

WEST OK WEEKLY



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Glow Prom Planned Friday at SWOSU for Special Needs Community

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Student Council for Exceptional Children and Kappa Delta Pi are inviting students and adults who are part of the special needs community in western Oklahoma to the 2022 Glow Prom, which is Friday, March 4, at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center on the Weatherford campus.

Glow Prom is for students in grades 7-12, adults, para-professionals and coaches who participate in Special Olympics. The event will be held from 6-9 p.m.

Glow Prom has been designed to provide support and create community awareness. All participants will receive a free t-shirt, food, prizes to be won playing bingo, a photo booth as well as a dance floor and professional DJ to dance the night away.

"We go all out with the decorations making this a night they will not forget and rolling out the red carpet announcing each participant as they arrive and walk into the Skyview Suite at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center," said Kendra Smith, special education program



coordinator in the SWOSU Department of Education. "Our hope is that the students will come and enjoy a night of fun and entertainment that will put them in the spotlight."

Weatherford firefighter clowns, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Miss SWOSU, the SWOSU volleyball team, SWOSU pom, SWOSU Homecoming King and Queen and the Bulldog mascot will all come to help make the night a success.

Suggested dress for the night is school appropriate attire.

Pancake Supper to Support Bessie First Responder Volunteers

Chase Wright
Staff Writer



The Bessie Community and Fire Department are hosting their Pancake Supper and whole hog sausage fundraiser on Monday, March 7th, from 4pm - 8pm. Located at the Bessie Gym, everyone is welcome! Plates are \$13 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. A drive-thru option is available on the west side of the gym. All proceeds from the fundraiser go directly to the Bessie Fire Department and support the purchase of fire protective gear, bunker gear, and accessories. Equipping a single firefighter with quality gear to enter a building costs around \$10,000. The cost covers things like helmets, jackets, air masks, and air tanks, and that's just to get a single fighter prepped for entry. Additional costs come from all the tools and vehicles, associated with fighting fires, like: trucks, hoses, ladders, extractions tools, stabilization tools, and pumps.

There will also be top quality meats available for purchase. These include smoked link, unsmoked link, and bulk sausage for \$10 per 2 lbs; Liver sausage for \$6 per lb. or 4lbs for \$20; and ribs for \$10 per package. All packages and sausages will be vacuum sealed and frozen.

Swing by, grab some food, and support the Bessie Fire Department and the highly trained men and women first responders.



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DREAMS will match SYEP with community partners for paid summer employment while offering special life skills training to prepare them for the job market. SYEP will have the opportunity to develop individualized skills, set career goals, all while earning a paycheck.

****All interested applicants: MUST have completed applications submitted by 3:00PM on March 18th: Assessments and interview completed by March 30th, and all MUST attend parent orientation in April 2022. Selections will be notified by mail in May 2022.**

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Applications available at DREAMS Offices in Concho and Clinton
Online: <https://cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov/project/tribal-services/>
Click Tribal Programs, Click Labor, Click Dreams,
Scroll down for Summer Youth 2022

<p>Eligibility Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrolling 30 eligible youth ages 14 -21. Must be enrolled with federally recognized Tribe. Must live in tribal service area during 2021-22 school year. Minor applicants must provide birth certificate or guardianship. All males age 18+ must register with Selective Service. Must pass a pre-employment drug test and background check. COVID-19 Vaccine required. 	<p>THE APPLICATION WILL REMAIN INCOMPLETE UNTIL ALL DOCUMENTATION IS RECEIVED.</p> <p>PLEASE BE ADVISED that to be considered for participation in SYEP, INCOME ELIGIBILITY MUST BE DETERMINED .</p> <p>PRIORITY in no ranking order includes youth who are/have: a Disability, Pregnant or Parenting, in Foster Care, or At Risk Student or High School Drop Out.</p>
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Wanda Joy Avant

Wanda was born on March 31, 1933, in Davidson, OK to James and Ilda (Cunningham) East and died on February 18, 2022, at the Cordell Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Cordell having reached 88 years, 10 month and 17 days



Wanda's family moved to Cordell, OK in 1935, where she was raised and attended school, graduating from Cordell High school in 1951. She married Loyd Avant on August 26, 1955, in Cordell. They lived in Cordell and she worked for the AT&T telephone company. She was transferred by AT&T to Dallas, TX in 1955. After retiring, she and Loyd moved to Quitman, TX. Then they moved to Corn, OK in 2008. She enjoyed her dogs, animals, sewing, traveling, taking trips to the Holy Land, Italy, and other destinations. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church in Weatherford.

