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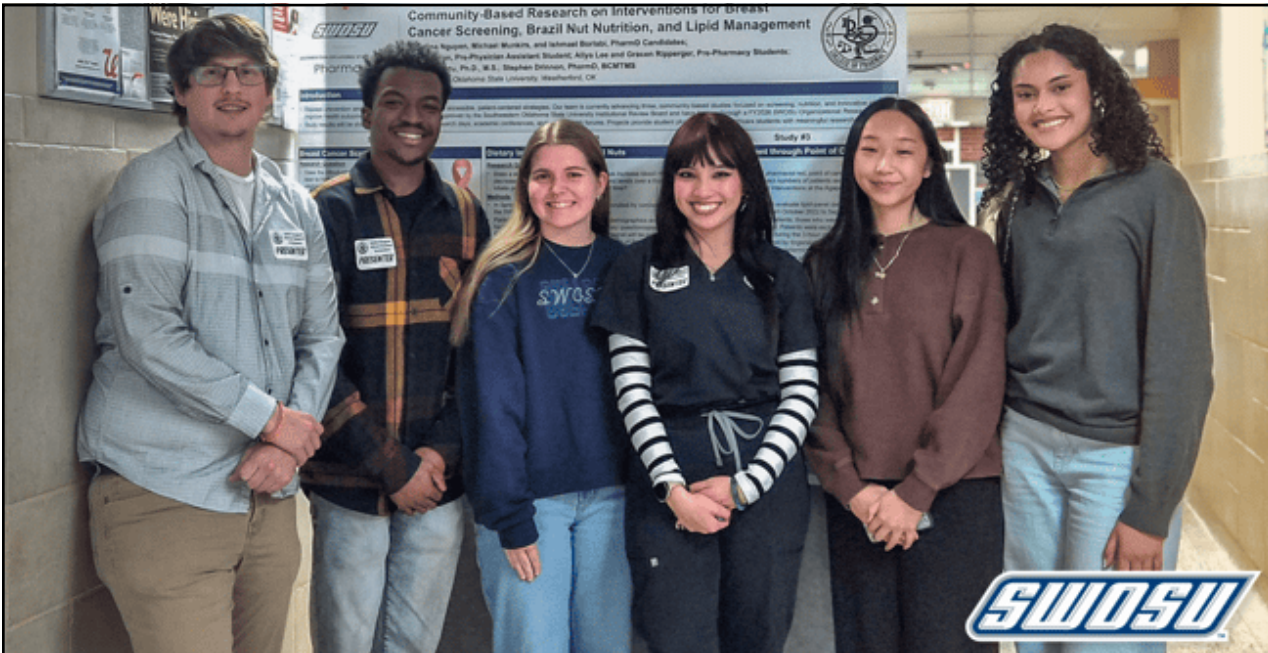
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## Student Research Highlighted at SWOSU College of Pharmacy's Winter Symposium



Student pharmacists and pre-PA students present research on community-based interventions related to breast cancer screening, nutrition, and lipid management.

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy hosted its first Winter Research Symposium on Jan. 21 in Weatherford. The event brought together student pharmacists and faculty to share current research and discuss projects in progress, while also providing a forum to talk through future scholarly work. Oral presentations were held in the afternoon, followed by a poster session.

The symposium was designed to give students practical experience presenting research in a professional setting. For many participants, it served as an early opportunity to explain their work to a broader audience and respond to questions outside the classroom. Faculty members were present throughout the event, offering feedback and discussing ways students can continue building research experience during their time in the program.

Presentations reflected the range of research taking place within the College of Pharmacy and its partner disciplines, such as Chemistry and Communications. Some projects focused on patient care and community health, while others examined laboratory-based research and emerging treatment options. Several presentations also addressed how research findings can be communicated more effectively, demonstrating the role of pharmacists as both clinicians and educators.

