

WEST OK WEEKLY



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SWOSU Homecoming Parade 2021



Chad Gray/WW

The Pride of Sayre Marching Band marches down Main Street in Weatherford in celebration of 120 years of SWOSU Homecoming.

Hydro Harvest Festival to Be Held in Downtown Hydro

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The annual Hydro Harvest Festival is on for November 6th from 9 AM to 3 PM on Main Street in Hydro. The outdoor festival will feature many specialty craft booths, hayrides, and a photo booth. Some of the crafts include handmade jewelry, purses, knives, goat soap, home decor, oils, baked goods, and clothes.

The festival will have a Chalk Art contest for kids where they are assigned a space on the sidewalk to draw with a winner announced at 2 PM.

There will also be a whip cream eating contest (for adults and children), a chili cook-off, and a pie baking contest. The whip cream eating contest begins at 12 PM with available slots for up to 10 participants in each age group. The Chili Cook-Off will be sold by the bowl and the winner will be chosen by 11:30 AM. The pie baking contest will

feature two classes: Fruit & Cream, and the winner will be announced at 11:30 AM. Registration for the whip cream, pie baking, and chili cook-off will all be open from 9 AM – 11 AM.

Additionally, the Hydro-Eakly school will be hosting a bake sale with craft items fundraiser at the festival for their “School Tours of America” which supports Hydro-Eakly students as they travel on an educational trip to Boston in May of 2022. All donations directly assist the students with funding.

So, mark your calendars because you won’t want to miss the fun-filled community event that has been entertaining generations! Make sure to stop by All American Insurance on Main Street for the photo booth, the chili cook-off and to draw entries for the chalk contest.

A back-up plan in the community building is prepared if weather does not permit an outdoor festival.



Provided

Jenna Garret and Kenna Oakley pose with one of the photo ops

HYDRO Harvest Festival

- Craft Show
- Food Trucks
- Hay Rides
- Music
- Photo Booth



CHILI COOKOFF
Located INSIDE
ALL AMERICAN INS.

Registration: 9am - 11am

Enter your famous family recipe!

All entries will be sold by the bowl

Winner chosen @ 11:30am

Pie Baking Contest

Registration: 9am - 11am
2 classes - Fruit & Cream
Winner chosen @ 11:30am

Whip Cream Eating Contest

Registration: 9am - 11am
Event begins at 12pm
Open to the first 10 participants in each age group (12 & under and 13 & up)

Rules given at sign up

Chalk Art Contest
Located out front of All American Ins.

Come show your artistic talent!
All children are encouraged to enter
Winner chosen @ 2pm

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- 9AM TO 3PM**

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Doris Dancer

Funeral Services for Doris Dancer, 71, Clinton resident were held 11:00 A.M., Saturday, October 23, 2021 in the Custer Ave. Church of Christ, officiated by Patrick Peters and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Dorothy "Doris" Marie (Malone) Dancer was born April 06, 1950, to Plez and Dora (Allen) Malone in Tipton OK and passed away Monday, October 18, 2021, in Conway, AR.

Doris was raised and attended school in Tipton, OK. She married Curtis McCoy, Sr., and they became the proud parents of son Curtis McCoy, Jr. and a daughter Shawana. She later married Tom Dancer on March 6, 1981, in Clinton. To this union they had two daughters Kenya and Pam.

She was employed with Ashley Outlet Store and the United Super Markets before starting a longtime career with Clinton Public Schools and retired as head cook. She moved to Weatherford after retirement and worked as a volunteer for the Weatherford Thrift Store.

She was a longtime faithful and active member of the Church of Christ in Clinton. She always enjoyed the fellowship of family and friends. She likes to challenge whoever would play Phase 10, and her favorite pastime was sitting on her porch and visiting with her neighbors in Weatherford.

Cherishing her memory is her four children: Curtis McCoy and wife Ernie, El Reno, OK; daughters; Shawana Thompson and husband Jeffrey, Alamosa, CO, Pamela Dancer, Jackson, TN; Kenya Johnson and husband Brent, Terilton, OK; three brothers: John Malone, of CA; William Malone, Clinton, OK; and Robert Malone and wife Ann, Ardmore, OK; sister, Faye Abram and husband Esco, Clinton, OK.

