

# WEST OK WEEKLY

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January 27-February 2, 2021 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772-5939 • email: sales@westokweekly.com • www.westokweekly.com • Vol. 8 No. 04

## DADDY daughter DANCE

The Great Plains Family YMCA is hosting their annual Daddy Daughter dance from 6 PM – 9 PM on February 13th. The dance includes dinner which will have distanced seating in the second gym at the Y. Tickets are \$45 per couple and \$5 for each additional child. Prizes will be given out to the “best daddy-daughter duo whose mask matches their outfit”. More information on the dance can be found at the GPF YMCA Facebook page or at their front desk.

## SWOSU Jazz Festival Coming Up February 11-12

It might be virtually but the 51st annual SWOSU Jazz Festival will still take place this year on February 11 and 12.

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University event in Weatherford will not feature any visiting artists or bands due to COVID-19 but the festival will still be swingin' online with free concerts.

Headliner for this year's event is Texas drummer Stockton Helbing and his bandmates pianist Josh Hanlon and bassist James Driscoll.

The trio will present a livestream concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 11.

On Friday, February 12, the day will start with Helbing providing free masterclasses. In addition to his drum set masterclasses, there will be three members of the New York City-based DIVA Jazz Orchestra on hand to give jazz directing, saxophone and trombone classes. Drummer Sherrie Maricle is the leader of the band, and her colleagues Alexa Tarantino and Jennifer Krupa are excited to be a part of the SWOSU jazz tradition.

The festival concludes with a concert by Jazz Ensembles 'A' and 'B' at 8 p.m. on Friday evening. Jazz 'A', led by Dr. Richard Tirk, will present music written and arranged by Helbing while Jazz 'B', co-led by graduate students Megan Levendosky and Pamela Welborn, will be playing several great standards.



Stockton Helbing

All events are free and open to the public. Links to the concerts will be provided later on the SWOSU website.

The 51st Annual SWOSU Jazz Festival is generously supported by the SWOSU Foundation, Oklahoma Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, and several individual patrons. For more information, please visit www.swosujazz.com or contact the SWOSU Music Department at 580.774.3708.

## Weatherford's 44th annual Area Livestock show scheduled

Weatherford's annual Area Livestock Show is slated for January 28th and 29th. The 44th annual event will be hosted at the Weatherford Agriculture Complex in Rader park. The show draws surrounding area students that are part of 4-H and the FFA.

The show opens at 10 AM with special education students from participating schools showing sheep, pigs, and goats. Then, each presenter will get an opportunity to introduce themselves and share a little about their

interests and goals. After, the other show classes begin. These classes will have a continuous showcase until 6 PM.

On the 29th, the goat show classes will begin at 10:30 AM, followed by sheep and cattle. These presentations are the shows most popular features due to their “free fair”-style. There is no entry fee to the students, participating, which has resulted in more students competing. The show's committee has stated that many

local area businesses will be supporting and advertising at the event.

This popularity increase has gotten the committee members to begin planning the future of the event. More events, upgrades, and expansions are slated to allow Weatherford the opportunity to host bigger agriculture events.

The Area Livestock Show drives a lot of business into the town and it provides students with a way to get

## SWOSU Hosting eSports Tourney on January 30

Southwestern Oklahoma State University is co-hosting an upcoming eSports tournament on Saturday, January 30, with Rogers State University and the Oklahoma Association of Collegiate Esports (OACE).

The OACE tourney will start at 11 a.m. with college teams competing in Super Smash Bros. & League of Legends.

SWOSU eSports Director Joshua Engle said other schools are hosting events and competing in Rocket League, Call of Duty MW CDL, Overwatch and Valorant. Engle reminds students to watch the Twitch stream | Twitch.tv/swosuesports.



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**Charlotte Sue Churchman**

Charlotte Sue Churchman was born October 2, 1942, in Clinton (Weatherford resident) to Clyde and Elwanda (Keas) Miller and passed away Friday, January 8, 2021, surrounded by family at her home in Edmond, at the age of 78 years, 3 months and 6 days.