The poster session expanded on these conversations and highlighted collaboration across programs and institutions. Student pharmacists worked alongside undergraduate students and faculty mentors, emphasizing how research at SWOSU often crosses departmental and disciplinary lines. Abstracts for all 2026 Winter Research Symposium projects may be found on the SWOSU Digital Commons at [dc.swosu.edu](http://dc.swosu.edu).


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Jerald Hamar

Jerald Penn Hamar was the oldest child of Penn and Evelyn (Gore) Hamar. Born September 23, 1942 near Lenora, OK in the home of his Aunt Mable Squires. He passed away in Weatherford, OK on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Jerald Penn and his sisters Ruth Ann and Iva were raised in Taloga, OK with all of their many Gore cousins. He grew up hunting, playing basketball and baseball and even played a little trumpet in his younger years. Along with sports he created plenty of mischief with his best buddy Arlan and graduated a proud Taloga Panther in 1961.



He continued on to Weatherford graduating from Southwestern in 1965 with an Education degree in History and Physical Education and earned his Masters in Education in 1982.

Jerald spent many years farming with his dad also custom harvesting in Southwest Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska. In the summer of 1960, they pulled on to a farm south of Duke, OK that would change his life forever. On August 24, 1963 Jerald would marry Vida Sue Marquart embarking on 59 years of ballgames, class parties, ballgames, bus trips, ballgames, graduations, more ballgames and then of course came golf tournaments.

Jerald began his education career in 1965 in Aline, OK coaching everything – boys and girls. Unknown to him at the time, he was taking over a boys basketball team with a 64-game losing streak. Those same Aline Bluebirds with the first – year coach not only won their first game of the of the new season but also completed the double by winning the Northwestern Tournament title along with the girls. A feat that to the people of Aline was like winning two state championships – something we can relate to here at Hydro-Eakly.

While at Aline, Jerald and Vida would expand their family with Pendra Sue in 1965 and Lanny Eugene in 1969.

In the summer of 1970 Jerald took a job coaching and teaching at Sharon-Mutual. As he did in college, he also spent time refereeing basketball before becoming high school principal in 1977.

In 1981, the family moved to Canton for one year before their last move to Hydro in 1982. Jerald spent a little time coaching baseball, teaching driver’s ed. and social studies while serving as high school Principal before retiring in 1994.

Beginning in 1996 he would spend the next 26 years driving a school bus for Hydro-Eakly Public Schools. He finally quit driving that bus in 2022, however as many Hydro-Eakly athletes can tell you – he never did quit coaching.

Jerald grew up a member of the First Christian Church of Taloga and attended the Hydro Methodist Church. He was an active member of the Hydro Masonic Lodge #230 for 38 years. He became a Master Mason in 1987 and served the lodge in various offices – spending many years as Secretary and serving as Worshipful Master in 1995.

Jerald loved time with family and friends. There were many trips for Kason’s golf across Oklahoma, to Hot Springs, Arkansas; Pensacola, Florida; to Missouri, Nebraska, Texas and Ohio. He was always ready for a Sooner football game and the annual trip to the “Big House.” Jerald especially loved the family trip to Niagara Falls, Canada for he and Vida’s 50th Anniversary in 2013. They spent their actual anniversary at the baseball field in Arapaho.

Jerald was very proud of his many years in education and cherished the friendships with fellow teachers and the many students he taught over the years. He loved reminiscing and retelling his favorite stories. He recently had the privilege of returning to where everything began – attending school reunions in both Taloga and Aline – and was now fully ready for the “Real Big House.”

Jerald was preceded in death by his wife, Vida, parents Penn and Evelyn Hamar, in-laws Gib and Lillie Mae Marquart, brothers-in-law Daniel Barron and Jerry Marquart, and lifelong best friend Arlan Steers.

