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SWOSU Rodeo Team Set to Compete at 2021 College National Finals



Six members of the SWOSU Men's and Women's Rodeo Teams will begin their quest for a gold buckle at the 2021 College National Finals Rodeo, which begins on Sunday, June 13th, from the Ford Wyoming Center in Casper.

"All our athletes are really excited, and I think they can do a lot of good out there in Casper," SWOSU Head Rodeo Coach Mike Visnieski said. "I wish them the best of luck, and I appreciate all their hard work and dedication this season. The main thing will be staying focused on what we showed up to do and sticking to our daily process. As long as we're consistent and sticking to the process, then the results will come."

As the Central Plains Regional Champions, SWOSU will send four cowgirls from the Women's Team to Casper for the CNFR. Regional Champions Abby Hepper (Barrel Racing) and Sierra Smith (Goat Tying)

will be joined by regional runners-up Winter Williams (All-Around) and Sadie Wolaver (Barrel Racing) at the CNFR, with Williams competing in both Barrel Racing and Breakaway.

"We have had the strongest Women's Team in the region, and the Central Plains Region is one of the toughest regions in the nation," Visnieski said. "If we go out there and have a good rodeo, then we are perfectly capable of winning it. With that said, a lot of things can happen over the course of a four-head rodeo, and it's crazy how tight things can get, especially in the timed events."

On the men's side, SWOSU will send two cowboys to Casper as Tim Troyer and Wyatt Lohman will both be in the field in Saddle Bronc. Troyer was the Regional Champion in the event, while Lohman placed second.

"Both of those guys are capable of winning it," Visnieski said of his rough stock duo. "It's going to come down to what they draw; so if they get the right ones, I'm confident they're going to win it."

The 2021 CNFR gets underway on Sunday afternoon with the first round in Bulls, Broncs & Breakaway before continuing with slack in each event throughout the day on Monday and Tuesday. Evening performances begin on Tuesday night and run through Friday, when the long round concludes. On Saturday evening, the top 12 competitors in each event will return for the Championship Round, which will culminate with the presentation of team and individual national championships.

SWOSU Rodeo has a long tradition of success at the CNFR, with six team and 22 individual National Championships to their credit. The most recent Top 10 finishes for the Bulldogs came in 2016, when the Women's Team placed fifth, and 2014, when the Men's Team took sixth place. SWOSU's last Championship came in 2012, when Tyrel Larsen won first in Saddle Bronc riding.

Although his team hasn't competed together since early May, Visnieski isn't worried about rust being a problem when the Bulldogs get to Casper.

"The thing of it is, they've all been entering and competing in amateur and professional rodeos ever since school got out, and they haven't let up," Visnieski said. "Going into Casper, I don't think they need to change anything up. Mentally, we approach it the same, and I think our crew is really mentally tough and the pressure that comes with competing on this stage is exciting for them."

The College National Finals Rodeo is expanding live television coverage on ESPN. This year, all performances of the CNFR—Tuesday through Saturday (June 15-19)—will air on ESPN3. CNFR performances will stream live and replay the following day. Additionally, the CNFR telecast production team will be producing two programs to air later in the summer on ESPNU. These programs will feature interviews, premier action from Casper, Wyoming, and the crowing of the CNFR champions.

31st Annual Heartland Cruise



Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The 31st annual Heartland Cruise Car Show will be held over Father's Day Weekend in Rader Park in Weatherford. On Friday, June 18th, grab a spot on Main and swing by the Towne Center from 6 PM - 9 PM for a welcome party with cash prizes and cruise. Many of the

downtown businesses will be open for some Father's Day and Summer shopping.

On Saturday, June 19th, the car show will kick-off at 9 AM with a full day of burnout & exhaust contests, a poker walk, 50/50 raffle, and the show competition, including "Best in Show" cars in 22 different classes. There will also be vendors, a craft fair, and live music all day until 3 PM. Admission is free; so, come out with the dad and the family, see some cool cars, and support the Weatherford Police Department's D.A.R.E. Program.

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Deadline for Submissions June 17th at 5pm

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Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

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Tommy Merrill

Tommy Merrill, 68, of Cordell, Oklahoma, passed away unexpectedly on June 6th, 2021, at his home in Cordell, Oklahoma. He was born on October 20th, 1952, to Buck and Betty D. (Crawford) Merrill in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He grew up in the Methodist



Church in Cordell. Tommy grew up and attended school in Cordell and graduated from Cordell High School in 1971. After high school Tommy attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University and received his Associates Degree. Tommy served as a Drill Sergeant in the United States Army Reserves. He was a Freemason, a member 3 masonic lodge, a member of the 32nd Degree Freemason in the Scottish Rite and a Medal of Honor Recipient for the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma. He worked for the Cordell Fire Department for many years, becoming Fire Chief. Tommy will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him, especially his children and grandchildren.

