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CUSTER COUNTY CONFLICT



Chad Gray/WW

The undefeated Clinton Red Tornadoes took on the Weatherford Eagles in district 4A-1 football action this past Friday. The Red Tornadoes defeated the Eagles 42-0. Clinton is currently tied for first in the district with the Bethany Bronchos.

WOCS Hamburger Fry Adds Online Auction This Year

Not in the mood to cook or looking for a place to grab a burger before heading off to your local football game? Make plans to eat at Western Oklahoma Christian School's Hamburger Fry on Friday, October 29, at the Clinton Frisco Center, 101 S. Fourth Street. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and dinner from 5-7 p.m. You can dine-in or opt for the convenient carry out or curbside pickup. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children, and include a hamburger or hot dog, chips, baked beans, dessert, and drink.

New this year is an online auction hosted by Entz Auction and Reality. Bidding opens October 29, at 9 a.m. and closes November 6 at 3 p.m. Participants can view auction items at www.entzauction.com or scan the QR code for a full listing. A wide variety of items include a diamond necklace, a three-night stay in Branson, and a 3500-watt generator. Additional items are being added regularly.

During the event an on-site silent basket auction and

bake sale will run from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Basket themes include camping, fall, Pioneer Woman, Legos, farmhouse décor, sports spectator, coffee lovers, and Christmas. The bake sale will offer homemade cinnamon rolls, cakes, cookies, pies, and breads.

This event supports the Clinton, Weatherford, and Elk City campuses of WOCS. For more information contact WOCS at 580.323.9150.

WOCS is a non-denominational Christian school founded in 1987. Initially holding classes in Bessie, two years later it moved to the current location in Clinton. The Weatherford campus was added in 2007 and the Elk City Campus in 2011. WOCS provides Bible-based academic instruction for students, beginning with pre-kindergarten and continuing through sixth grade. The school offers computer, art, music, physical education, and Bible classes in addition to the standard curriculum. WOCS is accredited through the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the State of Oklahoma.



Provided

WOCS students prepare a Harvest Basket for the WOCS Hamburger Fry Auction



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Melanie Eve Davis

Melanie Eve Davis was born October 2, 1964 at Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to Douglas Ray "Doug" and Sammie (Davis) Villines and passed away, Thursday, October 14, 2021, at home, at the age of 57 years and 12 days.



Melanie was raised and attended school in Weatherford, Oklahoma, where she graduated in 1982. She was the ultimate caregiver, putting her kids above everything else. She was an active member at First Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school, Girls in Action, Vacation Bible School; volunteering for church camps and the mission trip to Bakersfield. She was highly involved in her kids' extracurricular activities from swim team, track and field/cross country, tennis, dance, and Boy Scouts - becoming a second mom to all involved. She was strong, independent, free spirit whose biggest weakness was asking for help. She was always down for an adventure and loved concerts - especially the ones in the car. She loved spending time with her grandkids.

Melanie is survived by her mother Sammie Villines; her husband Burl Davis; her children, Tiffany Davis-Hernandez and husband AJ; Brandon Davis and wife Mindy; Luke Davis and Henry Davis; grandchildren: Sophia Davis, Adrian Hernandez, Theodore Hernandez, Dominic Hernandez and Julien Hernandez; three brothers; Dan Villines and wife Kay; Ben Villines and wife Terry; Stephen Villines and wife Danielle; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father Doug Villines and brother Phillip Villines.

Margaret Alene Goucher

Margaret Alene Goucher was born June 1, 1928, in Weatherford to Van and Leta (Alkire) Leonard and passed away Saturday, October 16, 2021, at Corn Heritage Village in Weatherford, at the age of 95 years, 4 months and 15 days.



Margaret was the 5th child of the seven children. Her older brothers were Bruce, Nyle, Bill and Max, and her younger sisters were Norma and Dixie.

Margaret attended Union Schools through the 8th grade and graduated from Weatherford High School. Immediately after graduating, she started working at Southwestern Bell Telephone in Clinton. She met the love of her life Elwin "Bill" Goucher in Clinton and married a year later on June 7, 1947. They had four children: Linda, Sharon, Elwin Dean and Russell.

When Southwestern Bell closed the Clinton office, she retired with 25 years of service. Margaret later took a rural route postal position for the Butler Post Office and worked many years, retiring at the age of 65.

Margaret was widowed in 1986 and remained in her home in Clinton for 25 more years, eventually moving into Brookdale Assisted Living Center in Weatherford.