Jerald is survived by daughter Pendra Cook and husband Terry of Hydro; son Lanny Hamar of Hydro; Grandson Kason Penn Cook and wife Macey and great granddaughter Collins Grace Cook of Tryon, sisters Ruth Ann Barron of Taloga and Iva Phillips and husband Bill of Sharon, sisters-in-law Wydon Warren and husband Troy of Nixa, MO and Karla Marquart of Duke. He is also survived by special friends Cathy Meyer and family of Helena and Ellen Steers of Taloga. Many special nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Mary Beth Welch

Mary Beth Welch was born January 12, 1961, in Enid, Oklahoma the daughter of Kamran Nooshin and Peggy Aikens. She passed away January 20, 2026.




Mary Beth attended public school in Dill City, Oklahoma, graduating from Dill City High School in 1979. She was self-employed as a landscaper for more than 35 years. She enjoyed many things but being a Mom brought her the most joy.

She is survived by one son, Adam Zachariah El Hakour; one daughter, Stevie Danielle Emerson; one brother, Billy Ramsey; one sister, Beverly Meinsohn; her beloved cat, Carson; two granddogs, Dasher and Shorty; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and additional family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Debbie Masella.


Arrangements were placed in the care of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home of Clinton, Oklahoma.

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# 7 DAY FORECAST

<b>Cloudy</b>  H: 51° L: 26° <b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Sunny</b>  H: 66° L: 37° <b>Thursday</b>	<b>Sunny</b>  H: 73° L: 38° <b>Friday</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>  H: 73° L: 40° <b>Saturday</b>	<b>Mostly Sunny</b>  H: 66° L: 38° <b>Sunday</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>  H: 66° L: 44° <b>Monday</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>  H: 65° L: 39° <b>Tuesday</b>
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### Stafford Air & Space Museum Hosts Ribbon Cutting for New STARBASE Youth Program



Shannon Cloud, the Director for STARBASE Weatherford, had the honor of cutting the ribbon for Stafford Air & Space Museum’s STARBASE Center, designed to introduce fifth grade students in Oklahoma to the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). Alongside museum board members, attendees at the ceremony include Retired Colonel Kevin Roland, Mayor Mike Brown, and Oklahoma Senator Darcy Jech.

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## WOCS Academic Team Named Runner-Ups in OSSAA Regional High School Academic Bowl



Jena Skarda / WOCS

The Clinton Western Oklahoma Christian School (WOCS) Academic Team won the runner-up title at the Lower Elementary Regional Tournament. This is the first year for WOCS to field an academic team. Pictured (from left): Coach Luke Zybach, Darcy Funk, Hannah Mitchell, Liam Schmidt, Savannah Miller, Addilyn Funk, Annalisa King Lettie Mitchell, Coach Danyal Walters.

**JECH / PROPERTY TAX CONCERNS** - Oklahoma lawmakers are considering a proposal that would gradually eliminate residential property taxes across the state. Senator Darcy Jech expressed his concerns on the impact this bill could have if approved. “[The bill] will [negatively] impact schools, counties, municipalities, and career tech programs. When people consider signing that petition, they need to think about that,” commented Jech. “Is that really something they want to eliminate? And if so, how are we going to pay for those things? How are we going to pay for roads and bridges and schools and those sorts of things?” Lawmakers say the proposal is intended to reduce the tax burden on homeowners. The bill is being actively discussed after the legislature reconvened on Monday, February 2. “What is the solution? To tax services like some other states do? That's just a trade-off, whether you want your accounting services taxed or your haircuts taxed or your character,” said Jech. “I won't be surprised [if it] gets enough signatures to get on the ballot, but we really need to pay attention to what it is that we would be agreeing to as it happens.”

**CLINTON / HOSPITAL LEASING** - New leasing opportunities are available at Clinton Regional Hospital following the designation as a Rural Emergency Hospital status. “There's some real opportunity to bring healthcare givers, companies, into the hospital itself and create a leasing situation where you go beyond just your outpatient delivery that Clinton is now going to be set up for,” said Clinton Mayor David Berrong. “You bring in a memory carrier, you bring in a physical therapist, a company, that falls within the guidelines of what a rural emergency hospital could do.” Clinton regional hospital has about 100,000 square feet of available space to bring in multiple areas of medical expertise.