She is also survived by grandchildren: Mary Beth Billrey, Hobart, OK; Victoria Isaak, El Reno, OK; Curchell McCoy, Mount Vernon, IL; Chandi Henderson, FT. Worth, TX; Brandon McCoy, Clinton, OK; Landon Byrley, Alamosa, CO; Taylor Byrley, Pueblo, CO; Layla Sivaliti, Prescott, AZ; Jonathan Dancer, Jackson, TN; Dacie Hesser, Sharon Springs, KS; and Destini Hesser, Terilton, OK.

Paityn Rose

Paityn Rose, was born to Kevin Koehn and Rebecca Koehn, on July 11, 2018, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and went to be with Jesus on October 23, 2021, in Wichita, Kansas, at the age of 3 years, 3 months, and 12 days.



She spent the first fifteen days of her life in NICU at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. On Thanksgiving of 2018, she had an SVT heart spell and was medi-flighted to Oklahoma City. She was later diagnosed with MELAS disease, which led to many hospital stays.

Paityn was a happy little girl. She loved the outdoors, cheese dip, yogurt, ice cream, suckers, light up toys,

noisy books, ranger rides with Dada, her kitties at Mommy's, and the puppies at Dada's. She also loved the zoo, blowing kisses, and clapping her hands. She will be remembered most for her huge smiles.

She is survived by her father Kevin Koehn, Weatherford, OK; mother, Rebecca Koehn, Halstead, KS; paternal grandparents Charles (Jan) Koehn, Bartlesville, OK; Angela (Tim) Stutzman, Weatherford, OK; maternal grandparents Nadine Koehn, Halstead, KS; David (Sandra) Koehn, Marion, KS; paternal great-grandma Shirlene Koehn, Murray, KY; paternal step-grandma Twila Koehn, Weatherford, OK; maternal great-grandpa, Harley Koehn, Moundridge, KS; maternal step great-grandma Geraldine Schneider, Moundridge, KS.

Paityn was preceded in death by 8 great-grandparents and 2 aunts Tonya Koehn and Raeletta Koehn.

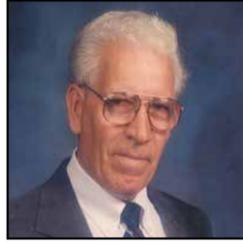
The family would like to thank the numerous doctors, nurses, therapists, and foster families for the care given to Paityn during her time here on earth.

Funeral service will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 10:00 AM at Pleasant View Mennonite Church with Pastor Jeff Selzer officiating. Burial will follow at Pleasant View Mennonite Cemetery under the director of Lockstone Funeral Home.

Memorial can be made to Connections Food & resource Center, PO Box 362, Weatherford, OK 73096.

Edward A Fry

Edward A Fry was born on January 18, 1937, to Elmer and Grace (Mason) Fry and passed away on October 23, 2021, at the Homestead of Weatherford at the age of 84 years old.



He was raised north of Weatherford and attended Cedar Rural School. He went on to serve in the U.S. Army for 4 years. He then began working for the City of Weatherford for 15 years. He met and married Virginia Beck on October 22, 1965, in Weatherford. They made their home north of Weatherford, and he worked for the 3M Company from 1980 until retirement in 2002. Edward enjoyed farming, OU Football, working in the yard, and his grandkids and great grandkids. Memorials may be made to OMRF Alzheimer's Research.

Edward is survived by one son David Fry and wife Lisa of Oklahoma City, OK.; one daughter Tammy Blatnick and husband Monte of Weatherford, OK.; one brother Elton Fry and wife Irene of Weatherford, OK.; five grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; 3 brothers: Edwin, Kenneth, and Leon; and 3 sisters: Wilda, Ina Mae, and Betty.

Helene Fletcher

Funeral Services for Helene Fletcher, 84, Clinton resident, were held 10:00 A.M., Friday, October 29, 2021, in the Clinton Indian Community Center, officiated by Jimmy Anderson and Gerald Panana. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



There was a visitation service 6:00 P.M., Thursday, October 28, 2021, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel.

Helene Myrtle (McElhane) Fletcher (Kiowa name: Dawl-Gye-Ah-Matt "The Song Goes On") was born June 28, 1937 to Oileta and Robert Louise McElhane in the Kiowa Indian Hospital in Lawton, OK and passed away Sunday, October 24, 2021, in her Clinton home.

Helene received Christ at the age of 10 and was baptized in the outdoor baptistery at Rainy Mountain.

Helene attended school in Eastern Oklahoma, Mt. View, Cooperton, and Bacone High School. She continued her education at the Bacone Junior College where she graduated in 1956. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Keuka College in Keuka Park, NY in 1959.