Survivors include children: Jachin Merrill and husband Ben Brown of OKC, OK, Haley Shelburne and husband Justin of Hobart, OK, Maghin Abernathy and husband Bobby of Tulsa, OK, Kennedy Merrill of Mustang, OK; god daughter Nikki Keck and husband Kevin of Blanchard, OK; grandchildren: Blaine Larsen, Rylen Larsen, Wyatt Shelburne, Blaine Shelburne, Breck Abernathy, and Claire Abernathy; brothers: Randy Merrill and wife Kim of Tuscan, AZ, Timmy Merrill of Cordell, OK, sisters: Michele Gregg and husband Lee of Cordell, OK, LaDonna Luedtke and husband John of Houston, TX; numerous nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral was 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at Cordell School Auditorium in Cordell, Oklahoma. Interment followed at Lawnview Cemetery in Cordell, Oklahoma

Nita Charlene Roof

Funeral services for Nita Charlene Roof of Thomas, Oklahoma, was held on Friday, June 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Frist Christian Church with David Beck officiating. Burial will follow in the Mound Valley Cemetery, services by Lockstone Funeral Home of Thomas.



Charlene was born December 6, 1934, in Thomas, Oklahoma, to Joe and Edythe Sewell. She peacefully passed away at the age 86, on Sunday, June 6, 2021, surrounded by her family, as Jesus led her home.

At the age of six, she and her family moved to Nowata, Oklahoma, for 4 years, then to Vinita, Oklahoma, for a year, back to Nowata before settling in Thomas where she began the sixth grade and graduated high school in 1953.

On September 18th, 1953, Charlene married Donald Roof, and they raised five children: Tony, Kent, Jana, Dana, and Kristie.

Charlene always said she was very fortunate to have been able to stay at home and raise her children. When they grew older, she began working at the American State Bank, then McNeill Grain Company, Quality Lifestyles, Thomas Library, and was the treasurer for First Christian Church for 35 years.

Charlene deeply loved her five children and Jesus. She walked in kindness and always saw the good in everyone. She was a very active member of the First Christian

Church throughout her life, where she taught Sunday school, and served wherever she was needed. As February was her month to prepare communion, she took special care to cut out individual heart shapes from her homemade pie crust. She enjoyed sewing and making many costumes for her children and grandchildren, crafting, quilting, reading, completing puzzles, playing dominos, working in her yard and driving her John Deere mower. She was famous at the Thomas bake sales for her cinnamon rolls during the time her children were in school.

Charlene is survived by her children: Tony, Kent and wife Stacey, Dana, Kristie and husband Larry. Five grandchildren: Gary, Michael, Korbin, Jaxon, Krystal and husband Martin Hamilton; and son Kameron; son-in-law Mark Foster. Five great-grandchildren: Rylie, Hudson, Asher, Kyra, and Sàrhea. Also niece Jamie Morgan and husband Jimmy Morgan, and nephew Ryan Crane.

She is preceded in death by her parents Joe and Edythe Sewell, her sister JoLee Crane, daughter Jana Foster, son-in-law Kevin Bratten, nephews Randy and Ricky Crane.

Annabelle Lee Prairie Chief

Annabelle Lee Prairie Chief was born September 24, 1956, in Clinton, to George and Goldie (Washa) Prairie Chief Sr. and passed away Monday, June 7, 2021, in Clinton Methodist Home, at the age of 64 years, eight months and 13 days.



Annabelle was raised and attended school in Weatherford and Clinton, graduating from the Chiloco Indian School in 1976. She worked as a Certified Nurses Aid with home health care and Lucky Star Casino. Annabelle married Anthony Allen Gould and made their home in Weatherford and Clinton. They raised their family together. Annabelle was a member of the Challenger Hand Game and loved spending time with family and friends, especially her grandbabies. She was a caring woman, hard worker and a good Mother to her boys.

Annabelle is survived by her husband of 36 years Anthony Gould of their home in Clinton; three sons: Adrian Prairie Chief and wife Jamie of Cyril, Alex Gould and Anthony Gould both of Clinton; three brothers: George, Cedric and Eugene Prairie Chief all of Clinton; three sisters: Georgina Welbourne, Ercel Brian and Janice Boswell all of Weatherford; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson. She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister Linda Prairie Chief; and one brother Mack.

Nadine Brady

Funeral Services for Nadine Brady, 82, Clinton resident were held 2:00 P.M., Monday, June 14, 2021, in the Meacham Chapel of the First Baptist Church of Clinton, officiated by Pastor Danny Walker. Burial followed in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Nadine Maxine (Stehr) Brady was born October 25, 1938, to Manuel Stehr and Mabel (Nonast) Stehr in Bessie and passed away early Thursday, June 10, 2021, in the Corn Heritage Village in Weatherford, OK.

Nadine was raised in Bessie, OK, and attended most of her schooling in Clinton where she graduated in 1956. She married Ross Brady on October 12, 1957, in Clinton, OK. They made their home in Clinton. Besides being a full-time mom, she was employed at the Kellwood Factory, C.R. Anthony Store and was co-owner and operator of the Dairy Best Drive in which was famous for their Broasted Chicken. She, along with husband Ross, retired after 27 years in the business.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church and was active with her Sunday class. She enjoyed playing cards and working with her plants and flowers. She was an accomplished seamstress, and she enjoyed doing embroidery. Nadine was an avid walker and enjoyed her group travels. She loved spending time with family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Ross in 2011; grandson Bradley Fletcher and three brothers: Albert Stehr, Dwain Stehr, and Norman Dale Stehr.

