

## Weatherford Chamber Presents Annual “A December to Remember”



While Santa and his elves are busy building gifts in the North Pole the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce’s Small Business Society and participating businesses are busy planning the premier shopping event of the season.

The annual December to Remember promotion incentivises Western Oklahomans to shop locally by giving shoppers 10 Chamber Bucks for every \$50 they spend at participating businesses with shoppers able to earn up to 50 chamber bucks per day.

Weatherford Chamber Bucks can be spent at any Weatherford Chamber of Commerce member. Shoppers who spend 50 dollars or more at one of the nearly fifty participating businesses around Weatherford can submit their receipts to the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce at their offices located at 210 W. Main Street to earn their chamber bucks.

For every \$50 spent at participating venues, shoppers will also gain entries into a giveaway scheduled for December 17th from 6:30pm to 8pm in downtown Weatherford where \$10,000 worth of giftcards and gifts from the promotion’s participating businesses will be handed out to shoppers. Shoppers must present their receipts to the Chamber of Commerce before 5pm on December 17th to guarantee their entry into the giveaway.

Along with the giveaway drawing on December 17th, downtown Weatherford will also be abuzz with local vendors selling their wares and Santa Claus himself will make an appearance to take photos with any attendees.

For more information about the event or to check participating businesses you can find the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce on Facebook.



Heston Wright / WM

A ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held at the Weatherford Regional Training Facility where the Oklahoma Army National Guard will be located. After being closed nearly 15 years ago, it was re-opened following an involved process based on the economic and academic standings of the city of Weatherford.



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**Hinton Telephone Co. Offering New Services**

The Federal Communications Commission and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission have established two programs to make basic telephone service more affordable to eligible customers. Lifeline Service is a program designed to make basic telephone service available at reduced rates to eligible residential customers. Customer's eligibility to receive the discount must be renewed annually. Link-Up is a program designed to offer eligible residential customers a reduction in installation charges for telephone service.

**Who Qualifies?**

To be eligible you must live on former tribal land and participate in at least one of the following programs:

- Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid (Sooner Care)
- Veterans or Survivors Pension Benefit
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Income – Based Eligibility
- Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance
- Tribal Head Start Programs (only applicant or customer who satisfy the income qualifying eligibility provision)

Unlimited local calling is as little as \$1.00 a month excluding applicable taxes, surcharges and fees.

Lifeline customers can also subscribe to optional services at the same rate offered to other customers.

**What Universal Services are available to all customers?** Universal Services are offered to all customers of Hinton Telephone Company. Universal Services available include:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Local usage
- Dual tone Multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent
- Single-party service or Its functional equivalent
- Access to emergency services
- Access to operator services
- Access to interchange services
- Access to directory assistance
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Unlimited local calling is \$18.00 for residential service and \$15.50 for businesses.

**How do Telephone Customers and Applicants for Telephone Service Apply for Lifeline and Link-Up Program?** Customers may request self-enrollment forms from the business office.

**How to Apply for Telephone Service?** If you do not have telephone service and wish to obtain telephone service and you are in the Hinton Telephone Company serving areas, or if you have telephone service and you move and you qualify for the Link-Up Program and you are in the Hinton Telephone Company serving areas please call our business office number 405-542-3262 and we will be glad to assist you.





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For more information, contact your financial advisor or visit with our staff:

**Joshua Cobb**  
[Joshua.Cobb@SWOSU.edu](mailto:Joshua.Cobb@SWOSU.edu)  
Ph: 580-774-6330



[www.GivetoSWOSU.com](http://www.GivetoSWOSU.com)



**Christmas Sales and Savings!**

Shopping Hours: Monday, 12pm - 5pm  
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**Hinton Chamber of Commerce**  
**invites you to attend December 13!**

**SMALL TOWN VINTAGE Christmas**  
VISIT MR. & MRS. CLAUS AND THE GRINCH  
American Legion Building  
4:00-6:00 PM



**DOWNTOWN PARADE & TREE LIGHTING**  
Starts at 6:00 PM



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## Christmas in Cordell to Feature Steve Story and His Band “The Western Swingmasters”

**Alexander Shook**  
WOK Contributor

In collaboration with Scissortail Productions, the Cordell Arts & Humanities Council will be presenting a free holiday music concert, “Christmas in Cordell: Home for the Holidays.” The fun starts at 7 PM this Saturday, December 13, and will be hosted at the 4th & College Church of Christ (501 N College St.)