She was employed at the Oklahoma Security

Commission for 23 years and retired in Clinton, OK in 1987.

She was a member of the Indian Baptist Church; since she was raised pretty much in Eastern Oklahoma and was gone for some time, she always enjoyed coming back and visiting and spending time with her Kiowa relatives and friends..

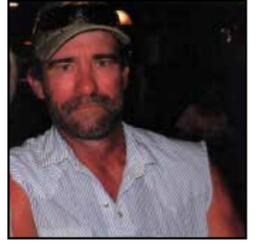
She married Joseph Fletcher in Oklahoma City, OK on October 14, 1972. Together, they raised six children.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Joseph, infant brother Robert Louis McElhane, Jr., daughter Julie Cox and foster sister Cheri Simmons.

She is survived by three daughters: Cheri Fletcher, Mary Fletcher and Carolyn Fletcher; three grandchildren: Rachel Cox, Marleta Fletcher and Kendrick Fletcher and three great-grandchildren: Jacob Cox, Lily Guenara and Damon Cox.

Kevin Wayne Countess

Funeral Services for Kevin Countess, 59, Weatherford resident were held 10:00 A.M., Thursday, October 28, 2021, in the Grace Baptist Church in Clinton, officiated by Pastor Denton Walker. Burial followed in the Fairview Cemetery in Putnam, OK under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Kevin Wayne Countess was born July 31, 1962, to Izetta Faye (Lown) and Darrell Gene Countess in Oklahoma City, OK and passed away Saturday, October 23, 2021, in the Weatherford Regional Hospital in Weatherford, OK.

Kevin was raised and attended school in Guthrie, OK. He married Rita Jane Davis on April 5, 1991, in Weatherford, OK. He started working at a young age in the construction business. He was employed 30 years as ground keeper with Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Wetherford, OK and retired in 2019.

He enjoyed fishing, watching football, Championship Wrestling and bowling.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Darrell.

He is survived by his wife Rita of the home, daughter Tinisha Countess, Stigler, OK, sister Vickie Hinkle and husband Terry, and Ada Countess; brothers, Keith Countess and wife Michelle, Mike Countess, Howard Countess, and Richard Countess.

He is survived by a grandson Ryder Stevenson.

Shawn James Scott

Shawn James Scott, 42, of Banner, Ok left this world to be with his Savior on October 27, 2021. He was born July 6, 1979, in Thomas, Ok to Tom and Diana Scott.



Visitation will be on Sunday, October 31, 2021, from 1pm to 6pm. Funeral services will take place on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 2pm at Life.Church in Yukon. Dr. Jeff Hill will be officiating. Graveside services immediately following at El Reno Cemetery.

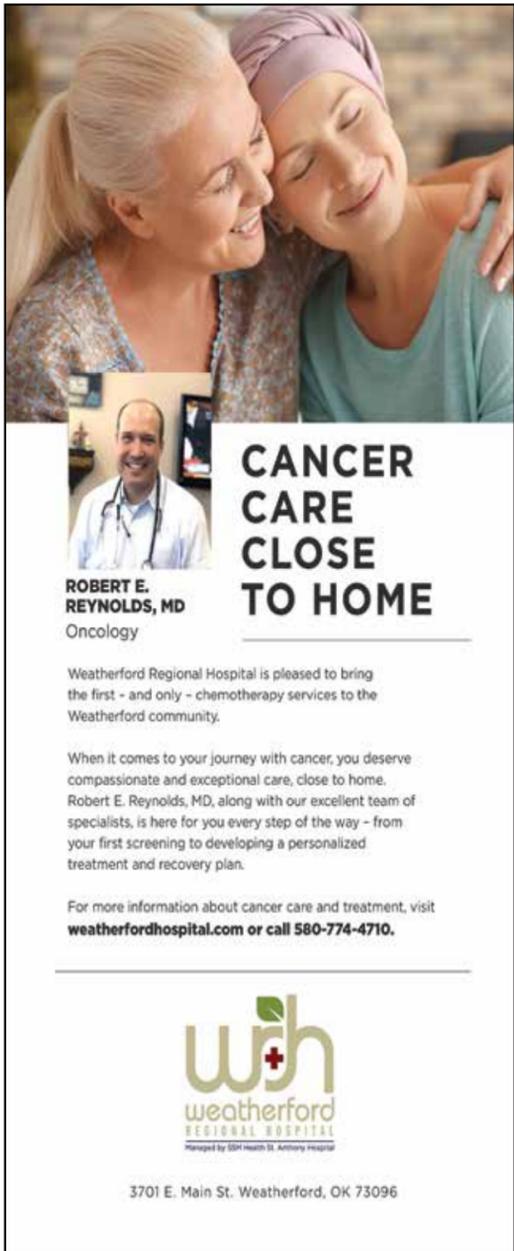
Shawn is survived by his beloved wife Tiffany Scott, and their five children: Dax James Scott, Sophie Jordan Scott, Elizabeth Rose Scott, Kayla Dawn Scott, and Chase Lane Berg. His parents Tom Scott of Clinton, Ok and Diana Scott of Banner, OK. And his brother, L. T. Scott and wife Sheila and their children Ashley, Erin and Addison of Banner, OK.

