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# WEST OK WEEKLY



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## Weatherford Industrial Trust Announces 10.72 Acre Sale to Amazon



**Yolanda Creswell**  
Economic Development Director

The Weatherford Industrial Trust, in partnership with the City of Weatherford, today announced the sale of 10.72 acres in the Weatherford Industrial Trust North Park to Amazon for the development of a new 30,000-square-foot last-mile delivery station.

The project is expected to bring approximately 100 new jobs to Weatherford and generate a significant economic impact for the community through new employment opportunities, local spending, and long-term investment.

“We are thrilled to welcome Amazon to Weatherford and to our Weatherford Industrial North Park for industrial development,” said Yolanda Creswell, Economic Development Director. “This project represents exactly the kind of high-quality investment we envisioned for this park. It will create jobs for our residents, expand our tax base, and reinforce Weatherford’s position as a business-friendly community.” This transaction marks the first sale within the Weatherford Industrial Trust North Park, setting a strong precedent for future growth and development in the area.

“Having Amazon as the first company to invest in North Park is a major milestone for our community,” said Creswell. “It sends a clear message to other companies that Weatherford is ready to support new and expanding businesses with the infrastructure, workforce, and collaborative spirit they need to succeed.”

This new facility will drive the final stage of Amazon’s fulfillment process, helping ensure fast, everyday delivery to customers’ doorsteps. Starting at fulfillment and sortation centers, packages will be processed and prepared for last-mile delivery, improving delivery times for customers throughout the region and bringing even faster delivery to more rural communities. Construction is expected to begin early in 2026.


The City of Weatherford and the Weatherford Industrial Trust worked closely together to bring this project to fruition, underscoring their shared commitment to economic development and to making Weatherford a destination for business investment.

Amazon’s presence in Oklahoma has generated substantial economic benefits through multiple

channels, investing over \$7.2 billion in the state since 2010 in infrastructure and employee compensation and contributing \$6.8 billion to Oklahoma’s GDP. The company has created 7,500 full- and part-time direct jobs in fulfillment, delivery, and related roles, while supporting an additional 7,000 indirect jobs in industries such as construction, logistics, and professional services through suppliers and partners.

Beyond employment and infrastructure, Amazon has committed to utility-scale renewable energy projects, including solar farms and wind farms that generate local economic activity while supporting clean energy goals. The company’s platform has also empowered thousands of Oklahoma-based independent sellers who have sold over 9 million items and average \$140,000 in annual sales.

The City of Weatherford is a growing community committed to supporting residents, businesses, and visitors through strategic investment, strong public services, and a pro-growth economic development approach. Weatherford prides itself on offering a high quality of life, a skilled workforce, and a welcoming environment for companies of all sizes.



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Wednesday


Partly Cloudy  
  
H: 76° L: 53°  
Thursday

Mostly Sunny  
  
H: 75° L: 48°  
Friday

Partly Cloudy  
  
H: 75° L: 38°  
Saturday

Partly Cloudy  
  
H: 45° L: 28°  
Sunday

Partly Cloudy  
  
H: 47° L: 28°  
Monday

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Tuesday

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Elk City Airport Celebrates Newly Constructed \$6.4M Aviation Gateway in Western Oklahoma



Teresa Kilhoffer / WM

Elk City Mayor Micah Kilhoffer (left) and City Manager Tom Ivester (right) introduced the public to Oklahoma’s newest airport terminal, which will replace a 1960s-era hangar in Elk City.

**Sandra Shelton**  
OK Aerospace Director

On December 17, 2025, Elk City Regional Business Airport, in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics (ODAA), formally honored the completion of a substantial infrastructure upgrade during a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new terminal, hangar, and associated support infrastructure.