The concert will feature Steve Story, a musician and vocalist with over 30 years of experience under his belt. He has played alongside music giants like Willie Nelson and Glen Campbell. Steve will be performing alongside his wife and Oklahoma-based music teacher, Charla Story, as well as his band, “The Western Swingmasters.” Attendees can look forward to hearing their western swing takes on Christmas classics.

You can also look forward to hearing from Cordell native Lavern “Straw” Berry, the Official Cowboy Poet of Texas since 1991. His artful storytelling talents have been featured on stages across the southwest, including Texas, Oklahoma, Nevada, and California.

If you’re looking for a traditional jazz sound, The Dawg House has you covered. This group of SWOSU students is led by Professor of Music Dr. Richard Tirk, who also oversees the university’s various Jazz Ensembles.

The event is free to the public, and all are welcome to attend. However, donations are accepted and will be used to benefit the Washita County Historical Society. Scissortail Productions would like to give special thanks to musician sponsor BlueSky Bank, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts and the Oklahoma Arts Association for making this event possible.

**CANADIAN CO / FATALITY** - An Oklahoma City woman recently died from injuries in a three-vehicle accident 4.5 miles east of Hinton on Interstate 40 in Canadian County. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol says 53-year-old Kelli Jenkins died after her vehicle was struck by a semi, which became disabled after striking a concrete wall.

**HYDRO / BRIDGE** - A ceremony was recently held as an old, decommissioned Route 66 bridge was permanently set near Hydro. “We call it a roadside attraction, a photo op, a place for people traveling Route 66 to pull over, learn about the Hydro community, come on into town, and visit our Main Street,” explained Project Volunteer Alan Entz. “You’ll be able to walk over it, under it, and we’ll have information there on site talking about the bridge, the significance of it, and some general history about Route 66.” The project was funded by a Route 66 grant and is scheduled for completion in the Spring of 2026.

**WATONGA / FUTURE PROJECTS** - Watonga Public Schools Superintendent Kyle Hilterbran recently shared some of the future improvements the district is considering. “This summer, we’re going to be looking at the AG facilities and looking to see how we can improve those or remodel those or add classrooms,” Hilterbran explained. “We’ve really invested heavily in pretty much all of our programs, but the next step would be to decide whether we want to build an elementary school or middle school with everything else, because the high school is brand new.” The district’s current goal is to make steady upgrades that support students and keep the district moving forward.

**CORDELL / DIRECTIONAL SIGNS** - Cordell is exploring new directional signs, with Mayor Phil Kliewer discussing the project with city council. “We are going to put a sample sign east of town [near] Gregory Park. It will have four 2-Dimensional signs underneath it with a large dome saying “Cordell: Great American Main Street Community.” As of now, the project’s cost and the city’s payment method is unknown. Kliewer stated that a sponsorship deal may be considered if the city’s budget can’t cover the cost.

**CUSTER CO / DISTRICT 1 UPDATE** - Wade Anders, District 1 Custer County Commissioner, recently explained what his crew will be doing now that mowing is finished in his district: “We will [look for] gophers on roads in different areas and our main blacktop roads.” Anders also said his crew will also shift their focus to routine maintenance and preparing roads for upcoming winter weather.

**CLINTON / EXIT 65 UPDATE** - Clinton City Council heard an update on the upcoming road construction project for Exits 65/65-A. Oklahoma Department of Transportation Division 5 Engineer Will Snipes says there appears to be good news when it comes to the length of the project. “Out of 1,250 days that we set on this contract, their plan reduces that to 769 days...a reduction of almost 500 days,” expressed Snipes. “That date is to the [project’s] substantial completion, which basically means everybody’s in their final configuration, and they are serious enough about this that they are agreeing to a milestone incentive of \$10,000 a day for every day over those 769 days.” Snipes added he also sees some potential cost savings to both the state and city of Clinton surrounding the project. The work bid came in at a total of \$76 million.