He was preceded in death by maternal grandparents James and Maxine Radcliff of Banner, OK and paternal grandparents Leo and Gladys Scott of Watonga, OK.

Shawn was a Christian man, relying on his faith in his Heavenly Father and sharing his testimony with everyone. He was his wife, Tiffany's, perfect match, and the best dad to his kids; teaching them how to love hard, work hard and play hard. Shawn was a construction superintendent with Mashburn Faires Homes where he was loved by his bosses, coworkers, trades, homeowners, and anyone in between. He took great pride in his work and continued working full time throughout his battle with cancer. Shawn never met a stranger and always had a smile on his face. His laughter was contagious, as was his positive attitude and good heart. He touched the lives and hearts of everyone that knew him and was an inspiration to many.

He will live on in our hearts. "Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories."

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State Representative Seeks to Remove Job Barriers for the Disabled



Enhancing the accessibility of job certification and licensure for people with disabilities was the focus of an interim study by Rep. Sherrie Conley, R-Newcastle. The study was held before the House Government Modernization and Efficiency Committee.

"People with disabilities are being denied access to certifications and licenses because of testing requirements," Conley said. "I wanted to examine potential modifications to policies and procedures to enhance access to jobs and careers for this population. I appreciate all of the great voices who shared their expertise with us as we examined this issue."

Kari Bailey, an instructor with the Culinary Assistant Program at Francis Tuttle Technology Center, gave the higher education side of the equation.

She spoke about the HospitAbilities program, a partnership with the Oklahoma Restaurant Association, that offers 18 different skill areas for students who are on an Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students have to pass seven areas to earn certification. They have four opportunities within two years to test.

Bailey, who has worked with special education students for over 25 years from the elementary level to higher education, said this program gives many students with disabilities an opportunity to work they otherwise might not have. This is possible, she said, because they don't require their students to pass a paper/pencil test but instead to show what they can do. This is something she wishes the state would adopt for other programs such as carpentry, automotive, and more.

The entire time Bailey spoke, a video of students performing tasks for their certification tests played in the background. One student folded napkins, another inventoried products, another set tables, others prepared food.

Bailey said certification is based on what industry said it needs, and industry executives actually serve as the evaluators for the certification tests.

"Industry wants to know that you can do the task," she said. "Because you can answer all the questions on a test does not mean you can perform a task that's needed for that job position."

Bailey said some students can't read or are non-verbal. Some have severe or profound physical limitations. Others speak only limited English. While they may not be able to do all tasks, she works individually to find skills at which they excel.

"I don't talk to them about their disabilities, about limitations," Bailey said. "We talk about their abilities,

their strengths."

She helps students with interviewing, with onboarding, planning transportation routes to work, the importance of being on time and more. Bailey said she wants to make sure she's giving her students everything they need to succeed in the workforce, because that helps them live better lives.

Bailey said one thing she shares with industry is to treat students as professionals and to have high expectations of them.

"You can't say, OK, we're going to modify your job because I feel sorry for you," she said. "It doesn't work. As soon as you start doing that, that student's going to do less and less."

Roberta Helsley, education manager for the Oklahoma Restaurant Association, the Oklahoma Hotel Lodging Association and the Oklahoma Travel Industry Association, delivered the industry side.

Helsley has been a certification evaluator for several years for the HospitAbilities program. She said one of the silver linings of COVID is its brought programs such as this to light, and it's helping the hospitality industry and others to re-evaluate how they are operating.