The overall project included four phases and featured the replacement of the airport’s outdated terminal, constructed in the 1960s, the addition of 15,000 square feet of new state-of-the-art hangar space designed to accommodate jet traffic and essential to improving operational efficiency, a new taxilane to support the previously reference hangar and open up additional lots for private hangar development, and utility improvement to support both the new terminal and new hangar area. Elk City emerged as one of the early adopters to commit to a new terminal and hangar as part of a broader statewide initiative to modernize airport facilities and install pro-growth aviation infrastructure within the Oklahoma Airport System.

The total investment for the Elk City Municipal Airport was just over \$6.4 million, encompassing all four projects.

The state contributed \$3.1 million, with the FAA supporting \$770,000 and the balance of just over \$2.5 million coming from the city. Upgrades at the airport are intended to help spur aviation industry development while also providing a welcoming front door for air travelers arriving to western Oklahoma via the Elk City Airport.

“Thanks to the strategic vision and foresight of the Oklahoma Legislature and state leadership, who have consistently supported essential airport improvements and initiatives aimed at fostering growth in aviation infrastructure across the state, we are witnessing the realization of modernized facilities and site ready development opportunities,”

stated Grayson Ardies, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics. “The new terminal upgrades outdated infrastructure, and we are confident that it will attract and better serve an increased volume of pilots and businesses, thereby reestablishing Elk City as the aviation gateway to western Oklahoma and beyond.”

The project was enabled through a collaborative funding effort involving the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics, the City of Elk City, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

“The opening of our new airport terminal marks a transformative moment for Elk City. This project, made possible through a strong partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics, is more than an investment in infrastructure—it’s an investment in our future. The terminal will enhance connectivity, attract new businesses, and create opportunities that strengthen our local economy.

Elk City is committed to growth and innovation, and this terminal positions our community as a gateway to progress for generations to come,” said Micah Kilhoffer, Mayor of Elk City.

These enhancements are administered through the ODAA’s five-year Airport Construction Program (ACP). This program is executed in cooperation with the FAA and airport sponsors to develop and maintain a robust statewide airport system that supports Oklahoma’s business, transportation, and commerce sectors.

The Oklahoma Aviation & Aerospace Industry generates \$44B in annual economic activity, making it the second-largest economic engine in our state. Aviation & Aerospace supports 206,000 direct and indirect jobs totaling an \$11.7B payroll.

Additional information regarding the ACP is available in the airports section of the ODAA website at [oklahoma.gov/aerospace](http://oklahoma.gov/aerospace).



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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

Western Oklahoma Christian School Students of the Month for November



Jena Skarda / WOCS

WOCS Clinton Campus Students of the Month for November are Kolbyn Sappenfield of Cordell, representing grades 3rd - 6th, and Abigail Funk of Clinton, representing grades Pre-K through 2nd.



Jena Skarda / WOCS

WOCS Weatherford Campus Students of the Month for November are Chamberlain Boles of Fort Cobb, for Pre-K - 2nd, and Felicia Garner of Weatherford, representing grades 3rd - 6th.



Jena Skarda / WOCS

WOCS Hinton Campus Student of the Month for November is Newly Smith of Hydro.



Jena Skarda / WOCS

WOCS Elk City Campus Student of the Month for November is Nora West of Elk City.

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**CLINTON / CHIEF RUSSELL** - Current Clinton Fire Chief Brett Russell says he plans to retire in early 2026. Chief Russell says he has enjoyed his time with the Clinton Fire Department. “I love our department. I love the guys, I love the atmosphere, I like small town departments,” Russel said of the Clinton Fire Department. “We’re probably the best trained that I think that the Clinton Fire Department’s been in my career, as far as being prepared.” Russell has served as Fire Chief in Clinton for nearly 8 years. The official last day for Chief Russell is January 31st.

**CUSTER COUNTY / SALES TAX** - Custer County Commissioner Lyle Miller recently shared an update on county sales tax revenue. “I think we’re going to be above where we were the last several years,” explained Miller. “It is very fluid, up and down, which is interesting to me, what makes those differences. But overall, we’re going to average well above where we were, which is wonderful for all parts of the government that can get a sales tax.” Miller added that commissioners are also keeping an eye on sales taxes set to expire in the coming years, saying long term planning will be important as the county evaluates future needs.

