate price to protect America's freedom by issuing a town proclamation honoring their service. This town proclamation was one step in becoming a Purple Heart Town, an honor shared with over 60 other communities in Oklahoma.

"This proclamation is recognizing that your community supports and honors veterans and active service members," said Josh Brookshire, Public Works Director for the Town of Hinton. Brookshire as well as other town officials worked with the Oklahoma City chapter of the Order of Purple Heart in order to gain the recognition. The Town of Hinton is home to 28 service members who valiantly gave their lives protecting America in wars during the last century.

Hinton has made great strides in recent years to ensure those veterans legacy is never forgotten.

"At a point in the future we'll do another presentation. They'll actually present a plaque. Then, when you come into town, we'll have some designations on our town limit signs," added Brookshire. That presentation is expected to take place in the new year sometime around January or February.

Below is "Resolution 2025-10," the Proclamation issued by the Town of Hinton in order to receive its Purple Heart Town status:

Whereas, the citizens of Hinton have great admiration and gratitude for the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

Whereas, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created

as the Badge of Military Merit by George Washington in 1782; and

Whereas, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to the members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat; and

Whereas, the Town of Hinton appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and acknowledges those men and women for their courage by showing our support and honor; and Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that We, the Hinton Town Trustees and all its Citizens, do hereby proclaim Hinton, to be a "Purple Heart Town"

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City be affixed this 18th day of November, 2025



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Colony Community Action Committee Hosts Annual “Holiday Art Exhibit,” December 6th

The Kauger Art Gallery is excited to announce their annual Holiday Art Exhibit in Colony, Oklahoma. The Gallery is hosting several well known Oklahoma artists for the Holiday Exhibit. The Grand Opening of the Exhibit is scheduled for Saturday December 6 from 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. The Exhibit will start Saturday from 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Come and meet the exciting artists at the Opening.

Karin Stafford, Oklahoma artist will exhibit her new ceramic pieces.. Collect works of art by native artist, Brent Learned. James South will exhibit photographs; created from his world travels. Bobby Marsee, a major artist of Weatherford will show his new paintings. Professor of Art at SWOSU, E. K. Jeong has new works of art. Maranda Loughin will exhibit custom designed ceramic earrings. Joe London, will exhibit new paintings.

The Assistant Director of Art at the University of Oklahoma, Amber Shepherd is showing new paintings. Jaden Pebeahsy will exhibit her paintings and prints. Jim Van Deman will show new landscape paintings. Jim is a national recognized Native American Artist. Vincent Wolf, a recognized Native Artist from Anadarko will exhibit his paintings. Nathan Hart, Native Artist and amazing wood turner will show new creations. Lynn Pollei will show her new bird creations and Kathy Pitt will exhibit. Patty Lack will show new paintings.

Glen Henry, sculptor Professor at Cameron University will exhibit exciting sculptures and Jack Crouch will show new paintings.

Patrick Riley will exhibit Eagle masks. Music will be provided by artist/teacher Trey Hays of Tishomingo, Oklahoma. Trey is an acclaimed Children’s Book writer.

Lonnie Yearwood, will direct the exhibit. Bring some friends and come and meet the artists at the Holiday Exhibit Opening on Saturday, December 6 at 11:00 A.M.

Let’s keep the arts alive in Western Oklahoma. Exhibit is sponsored by the Colony Community Action Committee

Artist participating in the Exhibit:

- Karin Stafford - Ceramics
- Maranda Loughin - Earrings
- Kathy Pitt - Bobbles
- Patrick Riley - Masks
- Brent Learned - Paintings
- James South - Photographs
- Bobby Marsee - Paintings and Drawings
- Patty Lack - Paintings and Drawings
- E. K. Jeong - Paintings
- Amber Shepherd - Paintings
- Jaden Pebeahsy - Paintings and Prints
- Jm VanDeman - Paintings
- Vincent Wolf - Paintings and drawings
- Glen Henry - Sculpture
- Jack Crouch - Paintings
- Nathan Hart - Wood
- Lynn Pollei - Birds

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FRED KAUGER GALLERY OF ART
Holiday Art Exhibit • Saturday, December 6
115 East Seger Street - Colony, OK

16 Featured Artists including:
(Opening 12:00pm - 4:00pm)

Karin Stafford.....Ceramics
James South.....Photography
Bobby Marsee.....Paintings & Drawings
E.K. Jeong.....Paintings

Music by Trey Hays

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Connections Food & Resource Center Receives Various Donations During Thanksgiving Season



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As part of their annual donations to local organizations, Oklahoma’s Lucky Star Casino presented \$10,000 to Connections Food & Resource Center of Weatherford. Pictured (from left): Governer Reggie Wassana, Connections Director Elizabeth Amen, and Lucky Star CEO Charlie Wellbourne.