Sue was raised and attended school in Weatherford, graduating from Weatherford High School. After high school, she attended Oklahoma State University where she became a member of the Chi Omega sorority. Sue married Smith Wycoff, Sr. in 1964 in Las Vegas. They moved to Weatherford where she earned a Bachelor degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and later received her Master's degree in Education. Sue and Smith divorced in 1977.

After the divorce, Sue moved with daughter April and son Hank to Oklahoma City to be close to her mother Elwanda. Hank soon returned to Weatherford to finish school, leaving April with her Mother. Elwanda, Sue and April became and remained very close. They always lived close to each other, and the three were seldom seen apart. They shared lots of love and laughter over "girls lunch," which also included Katie and Debra and started when Katie was about four years old. Sue married Bill Churchman in 1982 and were happily married until Bill's passing in 2002. Years later, she met her life partner Fred Parrett with whom she lived out the remaining years of her life.

Sue and Fred attended gatherings at April's house, regularly. April's friends always wanted to know if Momma Sue was coming over, as she was a crowd favorite. They loved her "Sue-isms," fun-loving attitude, her humorous t-shirts and various Converse All-Star shoe selections. Sue and Fred also enjoyed playing dominoes in the "parlor" at the home they shared in Edmond where the kids, grandkids and friends would stop by for a quick game. Those that knew her wouldn't be surprised that she was very popular in many circles.

Sue also shared a special bond with each of her boys: Han and Smith Jr. She and Hank traveled to Santa Fe together and talked on the phone daily. She was always interested in his home improvement projects, and they shared a love for landscaping. Smith Jr. helped her with business dealings, such as rental property, and she spent a lot of time with his children, keeping them frequently from a very young age. Katie was the only granddaughter, so she was blessed with most of the spoils, including matching nightgowns, time spent coloring and on cut-and-paste projects using glitter. These were activities that the boys simply weren't interested in, mostly because it wasn't wrestling. When the 'Grands,' as she called them, were little, she tied little jingle bells on their shoes at Christmas time which always made them smile. They loved to visit Nana and Papa Bill, especially the day that

Papa Bill brought home a birthday cake from the store and they had a birthday party even though it wasn't anyone's birthday. She loved her children and grandchildren very much and enjoyed having fun with them. They were her everything, and she made sure everyone knew it.

Sue taught various grades of school before becoming a full-time homemaker after marrying Bill. After April was grown, she taught instructors for the Federal Aviation Administration where Bill had been an air-traffic instructor prior to his retirement. While work was not her favorite way to spend her time, she really enjoyed the relationships she developed with her students. They were from all over the world, and she enjoyed learning about them and their respective cultures. She taught there for a few years until she decided it was time to "retire" for good.

Sue enjoyed working in her flower beds and yard. She had a unique sense of style that created a warm and welcoming environment. She had a way of hanging and organizing random "trinkets," as she called them, to create art. She didn't take anything too serious, and she was way more intelligent than she liked people to know. She typically didn't adhere to social standards and preferred to make up her own rules as she went along. This was a trait that many admired about her and wished they could imitate. She always encouraged her kids and grandkids to do the right thing, treat people well and know that she will always love each of them no matter what. She kept in touch with them all frequently and made sure everyone knew they were special in their own unique way. Sue wanted everyone to have fun and anyone that spent time with her did exactly that. She was one-of-a-kind and is desperately missed.

Sue is survived by many who loved her very much including two sons Smith Wycoff, Jr. and wife Debra of Mustang and Hank McSpadden and partner David of St. Petersburg, Florida; one daughter April Jorgensen and husband Tim of Edmond; life partner Fred Parrett of their home in Edmond; one brother Ernie Miller; and four grandchildren – Katie, Jake, T. J. and Zach. She was preceded in death by her parents Clyde and Elwanda Miller, and husband Bill Churchman.

The family is planning a Celebration of Life party (as requested by Sue) in lieu of the traditional type funeral service. The Celebration of Life will be scheduled as vaccinations get circulated, particularly to her age group, to enable a safe gathering. She wanted a party to celebrate a blessed life well-lived rather than a service full of tears, so that is what she shall have.

If you would like to honor her memory, please consider donating to the following organizations that were near and dear to her heart.