**WEATHERFORD / BOND ELECTION** - Weatherford Schools Superintendent Mark Harmon says he’s grateful to the board of education for voting to move forward with a February bond election aimed at funding construction of a new high school. “This process started three years ago with the purchase of that land for the specific purpose of building and constructing a new high school complex, [which] the voters approved years ago,” said Harmon. “This started going back last spring, ensuring facilities and looking at floor plans and basically bringing that architect into the room and him listening to what we thought we needed with the construction of this new high school complex.” Harmon added the decision to pursue a new high school stems from growth in the district, noting there is hardly enough room for students in the hallways. He says if voters approve the bond, the current high school building would be converted to the middle school.

**ELK CITY / MURLEY** - Prior to the most recent Elk City commission meeting, the Elk City Police Department recognized District II District Attorney’s office Investigator Mike Murley as the recipient of the 2025 Elk City Police Department Support Award. Investigator Murley has demonstrated continued and dedicated service to the Elk City Police Department and the citizens of Elk City.

**SWOSU / LOVELL RESIGNATION** - The Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents has announced that Dr. Diana Lovell has submitted her resignation as president of Southwestern Oklahoma State University effective December 31st. Russo and SWOSU recognized Dr. Lovell’s service to the university, which notably included securing \$15 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding appropriated by the Oklahoma State Legislature for the new Hodge Pharmacy building. In a letter to SWOSU’s students, Dr. Lovell says she truly loved serving Southwestern Oklahoma State University and will miss this community greatly. Russo will announce the next steps regarding interim leadership in the coming weeks.

**WEATHERFORD / PORKAPALOOZA** - Porkapalooza returns to Weatherford in 2026 The event will be held on Friday, April 17th, and Saturday, April 18th. “We’re super excited to bring it back. We have talked to Coach Rice at SWOSU and we will be doing it in conjunction with the SWOSU Football Spring game that Friday night,” expressed Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kim Silman. “We’ll have live entertainment, the People’s Choice cook-off, and then we’ll do our sauce and bean jackpot. And then on Saturday, the BBQ masters will be getting theirs ready for the judges.”

**CLINTON / REH DESIGNATION** - With Clinton Regional Hospital getting a Rural Emergency Hospital designation, Mayor David Berrong says the hospital will be getting a monthly installment of funding beginning in 2026. However, the hospital will no longer have inpatient services as part of the designation.

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**Happy Birthday Wishes for Dec. 24** - Marquez Borjas, Patrick Bostwick, Dorothy Burns, Zachery House, Kaitlin Kimble, Lucielle Ralston, David Richmond, Hannah Sperle; **Dec. 25** - Teresa Andrews, Pat Barnett, Steve Bellew, Brady Coffelt, Ronda Harmon, Jake Ivy, David Martin, Michael Mendez, Hank Peter, Linda Pye, Mary Stelting; **Dec. 26** - Kenny Bragg, Nick Davis, Curtis Duff, Ruben Garlin, McKayla Goodwin, Michelle Williams, Carl Wilson; **Dec. 27** - Erno Cook, Abby Ewing, Gabe Ferrell, Lee Hamilton, Mark McClure, Chad Meinhardt, Fay Schwartz, Matt Wisdom; **Dec. 28th** - Kayla Albert, Beth Bendure, Debbie Dehn, Pam Garrison, Mark Mapel, Margaret Meek, Marylou Mejia, Debbie Mosburg, Tracy Murray, Craig Price, Ginger Reed, Kaila Royalty, Hannah Sandoval, Lexi Sheperd, Kaye Sadders, Garla Wisdom, Josephine Whiteskunk; **Dec. 29th** - Darrell Coit, Westyn England, Bayley Forbes, Randy Goucher, Garret Graybill, Logan Guthrie, Nicole Horn, Shawn Lindsey, Ruth Mogg, Lars Sittingbear, Triniti Sparks, Tiara Tripp, John Yelloweagle; **Dec. 30th** - Karen Bragg, Carlos Diaz, Kim Hicks, Danny Lenaburg, John Nutry, Charlotte Perry, Sharon Snider, Charlene Tanner, Randy Wynn.