Her health declined, and she spent her last two months at Corn Heritage Village where she passed.

Margaret excelled in school and loved her large family that lived in the family home northwest of Weatherford.

After she and Bill married, they lived in Clinton and had four children. When the children were small, Bill and Margaret spent years working hard at remodeling the old farmhouse, fixing up the property and raising children. Margaret loved the outdoors and spent time fishing and boating with the family. After the children were grown, they bought more land near Stafford and raised black angus cattle. They enjoyed working the cattle together. After Bill's passing, Margaret continued to care for the cattle until she physically had to stop.

Also after retiring, she started doing activities with friends, attending jamborees and senior events. She took up bowling and became an avid bowler; bowling until she was 80 years old.

However, her most joy came from spending time with her grandchildren: Nathan, Clint, Lynsay and Matthew. She loved sharing experiences with them at the farm and lake. Her love for her family and their love for her will live on.

Margaret is survived by two daughters: Linda Hays and Sharon Matheson; four grandchildren: Nathan Weckel, Clint Nichols, Lynsay Leatherbury and husband, Braden and Matthew Matheson; three great-grandchildren, Holly, Michael and Bralyn; three great-great-grandchildren: Jayda, Tripp and Eva; one sister Norma Dirickson; and two sisters-in-law: Glendene Goucher and Mildred Leonard; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two sons: Elwin Dean and Russell; four brothers: Max "Cotton," Bruce, Bill and Nyle; and one sister Dixie Gilworth.

Eugene Ross

Funeral Services for Eugene Ross, 76, Weatherford resident and formerly of Clinton, were held 2:00 P.M. Friday, October 22, 2021, in the Clinton's First Baptist Church, officiated by Pastor Thomas Perry. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery with Masonic Rites and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home. Eugene Ross was born January 6, 1945, to J.R. and Versie (Bray) Ross in Clinton, OK and passed away Tuesday, October 19, 2021, in the Corn Heritage Village in Weatherford OK. Eugene carried many names thru the years: Eugene, Genie Boy, Ross, Moccasin, Monster Man and Po Devil. He was also known as son, grandson, and father, husband, brother, friend scholar and athlete. Eugene was raised in Clinton, OK. He graduated from Clinton High School in 1963 and excelled both in sports and academics. Upon high school graduation, he accepted an athletic scholarship to the Oklahoma University in Norman, OK. He was also offered an opportunity to play baseball for the Cincinnati Reds, but he chose to be a Sooner and play football at Oklahoma University. He later graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1967. With those honors in hand, he was drafted to the New Orleans Saints.



After his athletic tenure, he worked for Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan, before starting a career with Phillips Petroleum. He retired in 2001 and moved back to Oklahoma, settling in Weatherford, OK to care for his mother.

He was a member of the Bethany Baptist Church; the Prince Hall Grand Masonic Lodge; the Omega Si Phi Fraternity, the O Club at Oklahoma University and he served as a chaperone in the Miss Black Oklahoma Pageant. During his retirement years, he enjoyed fishing, hunting and spectating sports as a grandpa.

He was married to Gussie (Kennedy) Drain on September 11, 2020.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother

Curtis "June Bug" Stevenson and sister Mildred Stevenson. He is survived by his wife Gussie of the home, daughter Jean Ross Archer and husband Gerald; and their children London and Arielle, OKC, OK, Morgan Ross, Houston, TX, Donnita Drain Rogers, Langston, OK, Marica Drain, OKC; son Arthur Drain and wife Allison, OKC, OK; sisters: Marcia Stevenson, Ardmore, OK, Wenda Cohee, Ft Worth, TX and Cassandra Winters and husband Larry, Ft. Worth, TX; brothers: Larry Stevenson, Ardmore, OK; Winfred Stevenson and wife Sandra, Houston, TX; Clarence Stevenson, Thackerville, OK; and Ronald Dean Stevenson, Arlington, TX. He is also survived by three other grandchildren and two great grandchildren

John Bill Conner

J.B. Conner was born February 25, 1926, in Granite to Millard and Bessie (Huffer) Conner and passed away Saturday, October 16, 2021, at his home in Thomas, at the age of 95 years, 7 months and 21 days.



J.B. was raised in the Oakwood area and attended Fay Schools. He was drafted and served in the U.S. Navy during WWII, returning to graduate high school. After high school he attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University, and later attended Oklahoma State University, where he completed his degree in engineering. He began working at Beech Aircraft in Wichita Falls, KS. He returned home every weekend to help with family farming. Upon his retirement, he moved back to Oakwood. J.B. enjoyed OSU football and taking care of the family.