Memorials can be made to the Clyde E. and Elwanda Miller Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Southwestern Pharmacy Foundation By Mail: C/O Southwestern Pharmacy Alumni Foundation, PO Box 702, Weatherford, OK 73096 (note on check memo: Miller Memorial Scholarship Fund). Online: <https://southwesternpharmacy.com/donate>. You will be asked to select where to direct the gift. Select 'Other' and input "Clyde E. Miller." The family will be notified, unless you request that it is anonymous.

Oklahoma Children's Hospital Foundation [[www.chfkids.com](http://www.chfkids.com)]

**Cherie M. Payne**

Cherie M Payne, age 74 of Weatherford, passed away January 18, 2021, at Brookdale Assisted Living Center after struggling to recover from the Covid-19 virus.



Cherie was born February 13, 1946, in Pratt, Kansas, to Ralph and Nadine Godfrey.

She spent her adolescent years in Pampa, Texas, constantly getting into fights, talking smack, and trying

to keep up with her 3 older brothers. Much to the relief of her mother, Cherie graduated from Pampa High School in 1964, and quickly married Chuck Myers. The two moved to the Custer City area and raised their family on a farm. After 18 years, they divorced, and she married Herb Fields several years later. Cherie and Herb lived in Weatherford near their families, actively being a part of all of their children and grandchildren's lives. During this time, she attended the University of Oklahoma to achieve her Nursing Home Administrator License, which she used to open the Weatherford Living Center. Cherie and Herb remained happily married until his death in 2006. After Herb's death, Cherie married Gerald Payne of Perry, Oklahoma, in 2009. Cherie moved to Perry where she found herself thriving in a new social group. Cherie's passion for art, quick sense of humor, and love for all games meant she made friends quickly. Cherie and Gerald remained in Perry until 2017, when their health began to decline. They then moved to Weatherford, Oklahoma, to be closer to Cherie's family. Here, they found new friends and family at Brookdale Assisted Living Center. Cherie charmed the staff with her kindness and near-constant suggestions of how things could be better. Cherie fiercely loved God, her family, and her country throughout her 74 years.

Cherie is survived by one daughter Kelley Deane Ramey and husband Royce, of Weatherford; three sons: Steven Glen Myers of Elk City, Shawn Allen Fields and wife Amy, of Clinton, and Myke Allen Payne and wife Jeanne, of Broken Arrow; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three husbands; three brothers: James "Jim" Preston Godfrey, Darrell Ralph Godfrey, and Lyndell "Corky" Dean Godfrey; and one son Jamey Lynn Myers.

**Verlane Zerby**

Verlane Zerby was born to Dale and Dorcas (Wiseman) Shepherd on August 13, 1938, in Stockton, California. Verlane passed to the peace of the Lord on January 16, 2021, in her home of 49 years north of Independence.



Verlane moved to the Independence area with her parents in 1945 where she later attended Independence and Custer Schools. Verlane met the love of her life at 15 years old and thereafter married John Zerby at the Independence Church on September 1, 1957. John and Verlane initially made their home in Oklahoma City and returned to the Independence area with their family in 1972 where they began their farming interests with the generous love and support of her parents. Verlane was a devoted member of Bethany Church where she was involved early with the children's ministry and was the Church pianist for 46 years.

Verlane was a dedicated piano teacher to more than 1500 students, some of multi-generational family members, for a period of 60 years. Verlane studied piano under the renowned Dr. Clarence Burg, former Dean of the College of Fine Arts, Oklahoma City University. In 1969, Verlane received her Diploma for completing the prescribed course of study in Piano from the Extension Department of Sherwood Music School, Chicago. Verlane was proud of her Accreditation with the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association which allowed her students over the years to participate in OMTA sponsored competitions throughout Oklahoma. Verlane directed OMTA District State Achievement Auditions for many years and was presented with the formal recognition as a 50 Year Member on May 29, 2015.

Verlane is survived by her husband John; her son Terry and his wife Heidi of Oklahoma City; her daughter Ginger Waldrip and her husband Mark of Oklahoma City; and five grandchildren: Tyler Waldrip and his wife Emily, Jackson Zerby, Meredith Zerby, Hunter Waldrip and his fiancé Emma, and JT Zerby, all of Oklahoma City. Verlane was preceded in death by her parents, her young sister Sheila Mae, and brothers: Delee Shepherd and Galen Shepherd.