She is survived by four daughters: Sandra Fletcher and husband Zane, Custer City, OK; Lorraine Walker and husband Danny, Waco, TX; Angela Yocum, OKC, OK

and Susan Bennett and husband Chris, Sand Springs, OK; and son David Brady and wife Lynn, OKC, OK.

She is also survived by 10 grandchildren: Jeff Fletcher and wife Sarah, Jason Fletcher and wife Haylee, Erin Bogar and husband Byron, Brady Walker, Sydney Yocum, Tatum Yocum, Nicole Bennett, Sarah Bennett, Ryan Brady and Payton Brady; five great-grandchildren: Jaedon Bogar, Rowen Fletcher, Sutton Fletcher, Haylor Fletcher and Banks Fletcher.

Christopher Alan Friesen

Christopher Alan Friesen was born July 27, 1960, in Clinton to Harvey White and Ruth Ann (Gordon) Friesen and passed away Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, at the age of 60 years, 10 months and 11 days.



Chris was raised and attended school in Weatherford, graduating from Weatherford High School in 1978 with an American FFA Degree. He started farming south of Weatherford. On December 24, 1987, Chris married Brenda Davis in Las Vegas, Nevada. He worked as a pipe liner in the oilfield before retiring in 2017. Chris enjoyed golfing, guns and spending time with family and friends. Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children Hospital.

Chris is survived by his wife of 33 years Brenda Friesen of their home in Weatherford; one son Cody Massey of Halsey, Oregon; two daughters: Kathryn Friesen of Edmond and Jennifer Jackson and husband Joshua of Arcadia; one sister Bonnie Adams and husband Mel of Kansas City, Missouri; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Alma J. Ward

Funeral Services for Alma J. Ward, 77, Clinton resident were held 12:00 Noon, Friday, June 11, 2021, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by TJ Heilman and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Alma Joyce Ward was born February 1, 1944, to Lonnie and Rosetta (Putman) Roberts in Maysville, OK and passed away Wednesday, June 9, 2021, in the River Valley Nursing Home in Clinton, OK.

Alma was raised and attended her schooling in both Oklahoma and Texas. She married Billy Ray Ward February 3, 1969, in Texas. She moved to Clinton, OK in 1994 and later to Sayre in 1996. She had worked as a Certified Nurse's Aide in the Grace Living Center.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, and granddaughter Patricia Edwards; six sisters: Wanda, Vivian, Thelma, Faye, Mary, and Loretta; and four brothers: Lonnie, Ernest, Ray and Earl.

She enjoyed playing Bingo, playing poker and watching championship wrestling.

She is survived by daughters: Sherron Ray, Ft. Dodge, Iowa, Shelia Wells, Ft. Dodge, Iowa, Charlotte Jones, Clinton, OK, LaQuita Nguyen, Rogers, AR and April Carter, Amarillo, TX; son, Jackie Edwards, Ft. Dodge, Iowa and a sister-in-law Sue Roberts, of Texas,

She is also survived by 18 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Ase Chalepah

Funeral Services for Ase Chalepah, 32, Elk City resident, were held 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, June 16, 2021, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by Pastor Delfred Whitecrow and Kenny Wiley. Burial will follow in the John Old Crow Down Woman Cemetery south of Clinton, OK under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

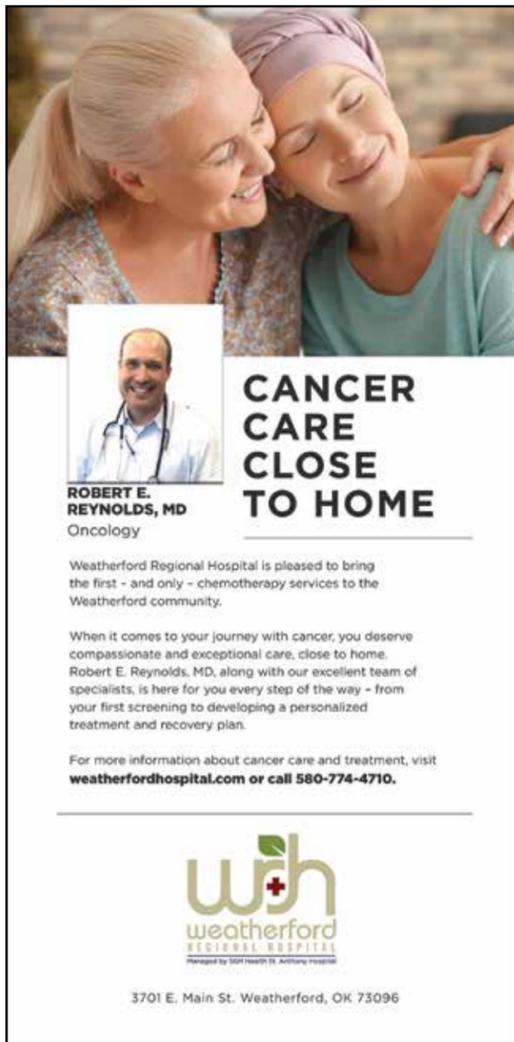


A Traditional Wake Service was held 7:00 till 10:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 15, 2021, in the Elk City Indian Baptist Church.