**WEATHERFORD / NEW PHYSICIANS** - Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Darin Farrell has revealed that two new physicians are on the way for the community, Blake and Sarah Christensen. Farrell says Blake Christianson is originally from Leedey and now has a home in Thomas. Christensen and his wife, who is also a physician, will be a great asset to the area.

**WEATHERFORD / DERMATOLOGY CLINIC** A new dermatology clinic will soon be opening in Weatherford. “They’re not tied to [Weatherford Regional Hospital, but we’ve had lots of conversations with them, and that’s another good service that’ll be here,” explained Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Darin Farrell. “The hospital will benefit, and our primary care clinics will benefit, in having other specialty services here.” The addition will expand specialty care options and reduce the need for patients to travel out of town for appointments.

**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](mailto: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! Dec. 10** - Mitzi Cannon, Richard Coit, Betty Donovan, Carolyn Elliott, Ethan Hines, Parker Jacks, Steve Juarez, Angela Morrison, Michelle Mounsey, Nicole Page, Micharl Russ, Chris Sanchez, Kassidy Skinner, Kimberly Sumner, Jeffrey Willis; **Dec. 11** - Andrew Davis, Elisabeth Fraser, Matthew Goeringer, Debra Hupfer, Penny Lanier, Mary Ralston, Monty Reynolds, Jenna Scales, Bob Schmidt, Brenda Williams, Laurie Wood, Emma Jean Wynn; **Dec. 12** - Leonard Boyd, Megan Fite, Jina Hampton, Mike Hopper, Chet Hunter, Lonnie Hymer, Joy Keng, Alice Peet, Sue Roles, Josh Vanderburgh, Lisa Wandrie, Amber Wood. **Dec. 13** - Valerie Farriss, Tre Ingram, Steven Kixmiller, Sara Martin, Pat Meyer, Richard Meyer, Kaleb Miller, Addison Holland, Irl Nikkel, Holly Noel Roman, Lisa Snider, Bret Wood; **Dec. 14** - Audrey Christian, Elise Cox, Rodolfo Guyman, Amber Koch, Martha Martinez, Maddie Newman, Joella Poauty, Jackie Robinson, Tember Thomas, Michael Tippens, Mark Woods, Glenn Wynn; **Dec. 15** - Lorna Kay Altland, Jo Crowdis, Maegan Fite, Kandy Harrall, Clint Holsted, Patricia Keezer, Keryl Lacy, Ray Lee, Scooter Leggit, Lynn Martin, Scott Sanders, Debbie Sanders, Kelsey Wager, Sheree Wood, Margaret Wright; **Dec. 16** - Amanda Arriaga, Renee Basgall, Todd Doyals, Betty Goldman, Steven Green, Christine Irish, Victor Izaguirre, Steve Josey, Ben Kuykendall, Melissa McCoy, Richard Palmer, Brandon Pounds, Peggy Reynolds, Ashley Ricks, Ronnie Skinner, Mike Smith, Sylvia Spain, Karey Stufflebeam, Steve Tomkins.

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**



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**2004 4x4 Trailblazer** - \$2,000. **2003 2WD Trailblazer** - \$3,000. 405-639-9667.

**1998 Southern Mobile Home** - 3 br, 2 ba. Singlewide, All Electric. Comes with clean green title. Central heat and air needs replacing. Carpenter Special Fixer-Upper; \$5,500 cash OBO. 580-330-1437.

**Rail dune buggy frame** - 924 Porsche - good engine. \$400 OR will trade for Volkswagen. Call 405-639-9667.

**4-Michelin used passenger tires** - 20 inch. 580-393-1444. Call for pricing.

**30ft travel trailer** - Great tires, clean title. One slide-out. \$400. 405-639-9667.

**2002 Monterey 180 Edge** - 18½ ft. Volvo Penta Engine. 4.3 Chevy. 190 HP. \$7000. 580-819-2047

**300 Honda Trax 4x4** - Will trade. 405-639-9667.

**2000 Infinity QX56 2012** - 165K miles. \$16,000. 405-638-1773.

**2003 Trailblazer** - Good shape. \$3,000. 580-886-2980.

**2009 Mercury Grand Marquis LS** - \$3,750 OBO. 580-330-3489.

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FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

**Old Fashion Antique Wardrobe** 54" tall. \$150. 580-613-0108.

**8-Drawer Dresser** - In good condition. 3ft tall, 1'8ft deep, and 4'11" wide. \$75. 580-613-0108.

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**Microfiber Love Seat** - Brown, comes with console and drink holder. 580-330-0225.