Due to public health concerns, the family chose to hold a graveside service at the Mound Valley Cemetery in Thomas, Oklahoma, on January, 20, 2021, at 2:00 P.M. The formal Service for Verlane will be held at Bethany Church, Thomas, Oklahoma, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the Family requests a donation to Bethany Church in the name of Verlane Zerby for benefit of the



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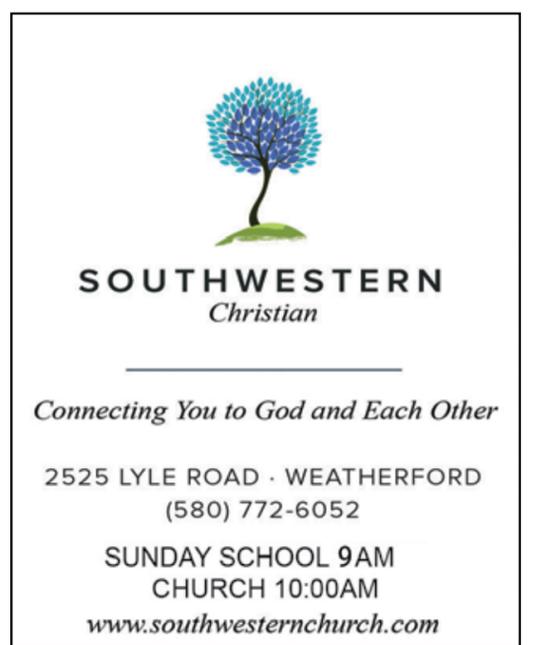
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## SWOSU SAGE STEAM Camp Seeking Nominations of Seventh Grade Students



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Oklahoma students will have the opportunity again to experience the SAGE STEAM Camp at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford during the 2021 summer.

The Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment (SAGE) Committee members are looking for students from across the state who are currently in seventh grade and interested in exploring STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/Humanities, and Mathematics). The camp is geared toward students—especially females—who may have limited access to STEAM-related activities and may truly benefit from this experience, personally or academically.

Students will stay overnight in university residence halls during the week of camp, from June 13 to 19. They will participate in hands-on activities, interact with role models from STEAM fields, and travel off-campus to experience STEAM on-site. Students will also learn about career opportunities that feature and integrate the STEAM fields.

Student nominations by teachers, counselors and principals are now being accepted online. New this year, nominations also may be provided by Girl Scout and Boy Scout leaders. After being nominated, students will complete an online application by February 23 and then undergo a "get-to-know-you" phone interview in March. Up to 40 students will be selected to attend the SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU. They will join the students who were selected from the 2020 camp, which was postponed until this summer due to COVID-19.

Campers pay a non-refundable \$200 registration fee; the remaining \$900 in costs per camper is covered by grants and generous supporters, which include personal donors, Oklahoma businesses and community organizations. To reduce financial burden, reduced registration fees and payment plans are available, as needed. Tax-deductible donations to the SAGE STEAM Camp may be made via the SWOSU Foundation, and both in-kind and monetary contributions are welcome.

The student nomination form and more information about the camp may be found online at <https://www.swosu.edu/about/pre-college-programs/sage-steam-camp/become-camper.php>, or may be acquired by emailing [sagesteamcamp@gmail.com](mailto:sagesteamcamp@gmail.com).



Defending State Champions Hydro-Eakly Lady Bobcats basketball team is the 2021 champions of the West Central tournament defeating Canute 63-39.

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The Hydro-Eakly Bobcats basketball team wins the 2021 West Central tournament, beating Canute 70-62.

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# The 44th Annual Weatherford Area Livestock Show

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**at the Weatherford Agriculture Complex in Radar Park**

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Enjoy a day of fun with 4-H and FFA students from Custer, Caddo and Washita Counties.





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# LOCAL & AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

**NEW POLICE STATION-** Weatherford Police Chief Louis Flowers said plans are progressing on the construction of a new police station/911 center. Construction of the new facility is planned at the former Weatherford Regional Hospital site on Kansas, across from the fire department.