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

**80s Riverside Rolltop Oak Desk** \$300. 580-772-7357.

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**Large Copper Skillet** - \$35. Call 580-613-0108.

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**Couch + 2 Manual Recliners** \$500 OBO. 580-772-3223.

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Mrs. Blair’s Hinton Pre-K “Letters to Santa”

Dear Santa, My name is Cristian and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. My sister says I’ve been good and I think I’ve been good this year. I want some Paw Patrol toys and a toy Santa. Have you made your list to check yet? I will leave you some chips.

Cristian Alejos

Dear Santa, My name is Braelyn and I am 4 years old. I’ve been very good this year. I want a toy car, the kind I can drive. I also would like an electric scooter, a doll and a toy box to put my toys in, and flowers in a flower pot. My sister Brighton has been good this year too. How are the reindeer? Are they ready to go on Christmas? I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Braelyn Brooks

Dear Santa, My name is Oliver and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I think I have been good this year. I want a toy trailer that I can play with and some toy cars and trucks. I will leave some cookies for you.

Oliver Caballero

Dear Santa, My name is Trynity. I love how you act and I love you. I have been really good this year but I sometimes be mean to my brothers because they are mean to me. I want a mermaid tail for me so I can swim with it and a spider pet that is nice in a box that is clear. I will leave the reindeer some food right outside of my house and I will leave you some cookies and milk. My mom will help me make the cookies.

Trinity Callahan

Dear Santa, My name is Memphis and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I’ve been a little good and a little tiny bad. I would love to get a blue dirt bike, a little one and an electric motorcycle, a red one. I also would like a blue Christmas tree for me and sissy’s room with a cute little deer that lights up for our room so we won’t be scared at night. How are the reindeer? I will be sure and leave you cookies and milk and I will leave the reindeer some carrots and milk outside.

Memphis Craighead

Dear Santa, My name is Caelyn and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I have been kinda good this year. I would love a Barbie house and some Barbie clothes for my Barbies. Have you checked your list? I will leave you some Chocolate chip cookies and milk.

Caelyn Herbert De La Cruz

Dear Santa, My name is Erick and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I have been good this year. I would like to have a Lego dinosaur, Toy Story toys, and some Paw Patrol toys. Santa, are you ready for Christmas? I will leave you some pizza and a Coke.

Erick Lazo Funez

Dear Santa, My name is Avonlea and I am 6 years old. I have been good this year. This year I would like to have some Cocomelon toys, Bluey toys and a toy school bus. I will leave you some fruit snacks and apple juice.

Avonlea Gilliland

Dear Santa, My name is Piper and I have been good this year. I really want a real camera this year so I can take pictures. My mom wants me to get my own camera so I won’t take so many pictures on her phone. I also would like a comfy sweatshirt and sweatpants with spiderman on them. Santa, do you have your lists done? We make cookies for you so I will leave some cookies and milk out for you.

Piper Golabowski

Dear Santa, My name is Lily and I am 4 years old and live in Cedar Lake in a yellow house with a deck. I have been really good this year. I would love a Barbie and a Barbie car that I can put her in and some Barbie clothes for her. How are the reindeer? I will leave you some candy and a Dr. Pepper.

Lily Hathaway

Dear Santa, My name is Naomi and I am 4 years old and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I’ve been good this year. I want a really big turkey and a cook. I would also like a big slide to slide down. I would like a big doll, a Barbie and a soccer ball. I wanted to tell you I have a boyfriend. I will leave you some flowers and Coke and chicken nuggets.