J.B. was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers George and Bob Conner; and one sister Anna.

Joseph S. Phillips, Jr.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Joseph S. Phillips, Jr. 64, local business man, were held 11:00 A.M., Friday, October 22, 2021, in the St. Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford, OK and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home, Clinton, OK. Burial was held on Monday in the Resurrection Cemetery in Justice, IL.



A Rosary Service was held Thursday 7:00 P.M., Thursday, October 21, 2021, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel.

Joseph S. Phillips, Jr. was born February 20, 1957, to Joseph and Agnes (Hellmuth) Phillips in Chicago, IL, and he went to be with the Lord, Monday, October 18, 2021, surrounded by family, including Arch Bishop Beltran.

He was raised in Chicago, IL. He attended Hubbard High School in Chicago, and he graduated 9th in his class of 2800 in 1975. He continued his education at the Chicago State University on a Golf Scholarship. In 1978 he left college to help open and operate the families first McDonalds Restaurant in Canton, IL.

The family moved to Western Oklahoma in 1983 and opened and ran three more McDonalds Restaurants in Elk City, Weatherford, and Clinton. He was very active in all three communities especially in Weatherford.

He was a member of the St. Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford, OK. He loved God and Jesus, and it showed in everyday of his life. He was a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, reaching the rank of KC HS Commander with Star. He was also a 3rd Degree Member of the Knights of Columbus, reaching the Rank of Grand Knight and became a 4th Degree Knight.

Joseph was an avid supporter of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. Over the years he managed thousands of people. He was a leader, example setter, mentor, guidance counselor and a father figure, especially to new college students away from home for the first time. He was an avid sports fan, often being referred to as a walking sports Almanac. He seemed to know all the facts and statistics on so many of the players from different sports. He was a major Oklahoma University fan and the Oklahoma City Thunder along with all Chicago Sporting Teams.

He was preceded in death by his mother Dorothy and sister Mary Lu.

He is survived by his father Joseph S. Phillips and brother Edward Phillips, both of Clinton. He is also survived by loving aunts, uncles and several cousins and close extended family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Memory Joseph Phillips, Jr. to the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), 5817 Old Leeds Road, Irondale, AL 1-800-447-EWTN.



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SWOSU Department of Education Celebrates 120 Years

The Department of Education is “Celebrating 120 years” for homecoming and Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford has graduated 20,000+ teacher education students over the last 120 years.

In honor of the SWOSU tradition of developing teachers, the Department of Education has a \$1,000 scholarship opportunity, sponsored by the SWOSU Foundation, for any current SWOSU student who makes a positive post about a favorite teacher (elementary, middle school, high school or college) using the hashtag #SWOSUFavTchr on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. The post should be made by October 29. A random drawing from all those students that posted using the hashtag will be made and announced at the homecoming football game.

SWOSU has a long-standing history of developing excellent educators from the beginning, according to Instructor Marla Pankratz. Southwestern Normal School was established by the Oklahoma Territorial

Legislature on March 8, 1901, to prepare teachers for the public schools. In 1903, the first 113 future teachers attended their first classes.

In 1920, Southwestern Normal School became a four-year institution under the name Southwestern State Teachers College. In 1974, the institution’s name was changed to Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

“We are incredibly proud to be a public institution carrying on the tradition of developing teachers to serve in the communities in our state and region,” Pankratz said. “We are proud to partner with our communities, school districts and alumni to continually work to utilize innovative practices that can better meet the needs of children and families as well as prepare the next generation of teachers and educators.”

Additional information is available by contacting the SWOSU Department of Education at 580.774.3285.



Oklahoma Department of Commerce Hires Agriculture Recruiter



The Oklahoma Department of Commerce (Commerce) has added an Agriculture recruiter to its Business Development team, helping the agency in its transition to sector-based recruitment of economic development projects. Sierra Simpson joins Commerce in this new role.

“Agriculture has been one of Oklahoma’s key industries since statehood,” said Brent Kisling, Commerce Executive Director. “With Sierra on board, we can better focus our efforts to strengthen the supply chain

for existing agriculture companies and pair assets with companies looking to expand to further grow the industry. We also hope to increase collaboration across the many impressive agriculture-related entities and organizations in our state.”

“The addition of a position dedicated fully to introducing new talent, companies and opportunities to the agriculture industry in our state is incredibly exciting,” said Blayne Arthur, Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture. “I am eager to work alongside Sierra and the Commerce team as we continue to support our state’s vast agriculture operations and the many Oklahomans employed in this sector.”

