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Grand Can Sculpture Competition a Big Success for Connections Food and Resource Center



Team members from the Et Cetera Shop and Hope is Alive Ministries show off their Grand Champion and Audience's choice awards from the Grand Can Sculpture competition.

Community members from around Western Oklahoma gathered together on Friday, April 1, at the Connections Food and Resource Center to help fight hunger and feed hope as part of the Grand Can Sculpture Competition.

The competition, which is both a sculpture competition as well as a community fundraising event for the Connections Food and Resource Center, helped raise \$11,871.21 in monetary contributions as well as 14,890 pounds of food. Connections estimates that these donations will supply hungry Western Oklahomans with 63,352 meals.

11 teams competed in the 3 day long event which began on Wednesday, March 30, and wrapped up on Friday, April 1. The Et Cetera Shop and Hope is Alive Ministries Team won top honors by winning both the Grand Champion award as well as the Audience's Choice award.

4-H Club of Weatherford and Bluth Medical Associate won the award for Most Pounds of Food donated, The Kiwanis Club of Weatherford took home the award for Best Use of Labels, the Lookeba-Sickles Leadership Class won the award for the Best Meal and Weatherford East and West Elementary won the award for Structural Ingenuity.

Chad Gray / WW

Weatherford Environment Group to Host April Recycling Events for Earth Day

Weatherford Environment Group (WEG) has scheduled several special recycling events for April in recognition of Earth Day, and they're requesting that citizens of Weatherford and neighboring communities save these dates.

WEG will be hosting a Special Recycling day on April, 23, 2022, from 9am to 3 pm at the Materials Processing Building, located at 602 East Clark Street for special items, including: large metal items and appliances with 75% metal or more; non-working electronics such as computer equipment and printers; fluorescent light bulbs that are eight feet, 4 feet, or spiral forms; incandescent light bulbs; LED light bulbs; household batteries such as AA, AAA, C, D, or rechargeable batteries; lead acid batteries; phone books; as well as televisions and computer monitors.

WEG is requesting that people who recycle televisions or computer monitors donate \$10 per item to help with recycling fees from a licensed recycler in Tulsa.

WEG will also be sponsoring a Tire Recycling event from April 1 to April 30, 2022. WEG has made arrangements with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (OKDEQ) to provide this service to citizens of Weatherford and neighboring communities free of charge. WEG requests that citizens deposit tires in the trailer, located at 602 East Clark Street, at the intersection of South Illinois and Clark Street during daylight hours.

Tires that will be accepted during the month long event include, tires from cars and light trucks, tires from motorcycles and mopeds, tires from school buses and automobiles owned by schools, tires sold to government agencies, tires sold for farm tagged motor vehicles, tires sold for commercial trucks, truck-tractors and trailers, the first registration in Oklahoma of automobiles, motorcycles, mopeds, or trucks, including farm tagged motor vehicles and commercial motor vehicles which are not registered under the International Registration

Plan (prorated tires), Used tires if no documentation that a fee has been previously been paid (includes retreaded or recapped tires for resale), as well as tires used on implements of husbandry and agricultural equipment that are no more than 14 inches wide and 44 inches in diameter.

WEG will not accept the following tires for recycling: all-terrain vehicle tires, off-road motorcycle tires, airplane tires, bicycle tires, riding mower tires, wheelbarrow tires, push mower tires, forklift tires, tires from vehicles where the first registration in Oklahoma was registered under the International Registration Plan (prorated vehicles), tires sold by a tire wholesaler to a retail dealer for resale; tires sold by vendors who do not have business or inventory inside Oklahoma, where the tires are delivered by common carriers; tires that have an overall width greater than 14 inches or an overall diameter greater than 44 inches and used on devices designed and adapted to be used exclusively for agricultural, horticultural or livestock-raising purposes, including farm tank-type wagons of less than 1,200 gallon capacity, trailers and semi trailers used exclusively to and from the farm to market, utility, all-terrain vehicles of less than 1,500 pounds which are equipped and used for farm or ranch operations, tires sold for backhoe, grader and other construction machinery; as well as tires with rims.

If you have questions about these or any other recycling events please contact Faye Henson at 580-772-5984.