Ase Chalepah was born June 8, 1989, to Raymond Chalepah, III and Agatha Gale Mag Pie in Clinton, OK and passed away Tuesday, June 8, 2021, in the Integris Southwest Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Ase was raised and attended school in Elk City, OK. He was a member of the Native American Church; he enjoyed hunting and fishing and he loved music and especially a group called Slipknot.

He is survived by his parents Raymond and Gale; two sisters: Stacey Chalepah, Ashley Chalepah, two brothers: Willis Chalepah and Raymond Chalepah; two nephews: Adam Chalepah and Leo Gonzales and niece Tara Gonzales, all of Elk City.



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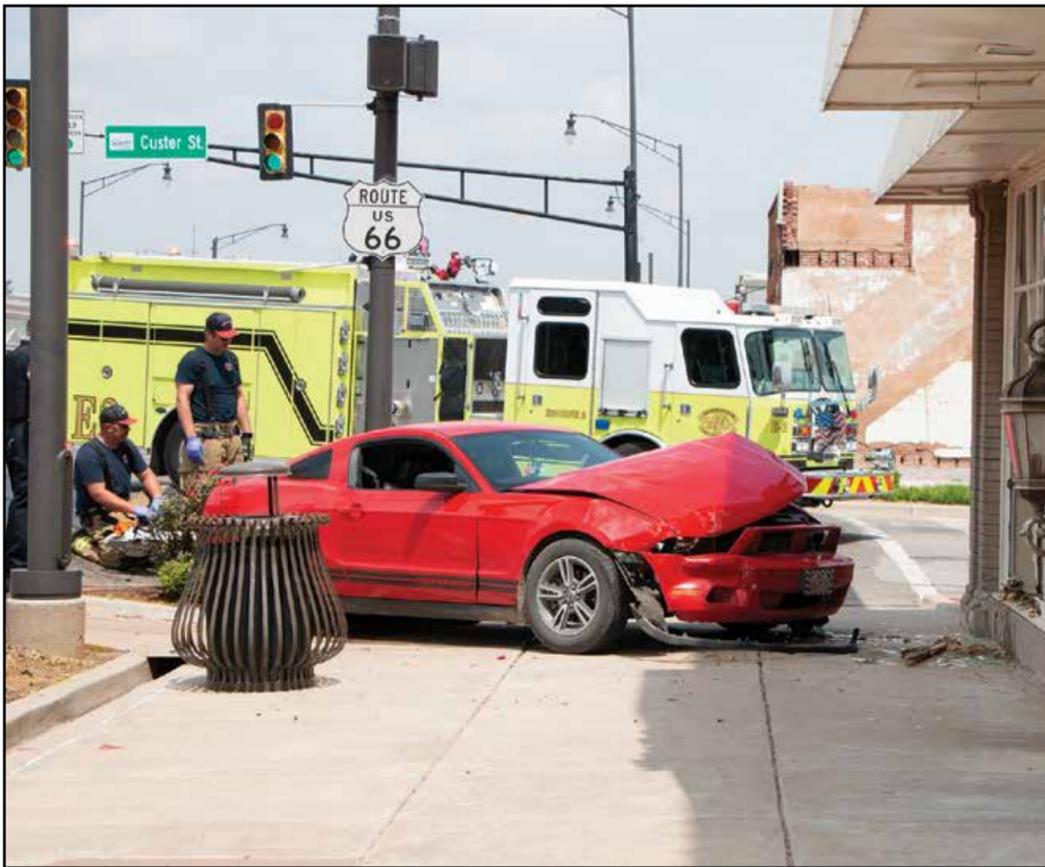
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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director



Dani Ingram/WW

Cutline

CLINTON SCHOOLS/SUMMER PROJECTS- Clinton Schools Superintendent Tyler Bridges says the district is in the midst of many summer projects. He says the district is among other things, doing painting at the high school, planning a track resurface project and will upgrade the weight room. Bridges says many of the projects are being funded through stimulus funds.

CUSTER CO ARREST/HELPER- Custer County Sheriff Dan Day says a man has been arrested after authorities served a warrant Friday on stolen cattle, west of U.S. Highway 183. Sheriff Day says the suspect, identified as Jimmy Dale Helfer is charged with larceny of domestic animals, assault & battery with a deadly weapon, use of a firearm while committing a felony and threaten to perform an act of violence.

HYDRO EAKLY/INFORMATIONAL MEETING- Hydro Eakly school officials are informing district parents of an exciting opportunity for its students. Teachers have partnered with School Tours of America to organize educational tours of historical cities such as Washington D.C. and Boston. The district will have an informational meeting for all interested parties June 16th at the high school beginning at 5pm. Students and parents are encouraged to attend.

WEATHERFORD CC/DENIES FUNDING- During a special meeting Tuesday, the Weatherford City Commission denied a request for financial obligation of \$10,000 to go toward the effort of assembling a master plan for the spaceport in Burns Flat. Oklahoma department of commerce executive director Brent Kisling says similar funding requests have been made to the cities of Clinton and Elk City and also to public service company of Oklahoma. The commission voted 2-2, with commissioners Jimmy Ingram and Mark Shadid voting against the request.