Of restaurants surveyed, for instance, 72% report staff shortages. This forces them to look for workers among populations such as those with disabilities, and to evaluate things such as making reasonable accommodations. Helsley said oftentimes the attention to detail, the work ethic and the pride in their work that people with disabilities show is something that fully impresses industry.

"Our industry wants to meet these students," she said.

Industry also has realized they can be a better partner with education, providing better materials for instructors. They provide technology for demonstration videos, for instance. They design curriculum based on industry standards.

"The best part of the program and the integrity of the program means that industry is not making it softer, it's making it sharper," Helsley said.

Melinda Fruendt, executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services spoke about potential future plans with CareerTech and the Tulsa Tech Center culinary HospitAbility program and how accommodations are being made to include the blind and visually impaired as well as the deaf and hard of hearing populations.

She said the department is working in all 77 counties to break down barriers for individuals to get into the workforce.

"We have a business services team that works with local businesses and industry, and they're happy to go in and

educate and help break down those barriers," Fruendt said.

"And we serve on local workforce development boards."

Other presenters during Wednesday's study included Julie Lackey, with the Oklahoma Inclusive Post-Secondary Alliance, who spoke on post-secondary opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as future plans of the alliance in supporting students both academically and with social skills.

Shawna Nord and Cori Gray with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology, presented CareerTech accomplishments and how they plan to meet more needs in the future through the area of testing accommodations.

Lori Chestnut, a secondary transition program specialist with the Oklahoma State Department of Education's Special Education Services division, presented data around serving students with disabilities and what OSDE is doing to support successful postsecondary opportunities.



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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Bell Ringing With Clinton Mission House



Each year Weatherford and our sister city Clinton cooperate during the holiday season to raise funds for the Mission House in Clinton. This ministry is open 365 days a year to feed the hungry, provide shelter for the homeless, and meet various physical needs for the less fortunate in the areas of Clinton, Weatherford, Corn, Thomas, Burns Flat, Cordell, etc. A large portion of the funds, needed to provide these services, is raised by ringing the bell at the two entrances of the Wal-Mart store in Weatherford. Starting November 26th, citizens of the Weatherford area will be manning their post ringing a bell, giving

out candy canes for the children and providing an opportunity for shoppers to give to this worthy cause. In 2019, generous citizens from the Weatherford area donated over \$11,396. Due to the virus the event was canceled in 2020.

Local churches, civic clubs, university organizations, and individuals participate by giving of their time and comfort to make this possible. There are twenty-six days in which a minimum of eight people will be needed for each evening from 4:00-8:00 p.m. This results in 210 man/woman hours required to complete the project. Please help if at all possible.

Sometimes whole families are involved. Those interested in volunteering can contact Jim Morrison at 772-2311 cell..302-1142. They can leave a message and their call will be returned.

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CLINTON CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENT-an accident occurred on the I-40 bridge construction east of Clinton, said ODOT strategic communications public information officer James Poling. According to first responders, the worker fell approximately 20 feet. Poling says the worker was then transported to Oklahoma City via ambulance for further treatment.

er said his district is projected to change as a result of the 2020 census. Senator Jech would have all of Custer County and some of Canadian county and more of Kingfisher County if the current proposal is approved.

CC/JAIL ROOF BIDS-The Custer County jail roof project is moving forward, said county clerk Melissa Graham. Graham said Armko is set to open up bids for the project on November 11th and present bids to the commissioners on November 15th. There is no timeline on the roof project and work won't begin until all materials are acquired.

CONNECTION FOOD & RESOURCE CENTER- A grand total of more than 51,000 pounds of food was collected by Weatherford and Clinton schools for hungry western Oklahomans. The food was presented to the Connections Food and Resource Center. Weatherford schools collected the most food during the drive.

CUSTER COUNTY/ELECTION BOARD- The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot for the November 9th city of Clinton election for ward 3 city council is November 2nd at 5pm. An application can be downloaded at www.ok.gov/elections or obtained at the Custer County election board office in Clinton. Early voting for the election will begin Thursday, November 4th and Friday, November 5th from 8am-6pm. No early voting will be held on the Monday prior to the election. Only voters who are registered in ward 3 are eligible to vote in the election. Incumbent Patch McComas is challenged by Samantha Jo Aispuro.

WEATHERFORD/911- Plans are being solidified for construction of a new police station/911 center at the former Weatherford Regional Hospital site on Kansas, across from the fire station. Assistant Police Chief Josh Vandenburg said officials are excited about the planning of the new facility, going from three to eight 911 operating stations.