Naomi Jones

Dear Santa, My name Scout and I live by Brady and Kaci’s house in Hinton, Oklahoma. I have been good this year and just a little bit (tiny bit) bad not enough to not get presents though. I want make-up for Christmas and some toys. I would like you to bring my mom some polish. She likes nail polish. I am going to have orange juice and Sprite for me and I will leave you some candycanes.

Scout Nulik

Dear Santa, My name is Ford and I have been good this year. I help my mom with cleaning. I want a speed car like a police car, one that I can drive. My brothers are sometimes mean to me and are sometimes nice. They will be on both the naughty and nice list. Baker's football has frost on it. I will leave you out a chocolate milk and a Dr. Pepper.

Ford Nulik

Dear Santa, My name is Cooper and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I have been good this year. I would like some farm animals that I can play with. Like a black bull with horns, some cows and calves. Please get me some farm animals. I will leave you a note.

Cooper Skipworth

Dear Santa, My name is Sam and I live in Hinton, Oklahoma. I’ve been quite good this year. What I would like most this year is a 4-wheeler and KeKe the elf and a monster truck and a fish suit. I want to tell you I love you and I will leave you a present and a note.

Sam Smith

Dear Santa, My name is La’Vayah and I am 4 years old. I’ve been good this year. I would love to have a big playhouse, a little doll and a big pink ball. I would also like some Play-Doh, slime and sand. I want to give you some cookies, juice and milk so I promise to leave them out. I’m also going to bring some to big school to share.

La’Vayah Vann

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Chase Wright  
Staff Writer

As Christmas 1917 approached, thousands of Oklahomans were in uniform for America’s first year in World War I, training in camps at home or serving overseas. In these chilly winter camps on the plains of Oklahoma, and later in muddy trenches abroad, these young soldiers wrote eagerly to family and friends. Newspapers eagerly printed their letters – at least for a time – so communities back home could hear their voices.

For example, in mid-December 1917 The Black Dispatch reported a letter from Corporal (soon Sergeant) Otis Scuggs at Camp Sherman, Ohio. Scuggs worried about his comrades: “hundreds of the Oklahoma boys were suffering from frozen ears, hands and feet,” he wrote, and many officers were even debating whether to move the camp southward to avoid the cold. Like most soldiers, Scuggs longed for home. He told his mother to make sure he continued to receive The Black Dispatch, and noted ruefully, “all of the boys would like to get home for Xmas”.

As the holidays neared, many Oklahomans had heard that letters were finally arriving from their loved ones overseas. In small-town newspapers across the state, other editors shared excerpts of these letters as a kind of collective Christmas card. A letter printed in the Claremore Progress on December 13 illustrated the mood. Private Charley Church, serving with the Tulsa Ambulance Company in France, described the grim reality of life in war-torn Europe. He told his editor that “France was all right but the good old U.S.A. is for me after the war,” noting how “almost every woman one meets on the street is dressed in mourning” for lost fathers or brothers. The rainy season in France had drenched the battlefields since September, and Church lamented that he “has seen the sun but one time since he arrived.” Still, his letter carried a touch of humor and hope: he reported that all the boys were well and happy, despite some enduring seasickness on the crossing. In closing he quipped, “Uncle Sam sure has got some bond,” and added cheerily, “Tell all of the folks hello”.

These letters brought a piece of the front line back to their families’ dinner tables. In churches, schools, and newspapers, readers pored over every word.

The war bond drives and Red Cross campaigns mentioned in the letters reminded families that their boys were not alone. Private Charley Church’s letter even pressed Red Cross membership when he described France’s needs: the Claremore Progress printed appeals urging Oklahomans to join the “spirit of loyalty” by signing up for the Christmas Red Cross drive. Back home, YMCA stations and carnivals stocked “Soldier Christmas boxes,” and churches held special services and toy drives in the boys’ honor. Everywhere, people hoped to hear more from the camps and battlefields.