Provided

The Nu Beta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota at SWOSU recently held their annual “Canned Food Recital” for the Connections Food & Resource Center in Weatherford, which brought in 169 pounds of non-perishable food and \$35 in donations. Warehouse Manager Joshua Francis is pictured with a 2025 Nu Beta member.

WASHITA CO / VAUGHT - A Canute man has waived a preliminary hearing in Washita County District Court on a charge of lewd or indecent acts to a child under 16. 32-year-old Zakkary John Vaught allegedly inappropriately touched a 14-year-old juvenile female. Vaught is due back in court for formal arraignment on December 18th.

HYDRO/CLINIC RENOVATIONS - Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Darin Farrell recently provided an update on the Hydro Clinic renovation project, stating that the project has been put on hold for a bit, setting it behind schedule. Farrell says a clearer timeline should be available after the first of the year.

WEATHERFORD / TOURISM GRANT - The Weatherford City Commission has approved a Route 66 promotion grant that will feature the popular astronaut statue as part of the city’s efforts to attract travelers along the historic highway. “We decided to let our Weatherford Public Schools come up with names, and then Route 66 Committee decided which one we were going to go with,” explained Councilman Garrett Smith. “And Weatherford High School came up with Major Tom, and we thought that was a good, easy name recognition for the statue.” The grant totals \$10,371.00 and will support Weatherford’s route 66 promotion campaign as preparations continue for the upcoming tourism season.


WASHITA CO / ACCIDENT - The Oklahoma Highway Patrol says a Canute man was injured in a one vehicle accident in Washita County. OHP says 48-year-old Rhett Beutler was driving around State Highway 152 and County Road 2430 when his vehicle ran off the road, rolled and struck a barbed wire fence.

CORDELL / CORDELL LAKE - Cordell officials have revealed that progress is being made toward reopening Cordell Lake. Mayor Phil Klierer recently updated city council members on new coordination efforts and where the project stands. “[We have] some tentative agreements with various entities, including the county, about potentially rebuilding the bridge at Cordell Lake,” explained Klierer. “We’ve got Davy Sewell providing the culverts, and there would be a connecting culvert with banding somewhere around 8 foot around culverts, about 90 foot long, 30 yards.” Klierer added that fencing also needs to be placed around the water treatment area, along with a gate at the entrance with a possible QR code system for residents to access the property.

CLINTON / CHAMBER AWARD - The Clinton Chamber of Commerce has been awarded the Digital Media Communications award at the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce Executives Awards Ceremony. The chamber earned this recognition for its extraordinarily successful Monday Member Pop-In Series, a weekly digital featurette that shines the spotlight on chamber members through fun, engaging, behind-the-scenes videos shared across social media.

WEATHERFORD / LAWSUIT - Four victims of the recent Weatherford ammonia leak are now suing the companies it believes contributed to their suffering. The suit, which was filed in Custer County District Court, has named Airgas, the company that owns the tanker truck as a defendant. It also names IHG Hotels and champion hotels as defendants for their role in the location of the incident, the Weatherford Holiday Inn Express and Suites. Attorney Clay Bruner says the hotel is responsible for allowing a toxic tanker to park in the parking lot. The plaintiffs are seeking \$75,000 each for damages.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!



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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 Dec. 3 - Tarra Barton, Morgan Brown, Ken Brown, Verda McKellips. Brian Tompkins; Dec. 4 - Fred Atha, Kristen Bailey, Elizabeth Byrd, Beverly Leonard, Richard Miller, Aubrey Robers, Avery Spottedcorn; Dec. 5 - Robin Cates, Retha Flue, Donna Gates, Scott Haven, Heather Hock, Kaylee Holland, Elizabeth Janning, Melissa Jett, Amanda Johnson, Madison Lax, Ted Lilly, Adam Lockstone, Gary Long, Rachal Maxon, Chuck Meyer, Kristen Roberson, Carl Schneberger, Chris Shaw, Susan Steiner, Randy Stucker, Harland Unruh; Dec. 6 - Austin Barragsee, Catherine Bryant, Zachary Camahan, Larry Cozart, Lacy Crawley, Sarah Ivy, Debbie Kauk, Bonnie Moore, Kayla Schmidt, Season Simon, Odessal Tebhoe; Dec. 7 - Marie Burgard, Tabatha Cabaniss, Saige Carpenter, Shelly Chase, Kevin Davis, Fay Jackson, Kyle Jones, Renee Kester, Stefani Lamb, Canon Lyles, Mary Lou Mirkey, Ashlyn Newton, Mikka Ronan Eithel Simpson, Bonnie Stucker, Kathy Whitson, Amber Wood; Dec. 8 - Kimberly Fisher, Falcon Taylor Hinchey, Jeff Jackson, Eugene Jefferson Jr., Mario Llamas, Rita McLemore, Rich Miller, Paula Price, Misha Prichard, Daniell Rippee, Ryan Walker; Dec. 9 - Cale Courtney, Andrew Foster, Dennis Martin, Lynn McCauley, Melissa McCulley, Glenn McCulley, Chad Nabors, Joy Nix;