Wanda is survived by her brother Jimmy Wayne East of Terrell, TX and sister, June East of Pacoima, CA. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; and sister, Judy Whitworth.

wife Lauri of Sickles, OK; grandchildren: Melissa & husband Jeff, Kimberly and husband Joel, Zach and wife Jessica, Matthew, Landon and wife Toni, Devin and wife Madison, Kandice, Alex and wife Gus, Gracen, Micah and Layla; great grandchildren: Lucas, Hudson, Ryder, Rhett, Montgomery, Ripken (on the way) and a great granddaughter on the way, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Juanita Castro

Funeral Services for Juanita Castro, 71, Clinton resident, were held 11:00 Friday, February 25, 2022, in the St. Mary's Catholic Church, officiated by Father Mandagiri Balaswamy. Burial concluded in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



A Rosary was held 6:00 P.M., Thursday, February 24, 2022, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel.

Juanita Castro was born May 16, 1950, to Manuel Castro and Eloisa (Losaya) Castro in Goliad, Tx and passed away Monday, February 21, 2022, in her Clinton home.

She moved all over with her parents as they were migrant workers. She did a lot of her schooling in Texas. The family settled in Clinton, OK in 1955 and believed they were the 2nd Hispanic family to make Clinton their home. She is a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church; she enjoyed going to the Casino and playing BINGO and just hanging out with her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, grandson Alfonso Daniel Reynaga and a sister Virginia Castro.

She is survived by five daughters: Terry Hilburn, OKC, OK, Patricia Hilburn and husband, Antonio Lopez, OKC, OK, Gloria Harwell and husband Wade, of Oxford, MS, Yolanda Hilburn and girlfriend Brittany Sellers, OKC, OK; and Salome Reynaga and husband Alfonso, Clinton; OK: sister Rose Marie Padgett, Clinton; LK, three brothers: Manuel Castro, Jr. and wife, Linda Arnold Castro, all of Clinton and Joe Castro and wife Ann, Pontotoc, MS.

She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Joe started working at a young age on the family farm as well as surrounding farms in the area. He later was employed at the Bills Bakery, Coca-Cola Bottling Company. In 1961 he began a 20-year career with the Clinton Fire Department where he retired in 1981 as the Assistant Fire Chief. He became self-employed and owned and operated the Beauchamp Sand and Gravel Business, and he did that until the present.

Joe was known for many things, including being quiet the prankster with an ornery streak. He was a jokester, hard worker and most importantly, a loving son, brother, friend, husband, father, and Papa. He left his mark on this world and those who knew him best. His legacy will live on through them, their memories and the stories they tell. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and love him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Kendall Beauchamp, Bob Beauchamp and sister, Dorothy Chelbica.

He is survived by his wife Lanell Beauchamp, of the home, daughter Joetta Davis, OKC, OK; two sons: Bobby Beauchamp and wife Linda, Clinton; and Lonnie Beauchamp and wife Angie, Waco, TX; two stepdaughters: Gina Hernandez and husband Ramon, and Deanna Barwell, both of Hobart, OK; brother J.C. Beauchamp, Woodward, OK; three sisters: Vergie Winker, of Michigan, Vera Glasscock, and Peggy Drinnon, both of Elk City, OK.

He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Lemuel George "LG" Ruckman

LG Ruckman, age 87 of Lookeba, OK, passed away February 21, 2022, in Oklahoma City, OK. He was born July 30, 1934, in Altus, OK, to Lemuel George and Helen (Warren) Ruckman. His family relocated to the Sickles area when he was young, and LG graduated from Sickles High School in 1952. The next two years LG attended Oklahoma A&M college in Stillwater where he participated in ROTC. Due to lack of funds to continue college, he returned to Altus to work as a delivery driver for Dr. Pepper, Barq's Root Beer and Delaware Punch. He married the love of his life Nellie Elaine Hileman, on December 21, 1954, in Hinton, OK, and they had five children.