Simpson is a fifth-generation farmer and rancher from Northwest Oklahoma, and an entrepreneur. She is an active member in multiple industry associations and a supporter of FFA and 4-H groups.

“Agriculture is a fundamental way of life for Oklahomans,” said Simpson. “I am excited for the opportunity to take on this new position and bring new opportunities for economic growth to rural communities and agriculture companies. Alongside our industry partners in the state, we can strengthen Oklahoma’s agriculture sector, support Oklahoma companies, recruit new business to the state and enhance our supply chain.”

“We have seen incredible success in our aerospace recruitment efforts with the establishment of an aerospace business development team and we are seeing the early successes of establishing an automotive team,” said Jennifer Springer, Commerce Director of Business Development. “As we continue to form our industry teams, we are excited to see the realization of some of the untapped potential in one of Oklahoma’s most vital industries.”

Oklahoma House of Representatives Study Prescription Medication Costs



Taking a deep dive look into Pharmacy Benefit Management in Oklahoma and how it affects patients and independent pharmacies was the subject of an interim study hosted by Rep. Marcus McEntire, R-Duncan, held recently before the House Insurance Committee.

The issue has been the topic of much debate over several years in the Legislature, resulting in several new laws that have sought to increase transparency into consumer drug prices and patient choice of pharmacy, among other topics.

“I want a solution that allows Oklahomans to get their health care needs met and that ensures consumers pay a fair price for their prescription medication,” McEntire said. “At the same time, we must ensure our local pharmacies are treated fairly. This doesn’t mean we kill the competitor – the pharmacy benefit manager. But we do have to do what’s right for the people.”

Senate Bill 821, passed by the Legislature last session, was intended to clean up the previously passed House Bill 2632. It would have closed several loopholes that lawmakers felt gave pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) unfair competitive advantages over independently owned pharmacies and that obfuscated the prices consumers pay for medications. The measure faced opposition from the business community and eventually was vetoed by the governor.

Tuesday’s study was a way to look at how to move forward, McEntire said.

Several presenters explained the role of PBMs in negotiating contracts between insurers and employers or self-insured as well as with the government through Medicare and Medicaid. PBMs negotiate the best price of health care for the best results, they said, offering rebates in exchange for placement of drugs on a formulary that doctors use to prescribe and pharmacists use to fill. The rebates are passed back to the drug maker, with the PBMs sometimes taking a cut.

The CEO of Pharmacy Providers of Oklahoma, John Crumly, said larger PBMs are typically vertically integrated with an insurance company and control nearly 85% of the drug market. Health systems also own PBMs. Smaller PBMs fight over the remaining “scraps,” he said.

He said everyone in the health care system should be paid fairly and equitably, based upon the value they add.

“It’s very easy for people to look for transparency

from others, but is everyone in the game willing to be transparent?” he asked. “That’s the challenge that we all have, is we want to move this progress forward and get back to what we’re supposed to be doing, and that’s taking care of patients and making sure they can afford their meds and still pay their bills. And in this instance, we’ve got to be good stewards for the taxpayers and make sure the taxpayers are getting good value for these medications, which used properly can provide great quality of life, lifesaving – you know – care for people. So, it’s important work that we have before us on that.”

Jonathan Buxton, director of state affairs for the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, said PBMs are the only ones working to keep drug prices low enough for most people to afford them, and they must adhere by statute to having so many pharmacies in a region to meet demand for access.

But independently owned pharmacies and patient advocates say PBMs have unfair advantages that drive hometown pharmacists out of the market. They claim PBMs have an outsized role and value profit over making the best health care decisions for patients.

Jeff Peppenger, a pharmacist at Eufaula Pharmacy, owned pharmacies in Eufaula and Checotah until selling them last year. He said he felt forced to sell because of PBM encroachment. He mentioned the practice of patient steering – often to a chain drugstore owned in part by the PBM where patients could pay lower co-pays because of reimbursement negotiations worked out between the PBM and the provider in language often hidden from the public.

Peppenger said he couldn’t see a way to continue providing services for his community.

“I chose to sell,” Peppenger said. “I had the opportunity and I was in a position that I could. Many pharmacists are not in that position. They might have a lot of debt, trying to figure out how to get through. For me, I was in a different position, so I made that choice. But I felt forced to make that choice, because I loved what I did. I loved owning that pharmacy.”