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| Food Club Hot Chocolate Mix, 8 count | \$1.79 | Crav'n Fruit Pies (All Varieties) | \$5.99 |
| Food Club Pie Fillings (Asst. Varieties) | 2 for \$6.00 | Meat | |
| Libby's Vegetables (Asst. Varieties) | 4 for \$5.00 | Boneless New York Strip Steak | \$13.59 lb. |
| Bush Blackeye Peas, 15.8oz. | 2 for \$3.00 | Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops | \$2.99 lb. |
| Bush Beans (Asst. Varieties) | 4 for \$5.00 | Pork Spare Ribs | \$2.99 lb. |
| Food Club Diced Tomatoes & Chilis, 10oz. (All Varieties) | \$0.99 | Wrights Sliced Bacon | \$6.99 lb. |
| Crav'n Salsa Con Queso, 15oz. | \$2.79 | Bone- In Pork Steak | \$3.89 lb. |
| Dairy | | Fricks Ham Steaks | \$5.19 lb. |
| Yoplait Yogurt, 4-6oz. (All Varieties) | 3 for \$2.00 | Opas Smoked Sausage, 16oz. (All Varieties) | \$6.59 |
| Food Club Sour Cream, 16oz. | \$1.99 | Dry Grocery | |
| Kraft Philadelphia Cream Cheese, 8oz. | 2 for \$5.00 | Viva Towels, 6 roll | \$11.49 |
| Pillsbury Grands Biscuits or Crescent Rolls | 2 for \$5.00 | Angel Soft Bath Tissue, 16 roll | \$13.99 |
| Food Club Butter (All Varieties) | 2 for \$7.00 | Chinet Dinner Napkins, 40 count | \$2.29 |
| Food Club Heavy Whipping Cream, 32oz. | \$5.99 | | |
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2012 John Deere 1435
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It’s a Holly Jolly Christmas with Elk City’s Month-Long Annual Christmas in The Park



Elk City kicked off their annual celebration Christmas in the Park in Ackley Park last Friday, November 28th. The event, which runs from 6pm to 9pm every weekend from Thanksgiving through December 20th, offers residents of Western Oklahoma a chance to celebrate the Christmas season free of charge with fun holiday themed activities around th that kids from age one to ninety-two would appreciate.

Christmas in the Park features holiday mainstays like trips on the doubledecker bus “The Mistletoe Express”, rides on the Centennial Carousel as well as the Holly Jolly Trolley, as well as pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Guests of the events can also enjoy trips along a miniature train, excellent cups of hot Cocoa offered up by the Boy Scouts of America, and the return of horse drawn carriage rides through the park.

New to the event will be the opportunity to play mini golf at each of the events held throughout the Christmas season on the new mini-golf course in Ackley Park. And, of course, it wouldn’t be Christmas in the Park without a wonderful Christmas light display.

To commemorate this new addition The Elk City Chamber Of Commerce has incorporated mini-golf into the design of this year’s limited edition ornaments. The ornaments will be available for purchase beginning the first week of December and folks interested in purchasing one can buy them in Ackley Park during the event, at City Hall, the transportation museum or at the Elk City Chamber of Commerce’s office.

For more information about the event you can visit the Elk City Chamber of Commerce’s Website by visiting elkcitychamber.com

Deer Creek Conservation District Announces Open House Regarding Cedar Tree Eradication

The Deer Creek Conservation District will host an Open House on December 9, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, with a special focus on cedar tree eradication and wildfire mitigation efforts.

The event is open to all agricultural producers, as well as community members interested in conservation and the programs available through the district office. Representatives—including the Board of Directors, District Manager, Conservation Planner, and the district’s newly hired Land Management Technician—will be available to answer questions and provide information.