WEATHERFORD PD/POSSIBLE SCAM- The Weatherford Police Department was recently alerted to a possible scam aimed toward the elderly. On June 2nd, police discovered that a resident had paid a contractor \$2400 to fill-in cracks in her driveway. The person had been told by the family the day prior not to come back. The male did return the next day and convinced the elderly resident to let him do the job and charged her \$2400. The suspect did not leave an invoice for the work. The suspect was driving an

older model maroon Dodge pickup truck and went by the name Jimmy.

WEATHERFORD/BROWN TO SEEK RE-ELX- Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown says he plans to seek another term in office. Brown has been mayor in the city of Weatherford for the past 18 years. The filing period for the seat is in July.

WEATHERFORD/PINNELL- Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell addressed an economic development group yesterday in Weatherford. Pinnell, who is also secretary of tourism, says the Oklahoma route 66 centennial commission is working on infrastructure for cities and towns along the mother road. Additionally, Pinnell says aerospace is the number two industry in Oklahoma and says it's important for the state to become more diverse.

WEATHERFORD/YES WEATHERFORD UPDATES- Progress is being made on the various yes Weatherford projects that were approved through passage of a one cent sales tax. Economic development director Yolanda Creswell says the city now has a timeline for work at the former hospital site on Kansas where the new police/9-1-1 center will locate. She says the asbestos removal is due June 16th to be followed by demolition of the structure.

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WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!
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Happy Birthday Wishes for June 16th- Dylan Biggs, Larry Dowty, Nicholas Gere, Jesse Hampton, Kayla Harris, Shelby Maggard, Denene Neufeld, Brooke Poeling, Corey Shirey, Jean Simpson, Kayla Thompson; **June 17th-** Katyn Albert, Amy Felgener, Erin Giles, Dixie Palmer, Barri Hope Ryan, McKenzie Smith, Wannie Whiteshield; **June 18th-** Kambri (came) Buckner, David Burton, Abigail Agha-Abrahami, Mark Ferguson, Gary Fox, Libby Gregston, Kaitlin Keuhne, Julie Schneberger, Tara Vaughan; **June 19th-** Brandon Ashcraft, Carol Sue Bentley, Alyssa Dowty, Rodney Hines, Amber Hudson, Abby Janning, Jessica Kasper, Nicole Nelson, Roger Oehler, Denton Payne; **June 20th-** Nikki Bates, Nelson Dougherty, Kaden Flyingout, Brad Jones, Kindon Kaiser, Charlene Killgore, Sharil McCoy, Darby Morgan, Jennifer Neely, Lyndon Perry, Camille Sharry, Lisa Shirey; **June 21st-** Jared Broadbent, C.L. Goodwin, Debby Green, Barbara Holt, Gladys Jones, Beverly Kissler; **June 22nd-** Mark Becton, Brownie Browne, Tyler Flyingout, Sage Fox, Robert Ingram, Jr. McCrary, Monty Proffitt, Keenan Taylor, Shawny Twins.

SPORTS *Presented by:*

Weatherford Alumni ends season with National runner-up title

Courtesy of
Soonersports.com

Former Weatherford Eagle Quade Cummins just wrapped up his college career at OU with a national runner up finish after the Sooners fell to Pepperdine in match play at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Cummins made his first all Big 12 team this season, and concludes his career as one of the best golfers to ever come through Norman. He notched 22 top-10 finishes and 10 top fives over six seasons in the crimson and cream. He owns eight school records, including career scoring average (71.31) and rounds of par-or-better (88).

"Every year around post-season time, you get so close with your teammates over that period of time," said Cummins when reflecting on his memories in the crimson and cream.

"We're with each other every day after the Big 12 ends and we play golf and have practice every other day. There's a lot of good memories from that time frame, it's probably the most fun part of college golf."

Cummins finished the stroke play of the National Championship tied for sixth with a two under 278. Then in the match play portion, Cummins won his first match against Illinois when he took a two-hole lead on the fourth hole and never surrendered it, holding off Tommy Kuhl to win 2&1 to send the Sooners to its first semifinal since 2017.

Against top seeded Arizona State in the semi-finals, with an even leaderboard the Weatherford, Okla., native dropped the 16th hole to allow Cameron Sisk to move to just one back. But the OU leader wouldn't be stopped on the 17th, which he drove 330 and onto the green



in one while Sisk laid up and found the rough. A two-putt for birdie is all that Cummins would need to send Oklahoma to the final match, and he delivered by sinking a 5-footer to send the Sooners fans surrounding the green into a frenzy.

The Sooners couldn't take down Pepperdine in the National Championship and finished as National runner ups.

Cummins, who finished sixth in the inaugural PGA tour

rankings qualified for the former tour and gives Cummins the opportunity to pursue a PGA pro card.

"I've been wanting to be a pro golfer since I was ten or eleven years old," said Cummins. "This is one step closer to being there. I'm going to be doing everything I can to get to that level."

Cummins' first former tour event will be the L&J Golf Championship at Jennings Mill Country Club in Watkinsville, Georgia, June 23rd through the 26th.