Playing Rook was something LG took seriously. He and Nellie were in several Rook clubs where they were able to spend fun times with friends and church family. He also served on the Caddo County Farm Bureau Board.

LG spent most of his life farming. In addition to peanuts, cotton, and cattle, he had a garden of several acres which fed his family and many friends. He sometimes sold some of the watermelon, but he took great joy in being able to give away much of the other garden produce. After retiring, he purchased a boat and loved to fish with his kids and grandkids. Nothing brought more happiness to LG than spending time with his family.

LG was a member of the Hinton Church of Christ, serving as a Deacon, treasurer, and 39 years as an Elder.

LG was preceded in death by his parents Lemuel and Helen Ruckman, and his wife Nellie Ruckman.

Survivors include: his children: Rick Ruckman and wife Tammy of Hydro, OK; LaQuita Dixon and husband Jim of Hinton, OK; Linda Ruckman of Oklahoma City, OK; Cynthia Talbert and husband Brian of Collinsville, OK; and Tim Ruckman and

Thomas Gene Green

A cremation has taken place for Thomas Gene Green under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Thomas Gene Green was born October 4, 1963, in Hammond, Indiana, and passed February 18, 2022, at his home in Arapaho, OK. He was born to Gene Wojewoda and Janet (Wojewoda) Britton. He was later adopted by Norman Green and spent his early childhood in Muldrow, OK before moving to Corn in his early teens. He attended Washita Heights and graduated in 1981.

After graduation he worked for Jacob Goosen Farms in Corn. He later became a non-traditional student at SWOSU where he graduated with honors in 1997 with an Allied Health degree that focused on athletic training. Following a 3-year athletic training career in South Texas, he returned to Western Oklahoma to raise his daughter around family. His work experience included working at the Welding Shop of Cordell, F.L.A.P. of Foss, and a 13-year long career at Reddy and Clinton Ice Companies where he was working at the time of his passing.

Tom enjoyed collecting Hot Wheels, hunting, fishing, and spending money on his daughter.

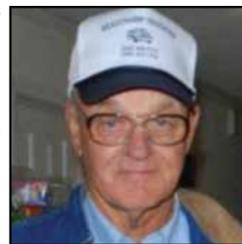
His is survived by his daughter Keegan Green and her mother Dianne Green of Arapaho, Ok, Son Josh Sawatzky of Weatherford, OK, Sister's Robin Leonard and husband Eric of Piedmont, OK, Dianna Wise and husband Tommy of Clinton, OK, Father-in-law Charles McAmis of Arapaho, OK.

He is preceded in death by Mother Jan Roberts-Brittton, Biological-father Gene Wojewoda and a stepfather Jim Britton.

Tom will be deeply missed by family and friends.

Louis Joe Beauchamp

Funeral Services for Joe Beauchamp, 83, Clinton resident were held 1:00 P.M., Saturday, February 26, 2022, at The Cornerstone Church, officiated by Daniel Mosburg and Jessie Musick. Burial will follow in the Arapaho Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



The family greeted guests at the funeral home from 6:00 till 8:00 P.M., Friday, February 25, 2022.

Louie Joe Beauchamp was born April 19, 1938, to Louie Arland Beauchamp and Louise Jane (Corn) Beauchamp in Wheeler, TX and passed away Saturday, February 19, 2022, in his Clinton home.

Joe was raised and attended school in Arapaho where he graduated in 1957. He soon married Ruth Williams on July 11, 1957, in Wheeler, TX. To this union three children were born. He later married Lanell Beauchamp on January 21, 1983, in Wheeler, TX and gained two bonus daughters.