JECH/REDISTRICTING- A special session of the state legislature will be held, beginning November 15th surrounding redistricting. Senator Darcy Jech of Kingfish-

WEATHERFORD/ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown said millions of dollars in improvements are either underway or coming up soon in the city of Weatherford. Brown said one project includes the widening of Airport Road. He said there are about \$30 million in road projects either underway or beginning soon in the Weatherford area, including Lyle road which should be done in about a year or so, 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!

HAPPY Day TO YOU!

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Happy Birthday Wishes for November 3rd- Avary Bellamy, Lish Harris, Valerie Juhl, Gavin Klein, Marc Maule, Julia Pawpa-Slagell, Ashley Rector, Hunter Roark, Leticia Rodrigues, Val Stinson; **November 4th**- Terri Barger, Pat Gatchel, Jennie Hanna, Mika Dawn McSperitt, Shelby Nance, Becky Penick, Nancy Rodolph, Sonya Roper, Shirlene Sheward, Lana Skinner, Barbara Thompson, Kristie Thompson, Stacy Wilson **November 5th**- Mykel Banning, Wanda Byers, Freddie Cardenas, Nikunj Damani, Mona Horn, Jerri Hutchinson, Tory Koch, Ida Slagell, Mark Wade, Tiffany Watson; **November 6th**- Joshua Blackwell, Oliver Lane, Mike Livingston, Ranae Middleton, Tabitha Middleton, Nancy Rodolph, Laurie Salcido, Brandon Stephens, Elmer Stucker, Neva Taft; **November 7th**- Jerri Devine, Jordan Ewing, Mackenzie Garling, Shayna Griffith, Debbie Heckard, Mary Phelps, Catherine Pitzer, Charlene Pope, Kayla Rodriguez, Vercilla RomanNose, Stacey Scarlett, Richard Settles, Roberta Slagell, Clayton Thompson, Wilma Webb, Kim Williams; **November 8th**- Lori Burns, Linda Carpenter, Jackie Kurts, Alicairaina Lackey, Butch McCammon, Sandy Miller, Donna Newsome, Lance Pitzer, Ann Russell, Kory Selman, Chloe Settles, Paul Stange, Lori Walker, Shane Young; **November 9th**- April Cunningham, Sabrina Dungan, Norman Kissler, Heather Matz, Milly Maynard, Myrna Perkins, Joe Slann, Donna Webb, Brittany Wile, Ryan Wilson, Amy Young

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Senior Night Thriller for SWOSU Volleyball

Jacob Cope
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Volleyball wins in a thriller against East Central.

The Bulldogs defended home court once again inside the Pioneer Cellular Event Center. With a record crowd in attendance the Dawgs came out a bit on edge and it showed through the first two sets dropping the first two 20-25 in both. From then on the Bulldogs kicked into gear and eventually accomplished for the second time this season a comeback from being down 2-0.

With a bit of a struggle in the beginning the seniors came through for the Bulldogs on senior night. Allie Hoang had 4 service aces on the night adding to the record she has already broken this season. Mackenzie Harless had one of her biggest games of her career as a Dawg. Ending the night with 12 kills Harless kept

the momentum going for the Dawgs and finished the game strong with some key kills in the 4th and 5th sets. Markenzie Benoit added 11 kills followed by Sam Kuzma with 10. In the 5th Kuzma and Maicee Morgan played vital roles for the team. Both coming in clutch in the big moments.

The big story of the night goes to the Bulldog faithful. Setting a new GAC record for attendance with 1,502 fans. With the help of the crowd the Dawgs completed a massive comeback to go undefeated at home for the season at a perfect 9-0. The crowd impact played a vital role in the game. Coach Collins had this to say about the fans "The impact of the crowd was the same it has been all year. We called a timeout in the 3rd set and I told the girls to look at Bulldog nation and I said they believe in you now it is your turn to believe in you and that's when the tide turned and we can't thank them enough!"



Provided
SWOSU Volleyball Seniors hold up Bulldog signs on Senior Night at the Pioneer Event Center

Bulldogs Fall Late On Homecoming



Jacob Cope
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU entered the fourth quarter with a 14-6 lead Saturday evening, but a last second field goal by Arkansas Tech spoiled Homecoming Night and the Bulldog's chance at their first win of the season.

Defensively, RJ Powell had a standout night with nine total tackles including two sacks. Both he and Richard Silva each also had four tackles for loss in the ball game.