**HINTON / SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH** - The Hinton School Board of Education recently held discussions on the search for the next superintendent of the district, but took no action. “The search process will seek a leader who can bridge both dimensions, a superintendent with administrative competence to manage complex systems, and the relational capacity to build trust, inspire confidence, and foster a positive culture throughout the district,” shared Board President Jodi Combs on the results of a community survey in the search for a new district leader. “Hinton needs a superintendent who excels at both strategic planning and people-centered leadership. The successful candidate will stabilize staffing, strengthen communication, ensure sound [fiscal] management, and focus on academic excellence, while building relationships and trust necessary to move the district boards. Current Superintendent Marcy Derryberry is retiring at the end of the current school year. The district is hoping to name a new superintendent by March 2026.

**SWOSU / STATS** - Southwestern Oklahoma State University is seeing strong momentum on campus. Interim President Joel Kendell expressed it's an exciting time for the university and highlighted why SWOSU continues to stand out among other colleges. “It's exciting times at Southwestern mainly because our enrollment's up again, especially first-time, full-time freshmen. I think we were up over 9% in the fall,” Kendall explained, adding additional stats he believes are another sign SWOSU is moving in the right direction: “Our artificial intelligence bachelor's program continues to develop, and so we're happy about that. But one of the stats that came out last month is 93% of students who grew up in Oklahoma and come to Southwestern are working in Oklahoma. Another stat that's kind of exciting to me is 57% of students who come from out of state and get a degree in Southwestern are working in Oklahoma after they graduate.”

**WEATHERFORD / BRIDGES** - Two bridges along Interstate 40 near Weatherford will be rehabilitated by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation starting February 2nd. They're going to be rehabbing...two bridges right at Exit 80 at Weatherford, both the eastbound bridge and the westbound bridge,” explained Division 5 Engineer Will Snipes. “There'll be some lane shifts to the I-40 traffic, [but] the Weatherford ramps should [only] be closed intermittently for the demolition and for a few of the activities that we just can't do over live traffic.” The project is expected to last a total of 210 days.

**SAYRE / STRUCTURE FIRE** - A home was reportedly destroyed by fire last week in Sayre. “Whenever we arrived on scene, there was flames coming out of most of the front, around the side,” says Fire Chief Colton Sanders. “We had one patient that got burned on his back.” That patient was transported to the hospital for treatment. The home, located in the 300 block of North 2nd Street, was a total loss. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

**CORDELL / STURCTURE FIRE** - Several fire crews from in and around Cordell worked to fight a structure fire that broke out at Kiowa and Orient in Cordell. “No occupants in the building. It looks like [the fire was] possibly started from a wood-burning stove that was inside that was left unoccupied,” explained Fire Chief Seth Slaughterback regarding the residential storage building that caught fire. The structure was marked a total loss.

**WEATHERFORD / HEARTLAND ADDITION** The Heartland of America Museum is preparing to expand its exhibits with a new addition: a complete exhibit on one side that will be dedicated to Route 66, according to Museum Director Pat Smith. “To all my Route 66 people: why not stop at the Heartland as well?” expressed Smith. The new Route 66 addition is expected to be open to the public by early summer.