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* Products include Traeger, Green Mountain, or Napoleon grills, FireDisc Cooker, or Canyon furniture.

We will have the drawing in November of 2022. We are combining this with another contest we had going, we decided to add a mower to it and spice things up a bit.

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Charles "Chuck" Barton Meyer

Charles "Chuck" Barton Meyer was born December 5, 1961, in Oklahoma City to Maurice Gerald and Naida Jean (Cathey) Meyer and passed away Thursday, March 24, 2022, at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, at the age of 60 years, 3 months and 19 days.



Chuck graduated from Weatherford High School in 1981. He married Robin Abercrombie on December 5, 1987, in Weatherford. Chuck owned and operated Meyer Radiator and Welding until 1999. Chuck was a member of the Weatherford Fire Department for 25 years, retiring at the rank of Captain in 2009. He retired from B.O.P. Ram and the V-Bar Ranch on January 31, 2022, after 23 years. Chuck enjoyed hunting, riding motorcycles with his buddies, farming and talking to his cows.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 34 years Robin Meyer of their home in Weatherford; his daughters: Shawna Jefferson and husband Jevin of Clinton; Abbey King and husband Eric of Weatherford, Natalie Meyer of Weatherford and Jennifer Conklin and husband Dylan and grandson Elliot of Edmond; his mother Naida Meyer of Weatherford; his brother Rick Meyer and wife Sheila of Woodward; nephews: Matt, Adam and Zachary Meyer and families. He was preceded in death by his father Maurice Meyer.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

Ernestine Hoelker

Ernestine Hoelker was born June 15, 1932, in Clinton to Burley Christopher and Donie Jewell (Pinson) Webb and passed away Sunday, March 27, 2022, at Brookdale Senior Living in Weatherford having reached the age of 89 years 9 months 12 days.

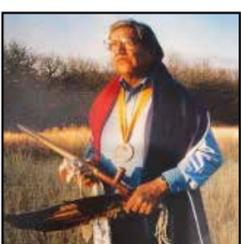


Ernestine was raised and attended school in Clinton, graduating with the Class of 1950. On July 15, 1951, she married Aubrey Abercrombie in Clinton and made their home in Independence. She worked alongside her husband on the family farm where they raised their family. Ernestine worked at American State Bank, City Bank and later Bank of the West before retiring in 1997. On December 10, 2004, she married Devert Hoelker in Weatherford and made their home in the Anthon area before moving to Weatherford in 2010. Ernestine enjoyed working jigsaw puzzles, traveling, shopping, and spending time with family and friends.

Ernestine is survived by her husband Devert Hoelker of their home in Weatherford; two sons Kurt Abercrombie and wife Loretta of McAlester and Jerry Abercrombie of Norman; two daughters: Susan Blount and husband Finley of Hammon and Cathy Switzer and husband, Randy of Weatherford; one step-son Dwayne Hoelker; one step-daughter Eileen Chittum; one brother Dwight Webb and wife Carol of Clinton; one sister Joyce Webb of Weatherford; eleven grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; and one great-great granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband Aubrey; six brothers, Milton, Hubert, Cecil, Cleo, Burley Jr. and Wayne; sisters, Irene, Nadine and Delores; and one son Larry.

Lawrence Homer Hart

Lawrence Homer Hart, He'amavehonevêstse (Sky Chief) was born at home on the banks of Quartermaster Creek north of Hammon to Jennie Howling Water and Homer Hart on February 24, 1933. He was delivered by his grandmother Corn Stalk—Anna Reynolds—who was a midwife and delivered numerous Cheyenne babies. His grandfather John Peak Heart (later John P. Hart) was a Cheyenne Sundance Priest, Native American Church leader and Cheyenne Chief. Lawrence had two older brothers: Alvin and Sam; three older sisters: Lucy, Lenore, and Kris who preceded him in death. He has one younger sister Ramona who resides in Weatherford.



Lawrence was raised by Cornstalk and John P, speaking only Cheyenne the first years of his life. His early formal education was at the Quartermaster School in Moorewood. English was a challenging subject, because of his "language problem," he was held back in first grade. Lawrence remained close to his grandfather, traveling with him during the summers. John P. Hart

often led Native American Church services with the Ute Mountain Utes in Colorado and around the Four Corners region in Colorado. Lawrence attended Hammon High School, playing basketball, running track, and graduating in 1952.