Offensively, the Dawgs totaled 326 total yards in the game – 217 through the air and 109 on the ground. Quarterback Tanner Griffin was 17-for-32 including a touchdown pass in the first quarter to Jacob Karsak. Running Back Kenny Graham scored the other touchdown on the night, a goal line run in the third quarter.

Graham's rushing touchdown came with 1:39 left in the third quarter and gave SWOSU a 14-6 lead, but that would be the final time the Dawgs would find the end zone. Arkansas Tech scored nine unanswered fourth quarter points and stole Homecoming away from the Bulldogs with a dagger field goal with eight seconds to go in the game. It was the first time all game the Wonder Boys led in the contest.

SWOSU will play their final two games of the season on the road. Next up will be Harding next Saturday at 2pm in Searcy.

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Brown Siblings Named Bulldogs of the Week



HESTON BROWN



MEGAN BROWN



BULLDOGS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 9 - OCTOBER 24-30



Brother and sister dynamic duo Heston Brown- SWOSU senior and Megan Brown- SWOSU sophomore are this weeks Bulldog of the Week.

SWOSU Soccer Win Over Ouachita

Josh Jennings
SWOSU Sports Information Student Assistant

It was a windy Thursday afternoon in Weatherford when SWOSU soccer took the field against Ouachita Baptist.

The Bulldogs did not mind or care as they defeated Ouachita Baptist 3-0 and picked up another key Great American Conference win.

SWOSU struck first with a goal by Tianna Watkins in the first two minutes of the game. They nearly scored again a few minutes later, but Ouachita made the stop. SWOSU kept creating chances to score, with plays like Brenna McGuirk slicing through the defense and taking a shot and just missing as the goalie made the save.

SWOSU played great defense with 13 minutes to play in the first half. Ouachita Baptist built a strong attack, but goalkeeper Ashley Hughes made a clutch save and SWOSU blocked lots of their shots. This shot was Ouachita Baptist's only shot on goal in the entire first half. The first half ended with a near SWOSU goal, but they were unable to finish and were ahead 1-0 at halftime.

SWOSU took 14 shots, with six on goal and Ouachita Baptist took one shot and it was on goal. Ouachita Baptist had three corner kicks and SWOSU had two corner kicks.



Provided

SWOSU sophomore Brianna Benitez dribbles against an Ouachita Baptist player.

SWOSU doubled its lead in the second half, when Anna Bager scored nine minutes into the second half.

Hughes made a great save with 12 minutes left in the game, keeping the score at 2-0. With 1:09 left in the game, Brianna Benitez scored a goal, making the score 3-0 and this was the final score.

SWOSU took 25 shots and 12 of them were on goal. Of those 12 shots on goal, Bager had four of those. Hughes had four saves.

SWOSU improves to 9-5-1 and is 7-1-1 in GAC play. They will play their next game, 11 a.m. Saturday at home against Harding.

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Oklahoma History: Osage Tribe



Two Osage tribe members sit in their car in Osage County, Oklahoma. Mineral rights in Osage County helped the Osage tribe become one of the wealthiest groups of people in the world.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

When settlers began moving across America, they had frequent run-ins with the Native Americans in the regions of Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. As the Anglo-American settlers began putting up their own communities and homesteads, they began to offer the different tribes opportunities to abandon their lands and receive specific reservations in other parts of the country. Most of the tribes who underwent these reservations journeys, ended up devastated by the move. The long treks took a toll on their populations, like the Southern Sioux tribe Kansa who went from a population of 1,700 to 194 after relocating in Kansas. However, one tribe who already had a unique style of living, ended up as the wealthiest tribe in the nation, wealthier by far than many of the settlers.

The Osage tribe was a special tribe among others. In the early 19th century, they were the largest tribe of the Southern Sioux with what the explorers described as “sophistication.” Most Southern Sioux tribes like the Quapaw, Ponca, Omaha, and Kansa hunted wild game like the Northern tribes, but they also raised their own crops and developed semi-permanent villages. This made the negotiations and trades much easier than with the nomadic tribes of the Northern Sioux. The Osage tribe commanded so much land and respect that President Thomas Jefferson discussed trades with them and described them as a “great nation.” However, like other nations, the Osage would soon begin to cede sections of their land. They eventually turned over a hundred million acres of their land.