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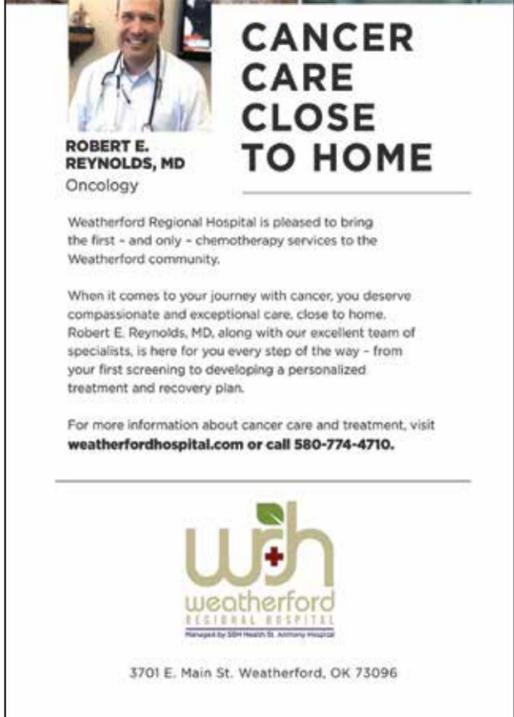


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Oklahoma Senators Weigh in on Russian Invasion of Ukraine

This past week tensions in Ukraine escalated as Russian forces invaded after months of sabre rattling and diplomatic efforts failed to prevent conflict. Oklahoma's two State senators gave their thoughts on Russia's incursion into another sovereign state's territory.

U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK.), ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, made the following statement on Russia's escalation of their invasion into Ukraine:

"My prayers are with the brave men, women, and children of Ukraine, who are suffering an unprecedented, unwarranted and unprovoked attack ordered by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"For months, we've seen this coming - but Putin's massive, shameful breach of international protocol is shocking and devastating nonetheless.

"While I am continuing to monitor the situation as events unfold, I believe it is in our country's best interest to respond strongly - by providing additional defensive aid to continue to help our Ukrainian friends defend themselves and by sending additional resources to our troops in Eastern Europe who are working alongside

our NATO allies to deter this aggression from spreading further; and by imposing the most severe economic costs on Putin and his inner circle for this grave misstep. To be clear: Putin's ambitions won't stop with Ukraine - unless America and our allies stop Putin.

"After Putin invaded Crimea in 2014, it became clear that the Obama-Biden administration's tepid response was ineffectual at deterring Russian aggression. Since then, I have supported the Senate Armed Services Committee-led effort to bolster Ukraine's ability to defend itself through what is now the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative. I now call upon the Biden administration and my colleagues to work together quickly to deter Putin from continuing down this path, to continue military support to Ukraine under these new dire circumstances, and to further bolster European security in the face of what will amount to the biggest threat to democracy since the Soviet Union fell."

Senator James Lankford (R-OK) also issued a statement on Russia's invasion of the sovereign nation of Ukraine:

"Cindy and I pray for the people of Ukraine. Today

they face the unfathomable: an unprovoked attack on their families, homes, and communities—simply for who they are and what they stand for: a free people living in a free country living next door to a murderous dictator.

"America and our allies must respond quickly and decisively with crippling sanctions on Putin, Russia, and anyone who seeks to aid their actions. We will absolutely impose trade restrictions and enforce sanctions on countries who continue to work with Russia.

"Europe is dependent on Russian oil and natural gas. Sanctions on Russian energy are meaningless unless the world responds by producing more energy to replace Russian oil and gas. During this moment of crisis, the United States should work to dramatically ramp up energy production to strengthen our allies and to cut off the flow of money into Putin's war machine. Every dollar paid for Russian energy is a dollar they will use to murder their Ukrainian neighbors. America must lead the world by increasing our production of energy to decrease reliance on Russian exports. Russia's economy is heavily dependent on energy sales, we should make sure that immediately dries up."

Volunteers Needed for Remote Medical Event to be Held this Summer at SWOSU

Remote Area Medical- (RAM®) -- a major non-profit provider of mobile clinics delivering free, high-quality, dental, vision, and medical care to underserved and uninsured individuals--is coming to Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford on Saturday and Sunday, July 16-17.

The clinics will be held at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center, 900 N. Seventh Street.

Services available at the RAM clinic include dental cleanings, dental fillings, dental extractions, dental x-rays, comprehensive eye exams, eyeglass prescriptions, eyeglasses made on-site, diabetic eye exams, glaucoma evaluations and general medical exams.

All RAM services are free, and no ID is required.

RAM is a volunteer organization so organizers rely

heavily on local providers and schools to provide services to those in need through the donation of their time. For those that would like to volunteer their services, registration is available at volunteer.ramusa.org.