Loretta Boesing, the founder of Unite for Safe Medications, spoke heavily on mail-order prescriptions. Boesing, from Missouri, said she is the mother of young son who relies on administration of medication every 12 hours to keep him alive after a liver transplant.

“I’m here today because I care so much about the rapidly declining state of pharmacy,” Boesing said. “And maybe if I can get the attention of our legislators, then maybe I can save Oklahomans and other patients and parents such as myself to not have to see their children endure the same pain and suffering that I’ve had to see my own child go through.”

(See MEDICATION, page 7)

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



SWOSU Announces Bull Pup Camps For Homecoming

As part of Homecoming activities on Saturday, October 30, at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, several academic departments are planning fun, free activities for youngsters ages 8-12.

SWOSU Bull Pup Camps are an opportunity for area children ages 8-12 to enjoy activities in biology, chemistry, social sciences and physics. Participants can choose activities that fit their interests, according to SWOSU Chemistry Professor Dr. Trevor K. Ellis.

Youngsters are asked to arrive at the SWOSU clock tower area by 9:45 a.m. and will be divided into groups based on interest. At 10 a.m., the groups will disperse to the location of their activity. The camp will conclude at 12 noon, and the participants will return to the clock tower where they will be released to their parent or guardians.

Area residents will have plenty of time to attend the SWOSU Homecoming Parade in Weatherford Towne Centre at 1:30 p.m.

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Crowder Lake to host Scare-O-lympics on Halloween

Scare-O-Lympics is planned Halloween day at Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Crowder Lake Park, located south of Weatherford.

SWOSU's Community Recreation class has planned this service-learning project during the university's Homecoming weekend, and teams are still being solicited for the adventure race.

Teams of two will compete in an obstacle course, complete with a canoe race, orienteering and more. Cost is \$30 per team, which includes shirts. There will also be a costume contest for participants.

Paul Hummel, director of Crowder Lake Park, said only 15 team slots are available. For more information, visit www.crowderlakeevents.com.

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Krystal Blackwell/WWW

Bank of the West in Thomas hosted a customers appreciation lunch this past week

CLINTON CC/PERMIT- Clinton City Council approved an ordinance for a non-exclusive permit to Clarity Telecom for the construction and operation of a cable system. Spokesperson Desi Stoops says actual field work will begin in the spring of 2022.

CLINTON/SUTHERLANDS- Clinton Mayor David Berrong says he is excited about the location of Sutherlands in the former Kmart building in Clinton. Berrong says he believes Sutherlands will keep dollars in Western Oklahoma and people will not make the drive to Home Depot or Lowes in Oklahoma City. Berrong says Sutherlands paid \$1.5 million for the Kmart site.

CUSTER COUNTY/MILLER SALES TAX- The renewal of a one-half cent sales tax for Custer County will be on the ballot early next year. District 3 County Commissioner Lyle Miller says it is not a tax increase. 50% of the tax is used for the general fund, 30% to the Sheriff's Department, 8% each to OSU Extension and the rural fire departments with 4% going to the Custer County Free Fair.

DEWEY CO DIST COURT/SECHRIST- An Apache man charged with two counts of first degree murder in Dewey County District Court will have a preliminary hearing January 26th. Thirty-four year old Tye Sechrist is charged with the September murders of forty-four year old Angel Boyd and thirty-one year old Stacy

Boyd in the Western Oklahoma community of Leedy. Sechrist was taken into custody after he called authorities to turn himself in.

OSDH/COMBS- The College of Public Health from The University of Oklahoma has honored graduate Brandie Combs with its 2021 distinguished alumni award. Combs has more than 25 years of public health experience and currently serves as the District 5 Regional Administrative Director for the Oklahoma State Department of Health that includes nine county health departments including Beckham, Caddo and Washita counties.

SMART ASSET/COLLEGES- A study released by Smart Asset on the colleges and universities that give students the best return on their investment puts SWOSU at #9 in the state. The study weighed five metrics: scholarships, starting salary, tuition, living expenses and retention rate. The main campus of Oklahoma State University was first and the Norman campus of the University of Oklahoma was 3rd.

WALKER/TRVERSE PROJECT- Custer County District 2 Commissioner Bruce Walker says the Traverse Invenegy Wind Energy Project continues to make progress in Custer County. Walker says he has about 50 miles of paved roads that are affected by the project, but there is a road-use agreement where Invenegy will repair any damage to roads as a result of the work.