As one of the tribes relocated, the Osage peacefully moved to a reservation at the southern end of Kansas

in 1810. Upon relocation, they re-established their log lodges and began life again. Settlers continued to move west and began coveting their reservation. So, the tribe agreed to move again. In 1872, they relocated to a section of Oklahoma Territory, now known as Osage County. This move was prompted by one of the Osage chiefs who suggested the location, due to its terrain stating that they would not be bothered, because the land is not farmable by the settlers.

Upon arrival, the Osage numbers were a fraction of what they were before and many of their people were starving, but they’d soon find out that the land they chose sat atop what would become one of the nation’s largest deposits of oil. Now, the U.S. government attempted to break up the reservation into series of private ownerships, similar to what they did with several other reservations. However, the Osage were a special case because they purchased their land before relocating so they owned their reservation. They had a deed, negotiators, and were able to secure a deal that gave them mineral rights to their land. At the time, only the Osage had an inclination as to what lay below the surface, but even they were not aware of the sheer amount of wealth below their feet.

Drilling began and to ensure that sections of the land remained in Osage control, the tribe divided sections among their tribal roll in sections called “headrights.” The headrights were shares of the mineral trust and stated that the Osage would maintain all the territory together. So, the land remained controlled by Osage, and each headright would receive a check for royalties or leases that came about from the oil money.

Initially, each headright family would receive a check for around \$100, then it doubled, again and again quickly until the 1920’s when the tribe had received millions of dollars. By 1923, they were dubbed the “wealthiest people

per capita in the world” with an equivalent of today’s money to over \$400 million.

Many of the settlers in the area were awestruck and reports went around that the Osage lived in mansions, had chauffeured cars, servants, and luxury. The white settlers in the area were at first envious which then became prejudice that in turn grew to outrage. The land retained part of its Wild West roots and a series of extremely violent events would soon take place; events involving guns, poison, and a bomb.

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HIGHER GROUND

The Pursuit of Purpose

The Search for Significance is the title of a popular book written earlier in this century. Rick Warren’s book, Purpose Driven life, published in 2002, sold upwards of forty million copies. It was even featured in a Hollywood produced movie. TIME magazine wrote, “Millions of people—from NBA and LPGA players to corporate executives to high school students to prison inmates—meet regularly to discuss this book.”

The popularity of these two books even among people not necessarily spiritually inclined, reveals a deep-seated desire in all people to find meaning and purpose in life. After her diving accident which left Joni Eareckson Tada a quadriplegic, she felt her life was over, wasted and with no reason to go on living. She was invigorated when she decided to put God to the test. She offered herself as a human guinea pig to see what God could do through someone who had no use of their hands or legs. She would give Him free rein of her heart and soul.

And with that purpose filled life, God has used her to write about fifty books, publish art work, play herself in a movie about her life, and bring joy to millions of people around the world through her multiple ministries.

Without a purpose or direction we live only for what will bring temporary pleasure or gratification. When that is over we seek for the next thing that will satisfy. The suicide rate among teen-agers is rising because they have lost a purpose that gives them a reason to go on living.

Retirees, after the excitement of travel or sport, often find life boring and go back to work to fill a need for significance. Miles Munroe, in his book, In Pursuit of Purpose said, “Purpose is the key to life. Without purpose life has no meaning. If your vision for life is measured by status, your upkeep will be your downfall. Without knowledge of purpose, life becomes an endless string of activities with little or no significance. Like a rider on a rocking horse, life without purpose makes much motion but no progress.” Thomas Carlyle said, “The man without a purpose is like a ship without a rudder—a waif, a nothing, a no man.” Rick Warren, in the book mentioned previously, concluded, “You were made by God and for God—and until you understand that life will never make sense.” Even Bertrand Russell,

an atheist, said, “unless you assume a God, the question of life’s purpose is meaningless.”

The Westminster Shorter Catechism shares that, “The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” Whatever your vocation, be it butcher, baker, or candlestick maker, your purpose should be to exalt, to uplift, and to make much of God. Nothing is more significant. Nothing gives more meaning to life than to know that you have been used of God to extend the Kingdom—in doing so you bring more worship and praise to His name. As John Piper has said, “Missions exist because worship does not.” The goal or purpose of all mission effort is to bring more people from every tribe and nation to bow before Him in worship. One of the curses of the modern day church is apathy, a lack of hunger and thirst after the knowledge of God. Revival comes when people are so convicted of their sin that they cry out for mercy in repentance. “Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” Hosea 6:3 To comment 580-772-2311 or jhm82@outlook.com