**Baby Walker** - Bounces, comes with mobile and music. \$35. Call 580-613-0108.

**3 Handheld Vacuums** - \$30 each. 580-613-0108.

**Widescreen TV** - 93" CRT. Mitsubishi. \$499. 580-772-7997.

**Curio Cabinet, Bottom Storage** - \$50. Please call 580-774-4000.

**Sofa & Loveseat** - Both new. Gray. \$400 each. 580-302-2780.

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**(3) Dixon Lawnmowers** - \$300 for all three. 405-639-9667.

**STIHL Weed Trimmer** - Never used. \$275. 580-774-8678.

ANIMALS AND PETS

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**Large Bird Cage** - \$20. Contact 580-890-9442.

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**Steel Office Desk** - \$20. Contact 580-890-9442.

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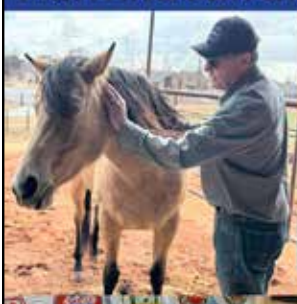
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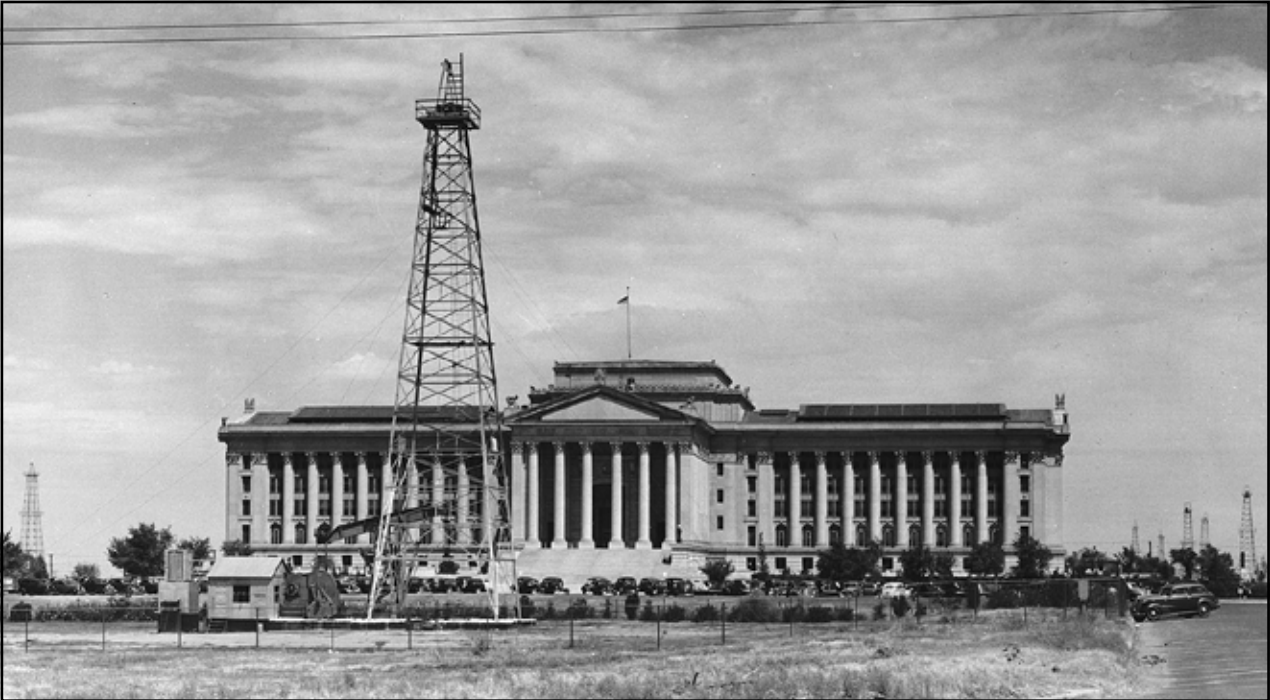
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## Oklahoma History: Creation of Boomtowns



Provided by the Library of Congress / Britannica

Oil derricks and producing wells on the grounds of the Oklahoma state capitol, circa 1930s. Oil rigs were rowed along the street, prominently working alongside Oklahoma's growth. A total of 24 wells were drilled on the Capitol grounds.