Provided

Hudson Graybill, 6, with the Weatherford Hotshots baseball gets a hit.



Provided by DMK Photography

The winners in all weight classes pose with their hardware for the 4th Annual Meathead Match held at The Dog Pound Fitness and Nutrition Gym in Thomas.

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SWOSU Receives 2021 Davis-McElmurry Distribution of Funds



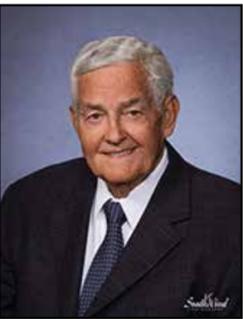
Bonnie McElmurry

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford and Sayre has received its annual distribution from the Davis-McElmurry Testamentary Trust. The trust provides much-needed resources each year to the university for scholarship support to students with demonstrated financial need.



Wilma (Davis) McElmurry

Wilma (Davis) McElmurry of rural Custer County near Custer City passed away in 2005 at the age of 89 and designated SWOSU, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF), and Clinton Public Schools as beneficiaries of income from her charitable trust.



C.B. Graft

C.B. Graft (SWOSU Class of 1963 and 2018 Distinguished Alumnus), testamentary trustee of the Davis-McElmurry Estate, meets regularly with SWOSU leaders to evaluate the ongoing support SWOSU receives from the Davis-McElmurry Testamentary Trust.

Each institution receives perpetual payments from the trust. Since April 2007,

the trust has provided over \$940,000 to SWOSU to provide scholarships for needy students. At SWOSU, the awards are known as the Davis-McElmurry Scholarships.

“SWOSU continues to be extremely appreciative of this most generous gift,” said SWOSU President Dr. Randy L. Beutler. “Bulldogs today and tomorrow benefit from the thoughtfulness of the McElmurry Family.”

McElmurry earmarked 1/3 of the trust to SWOSU, 1/2 to the OMRF and 1/6 to Clinton Public Schools. The gifts to SWOSU and Clinton Public Schools are to be used for scholarships, while the OMRF is to use proceeds for heart and cancer research.

Both McElmurry and her husband, Bonnie, were long-time teachers at Clinton Public Schools. Mrs. McElmurry was a 1940 SWOSU graduate. After retiring from teaching, they lived on the family farm north of Custer City where they became very active in production agriculture.

Mrs. McElmurry graduated from Independence High School in 1933. She took a postgraduate course at Custer High School in 1934 and entered SWOSU in 1936. McElmurry taught at Arapaho until 1956 and then at Clinton until 1973. Mr. McElmurry graduated from Lake Valley School and attended SWOSU before graduating from Oklahoma State University. He started teaching at Arapaho in 1938 where he was principal for six years and superintendent for nine years. He later taught driver’s education classes at Clinton until his retirement.

SWOSU’s share of the Davis-McElmurry charitable distribution is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. The Foundation was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards nearly \$30 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU.

"The Coin Guy" \$18.87 Million Gold Coin



Trent Boesen

On Tuesday, June 9, 2021, a 1933 \$20 gold coin became the most expensive American coin. It holds an impressive, historical place in coin collecting.

In 1933, during the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt’s Executive Order made gold ownership illegal. All gold coins owned by citizens had to be turned in. Americans were reimbursed in silver coins or paper currency.

Out of a mintage of 445,500 gold \$20 coins all were melted except the one pictured above. It is the only one allowed to be owned privately. In 2002 it sold for \$7.59 million. The owner put it up for sale this year. The pre-auction estimate was \$10 million to \$15 million. It sold for \$18.87 million.

If you have questions about collecting gold coins but did not know who to ask, then call “The Coin Guy” at 580-890-8076. We can meet at Jerry’s and discuss them. Thanks for reading.

SWOSU Foundation, Inc. Names Mapel and Mouse to Board of Trustees



Melani Mouse



Thomas Mapel

Thomas Mapel of Tulsa and Melani Mouse of Oklahoma City have been named to the Board

of Trustees of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) Foundation, Inc.

Mapel is a regional vice president in the Independent Broker Dealer (IBD) channel at Prudential Annuities, covering Oklahoma, Arkansas, northern Louisiana and Texas territories. Prior to his current role, he was a regional vice president at Jackson National, where he wholesaled both internally and externally for 13 years.

Mapel graduated from SWOSU in 2002 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance. He also holds a Certified Fund Specialist (CFS™) designation. Mapel, his wife, Trisch, and their two daughters, Piper and Paige, hosted the first-ever “SWOSU Near You!” gathering in 2018 at their home in Tulsa.

Mouse serves Oklahoma City Public Schools as assistant superintendent for secondary schools. Mouse previously served over 21 years at Putnam City Public Schools as assistant superintendent.

Mouse holds undergraduate and master’s degrees from SWOSU and a doctorate from the University of Oklahoma. Mouse is a past president of the SWOSU Alumni Association. During her time as president, the association grew memberships and revenues and launched the “SWOSU Near You!” gatherings throughout Oklahoma and neighboring states.

“We are very pleased that Thomas Mapel and Melani Mouse will be joining the Foundation’s Board of Trustees,” said SWOSU Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees Chair George Cohlmi (SWOSU Class of 1974) of Edmond. “Their diverse experiences and expertise will help the Foundation to fulfill its purpose of advancing SWOSU during the university’s second century.”