The district recently welcomed a Land Management Technician through the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to support brush management and reduce wildfire risks. This position plays a critical role in protecting life and property within local communities and in maintaining rural infrastructure throughout the North Canadian Watershed.

A major focus of the program is addressing the rapid spread of Eastern Red Cedar.

Eastern Red Cedars can consume up to 30 gallons of water per tree daily in the summer, diminishing groundwater resources that are vital to producers and rural communities. Despite their high water usage, the trees are highly flammable and capable of sending thousands of embers downwind, significantly increasing wildfire risk.


If you are interested in these topics or potential program qualifications for your land, please stop by the Open House or contact the Deer Creek Conservation District office using the information below:

Deer Creek Conservation District
300 South Broadway
Weatherford, OK 73096
580-772-7670



Alexander Shook / WM

Burcham Elementary School teachers and staff members held a “Turkey Trot,” a long distance footrace where participants wear inflatable costumes, traditionally turkey-themed.




DEER CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CHRISTMAS
OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025
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Spencer Musgrove and Sincere Jackson Named Bulldogs of the Week



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Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

Spencer Musgrove and Sincere Jackson have been selected as the latest Bulldogs of the Week for SWOSU.

This weekly student-athlete recognition program is presented by Wright Media — the official partner for SWOSU athletic livestreams and radio broadcasts.

Spencer Musgrove (Canberra, Australia) scored a career high 16 points off the bench against USAO last week and needed only 16 minutes of floor time to do it.

Musgrove finished 6-of-7 (86%) from the field on the night including a 4-of-5 (80%) clip from the three-point line.

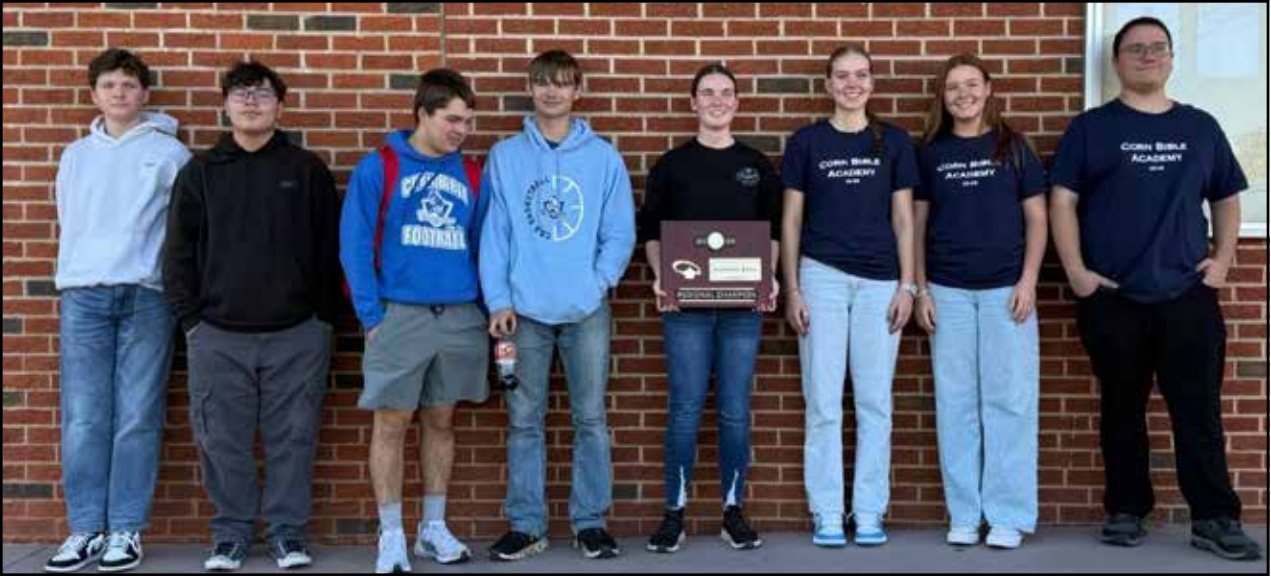
Sincere Jackson (San Antonio, Texas) scored a career high 23 points on 58% shooting in SWOSU's narrow loss to No. 7-ranked Lubbock Christian last Monday.

Jackson led all scorers in that game with a career-high 23 points, as well as eight rebounds.






Ally Chupp / CBA

The CBA 7th & 9th grade boys basketball team (left) and the CBA 8th grade girls basketball team (right) each won third place at the Olustee Basketball Tournament. Both teams will be competing in five home games this week, including their first conference game against the Gracemont Lions on December 4 at 7pm.