But the government soon reined in the press. By mid-December officials worried that published letters might reveal sensitive information. One Claremore article noted that “the government has asked that the practice of publishing letters from soldiers and sailors be discontinued,” stating that from that point “no more such letters will be printed”. In other words, these January letters to the editor would be the last glimpse families would read in print for many months. Private Charley Church and Sergeant Scuggs would still be writing home, but their words now went only to loved ones, not the whole town.

Even as the letters in newspapers dried up, thousands of Oklahomans quietly filled mailbags with hopes and prayers. Service members on both sides of the state line – white, black, Native American – all faced similar conditions: freezing winter drills in camp, muddy summer maneuvers, and dangerous crossings of the Atlantic. At Fort Sill and Camp Doniphan in Oklahoma, recruits learned to use rifles and first aid; in Europe they encountered battle and the Red Cross.

Back in Oklahoma, life went on as those first wartime Christmases passed. Families treasured postcards and letters written in scrawling cursive, even as public mentions ceased. Local newspapers continued to carry news of Oklahoma’s “own boys,” noting promotions, decorations, or times when they marched in New York parades after the Armistice. But nothing quite compared to those first letters of December 1917. Letters that had given everyone a human face to the conflict. They showed that in makeshift tents under foreign stars or within the chilly guardhouses of winter camps, Oklahoma soldiers were just young neighbors, sons, and brothers – alike in their longing for home.

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

Column by Maxine McCullough



Many Christmas-es have come and gone for this old gal. Like the one when I was a very small child.

The 1930s was a depressing time, for various reasons, and the only thing under our small Christmas trees on Christmas Morning was a doll. Now a new doll, but the doll I already had, but with beautiful new clothes and a new bonnet trimmed in lace. I think I took it well, but it was probably a real heartbreak for my wonderful mother.

In the early 1950s, I was a high schooler in a small Oklahoma town. The biggest event was the all school gathering at Christmas. The High school gym was crowded. We sang Christmas carols and everyone received a sack with an orange, apple, a few nuts like pecans or walnuts, and of course some hard candy. I loved it. I loved singing Christmas carols I was with my friends. I was a happy girl.

Fast forward to 1961, in a small Baptist Church. My son, who was born on November 27th, 1961,

was nestled in the arms of the lady playing Mary, he being the new baby Jesus. His six year old sister was dressed like an angel and I was singing in the choir. On the front pew sat my mother with my four year old son, just in case the acting “Baby Jesus” needed attention.

In 2002, the Clampets went skiing! Well, it wasn’t exactly the Clampets, but close. The McKinney/McCollough clan went skiing, and no, I did not sit on top of the car in a rocking chair like granny. In lieu of gifts, we took a trip to Red River, New Mexico. A caravan held the precious cargo of two elders, eight adults, two teenagers, and two nine year olds. Oh yes, and two dogs. Now, we travel with food. We allow ourselves one night out to a restaurant, cost and caous you know.

We had such a wonderful time, so many laughs and great memories. We never did that again. Now the thought of it makes want to settle into my recliner with my blanket and Sugar, my little dog. I’ve highlighted three Christmases in this article, but that doesn’t mean I haven’t had many more “Merry Christmases.”

This year, I’m wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas. Remember the reason for the season. Make good memories.

You might look up one day and you’re 92 years old, remembering Christmas’ past. These are good memory for me to recall.

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## Ladies Capture First Conference Road Win



Jared Steward  
SWOSU Graduate Asst.

After starting slow, SWOSU Women's Basketball became untouchable en route to a 75-59 win over Southeastern in the final game of 2025 on Thursday night, scoring a season-high 75 points in the process.