**WEATHERFORD TEACHERS OF THE YEAR-**The Weatherford School District announced its district and site teachers of the year. High school Spanish teacher Sheri King was recognized as district teacher of the year. Additionally, campus teachers of the year included Jennifer Hunter at Burcham Elementary; Megan Archibeck at East Elementary; Jamie Spradlin at West; and Deb Morris at Weatherford Middle School.

**ELK CITY PRIEST DIES-** The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has announced that a Western Oklahoma priest in the Catholic Church has died from COVID-19. Fr. Phillip Louis, reportedly,

died while visiting his home country of India due to complications from COVID-19. He was serving as the priest for Catholic churches in both Elk City and Sayre.

**STEM EDUCATION-** House science, space and technology committee ranking member Frank Lucas of Cheyenne and Chairwoman Edie Bernice Johnson of Texas have introduced a bill this month to improve science, technology, engineering, math and computer science education in rural communities. The bill addresses inequities faced by rural students that make it harder to access quality STEM education. It will support research and development activities to improve understanding of the challenges rural communities are facing in providing and sustaining quality STEM education programs and takes steps to address them. The bill aims to address reducing connectivity and the lack of broadband access.

**WEATHERFORD INVENERGY-** Invenergy senior associate Allie James made a presentation

at Weatherford Rotary about the upcoming traverse wind energy project in Custer, Blaine and Kingfisher counties. Traverse is a 999 megawatt project and is the largest of three Invenergy projects. The project is planned to be operational in the first half of 2022.

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# PUBLIC RECORDS

**Arrested**

Ezequiel Cuevas, 23 arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Custer County Warrant.

Brady Dutton DOB,32 arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Custer County Warrant.

Damon Roy Herndon Jr., 35, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for Rear Center Mounted Brake Lamp, Failure to Comply With Compulsory Insurance Law, Driving While License is Suspended, and a Custer County Warrant.

Rebecca Ashley Franklin, 35, Obstruction, Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance and Possession of Paraphernalia.

Bear-Robe Van Horn Warledo Jr, 43, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Custer County Warrant.

Annalisa Janae Harrell, 21, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for Improper Left Turn at Intersection and Aggravated Driving Under the Influence.

Penny Sue Helm, 61, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department and charged with driving under the influence.

Moyces Favela, 38, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for city warrants, no insurance, driving under suspension, and failure to compel minor to attend school.

Frank Gautschi, 34, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with public intoxication by drugs.

Jonathan Seih, 25, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with public intoxication

by drugs.

Paul Chrisjohn, 36, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for Custer County charges of possession of a firearm after a felony conviction and possession of controlled dangerous substance.

Cynthia Smith, 56, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with driving under the influence of drugs.

Jeffrey Baggett, 27, arrested by the Clinton Police Department on a Custer County Bench Warrant.

William Paschal, 49, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with public intoxication.

Leanna Cable, 42, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for a Custer County Warrant for failure to appear.

Alexander Gould, 33, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for a Custer County Warrant for failure to appear.

Timothy Smith, 36, arrested by the Clinton Police Department on Custer County charges of possession of a firearm after a felony conviction, driving under suspension, and possession of paraphernalia.

Taos Sankey, 37, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for a Custer County warrant for possession of controlled dangerous substance, and obstruction.

Deidra Dyer, 32, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with public intoxication.

Jerrian Long, 18, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with petit larceny.