Lawrence attended Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas, where he lettered in track. He met a Kansas girl named Betty Bartel and the two were married October 4, 1957. Betty and Lawrence had three children: Connie Hart Yellowman, Nathan Hart, and Cris Hart Wolfe. Lawrence is survived by four grandchildren: Micah C. Hart, Cristina Hart "Cricket" Yellowman, Lily D. Hart, Sydney S. Hart, and Lexus L. Wolfe; and two great grandchildren: Nolan Ortiz and Stevanna "Sister" Ortiz. Lawrence is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews, their children, and grandchildren.

In 1955, Lawrence left Bethel to realize his dream of flying jet fighter planes in the Navy and the Marines. First Lieutenant Lawrence Homer Hart was the first American Indian to become a U.S. military jet pilot and instructor. He was a commissioned Marine, but flew his wartime missions off a U.S. Navy Aircraft carrier. He was one MIG kill short of qualifying as an ACE when a truce with North Korea was declared. While in the Marine Corps, he was selected to appear on the then popular "What's My Line" television show. He signed in using his Cheyenne name Black Beaver and his occupation was a jet fighter pilot.

His grandfather John Peak Heart selected Lawrence to take his place as a Cheyenne Chief. When the initiation was scheduled to occur in Hammon, Oklahoma, Lawrence's commanding officer authorized him to fly to Clinton-Sherman so he could be in attendance. Following the ceremony, Lawrence told the people he would fly over the location. Numerous descendants of those in attendance spoke of the time they waved their tea towels in the sky when Lawrence conducted the fly-over. On that day he also broke the sound-barrier, flying over the Gulf Coast before returning to his station at Chase Field, Beeville, Texas.

After he became a Cheyenne Chief, Lawrence left military service and attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University before returning to Bethel to graduate in 1961 with a degree in History. Lawrence then attended the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, and became an ordained Mennonite pastor. Lawrence and Betty moved to Clinton in 1963 where he served as pastor to the Koinonia Mennonite Church until October 2021. Throughout his career, Lawrence served on numerous local, state and National Indian Education boards and Committees. He also served on several Mennonite Committees as well as a board member to his alma mater Bethel College. In 1992 he was selected by the U.S. Senate as a Delegate to the White House Conference on Indian Education. That same year, he was named "Indian Elder of the Year" by the National Indian Education Association. Lawrence served as a board member of the Clinton Public Schools as well as leadership positions from 1993 to 1998. He was the first Native American elected to serve that position.

He received many awards, including "Distinguished Citizen Award" by the Oklahoma Heritage Association in 1993. In 1995 he was the recipient of the "Distinguished Service Award" from Bethel College. In 1997, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes recognized him as a "Distinguished Honorary Citizen" for Cheyenne language preservation. In September 1996, Secretary Bruce Babbitt appointed Mr. Hart to the Review Committee of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

The family would like to extend thanks to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes programs and Cheyenne District 3 for the assistance provided to their elder tribal member Lawrence H. Hart. The family also thanks Shepherd Hospice for the care provided to their husband, father, and uncle during the last year of his life.

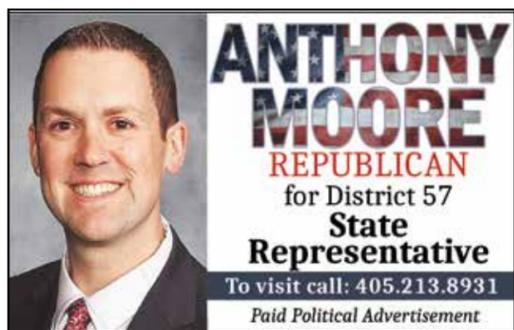
Linda Kay Allen

Linda Kay Allen was born January 6, 1940, in Hobart to Ralph and June (Schoff) Schreiner and passed away Thursday, March 24, 2022, at Oklahoma Heart Hospital—North in Oklahoma City, at the age of 82 years, 2 months and 18 days.