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WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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Christian Free Store – Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. **Alfalfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. (5 miles) South of Hwy 152. For Information contact 405-643-9211 **Free and Open to the Public.**

Happy Birthday Wishes for October 27th- James Adams, Mandy Amaya, Brantley Atchley, Barry Jo Van Auken, Jayme Hixon, Steve Flammig, Tommy Martin, Susan Miller, Kevin Naranjo, Clayton Shaw, Linda Stewart, Linda Hoffman, Helen Vowell, Trevor Weatherly, Louise Williams; **October 28th-** Eula Farmer, Christa Martinez, Jason Michael, Lloyd Ratke, Layman Slagell **October 29th-** Kezia Hines, Seth Knight, Robert Malone Jr., John Nance, Earlena Shannon, Barbara Sinclair, Alexia Torres, Richard Waters; **October 30th-** Shelby Bishop, Kelsi Carter, Salana Cavanaugh, Carol Curtis, Amanda Green, Janet Hendricks, Rick Kauk, Risa Kelsey, Woody Kimball, Heather King, Cassie Penner, Forrest Potter, Mike Weixel, Tricia Whittemire, Richard Williams; **October 31st-** Larry Bush, Jamie Casias, Lorri Jones, Charlotte Kreizenbeck, Gabby Yates; **November 1st-** Maggie Adcock, Adriana Amaya, Jason Bowman, Jordan Eaton, Rita Kimble, Mina Pettigo, Brad Sanders, Wayne Sands, Brad Thacker, Clint Thomas; **November 2nd-** Darren Abshire, Bill Youts---

CLASSIFIEDS

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SPORTS *Presented by:*



SWOSU Volleyball on Fire With 3 Straight Sweeps



Provided

SWOSU Volleyball Celebrates after securing a win against Oklahoma Christian.

Jacob Cope
SWOSU Media Relations

It is safe to say that the Bulldogs have been on a tear through the last 3 games. Two of those against conference opponents and one non-conference with the Eagles. Typically the Dawgs have one big performer that shines above the rest for that game, but no such thing for this match. All across the board players put up impressive numbers. Chezney Nielsen led the team in kills with 13 while Samantha Kuzma had 8 of her own and the highest hitting percentage at .444 percent. Markenzie Benoit was a brick wall at the net with 7 total blocks while Sophia Desantiago backed her up with 24 digs on the night. Allie Hoang, the reigning GAC Setter of the week, picked right back up where she left off

last week with 32 assists in only a 3 set match. SWOSU has been dynamic as of late. With huge numbers and extreme proficiency from every member of the team. They have 3 straight sweeps for the Dawgs and no signs of stopping. The momentum built from over the weekend was apparent against Oklahoma Christian, as the Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead and came away with a massive 25-10 win in the first set. The next two sets would have similar results.

Going through the heart of conference play SWOSU continues to play with a lot of confidence and belief in each other. With a balanced attack and a deep roster the Dawgs look to carry this moment and hot streak all the way to the conference tournament just around the corner.

SWOSU Soccer Shuts out East Central University

Josh Jennings
SWOSU Sports Information Student Assistant

ADA, Okla - SWOSU Soccer took a trip to Ada in hopes for another Great American Conference win and did just that, defeating East Central 4-0 Thursday afternoon.

SWOSU nearly scored the first goal when Anna Bager took a shot, but East Central was there to stop the ball. With 15 minutes to play in the first half, East Central almost scored on a counter attack, but goalkeeper Kirstyn Dill was there for the save.

Moments later, Claire Torry scored the first goal of the game, assisted by Summer Bass, making the score 1-0. No other goals were scored and SWOSU was ahead 1-0 at halftime.

SWOSU took 10 shots, with seven of those on goal in the first half. They played well on defense, only allowing three shots and Dill saved two of those shots. Each team committed three fouls in

the first half as well.

The second half was all SWOSU as they scored a goal off an open goal when the East Central goalkeeper ran for the ball. It was deflected and Brenna McGuirk was there with the shot in the left corner, making the score 2-0 early in the second half.

Brianna Benitez scored a goal from the left corner of the box and it was an electric shot assisted by Torry, making the score 3-0 with 30 minutes left to play.

SWOSU was not done scoring goals, as Launa Torrez scored a goal, assisted by Benitez, making it 4-0 with 20 minutes left to play. No more goals were scored and SWOSU won the game 4-0. With this win, it is SWOSU's third shutout of the season

This is the second time SWOSU has defeated East Central, as they beat them 2-1 back on October 2 in Weatherford.