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**Happy Birthday Wishes for January 27th** - Brent Avery, Eddie Bird, Vickie Clonce, Josiane Garrison, Warren Kliewer, Kelly Pease, Noelle Price, Gary Rader, John Radke, Billie Ann Rodriguez, Elisa Rogers, Angie Schmidt, John Smith "Poe", Amy Thornburg, Chris Thurman, Cyлина Weatherly; **January 28th** - Todd Boyd, Tina Goucher, Stacie Henderson, Johnetta Lindsey, Lara Menke, Zainia Moorhead, Tara Pruitt, Pedro Rodriguez, Jenna Schmidt, Collin Shaw, Jamie Steffenson; **January 29th** - Levi Feltman, Corey Fuller, Chelsea Hughes, Farrah Humphreys, Que Jefferson, Krystal Kargis, Jacob Klassen, Donnie Lafever, Rebecca Merchant, Rachael Merchant, Liz O'Neill, Betty Prentice, Bob Smith, Duane Steinly, Kristen Stephenson, D'lese, Clarice Whiteskunk; **January 30th** - Hilda Bent, Mary Foster, Jessica Holt, Pat Reimer, Shona Stermer, Rachel Uraneck, Valerie Yoder, George Zatarain, **January 31st** - Nocona Cook, Wayne Davis, Kimberly Hacker, Vernila Hamar, Evelou Ledford, Tiffany Lightfoot, Sheila Meinhardt, Bruce Potter, Keagen Smith, Delores Thiesen, Ryan Vandersee, Edie Visnieski; **February 1st** - Brandon Bell, Dennis Caler, Malorie Cartwright, Madge Cartwright, Addi Duerksen, Sheryl Franco, Blaine Gee, A.J. Hamlin, Emily Jones, Elane Lockstone, Cheryl Lockstone, Mary Miller, Terrel Perry, Cameron Purintun, Gary Seifried, Betty Woody; **February 2nd** - Maghin Abernathy, Kraig Bartel, Sarah Bergman, Keri Brookshier, Sharon Mcdow, Eddie Mendez Jr., Tom Miller, Chris Renison, Jordan Sallaska, Berdella Slagell, Marty Spencer, Tyler Ussery, Sharon Watson, Carolyn Youts.

# SPORTS *Presented by:*

## SWOSU Men's Basketball Sets Three-Point Record in Rout of Tigers

**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

SWOSU Men's Basketball set a new single-game school record with 22 made three-pointers as they dominated East Central for a 118-89 victory on Saturday at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

Kamden Gipson led the Bulldogs with a career-high 26 points, hitting 7-of-10 three pointers – including three early in the second half to help SWOSU pull away after leading 50-41 at the break. Six other players made multiple threes in the game, including Tauriawn Knight, who finished with 19 points on 7-of-9 shooting from the field and 4-of-5 shooting from distance.

SWOSU shot a scorching 57.1% (40-70) from the field for the game and connected on their school-record three-point total despite just 36 attempts from long range, which was good for 61.1% shooting from beyond the arc.

Five players reached double figures in scoring for the Bulldogs, with Damion Thornton (18), Bralyn James (13) and Chris Bragg, Jr., joining Gipson and Knight while three others Dawgs – Livingston Cleare, Jaylan Williams and Khobe Austin-Johnson – had at least seven points to contribute to the win.



"We challenged the guys to play up to their potential and they played above that," Head Coach Terry Evans said. "I mean we made 22 threes, a new record here at

SWOSU, and that is amazing." This offensive explosion helps SWOSU move to 4-2 on the season.

## Lady Dawgs Fall as Franks Reaches Career Milestone

**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The #13 SWOSU Women's Basketball team suffered their first defeat of the 2020-21 season on Saturday, falling 85-75 to East Central at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center in Weatherford.

The Lady Bulldogs fell despite the effort of senior Bethany Franks, who scored a season-high 18 points and became the 14th player in program history to reach the 1,000-point mark for her career. Franks achieved the milestone on a mid-range jumper early in the third quarter.

SWOSU got off to a strong start, going on two separate 5-0 runs in the first quarter to go up by six heading into the second, where a 9-1 run by ECU closed the gap and tied up the score 38-38 at half. SWOSU's struggles continued throughout the third and into the fourth, trailing 54-44 before Maddy North hit a big three, followed by a 10-second violation by ECU sparked hope into the Lady Bulldogs, coming as close as six before ultimately losing by 10.

On top of breaking 1,000 career points, Franks had 18 points and six rebounds, and she was joined in double figures by Makyra Tramble who had 24



points and eight rebounds. Foul trouble was a big problem for SWOSU with 34 total fouls including three people fouling out to ECU's 18.

SWOSU picks up their first loss of the season, falling to 6-1.