Linda was raised and attended school in Lone Wolf. Upon graduation, she attended Southwestern State College where she met Jerry Max Allen in September; he proposed in December; and they married July 3, 1959. They moved to Amarillo, Texas, in November 1959 and returned to Weatherford in 1961. She was a devoted wife and mother, and a friend to all who knew her. Linda was a faithful Christian with the First Baptist Church where she taught children and adult Sunday School for many years. She was a member of the PEO Sisterhood and a former member of the Athenian Club. Linda served on the school board in the early 90's and the Oklahoma Pharmacy Auxiliary as President. She worked alongside her husband Jerry at Allen Pharmacy and volunteered often in her children's activities.

Linda is survived by her husband of 62 years Jerry Allen of their home in Weatherford; one son James Allen and wife Alicia of Piedmont; two daughters: Brooke Gage and husband Robbie of Denver, Colorado; and Lesli Allen of Broken Arrow; one brother Richard Schreiner and wife, Lorraine of Davenport, Iowa; one sister Connie Boelte and husband Leon of Norman; four grandchildren: Grant and Katie Gage, Hope Morgan and husband Cody, and Rylee Carlton and husband Brian; and two great-grandchildren: Leighton and Carter. She was preceded in death by her parents.



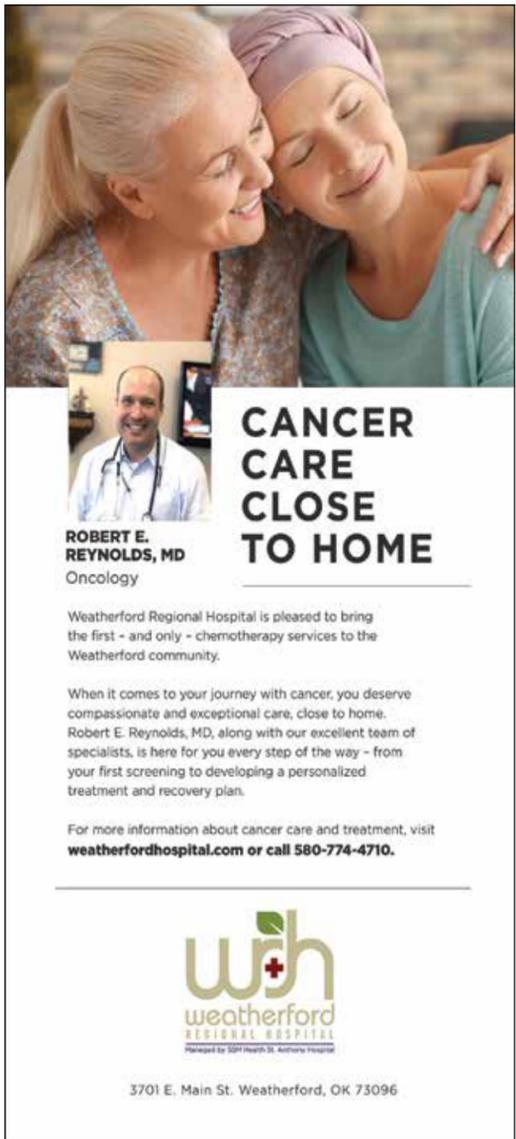
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Brian Busey Makes Major Gift to SWOSU Football

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon has announced the receipt of a major charitable gift from 2005 SWOSU alumnus Brian Busey of Oklahoma City.



Busey's generous gift has allowed SWOSU football to "kick off" the creation of a substantial new endowment that will provide ongoing support to the program in the form of funding for equipment, activities, facilities and student support.

"We are so proud of our graduate and benefactor, Brian Busey," said SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell. "This latest philanthropic investment from Brian is a testament to his belief in the enriching power of athletic programs for our students. Brian's gift will inspire other SWOSU football alumni to pay forward all they learned on the Hilltop and on the field at Milam Stadium!"

Busey is president & chief operating officer of

Delaware Resource Group (DRG). DRG is a Native American-owned leading global aerospace defense contractor based in Oklahoma City. The company is a total training systems integrator providing services and support all over the world. Thousands of service men and women around the world count on DRG to provide critical training and logistics services for many of today's modern military programs and aircraft. DRG is a certified Minority Owned Business (MBE) and a recognized Indian Economic Enterprise (IEE).