Mapel has been assigned to the Foundation Investment Committee and Development Committee. Mouse has been assigned to the Foundation Development Committee and Property Committee.

The SWOSU Foundation was founded in 1977 to promote philanthropy, award scholarships, and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards nearly \$30 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com or call 580-774-3267.

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Oklahoma History: Wiley Post

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

June 23rd marks the 90-year anniversary of Wiley Post and Harold Gatty's famous flight around the world. Prior to their record-breaking flight, the record was held by the Graf Zeppelin piloted by Hugo Eckener in 1929 with a flight time of 21 days. Wiley Post was an ace pilot and pioneer who always pushed the boundaries of what people thought was possible in the skies. Gatty was an Australian navigator and, like Post, a tremendous aviation pioneer. Gatty was described by Charles Lindbergh, a world-renowned pilot who made the first (and longest) solo non-stop transatlantic flight, as "The Prince of Navigators."

Wiley Post was born in Corinth, Texas, a modern-day ghost town located near Canton, Texas. When he was five years old, Post's family moved to Oklahoma and had settled on a farm in Maysville, Oklahoma by early 1920. Post grew up fascinated by airplanes and wished to serve as a pilot in WWI, but the war ended before he completed his training. After the war, he did a variety of oilfield work in Oklahoma until he was severely injured in an oil-rig accident when a metal shard pierced his left eye permanently blinding it; he usually concealed it with his famous eyepatch.

As a side gig during his oilfield days Post performed a parachute act with the flying circus Burrell Tibbs and His Texas Topnotch Fliers as part of the daredevil tricks performed by stunt pilots during the "Roaring Twenties". After his metal shard accident, Post bought his first aircraft with the settlement money and became the personal pilot of two wealthy Oklahoman oilmen, Powell Briscoe and F.C. Hall. In 1930, Hall bought a high-performance single-engine craft he dubbed the Winnie Mae after his daughter. The Winnie Mae would go on to become one of the most famous record-breaking aircraft of the 1930s. Hall let Post use the plane in several competition derbies, and Post gained national notoriety when he won the National Air Race Derby – from Los Angeles to Chicago. Around this time, Post met Will Rogers and the two became fast friends.

Post's fame and confidence grew over the year, and on June 23rd, 1931, Hall let Post and Gatty take the Winnie Mae on their signature voyage around the world. Their flight plan would take them through Harbour Grace in Canada, Flintshire in England, various cities in Germany and Russia, to Alaska, back into Canada, and finally through Cleveland, Ohio to the finish back on Roosevelt Field in Long Island, New York. After multiple stops involving propeller repairs, the pair arrived back on July 1st having traveled 15,474 miles in a spectacular 8 days, 15 hours, and 51 minutes. Alongside their awe-inspiring speed, they also managed to be the first to successfully circumnavigation in a single-engine monoplane; a feat thought near impossible at the time. On July 7th, they were invited to the White House for lunch, had a parade in their honor in New York City the next day, and were honored by



Photo: Wiley Post and Harold Gatty, Germany 1931

the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America at a banquet at the famous Hotel Astor. Following the flight, Hall struck a deal with Post giving him the Winnie Mae. Later, Post and Gatty published accounts of their journey in a work titled Around the World in Eight Days, Will Rogers gave an introduction in the piece.

Trying to ride the excitement of the flight, Post set out to open his own aviation school but could not build up enough financial support. Many of the would-be backers doubted his ability for education citing his rural background and limited formal education as problematic. To prove himself again, Post announced he would attempt a solo flight around the world and that he would also break his previous speed record. Over the next year, Post assisted on an autopilot device in development and radio detection finder that would allow him to find bearings to precise locations. In 1933, he took off with the autopilot, and a compass, and finished the world circuit to a crowd of 50,000 people. His time: 7 days, 18 hours, 49 minutes. He did it again, and he set another record as the first to pull off the world flight alone.

Filled with the desire to push the limits of aviation again, Post spent the next years researching and developing a way to perform high-altitude long-distance flights. The Winnie Mae lacked a cabin capable of being pressurized. So, Post had to find another way to maintain body pressure at high altitudes. Working with the B.F. Goodrich Company, he developed what would be the world's first pressure suit. During testing, the first suit ruptured. The second suit passed but the

helmet became so tight they had to cut Post out of it, destroying the suit in the process. Their last redesign was successful on all fronts and could even fit earphones and a microphone.

On his first flight with the suit on September 5th, 1934, Post flew up to 40,000 feet above Chicago, then up to 50,000 feet. As he reached his peak, he reported a substantial shift in airflow describing fast flowing currents that put his ground speed substantially faster than his air speed. During other pressurized test flights, he reported similar experiences. Unbeknown to him, he had partially discovered the jet stream. Likewise, some meteorologists around the world were reporting unusual reactions to their weather balloons at high levels of the atmosphere. The official understanding of the jet stream did not come around until multiple pilots in WWII reported high tailwind speed when traveling certain directions. Post is often credited as one of the few to discover its existence.