(See SOCCER, page 7)



Provided

SWOSU Soccer players embrace after scoring a goal against ECU

THE WEEKLY SCOREBOARD

 WEATHERFORD EAGLES	CLINTON	L 0-42
 CLINTON RED TORNADOES	W'FORD	W 42-0
 SAYRE EAGLES	Burns Flat Dill-City	L 35-54
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CUSTER COUNTY CONFLICT



Soccer

Continued from Page 6

Benitez, Torry and Bass each had an assist. SWOSU doubled East Central's shot, as they took 20 shots and East Central took 10. 13 of those 20 were on goal. Dill had six saves for SWOSU.

SWOSU improves to 8-5-1 and is 6-1-1 in Great American Conference play.

SWOSU will play their next game, 3 p.m. Thursday at home against Ouachita Baptist. These two teams played earlier this season and SWOSU won 2-1.

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Medication

Continued from Page 3

Boesing said she started her advocacy after her own experience with mail-order pharmacy.

After her son's liver transplant, she tried mail order. His liquid, oral medications were shipped on a 102-degree day. She said no one warns patients their lives can be at risk from taking medications that can lose potency or become toxic when stored at extreme temperatures. After watching her son scream and cry and being told he was in liver transplant failure, she thought about the heated medication.

Later, Boesing tried to get her son's prescriptions filled at the pharmacy in the pediatric hospital where he was being treated. She was told by insurance this was an inappropriate place to fill the prescriptions and had no choice but to again try mail order. The medication again arrived on a hot day, and her son's labs were again erratic.

Boesing said it was only after taking her story to the media and calling her insurance company daily for months that she could switch her son's medication from mail order to her local pharmacy. Now she helps other parents and patients fight for their rights.

She thanked those who actively are working on legislation that she says will save lives, but she asked them, "Once you uncover something that is risking the lives of so many Americans, how do you turn away?"

ANTHONY MOORE
State Representative
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Oklahoma History: The Life and Times of Will Rogers



Will Rogers and Wiley Post pose for a photo before taking flight. Rogers and Post were both prolific experimental aviators and this legacy still remains as two Oklahoma City airports bear their names. Both men's lives were cut short in a tragic plane crash in Northern Alaska flying an experimental aircraft.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

A tragic day on August 15th, 1935. Two world-renowned Oklahomans Will Rogers and Wiley Post passed away during a flight in northern Alaska. Rogers and Post both had lustrous careers and heavily influenced their fields.

Will Rogers was a stage and film actor, performer, humorist, world-traveler, newspaper columnist, and commentator. During his time as a vaudeville act, his skills gained him enough notoriety to transition into Hollywood. He quickly rose up among the Hollywood elite, thanks to his comedic wit and ability to poke fun at controversial topics in a way that ensured both sides had a laugh. At the time of his death, Rogers had made 71 films, wrote over 4,000 nationally syndicated newspaper columns, traveled around the world 3 times, was the highest paid Hollywood film star, had published several books, began a radio podcast that ranked among the top radio programs in the country, gave lectures and speeches around the world, and gave to victims of natural disasters of floods, droughts, or earthquakes.

Wiley Post was a world-renowned aviator during the Golden Age of Aviation (between WWI and WWII). He flew around the world in record time twice and was the first pilot to fly solo around the world. He was instrumental in the development of

pressure suits and is often credited as one of the original discoverers of the jet stream, a discovery he described encountering during his solo flight around the world. Thanks to his record setting flights, Post received parades and receptions on par with Charles Lindbergh, arguably the most famous pilot of that generation. After his world flights, Post and his navigator Harold Gatty published an account about their journey titled, **Around the World in Eight Days**. The book included an introduction by Will Rogers, who Post had met when flying Rogers to one of his rodeo shows.

In 1935 Post began working on an air route from the West Coast to Russia. While working on custom fittings for the plane, Rogers asked Post to fly him through Alaska for new material for his newspaper column. So, the pair left in early August and made several stops in Alaska. Between Fairbanks and Point Barrow, the pair had difficulty with their position due to bad weather and had to land for directions. On takeoff, the engine failed while at low altitude, and they plunged into the lagoon and became inverted. The pair died instantly, and experts still debate whether the malfunction was related to mis fittings between parts or another cause.