## Bulldog Volleyball Falls in Five to Open Spring Season

**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

SWOSU Volleyball returned to the court on Sunday and opened their spring season with a hard fought, five-set defeat to Oklahoma Christian at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

OC won the opening set 25-22 before SWOSU rallied and took a 2-1 lead with extra-point set wins of 26-24

and 28-26. The Eagles tied the match at 2-2 with a 25-22 win in the fourth and scored the first five points and pulled away to win the fifth set 15-12 and finish off the match.

SWOSU was led by freshman Lacy Mott with 18 kills and 15 digs while another freshman, Taryn Galt, had a strong debut with 14 kills while hitting .237 for

the match. Emma Cohalla added 13 kills, four service aces, four digs and three blocks. Sophia DeSantiago had 36 digs to lead the Dawgs while Allie Hoang posted a double-double with 53 assists and 20 digs.

The Bulldogs (0-1) open the Great American Conference spring season on Wednesday at Southern Nazarene, with first serve set for 7:30 pm in Bethany.

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# Newest Bulldogs of the Week are Bethany Franks & Kamden Gipson



**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

Lady Bulldog senior standout Bethany Franks and SWOSU Men's Basketball junior guard Kamden Gipson have been selected as the newest Bulldogs of the Week.

The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the home of the Bulldogs over the airwaves on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Franks (Norman, Okla.) scored a season-high 18 points and became the 14th player in SWOSU Women's Basketball history to reach the 1,000-point mark for her career on Saturday against East Central. Franks – who averaged 13.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game for the

week – is the fifth Lady Bulldog under head coach Kelsi Musick to reach the milestone and she's also already the school-record holder for career steals.

Gipson (Oklahoma City) led the charge for the Bulldogs in a record-setting three-point performance on Saturday, hitting 7-of-10 three-pointers for a career-high 26 points in a 118-89 victory over East Central. In the game, SWOSU set a new single-game school record with 22 made three-pointers while scoring the most points they've scored in a game since the formation of the Great American Conference. Gipson also added five rebounds, three assists and two steals in the game and did not commit a turnover in 52 minutes of action over two games last week.

## "The Coin Guy"

Coins Struck on Cent Planchets by Accident



Trent Boesen

During the minting processes some coins are struck accidentally on a planchet meant for a one-cent piece. Finding these error coins in circulation is a matter of luck. They are easily recognized as the different colors, and different sizes,

makes them stand-out.

In the above picture one sees a 1976-D Bicentennial quarter which was struck on a cent planchet. It is different from a regular quarter as it is smaller and shows a different color.

The quarter-struck-on-a-cent planchet was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) as About Uncirculated 58 and sold at auction for \$2,400.

The 1920 Indian Head, or Buffalo nickel, was minted on a cent-planchet and was certified by PCGS as Extremely Fine Details with Damage or Tooling. It sold at auction for \$2,640.

If you have questions about coin collecting but did not know who to ask, then call "The Coin Guy" at 580-890-8076. We can meet at Jerry's and discuss your concerns. Thanks for reading.

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# Oklahoma History: Jesse James's Treasure

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

Oklahoma is a state full of rich history, literally. Treasure hunters from around the world have spent a fair bit of time scouring the land for gold, buried among the hills. One such treasure belonged to the infamous outlaw Jesse James. It is believed that James, who had spent a lot of time in Oklahoma during his life, buried one of his gang's biggest scores - \$2 million in gold bullions - somewhere in the Wichita Mountains by Cement, Oklahoma.

Like most tales of treasure, this legend began as hushed whispers from old-timers who had spotted the outlaws roaming around the "no man's land." The rough terrain became a notorious sanctuary for criminals to evade the law during their travels. However, symbols and a map (believed to be made by Jesse himself) sparked the hunt for his loot. Many professional treasure hunters know that to find treasure, one must do their research. So, we need to begin with the origin of the treasure.

In the book "Oklahoma Treasures and Treasure Tales," by Steve Wilson, James's gang ambushed a Mexican convoy in 1875 and stole \$2 million in gold bars. Due to the weight of the bars, the gang drove 18 burros deep into the Wichita Mountains. The heavily burdened animals meant progress was slow and law enforcement was hot on their trail. So, the gang headed for the Keechi Hills to their old campsite Buzzard's Roost. The gang got trapped in a blizzard which meant they would soon be captured. To avoid authorities, they began burying their haul in the ravines nearby. Free of the loot, the gang split.