Post's last flight would be with his good friend Will Rogers during their testing for mail-and-passenger air routes. Post was interested in the potential investment of two-part air routes between the U.S. and Russia. Rogers, who was looking for new material for some of his radio shows and books, was eager to join him. The pair made several stops in Alaska in a modified floatplane until the engine failed on takeoff at low altitude. The low speed caused the nose-heavy plane to lose control and plunge into the lake; it quickly became inverted. Both men died instantly. Post and Rogers received a well-deserved host of honors and tributes. Post was buried in Memorial Park Cemetery in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

HIGHER GROUND

Remember the Poor



Jim Morrison

It is important that we be careful to obey the Scriptures. The Apostle Paul had spent about 20 years since his conversion, going with Barnabas on his first missionary journey, before he appeared before the council to defend his apostleship. Peter, James and John were quick to recognize that the grace of God rested on Paul in his ministry to the Gentiles. In his letter to the Galatian church he mentioned that they had said, "All they asked is that we should remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do." (Gal 2:10)

It is interesting that the leading disciples were insistent that Paul remember the poor. Paul then added the phrase, "it was the very thing I was eager to do." As we view the ministry of Jesus, while he was here on earth, it seems that the bulk of his time and attention was given to the outcast of society; the disenfranchised, the poor, and the sick. In general

people are compassionate to those less fortunate. In Weatherford, the Agape clinic provides free medicine to those who may drive many miles to receive that help. The Food Resource Center and the Ministerial Alliance food pantry provide food supplies to those who need help. Several churches have clothes closets to provide needed clothing to those who have those needs. The Et Cetera shop provides used clothing, furniture and many other items at a reduced cost.

At Christmas, the Ministerial Alliance partners with others to provide gifts so that no child feels that he has been left behind. These are all worthy efforts and need to be celebrated.

My concern is that while those physical needs are being met in a healthy way, we sometimes miss the deeper need that every person has, that of an ongoing relationship with someone they sense really cares for them at the deeper levels of their spirit and soul. Vast numbers of homes never receive a visit from a church member who has no agenda other than caring for their deeper needs. I'm not talking about an evangelistic visit, though that might be involved. Most people, upon receiving a visit from a church member feel that

they are just a project, an effort to get them inside the walls of a church.

In some way we need to project compassion, a real sense that they matter for who they are, not for what they can do for us. This would not likely be conveyed in a single visit. It may have been a while sense anybody has asked, "How can I pray for you." "What are some struggles you are going through?" Then we should actually pray for them on the spot. Some might be open to a one-on-one Bible study. We assume that they would not be interested. We make the decision for them. The Holy Spirit is working in the heart of every person at some level. Most of us do not believe that. Many may just need to talk to someone. This kind of effort needs to be preceded by pray-walking around the area, asking God to break down barriers and destroy strongholds. In fact the whole effort should be bathed in prayer. Intentionality, the willingness to risk, compassion, and a sacrificial spirit are the keys. All these are on deposit in your name in the portals of heaven. It's time we drew on our account. To comment: jhm82@outlook.com or 580-772-2311 (Locally) (Interested in a summer-six week prayer group?) Call Jim at the number listed.

SWOSU SURPLUS PROPERTY AUCTION
9:00 A.M.
FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021
 Behind Physical Plant, SWOSU Campus
 Campbell Drive, Weatherford, OK
 Concession Stand Open Day of Sale - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
ALL ITEMS MUST BE REMOVED BY 3:00 P.M.

Grizzly Metal Lathe	Club Golf Cart	Receivers
Craftsman YT4000 Riding Mower	Table Saw	Printers
Kawasaki Mule	1982 Ford Bucket Truck, 1 Ton	Scrap Metal
SS Refrigerator Equipment	Shop Tables	Wooden Book Shelves
Numerous Copper & Aluminum Coils	Wood Cabinets	Bakery Cabinet
Air Compressors	Book Shelves	Desks & Tables
Window A/C Units - Microscopes	Podiums	Desks
AC Condensers	End Tables	Desk Chairs
Peavey Sound Equipment	Filing Cabinets	Heating Equipment
Edgers, Weed Eaters, Blowers	Office Supplies	Fax Machines
Exercise Equipment	Wood and Metal Office Desks	Door Parts
Electronic Test Equipment	Office Chairs	
Metal Shelving	Paper Shredders	
Kurzweil Pianos/Organs	Classroom Desk	
Gas Ranges	Televisions	
Commercial Kitchen Utensils	VCR & DVD Players	
Ryobi 2800 w/Head 13 x 19 Sheet	Projectors	

MANY OTHER ITEMS TOO
 NUMEROUS TO MENTION

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TAILS AND TALES

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LOCATION: WEATHERFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

JUNE 24TH: DENISE GARD
JULY 1ST: DOC ROGERS
JULY 15TH: EXTREME ANIMALS

★ **PERFORMANCES AT 6:30 PM** ★
JUNE 24TH: DENISE GARD LOCATION: LIBRARY
JULY 15TH: EXTREME ANIMALS LOCATION: YMCA

MEET YOUR READING GOAL BY JULY 16TH TO ATTEND THE END OF SUMMER PARTY AT PBAR FARMS!

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