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

In late 1928, the Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company (ITIO) and the Foster Petroleum Company were drilling on farmland southeast of Oklahoma City. At 3 PM on December 4, 1928 their cable-tool rig struck oil at a depth of about 6,400 feet. Oil erupted from the well and sprayed across the cotton field near SE 59th and Bryant.

The gusher flowed uncontrolled for 27 days and produced 110,496 barrels of oil before crews finally brought it under control. The discovery well opened the Oklahoma City Oil Field and turned a quiet farm into one of the most productive oil districts in the world. Homes now surround the site, but a historical marker notes that on that day a petroleum boom began.

In 1931 alone two rival towers shot up side by side: First National Bank's new 32-story headquarters and the ramrod-gray Ramsey Tower at 33 stories. Both structures, financed by oil profits, remain downtown landmarks today.

Block after block of storefronts, theaters and office buildings rose from the oil wealth. The venerable Skirvin Hotel – opened in 1911 – added wings to reach 13 stories by 1930, becoming a glittering social center for visiting celebrities and oil tycoons (its ballrooms known for late-night music and secret poker games). Low unemployment and swelling tax revenues gave the city a cushion against the era's economic storms.

The mania reached its crescendo with the Wild Mary Sudik gusher in spring 1930. On March 26, drillers on the farm of Vincent and Mary Sudik struck a high-pressure pocket and blew out the Mary Sudik No. 1 well. For 11 days that runaway well spewed an estimated 20,000 barrels of oil and 200 million cubic feet of gas each day. The oil fountained hundreds of feet into the air and ignited nightly flares; a fine greasy mist even settled on Norman fifteen miles to the south.

The spectacle drew nationwide attention – NBC broadcast daily updates and theaters ran newsreels of the struggle. When engineers finally capped the “Wild Mary” on April 6, 1930, it was front-page news from coast to coast, and became the most publicized oil well in the world. The oil frenzy forced leadership to come up with a way to ensure the integrity of these areas. By 1935 Oklahoma led other oil states in an interstate conservation compact, becoming an example for the nation in oil management.

In the long run, the original 1928 gusher left an indelible mark. Oil revenues poured into schools, highways and universities, cementing Oklahoma City's role as a center of prosperity and education. Nearly a century later, echoes of that era remain. The State Capitol grounds still play host to the old “Petunia” oil well as a reminder of the city's roots, and dozens of pump jacks quietly hum beneath city streets.



Provided

The Great Plains Family YMCA held their annual Breakfast with Santa this past Saturday at Lucille's Roadhouse. Families showed up for pictures with Santa, as well as a pancake breakfast.



Provided

Rick Koch has his photo take with Santa Claus at the Great Plains YMCA's Breakfast with Santa event. Rick Koch's Lucille's Roadhouse hosted the annual event which drew big crowds in anticipation of the holiday season.

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Kasidy Russell and Kayden Carter Have Secured Bulldogs of the Week

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**KASIDY RUSSELL**  
Freshman • Women's Basketball



**KAYDEN CARTER**  
Senior • Men's Basketball

**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Media Relations

Kasidy Russell and Kayden Carter have been selected as the latest Bulldogs of the Week, presented by Wright Media — the official partner for SWOSU athletic livestreams and radio broadcasts.

Carter (Norman, Okla.) scored in double figures in all three games last week and shot 50 percent or better in each outing. In both GAC matchups, he posted 12 points on 5-9 shooting and added two blocks and a steal against Harding.

Russell (McLean, Texas) recorded a season-high 14 points off the bench against Arkansas Tech on Saturday. The freshman knocked down four shots, including a three-pointer, and went 5-9 at the free-throw line. Russell provided double-digit minutes off the bench in all three games last week for the Lady Bulldogs.