RAM was founded in 1985 by Stan Brock of Mutual Omaha's Wild Kingdom. The event was held at SWOSU in 2019 and had a large attendance from around the state of Oklahoma.

The clinic parking lot is currently scheduled to open no later than 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, July 16. Doors will open at 6 a.m. daily.

This process will repeat on Sunday, July 17.

For more information about RAM's mobile clinics or to volunteer, visit www.ramusa.org or call 865-579-1530.



Provided

Audra Fitzgerald (center), clinic coordinator with RAM, recently visited with Dr. Randy Curry, coordinator of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Rural Health Center, and SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell about this summer's event at SWOSU that will deliver free, high-quality, dental, vision, and medical care to underserved and uninsured individuals. RAM will be held July 16-17 at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

SWOSU Senior Portraits Scheduled for March 1 and 29



Senior portraits will be taken for the Graduate Record, Southwestern Oklahoma State University's senior yearbook, on March 1 and 29.

Graduates from December 2021, May 2022 and summer 2022 are eligible to have their photos taken.

Sittings will be in the Memorial Student Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 1 in the East Ballroom and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 29 in the Bonny Boardroom. Both locations are on the second floor of the student center.

There is no charge for the sitting and no appointment is needed.

No formal attire is necessary; however, students should dress appropriately and avoid wearing T-shirts.

For more information, contact Dr. Loran Lewis at 580-774-3083 or loran.lewis@swosu.edu.



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CLINTON CITY COUNCIL/TORNADO DAMAGE UPDATE- Clinton City Manager Robert Johnston gave the City Council an update on repair work at the Clinton Airport with a contract in place to repair the T hangers. The airport was damaged during a tornado back in October of last year.

visit to Weatherford Public Schools next month. Superintendent Jill Henderson says Hofmeister will tour the new elementary buildings that are under construction. Hofmeister is seeking the office of Governor, running as a Democrat.

BECKHAM CO DIST COURT/LEAL- An Elk City man has entered a plea in Beckham County District court to five counts of sexual offenses. 56 year old David Dean Leal Sr., pleaded guilty to lewd or indecent acts to a child under 16. Leal also pleaded no contest to four other charges, including two counts of first degree rape, one count of rape by instrumentation and one count of performing lewd acts in the presence of a minor. Prosecutors say Leal sexually molested a female youth on several separate occasions. Leal will be sentenced May 18th after the completion of a pre-sentence investigation.

CLINTON/WEATHERFORD WATER LINE PROJECT- The Cities of Clinton and Weatherford agreed to fund a feasibility study on a pipeline that would make it possible to share water throughout Custer County. Clinton Mayor David Berrong says that the cities could hear back from engineers in late spring or early summer. Berrong says the projected amount of pipeline would be about 14 miles between Clinton and Weatherford.



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CLINTON ROUTE 66 MUSEUM- The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society Trait Thompson says that some improvements could be coming to the Route 66 Museum in Clinton, thanks to some bills making their way through the house and senate during this legislative session. Thompson says the project includes replacing the h-vac units, replacing the roof, adding a theater room and there's also plans to add electric car chargers to the museum, the total price of the project would be about three hundred thousand dollars.

SWOSU/LAWSUIT RULING- A Custer County District court judge has ruled that Southwestern Oklahoma State University is exempt from any liability in a lawsuit filed in 2020 on behalf of former football player Skye Singleton. Court records show it was claimed that in February 2018, Singleton became ill with cold and flu-like symptoms as a result of the loss of heat in his dormitory. It's alleged that Singleton was made to participate in a mandatory team workout session, and during the session experienced cardiac distress and lost consciousness, resulting in permanent brain injury due to a lack of oxygen. It was claimed that the workout facility was either not equipped with a portable defibrillator or one was not used and additionally CPR was not administered. Again, the judge found that SWOSU had no liability in connection with the allegations.

WEATHERFORD SCHOOLS/HOFMEISTER- State Schools Superintendent Joy Hofmeister will make a



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Rodeo Rides for First Time in 2022 at Kansas State

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

SWOSU Rodeo opened their spring schedule last weekend in Kansas and got a third-place finish from the women's side and a sixth-place finish on the men's side.

The Bulldogs had solid showings from Lukasey Morris who placed first in the average in bull riding and Sadie Wolaver who paired together third place in both the short round and average in barrel racing.