The Lady Dawgs found themselves down big in the opening half after being unable to make a shot from the field until 1:22 remained in the first quarter, scoring just six points in the frame. This allowed Southeastern to build a 23-6 lead early in the second quarter before SWOSU held the Storm scoreless for more than five minutes and went on a 13-0 run to get back into the game. The Lady Dawgs cut the lead to just four at one point and went into halftime trailing 31-25. The Lady Bulldogs started the game just 1-17 from the field.

SWOSU shot just 20.7% from the field compared to the Storm's 44%. Payten Conde led the scoring effort with 11 points, going 3-5 from beyond the arc for the Lady Bulldogs' only three-point makes of the game. As a team, SWOSU went a perfect 10-10 from the free-throw line after shooting just 4-13 in the previous game against SNU. Every bit of the game shifted in the third quarter as the Lady Dawgs won the frame 33-6, both the most points the Lady Dawgs have scored in a single quarter and tied for the fewest they have allowed.

SWOSU shot 10-13 in the 10 minutes of action while going 9-10 from the line, and held the Storm to just 2-20 shooting, with both makes coming from beyond the arc for their only points. Kasidy Russell had a season-high 20 points through just three quarters of play, scoring 14 in the third alone to more than double up Southeastern.

SWOSU, after trailing by as many as 17 points, built a lead to 22. After the Lady Dawgs fell behind 23-6, they went on a 55-16 run over the next two quarters.

The Lady Dawgs shot 43.1% from the field while posting season highs in three-point makes (9) and free-throw makes (22), both coming on their best efficiency of the year at 50% from beyond the arc and 84.6% from the free-throw line.

Four players scored in double figures for just the second time this season, with three setting new season highs. Russell led the way with 24 points on 9-14 shooting. Lacy Brough added 16 points, going a perfect 3-3 from deep, while Conde chipped in 15 points and grabbed a team-high eight rebounds. Landry Allen scored 10 and continued her defensive dominance with five blocks, her sixth game of the season with at least four.

The win moves SWOSU to 4-6 on the year and 2-3 in GAC play. Action now pauses for the holiday break and will resume January 3 at home against East Central.

## Complete Performance Lifts Men's Basketball Past Southeastern for SWOSU's First GAC Win



Jared Steward  
SWOSU Graduate Asst.

The Bulldogs picked up their first conference win of the season after a complete 40-minute performance to defeat Southeastern in Durant, 74-62. SWOSU will enter the break 4-7 overall and 1-4 in conference play. They will return to action on January 3 inside the PEC to host ECU, the first of three straight home matchups.

Entering the game, Southeastern was the top three-point shooting team in the GAC, averaging 9.1 makes per game. The Dawgs held the Savage Storm to just 3-16 from beyond the arc, marking both the fewest makes and lowest percentage of the season at 18.8%. On the other end, the Bulldogs shot 12-26 from deep, their second most makes of the year and their highest total and percentage against an NCAA opponent at 46.2%.

Ty Frierson scored his most points in a game since the season opener against Newman, finishing with 19 points, including 15 in the first half to spark the Bulldog offense. He shot 6-8 from the field while knocking down three three-point shots. Kayden Carter added 10 points in the opening half on 4-5 shooting.

The game stayed within five points on either side through the first 10 minutes before the Dawgs created some separation late in the half to take an 11-point lead into the break.

In the second half, SWOSU never allowed Southeastern to gain momentum, holding at least an eight-point lead throughout the final 20 minutes and controlling the tempo. Over nearly every possession in the final five minutes, the Bulldog offense worked the shot clock under five seconds to maximize each trip, closing out their first conference win of the season, 74-62.

Kray Rogers (12 points), Tucker Shepherd (11), and Frierson (19) each recorded three three-point makes on the day, while Spencer Musgrove added two from deep. Nate Reheman, Musgrove, and Rogers each grabbed a team-high six rebounds, while Frierson dished out six assists.

As a team, the Bulldogs' 50.9% shooting from the field marked their highest percentage against an NCAA opponent this season, while holding Southeastern to just 37.3%, a season low for the Storm.



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