Shortly after, it is believed that Jesse carved an "outlaw contract" into the side of a brass bucket, with

the conspirators' names, and stuffed coded clues to the location of the gold. Now, it's assumed that the gang didn't have time to come back for their treasure because of a failed bank robbery in Minnesota a few months later. Following the failure, members of the gang began getting captured by bounty hunters and Jesse, with his brother Frank, barely escaped. Now on the run, Jesse was killed about 5 years later and the talk of his treasure began to drown out too.

Then, decades later, Frank James returned to the Wichita area in 1907 and built a house in a rural part of Fletcher near the supposed location of the gold. After all this time, many began speculating on why he would choose to come to such a barren and remote location. Locals began spotting Frank riding up and down trails along the countryside away from his farm over and over again. But to Frank, the landscape had changed drastically; there were new towns, landscaped farms, fences, roads, and trails he once road had disappeared entirely.

Frank ended up leaving Oklahoma in 1914, but it's believed he was able to unearth an assortment of caches beforehand. No one knows how much he got, but in 1932, Joe Hunter, a man who received three maps from an old man, found the first piece of loot that would dramatically change his life. Following the maps to Buzzard's Roost, Hunter dug up an iron pot that contained gold, jewels, a large pocket watch, and another map carved into a copper sheet.

Then, Hunter found the brass bucket Jesse had carved on and hidden. Near the bucket, Hunter found an oven containing the chain and fob matching the watch he found years earlier. However, that would be the end of



Provided

## Buzzard's Roost

his success. He never found any additional items, but other treasure seekers have been stumbling across more clues over the years.

Carvings of pistols, swords, names, and dates have been found on rocks all over the hills. Many of which are on display at the Cement Historical Museum in Cement, OK, featuring more lore and information regarding the Jesse James gang. Modern day treasure seekers can find more information at the museum along with maps that they can followed to marked locations. Who knows, maybe Jesse James's treasure will be found soon?

## HIGHER GROUND

### Is God Dead?



Jim Morrison

Sojourner Truth grew up as a slave, but later escaped to become a leading voice for the abolition of slavery and for women's rights. She became a devoted follower of Christ. Once while Frederick Douglas was lamenting the cause of the black race, he expressed the feeling that the white race would never give equality to blacks. Sojourner raised her 6 foot height to say, "Is God dead?" Her strong faith moved her to express that while God was still alive and well, He could and would do what man thinks impossible. Today, we have had both a black President and Vice-President.

That question needs to be raised today. Is God dead? While gloom and doom is expressed by those who still

dwell in the negative, our faith needs to express itself in the positive. The greater question, although more costly, is, "Have I surrendered my life in full obedience to following Jesus." I am not responsible for the failures or successes of the politicians. I am responsible for the costly obedience that I am called to act upon in my own life.

As I look back on history and my life, I find it interesting that those things that I thought right or wrong, often turned out to be the opposite. Not always, of course, but often enough to cause me to doubt my dogmatic assertions of truth. So instead of running off at the mouth at what seems to be absolute, I have found it best to simply trust God to bring good out of what seems to be bad and ask God to give me the discernment and will to act rightly in my own life. If God is truly real and active in today's world, we can trust him. That doesn't mean that we ignore the situation at hand, or act irresponsibly. But it might mean that calling down fire in words of negativity is not helpful in righting what I perceive to be wrong. God is a much better judge of that.

Have I been kind and thoughtful to the people I rub shoulders with? Do I bear the suffering of those in my own arena and the millions around the world dying of diseases that could have been prevented were it not for my self-indulgence?

I close with a prayer from Kay Warren, written at the end of her book, Dangerous Surrender, published by Zondervan in 2007.

"God, I'm not so sure that I'm strong enough, courageous enough or disciplined enough to pay the necessary price to see your kingdom come. I have gotten lazy, usually looking for a way out of difficulty rather than facing it head-on. Would you remind me today that the cause is worth the cost I might have to pay? I'm willing to believe that you are a rewarder of those who seek you, and I can anticipate that while I may be asked to give up something precious to me, I will also gain something of infinite worth. I'm willing to risk it all for you."

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