Successful showings in the long round included Jesse Troyer (bareback, 1st, 73 pts) and Peyton Hooper (breakaway, 1st, 2.4 seconds)

The women's team collected 185 points on the weekend, while the men finished with 210.

SWOSU's next rodeo will again be in Kansas, this time hosted by Fort Scott Community College March 11-13.



Ticket Punched: Men's Hoops Wins at UAM, Earns Spot in Postseason



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

SWOSU Men's Basketball made sure the longest road trip of the season was worth it after battling Arkansas Monticello in a makeup game for a previously postponed contest. The Bulldogs defeated UAM 55-51 in a physical matchup to secure their spot in the Great American Conference Tournament coming up March 3-6.

SWOSU's seed for the postseason tournament is still undecided, with potential standing implications still in play around the league with one week left of the regular season. The only thing the Dawgs know, is that they'll be in Shawnee that week where the tournament is hosted.

Tonight's matchup saw a physical, defensive game by both teams.

"When it's all said and done, our guys were tough

enough to get another road win tonight in a physical game where we faced adversity," Head Coach Terry Evans said in his post-game interview. "That's 5-of-6 we've won in the state of Arkansas and I'm definitely proud of the guys for staying focused and getting the job done."

Though a low scoring affair, SWOSU got up by as many as 21 points around the 15:00 mark of the second half before UAM made their run.

The run was to be expected, as the Boll Weevils are also on the bubble for playoff contention and are playing must-win basketball from here on out. UAM immediately responded with an 11-0 run and continued to chip away from there.

"We had a chance to really blow it open in the second half, but we could not make any shots or free throws and that really hurt us. Thankfully though, we held up

on defense. We gave up 71 (points) to them at our place, and 51 tonight and that was definitely the key that helped us get through our shooting trouble."

UAM had the game within a single possession with 1:30 remaining, but the Bulldogs proceeded to get two stops on defense to keep the lead intact. After Chris Braggs, Jr. missed a pair of free throws that would have pushed the lead back to four and kept things interesting, Mason Hart stepped up to the foul line with 14 seconds after another stop on defense to finally put the Boll Weevils away.

For the game, SWOSU shot 34% as a team and 32% from beyond the arc. This compared to 36% and 31% respectively from UAM. The Dawgs also edged out UAM in rebounding 32-28 and won the turnover battle 15-12.

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Bulldog Golf Opens Spring at Rattler Invitational



SWOSU'S Gregor Weck prepares for a putt at the Rattler Invitation. Weck led the Bulldogs and tied for 16th overall in the tournament which was SWOSU's first event this spring.

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

The SWOSU Men's Golf team took the course for the first time this spring at the Rattler Invitational and finished 12th overall for the event.

Cameron won the event by a single stroke (874 overall) and the top-four teams all finished within one stroke of each other. SWOSU finished at 920. Fellow GAC schools Arkansas Tech and Henderson State placed fifth and sixth respectively.

Gregor Weck led the way for the Bulldogs, finishing tied for 16th overall after shooting 221 (+5) through three rounds. His lowest round of the tournament came in the second when he shot an even par 72. Weck was tied for 6th after the first day, but a final round 76 (+4) dropped him back to 16.

Anders Strand and Conner Boydston both shot 233 overall as SWOSU's next top finishers. Strand's best round was his first where he recorded a 74 (+2). Boydston was more consistent however and recorded a third-round 76 as his best showing.

Gerardo Herrera (235, +19) and Heston Brown (238, +22) rounded out the Bulldog scorecards.

SWOSU will return to action closer to home March 14-15 at the Oak Tree Invitational in Edmond.

Crimson Storm Shooting Too Much for Bulldogs

Men's Hoops fell to Southern Nazarene by an 82-63 final score to close out the regular season. SWOSU trailed by 20 at the break which proved to be too large to overcome.

SWOSU played better in the second half, edging SNU by a single point, but the damage had already been done by a hot shooting Crimson Storm squad.

In the first half, the Dawgs shot 37% from the field but dealt with an SNU team that shot 55% and knocked down 7-for-14 from beyond the arc.

Though SWOSU improved their shooting in the second half to 51%, they could not slow the Crimson Storm who added one percentage point for 56% shooting and knocked down one more three for 8-of-13 from deep.