Busey oversees DRG company operations, finance and business development initiatives. He brings to DRG extensive knowledge with union and labor relations, program management, operations, finance and complex contract negotiations. He also oversees and manages the company's prime, sub and commercial contracts. He is responsible for the company's international business and oversees the management of locations in the Middle East, Asia and Europe. He has been employed with DRG full-time since 2004. Busey resides in Oklahoma City with his family.

Busey is a graduate of Leadership Edmond Class XXIV and has been recognized for his service and leadership by The Journal Record, The Oklahoma

Gazette, the National Center for the American Indian, and by The Business Times of Edmond. Busey sits on the Board of Directors of Regent Bank and is active in YPO Oklahoma City.

"SWOSU football is entering an exciting new era, and we will achieve greater heights of excellence because of generous partners like Brian Busey," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "We are truly grateful to Brian for setting an example for our football alumni in reinvesting in a program that helped shape and mold his character."

Busey's gift to the SWOSU Football Endowment is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. An institutionally-related charitable entity, the Foundation was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy, award scholarships and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards nearly \$37 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU.

For more information on the Foundation or to donate to the SWOSU Football Endowment, please contact SWOSU Advancement Coordinator for Athletics Allie Hoang at 580-774-3267.

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma Seeking Partners for Summer Feeding Program



The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is seeking sites to provide meals to children 18 and under for its Summer Feeding Program. The organization expects to see a large decrease in both the number of sites participating in its Summer Feeding Program as well as the number of children served during summer 2022 due to renewed USDA requirements.

The Summer Feeding Program is partially funded through federal dollars managed by the USDA and distributed through the Oklahoma State Department of Education. These programs have federal requirements that must be met to receive funding. When the pandemic began in 2020, the USDA implemented waivers that allowed the Regional Food Bank's Summer Feeding sites to offer alternative models of feeding children, such as grab-and-go meals and didn't require the meals to be consumed on-site. Those waivers will expire in late May, at the end of the 2021-22 school year.

"Many sites who have participated over the past two years are not equipped to host congregate feeding due to lack of space, staff or funds," said Stacy Dykstra, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. "The relaxed USDA requirements allowed the Regional Food Bank to reach so many more children who are in need of healthy meals during the summer months."

Through the Summer Feeding Program, children up to the age of 18 years can receive a free, nutritious meal and snack during the summer months when school is not in session. Last year, the Regional Food Bank provided 229,000 meals and snacks to children at 127 sites across central and western Oklahoma.

"We strongly urge organizations interested in making a huge impact in their community to apply to become a Summer Feeding Program site," Dykstra said.

Interested sites must be in an area where the assigned school attendance area has at least 50 percent of children receiving free or reduced-price lunches. Sites may be at schools, nonprofits, churches, community centers, libraries or parks and recreation locations.

All sites must have appropriate places for children to eat and have established mealtimes throughout the summer. Visit rfbo.org/summer-meals to apply.

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Inauguration of SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell Set for April 29



An inaugural event for SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell will be held Friday, April 29, on the Weatherford campus.

SWOSU was founded in 1901, and Lovell is the 18th president of the university.

The investiture ceremony is set for 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center, and the public is invited.

Dr. Diana “Diane” Lovell started as president

of Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) on July 1, 2021. Before coming to SWOSU, Lovell served as Vice-Chancellor of Student Services, Dean of

Social Sciences and Professor of History at Blinn (TX) College District since 2012.

Lovell was born and raised in Weatherford within the shadow of SWOSU. Both her parents taught at SWOSU with her father serving as chair of the Biology Department and mother teaching in the Home Economics Department. Additional family members have deep connections to SWOSU.

Lovell has a B.A. in Education from Baylor University in 1989, a M.A. in History from the University of Houston in 1992, and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Houston in 2003. In addition to being at Blinn College District, Lovell served as Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities at Houston Baptist University.

Lovell has two children—Josh and Elizabeth.

For additional information, contact Kari Jones in the SWOSU Office of Institutional Advancement at 580.774.3289.