Ally Chupp / CBA

The Corn Bible Academy academic team won the Regional Meet last Saturday and will go on to the Area meet in January. Pictured (from left): James Rother from Corn, Will Penner from Clinton, Zack Zybach from Elk City, Will Kindsfather from Weatherford, Cami Moran from Elk City, Mia Horn from Elk City, Bentli Whitson from Elk City, and August Dobrinski from Weatherford.



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Balanced Effort Lifts Dawgs in Home Opener



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Men's Basketball snapped its three-game skid in emphatic fashion Monday night, rolling past USAO 89-60 in the home opener inside the Pioneer Event Center. The 29-point margin marks the Bulldogs' largest victory since a 122-81 win over Randall in 2022. SWOSU now heads into Thanksgiving break before closing out non-conference play on December 1, when they host Southwestern Christian at 5:30 p.m. in the PEC.

The Dawgs built a double-digit lead just eight minutes into the game, going up 17-7 thanks to a Spencer Musgrove three—one of his four made threes on perfect shooting in the first half. SWOSU led by as many as 15, and while the Drovers brought an electric offense to Weatherford, averaging nearly 100 points through their opening six games, the Dawgs' defense held strong, allowing only 29 points in the first 20 minutes—the lowest total in any half this season for USAO.

The Dawgs' defense continued its strong showing after not allowing a made shot for the opening eight

minutes, forcing 14 straight misses to start the second half and allowing the Bulldogs' lead to balloon to 22 points. The SWOSU advantage never faltered below 15 points for the remainder of the game and was put out of reach by multiple threes from Walker Kennedy and two massive dunks by Tucker Shepherd, which erupted the crowd and sealed the win.

The Bulldogs shot a season-high 54.8% from the field while holding USAO to just 30%—a season low both against the Dawgs and for the Drovers. SWOSU knocked down 13 threes at a 46.4% clip, while USAO managed only six makes on 22.2% shooting from deep. The Drovers attempted 25 free throws, compared to just 11 for SWOSU.

Musgrove led the way with a career-high 16 points on 6-7 shooting, with all of his scoring coming in the first half. Kray Rogers and Walker Kennedy each added 11, with Kennedy setting a new season high. Rogers also posted 10 rebounds, five assists, and four steals. Ty Frierson finished with 10 points, becoming the Dawgs' fourth double-digit scorer.

An Upset Bid of No. 7 Spoiled at the Buzzer



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Women's Basketball took No. 7-ranked Lubbock Christian to the very last possession, but a Lady Chap three-pointer at the buzzer spoiled the upset bid as the Lady Bulldogs fell 62-61 inside the Pioneer Event Center.

SWOSU held a 61-59 lead with eight seconds remaining following a pair of free throws and needed one final defensive stop. After LCU advanced the ball with a timeout, the Lady Chaps buried the deciding three-pointer as time expired.

The game-winner stayed on theme with Lubbock Christian's attack. The Lady Chaps knocked down 12 three-pointers on the night at a 44% clip — 12 of their 19 made field goals came from beyond the arc.

SWOSU entered the fourth quarter trailing 42-36 after a strong third period from LCU, who outscored the Lady Dawgs 21-14. But the deficit vanished quickly. Elle Papahronis delivered an and-one layup and a three-pointer on back-to-back possessions to tie the game in the opening minute of the final frame.

From there, neither team led by more than two possessions. With under two minutes remaining, Payten Conde traded threes with LCU on consecutive

trips to keep SWOSU within striking distance, and a Sincere Jackson layup put the Dawgs ahead with 39 seconds left. SWOSU followed with a defensive stop and split a pair at the free-throw line to set up the final sequence.

Offense was hard to come by early. SWOSU cashed in 11 first-half LCU turnovers for eight points and held a 22-21 advantage at the break—despite another buzzer-beating three-pointer from the Lady Chaps to close the half.

The Dawgs shot 37.7% for the game but finished just 3-of-18 from deep, with all three makes coming in the fourth quarter. LCU was limited to 32% shooting in the first half and 33% in the third, but went 10-for-17 (59%) in the final 10 minutes.

SWOSU won the turnover battle 18-9 and outrebounded the Lady Chaps 35-33. Jackson led all scorers with a career-high 23 points and added eight rebounds. Papahronis followed with 16 points and nine boards. Landry Allen posted 12 points along with four blocks, four rebounds, and three steals.

SWOSU (2-2) will break for Thanksgiving before returning to action on Monday, December 1 on the road against Eastern New Mexico. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.



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