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**Happy Birthday Wishes for Feb. 4** - Michael Altland, Blaine Boyd, Kallie Hollowel, Jordan Kasper, Gary Prophet, Nichole Rushing, Garrett Sloan, Jamie Sutton, Delores White. **Feb. 5** - Jimmy Alexandar, Michaela Davis Ann, Kelli Jo Finley, Joe Funkhouser, Matthew Harmon, Lucille Jones, Ed Klein, Gatlin Lokin, Jessica Reed, Christy Rhoads, Gary Severn, Destiney Smith, Misty Wise; **Feb. 6** - Lin Farris, Donald Johnson, Randlett Klinekole, Elizabeth Malone, Lana Newman, Vergil Roper, Beverly Thomason; **Feb. 7** - Ruth Boyd, Lawrence Farris, Denise Green, Jane Janzen, Cheri Laird, Betty Payne, James Rossiter, Pauline Schmidt, David Schmidt, Alex Tompkins, E.T. Woody. **Feb. 8** - Axton Boone, Diane Byrd, Terry Colwell, Cale Duncan, Lexy Fariss, Amanda Green, Ben Hearn, Jacey Howard, Grant Kohout, Grant Kohout, Chris Maggard, Jerry McCoy, Jessica Ramirez, Sean Staggs, Samantha Steffes, Wanda Triplett, Kevin Wager, Chase Walker, Brandy Wilson; **Feb. 9** - Sarah Barton, Julie Carr, Savannah Chervenka, July Hatter, Addison Sage Hinton, Matt Hollan, Andrea Maddox, Jerry McCoy, Hannah Nance, Michele Permenter, Rylie Rodriguez, Clay Roper, Rod Thompson, Larry West; **Feb. 10** - Alexis Adams, Billy Joe Adams, Chris Albright, Mickey Allen, Billy Austin, Blake Brewer, Corissa Crosby, Rachelle Epp, Adam Esparza, Hudson Ingram, Misty Krewall, Ridley Matthews, Karen Miller, Courtney Milligan, Shirley Pendleton, Diviya Rolens, Anita Spradlin



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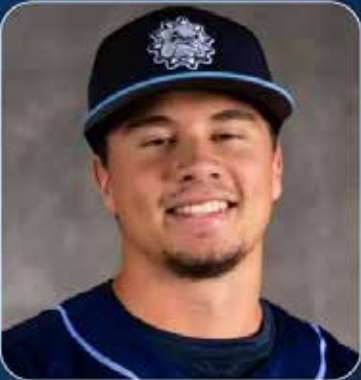
# Rogers, Makarewich Have Net the Latest SWOSU Bulldogs of the Week

## BULLDOGS OF THE WEEK

Southwestern Oklahoma State Athletics



**KRAY ROGERS**  
Sophomore • Men's Basketball



**ZACH MAKAREWICH**  
Junior • Baseball

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**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Media Relations

Kray Rogers and Zach Makarewich have been named the Bulldogs of the Week, presented by Wright Media — the official partner for SWOSU athletic livestreams and radio broadcasts.

Rogers (Ft. Cobb, Okla.) helped ignite SWOSU's second-half surge in Saturday's 94-83 win over Harding, erupting for a career-high 22 points. The sophomore buried a season-high six three-pointers on eight attempts — four after halftime — to swing momentum and power the Bulldogs' offensive explosion.

Rogers also contributed across the stat sheet in Thursday's win over Arkansas Tech, finishing with two points, four rebounds, and two steals as SWOSU completed its first perfect week of conference play this season.

Makarewich (Keller, Texas) paced the Bulldog offense at the plate during Sunday's opening-day doubleheader split against Northwest Missouri State. He went 5-for-7 (.714) on the day with three extra-base hits.

In the opener, Makarewich finished 2-for-3 with an RBI triple and a double. He followed with a 3-for-4 performance in game two, adding another triple, two RBIs, and two runs scored.

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## SWOSU Bulldogs Outlast Harding, 94-83



Jon Chidester  
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Men's Basketball capped a perfect 2-0 week Saturday afternoon, erupting for a season-high 94 points in a 94-83 win over Harding inside the Pioneer Event Center.

In a game defined by momentum swings — particularly after halftime — it was the Bulldogs who delivered the final and most decisive run. SWOSU finished with season bests in scoring (94 points), field goal percentage (55%), and tied its season high with 13 made three-pointers to pull away from the Bisons.

SWOSU began to seize control late in the first half, using a 15-2 run to turn a tight contest into a 35-28 Bulldog lead with 1:22 remaining. That surge was fueled by defensive pressure, as SWOSU forced 10 Harding turnovers in the opening half while committing just four of its own, leading to a 13-2 advantage in points off turnovers. A late Harding three-pointer trimmed the margin to 35-31 at halftime.