The pair received a multitude of honors and tributes from parts around the world. Post was enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame and in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. He received

multiple awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross, The International Harmon Trophy, and the Gold Medal of Belgium. A memorial of the two men was erected at the site of their crash and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Rogers received a statue commissioned by the state of Oklahoma in the National Statuary Hall Collection. The collection is located in the United States Capitol and features people nominated by states that had an historic impact on their state. Rogers' is one of the 2 statues Oklahoma has and he is the only statue, facing the Chamber entrance, potentially, because Rogers agreed to the sculpture if he was allowed to "keep an eye on Congress." Each U.S. president supposedly rubs the left shoe of his statue for good luck before their State of the Union address. Memorials for Rogers were set up in multiple states and landmarks/buildings were named in his honor. Rogers received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and the famous highway Route 66 is commonly known as Will Rogers Highway with a plaque, dedicated to him in on the route in Santa Monica.

Rogers and Post exemplified strength of character, bravery, and humbleness in life that other's can strive to emulate. They proved people from Oklahoma have a lot to offer the world and will forever be remembered as fun-loving, everymen who pushed boundaries, basked in the light, and pursued their dreams.



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Pioneer Cellular is seeking a new team member that has a passion for building relationships and being involved as a Public Relations Specialist in the Weatherford area and surrounding communities. This new opportunity will join an amazing team of Marketing Professionals as well as a team of Public Relations Specialists at Pioneer. We connect consumers with fast internet, premier cellular service, VoIP telephone services, iVideo TV streaming services and numerous commercial hosted services, where consumers work or play. Come join the brightest minds in the business and be on a team committed to education, community organizations, and proud supporters of the Weatherford and SWOSU communities. We are LOCAL.

Our new team member will serve the Weatherford community and other western Oklahoma areas through various community related events. The team will create, manage and implement campaigns with the goal of connecting customers with innovative technology solutions. The team will build and maintain strong business relationships with community leaders, area land developers and key business partners. This position will office in the Weatherford business office.

At Pioneer, you will receive a competitive compensation package. We also offer an excellent benefit package, including health insurance, retirement, life insurance and disability insurance. To join our team, complete an online application by clicking the career opportunities link at GoPioneer.com. We cannot wait to meet you.

EOE/Minority/Female/Disability/Veterans



HIGHER GROUND

God's Joyful leadership

As I drove to the monthly drill of the Army reserve in Albuquerque, I never dreamed that this would be a special weekend—one that would change the course of my life. It was 1960 and I had just completed my first year of teaching at John Adams Junior High. I had probably learned more than my students. I was still a green country boy just removed from Weatherford, a town of about 3,000 at that time. The enrollment at Southwester was around 1700, as I recall.

I had grown spiritually a great deal in college, largely through the activities of an organization called the BSU or Baptist Student Union and the local church. But socially and emotionally I was still wet behind the ears.

On Sunday of the weekend drill, a Chaplain was available for those who would like to attend church services. A handful of us gathered in a small room where the chaplain led us in a Bible Study. During

the service he mentioned something about seeking the will of God; that too often we depended on what others thought rather than seeking the heart of God. It was not a dramatic or new idea, but somehow it struck me with unusual force. It was not the first time I had struggled with God's plan for my life, but to this point I had not found peace. Following the weekend I found myself constantly coming back to that statement and the possibilities that God might be calling me into some kind of ministry. I couldn't sleep or get any peace or relief. I knew I had to get it settled. I wanted to be sure it was from God and not just a desire to get out of the classroom of junior high students. After weeks of frustration and misery, I found myself in the office of the Russell Patrick, the Bible teacher of the University of New Mexico, Baptist Student Union. He listened as I poured out my heart. After a while he said simply, "Jim, it sounds like God is leading you into some kind of ministry, and whatever it is, you need to prepare."

I walked out of that room feeling that the weight of the world had dropped off my shoulders. It was the assurance that I needed. My course was set. I had already signed a contract to teach another year, and I

needed the money to begin what would be a four-year graduate study at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. It will always be remembered it as one of the greatest days of my life.

My only regret of that whole experience is that I never made contact with that Chaplain to thank him for being faithful to his duties in sharing that service for a handful of young men. When he got home it is likely that his wife asked him, "How did it go at the armory today?" He probably said, "Oh, nothing unusual, just a few guys showed up for chapel." I never made contact with Russell to share what his counsel meant to me. I'm so sorry about that. Now, 61 years later and 37 years ministering to College students, a jail and truck stop ministry, I never doubted that decision to follow God's leadership. Obviously, there have been some tough times but the good times and joyful memories have far outweighed any pain that was experience. We need, in today's troubled world, to ask God, the Lord of the harvest, to call out more laborers into the harvest. That is one of his commands. And by the way, don't forget to thank those who have helped you on the way. Jhm82@outlook.com or 580-772-2311