In the game, SNU knocked down 15 three balls in 27 attempts.

Damion Thornton led the team in scoring with 15 points, followed by Jaylan Williams with nine and DeAngelo Adkins and Mark Berry who both had eight.

As the regular season wraps up, SWOSU finishes 11-16 overall and 10-12 in conference play. They will either be the No. 7 or 8 seed heading into the GAC Tournament depending on the result of the Oklahoma Baptist vs East Central game set to be played tonight.



If ECU loses, SWOSU would receive the seven seed. If ECU wins, SWOSU would receive the eight seed. The Great American Conference Tournament is set

to be played March 3-6 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament the following week.

Regular Season Closes with Win for Lady Bulldogs

The No. 19-ranked Lady Bulldogs used strong second and fourth quarter performances to handle Southern Nazarene 71-55 on Saturday and finish out the regular season with win number 11 in a row heading into the postseason.

SWOSU outscored the Crimson Storm 41-26 in those two quarters while the two teams played each other close in the first and third.

The win moves SWOSU to 26-4 on the year and they finish 20-2 in conference play as the regular

season champion and No. 1 seed heading into the GAC Tournament.

As a team, the Lady Bulldogs shot 40% overall and 36% from three-point land on 8-of-22 attempts. SWOSU won the turnover battle 21-13 and scored 25 points off those turnovers.

Makyrá Tramble notched her second 30-point game of the season this afternoon. She finished with an even 30 points on 11-of-21 shooting and racked up six rebounds, six assists, and five steals. Lauren Ramey was SWOSU's

other double-digit scorer, finishing with 17 points. Karly Gore scored six points and grabbed a game high 11 rebounds.

SWOSU now turns its sights to the postseason. As GAC play wraps up around the league today, they will quickly know who they will be paired up against to begin the quest for a tournament championship.

The GAC Tournament is held March 3-6 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. The winner receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament the following week.

HIGHER GROUND

Our Eyes are Fixed on God



Jim Morrison

As we hear the sounds of war in a David Vs Goliath type of battle, we cannot help but admire the Ukrainians fighting for their country against insurmountable forces.

I am reminded of another battle of similar odds. It is described in the twentieth chapter of 2nd Chronicles, in the Old Testament. Jehoshaphat, one of the few Godly kings of Judah, was informed that a vast army from three people groups was arrayed against their small country. The King was alarmed. His army didn't stand a chance against such a vast army. But as a believer in a mighty God, his first act was to seek help from his only source of help. "Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah... they came from every town in Judah to seek Him." They had a big-time prayer meeting. Following are some

excerpts from his prayer. He begins with recognition of the mighty God he served. "Oh Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hands and no one can withstand you... we have no power to withstand this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do but our eyes are upon you." Vs. 6,12.

The situation appeared to be hopeless. But a prophet was among them to give a word of hope. The Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel who said, "Listen King Jehoshaphat, do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army; for the battle is not yours, but God's." Space does not permit me to share the details (read it for yourselves), but the end result was, after a period of praise, he sent out the choir to lead the men into battle; probably the only time in history that such a battle tactic was used.

Somehow two of the nations started fighting each other and the third group began fighting amongst themselves. The end result was that when the men of Judah came over the hill, they only saw dead bodies lying around. They took so much plunder that it took three days to carry it home.

That is probably not a strategy that the army of Ukraine will use, but there is a principle that we can

follow. We all fight battles that seem insurmountable at times. When the storms come and we don't know what to do, let us praise the God of all circumstances and fix our eyes on Him. "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's."

Fast forward a few years in the history of Israel and we find Daniel, now an old man, having served three kings over 50 years while the Israelites are in exile in Babylon, praying as the people look towards a return to their homeland.

First, there is a prayer of confession. "We have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands." (Dan. 9:5) He concludes by pleading, "We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, O my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name." (Dan. 18b,19) How appropriate this would be for us to pray in these troubled times.

Pray for the people of Ukraine, and especially for the Christians who will be facing persecution. Michael and Teresa Cox, son and daughter-in-law of the late Police Chief Byron Cox and his wife Elsie, serve as missionaries in nearby Lithuania. May God bless you. To comment jhm82@outlook.com or 580-302-1142.