Elk City Arts Council Invites You to a “Merry and Bright Christmas”

The Elk City Arts Council proudly announces the return of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. Led by Alexander Mickelthwate Christmas Concert December 17, 2025, at 8:00 PM in the Pioneer Center at Elk City High School in the Kelli O’ Hara Auditorium.

Tickets are now available at prices ranging from \$50.00 to \$60.00. They can be purchased online at [ElkCityArtsCouncil.org](http://ElkCityArtsCouncil.org).

Tickets are also available courtesy of Currell’s Do It Center in Elk City by visiting in-person or calling 580 225-1941.

This Concert only Happens every three years and is a very special Christmas Music event, featuring the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, a 30 member Choir guest singers, and a guest performance from the Elk City School Music program.

This is a very ambitious and expensive project that would not happen without the help of many people. This includes the Elk City Chamber of Commerce tourism committee, Mr. Sparks and the staff at Elk City High School and many local Business sponsors and well as countless individual sponsors.



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Cold Fourth Quarter Lifts Tech Past SWOSU



**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Women's Basketball took their fourth straight loss after not being able to close out Arkansas Tech in the fourth quarter, finishing the game 63-71.

The Lady Bulldogs led at the end of every quarter except the one that counted, getting outscored by 11 in the final frame, which handed the game to the Golden Suns, 71-63.

SWOSU led by as many as 11 early in the second quarter before Tech found its groove in the second half, shooting almost 10% better from the field and beyond the arc in the final 20 minutes compared to the opening half.

The third quarter saw both teams match each other with 17 points. Most of that scoring came inside, with 26 of the 34 total points coming in the paint. Landry Allen did most of her damage there, scoring eight points in the quarter alone.

Arkansas Tech exploded in the fourth, putting up 24 points—its highest-scoring quarter of the game—while shooting over 42% from the field and from deep, and knocking down all seven free throws. The Lady Dawgs, meanwhile, shot under 30% from both two- and three-point range and went just 3-5 at the line.

The Lady Dawgs committed a season-high 27 turnovers while forcing just 16 from Tech. SWOSU shot 15-21 from the line (71.4%), their best percentage of the season.

Sincere Jackson and Allen both came close to double-doubles. Jackson posted a team-high 18 points with nine rebounds, while Allen added 13 points and nine boards. Lacy Brough recorded five points, five rebounds, and five assists. Kasidy Russell added a season-high 14 points off the bench.

SWOSU (2-5, 0-2 GAC) hosts Oklahoma Baptist next Thursday, December 11 for its next game.

Bulldogs Fall in Close Battle with Arkansas



**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Media Relations

The Bulldogs lost a close one on the road to Arkansas Tech after giving up momentum late in the first half, falling 65-60.

The first half saw the Dawgs shoot 50% from the field, going 12-for-24 and knocking down four threes. Kray Rogers carried the early offensive load, scoring all 11 of his points before halftime and making four of his first five shots. With three minutes left in the half, the Bulldogs were up 33-20 — their largest lead of the game — and appeared poised to control the second half. Arkansas Tech, however, caught fire to close the half, hitting its final three shots, all from long range, to cut the lead to just 33-29 at the break.

Tech took its first lead since the opening minute just five minutes into the second half, and the game stayed within two possessions for the final 15 minutes of Saturday's matchup.

From the 9:40 mark to 3:40 remaining, the Dawgs didn't score a single point, though Tech managed only five during that stretch, keeping SWOSU within reach despite the drought. Ten made free throws over the final three-plus minutes ultimately sealed the win for the Wonder Boys. Nate Reheman hit a three with 1.7 seconds left, but the Bulldogs still trailed by three, leaving too little time for a comeback.

The Bulldogs forced only seven turnovers — their first game this season without reaching double digits.

Kayden Carter led SWOSU with 12 points, adding four rebounds and three assists. Tobias Roland scored 10, while Reheman finished with nine points and a career-high 10 rebounds.

SWOSU (3-5, 0-2 GAC) returns to the PEC for its home conference opener against Oklahoma Baptist on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.



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