The second half turned into a shootout featuring big runs on both sides. SWOSU opened the half with a 14-3 burst to build a double-digit 49-39 lead, only to see Harding respond with a 10-1 run to cut the margin to one at 50-49 with 11:34 to play. The Bulldogs answered once more, rattling off an 11-2 run to stretch the lead to 70-59 with 7:46 remaining — the spurt that finally provided enough separation to close out the game.

Both teams lit it up after the break, combining for 18 three-pointers and scoring more than 50 points apiece in the second half. Ty Frierson and Kray Rogers powered the surge, combining for 43 second-half points. Frierson poured in a season-high 33 points, added six assists, and recorded three steals. Rogers followed with a season-high 22 points, knocking down 6-of-8 shots from beyond the arc for his best three-point performance of the season.

Kayden Carter finished with 12 points, 11 of which came in the first half as he helped establish SWOSU's presence in the paint early. Elijah Jordan chipped in seven points and pulled down a team-high five rebounds.

SWOSU finished the game 13-of-24 from three-point range and 17-of-23 at the free-throw line. Harding also shot well, finishing at 50% from the field, 15-of-34 from deep, and 16-of-20 at the stripe, but the Bulldogs' offensive explosion proved too much to overcome.

SWOSU committed just seven turnovers, matching a season low, and forced 14 Harding miscues. The two teams finished even on the glass with 29 rebounds apiece.

With the win, SWOSU improves to 8-11 overall and 5-8 in Great American Conference play. The Bulldogs will hit the road next week for a pair of conference matchups in Arkansas, facing Ouachita Baptist on Thursday and Henderson State on Saturday.

## SWOSU Comes Up Short vs. No. 15 Harding



Jon Chidester  
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Women's Basketball battled No. 15-ranked Harding for 40 minutes Saturday afternoon, but a late run by the Lady Bisons proved decisive in a 63-58 loss inside the Pioneer Event Center.

The Lady Bulldogs kept the game within reach throughout and were tied early in the fourth quarter before Harding created separation with an 11-0 run that provided the cushion it leaned on down the stretch.

Harding controlled the opening quarter, building an 18-11 lead behind efficient shooting. The Lady Bulldogs struggled to gain traction offensively early and trailed by seven after one.

The margin remained the same at halftime after a Harding jumper at the buzzer sent the Lady Bisons into the break up 31-24. Harding's strong first quarter, where it shot 8-of-14 from the field, proved to be the difference in the half. Both teams shot below 30% in the second quarter, while Harding also held a 23-12 rebounding advantage through 20 minutes.

SWOSU made its push coming out of the locker room. Four three-pointers in the third quarter helped the Lady Bulldogs cut the deficit to one possession, trailing 43-40 entering the fourth. SWOSU limited Harding to 1-of-10 shooting to open the quarter and used a 9-2 run to briefly pull even.

The Lady Bisons found their footing late, connecting on their final three shots of the period — including a pair of three-pointers — to halt the momentum.

The fourth quarter turned into a physical back-and-forth battle, with both teams scoring on their first two possessions. Harding eventually broke the deadlock with an 11-0 run midway through the frame, building a cushion that SWOSU could not erase. Harding guard Josie Williams scored 12 of her game-high 20 points in the final quarter to help close it out.

SWOSU finished the game shooting 35% from the field and knocked down 10 three-pointers on 38.5% shooting from deep. The Lady Bulldogs went 8-of-12 at the free-throw line. Harding shot 39% overall, went 7-of-22 from beyond the arc, and finished 6-of-9 at the foul line.

Landry Allen led SWOSU with 16 points and anchored the defense with seven blocks and four steals. Elle Papahronis added 15 points and five rebounds, while Payten Conde reached double figures for the sixth time this season with 13 points, connecting on 3-of-7 attempts from three-point range.

SWOSU (7-11, 5-8 GAC) will hit the road next week, traveling to Arkadelphia, Arkansas to face Ouachita Baptist and Henderson State in continued conference play.



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