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Simmons & Morris Receive Bulldog of the Week Honor



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Breanna Simmons (softball) and Lukasey Morris (rodeo) are the latest Bulldogs of the week. The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the home of the Bulldogs over the airwaves on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Simmons (Hendrix, Okla.) is coming off a Sunday doubleheader against Southern Arkansas where she hit 3-for-5 in two games and also walked once. She doubled in both games she played in and drove in a run. She has opened the season batting .526 through seven games and has collected a hit in every game so far this season.

Morris (Union City, Okla.) won the average in bull riding at the Kansas State Rodeo back on February 18-20. His 73 points in the opening round was the only qualified ride of the night and proved to be enough to claim first place in the average despite a no score in the short go. He was SWOSU's only first place finisher in the average on the weekend.



Natalie Simpson/WW

Property 46 Real Estate in Clinton recently held their ribbon cutting. Jamie and Rock Rodebush renovated and re-opened the building on Frisco.

"The Coin Guy" Rarest Bank Notes in Existence



Trent Boesen

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PCGS will provide grading and encapsulation for packs of currency of 50 notes or 100 notes in consecutive order. Depending on the condition of an entire pack will determine a single grade. The above pictured notes were submitted by U.S. Coins and Jewelry out of Houston, Texas.

The combined face value of the pack of \$500 notes is \$50,000 and is incredulous it survived since the Great Depression.

Do you need help selling a collection of coins or currency but did not know who to ask? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 to make an appointment. Thanks for reading.

Blood Donors Needed to Rebuild



Oklahoma Blood Institute has an immediate need for blood donors to help rebuild the blood supply.

Blood drive cancellations caused by the recent winter storm have resulted in the significant loss of anticipated collections.

As the weather clears and road conditions improve, donors of all blood types, age 16 and older*, are urged to give at the nearest donor center or mobile blood drive as soon as possible. A secure blood supply is essential to ensure disaster preparedness and serve patients who depend on transfusions to survive.

"The need for blood is constant—someone needs a life-saving transfusion every two seconds," said John Armitage, M.D., president and CEO of Oklahoma

Blood Institute. We are calling on all healthy Oklahomans to take about an hour of their time to give blood for our friends and neighbors in need. Together we can rebuild the blood supply."

To schedule an appointment to give blood, call 877-340-8777 or visit obi.org to see a list of donor centers and mobile blood drives.

Volunteer donors with Oklahoma Blood Institute exclusively provide every drop of blood needed for patients in more than 160 hospitals, medical facilities, and air ambulances statewide. One donation saves up to three lives. More than 1,200 blood donors are required each day to ensure a healthy supply of lifesaving blood is available on shelves when needed.

*16-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds and provide signed parental permission; 17-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds; 18+ year olds must weigh at least 110 pounds. Photo ID required.

Jennifer Cook-Johns Named Registrar at SWOSU



Jennifer Cook-Johns has been named registrar at Southwestern Oklahoma State University starting March 1.

Cook-Johns joins the Academic Records Office after three years in the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP). During her tenure, OSP brought over \$10 million to SWOSU, and she assisted in digitizing all paperwork processes.

"Jennifer is a forward-thinker and a natural collaborator," said SWOSU Dean of Enrollment Dr. Jonna Myers. "I'm thrilled to watch her join the academic records team."

"Adding Jennifer Cook-Johns to SWOSU's student services is an excellent move," said Acting Vice President of Student Services Dr. Patsy Parker.

"I look forward to academic records making some important changes in the near future."

Cook-Johns holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership and will complete her Master of Business Administration degree this summer.

Corn Bible Academy
Friday, March 4th
5:00-6:30 pm
Price: by Donations

Senior Supper
BURGER BAR
Enjoy Burgers, Ice Cream Sundaes, and more!

Then watch the Junior Play:
"Papa Was a Preacher"
at 7pm \$7.00

Bessie Community & Fire Department
PANCAKE SUPPER
AND WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE
MONDAY, MARCH 7th
4pm-8pm

Location:
BESSIE GYM
(Curbside delivery will be available)

Adults - \$13
Children - \$7
(Under 12 yrs.)

Proceeds go to the Bessie Fire Department

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