More than 30 Collegiate Farm Bureau members from across the state joined in the recent Ag Day at the Capitol. The students had the opportunity to hear from Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell and various other legislators and agricultural leaders. Growing their knowledge of agriculture and leadership skills, the group toured the Oklahoma National Stockyards Company and completed a community service event at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. Students attending from SWOSU were (from left): Natalie Kinder, faculty sponsor Dr. Jerry Dunn, Alison Moore, Kylee Massey, Megan Hankins and Tristan Shirey.

CUSTER CO SHERIFF/SCAM ALERT- The Custer County Sheriff’s office said it has received reports from citizens, saying scammers are calling saying they are a deputy with the sheriff’s office and tells the citizen they have a warrant, and they will be arrested unless they make a payment. Sheriff’s officials said they do not make calls advising of warrants and do not request or take payment over the phone. You are advised to not give out any personal information over the phone.

OSDH/NEW REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR- Ashley Ferguson of Alva has been selected as the new regional administrative director for District 1 of the Oklahoma State Department of Health, which covers 10 counties, including Custer, Dewey and Roger Mills counties. Ferguson succeeds Terri Salisbury who retired after 25 years of service with the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

SWOSU/DISTINGUISHED INDUCTEES- Southwestern Oklahoma State University officials have announced its 2022 Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame inductees. The honor recognizes outstanding former students in an effort to celebrate their achievements. The 2022 inductees include Verna Foust of Oklahoma City, Dianne Hunter of Guthrie,

Andre Marshall of Beverly Hills, California, Steve Price of Marble Falls, Texas, and Joel Sappenfield of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The 2022 SWOSU distinguished alumni honorees will be recognized during the SWOSU convocation activities planned for May 6th and 7th on the Weatherford campus.

WEATHERFORD SB/SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING- During a special meeting, the Weatherford school board of education approved a supplemental appropriation of \$2 million into the general fund. Superintendent Jill Henderson said the funds will be used to help pay for purchases, approved by the board at Stafford Elementary and East Intermediate school for new interactive flat panel displays for classrooms, classroom audio and an intercom system to serve both schools.

ODOT/U.S. 281 NARROWED- The Oklahoma Department of Transportation says U.S. 281 is narrowed to one lane with temporary signals directing traffic about one mile north of Interstate 40 near Bridgeport and Hinton in Caddo County. One lane traffic will continue through mid-april for bridge repair. Drivers can expect travel delays or use I-40 and U.S. 281 spur as an alternate route.

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Happy Birthday Wishes for April 6th- Scot Barker, Gary Bell, Cindy Hunnicutt, Amber O’neale, Loretta Pollman, Eric Ratterree, Billie Russey, Stacey Winters; **April 7th-** Linda Boatwright, Heath Goodall, Joleen Jackson, LaWana Manos, Sandra Miller, Aaron Schantz, Lindsay Smith, Jimmie Lee Smith, Alice Switzer, Krissity Vaughn; **April 8th-** Opal Boyd, Quinda Lane, Cory Price, Ebony Smith, Vincent Sperle, Jennifer Williams, Floyd Winn; **April 9th-** Dakota Brewer, Lindy Charles, Geneva Cranniore, Tim Easter, Jace Huser, Angela Marsee, Trey Payne, George Roberts, Cathy Shadid, Virginia Strong, Chandler Turney; **April 10th-** Jessica Allisen, Mike Brown, Lacey Burdick, Chad Chaplin, Patsy Chisum, Elmer Croaker, Shannon Duncan, Beau Ferrell, Jeffrey Maynard, Scott Moore, Brant Purdum, Sam Smith, Mark Stapleton; **April 11th-** Chuck Ackley, Ari Albrightson, Ian Brennforder, Charlene Cantrell, Darla Davenport, Patsy Doran, Bill Mucker, Shelby Nance; **April 12th-** Billy Birkenfeld, Teri Boyd, Cindy Bruce, Rob Grogan, Rhowene Grossman, Leslie Harrison, Kelis Hart, Amy Hoffman, Sonny Makesry, Bobby Richardson, Lisa Stephens, Julie Weichel

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SPORTS *Presented by:*



Bulldogs Win Series at ECU with Saturday Split

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

SWOSU and East Central played a pair of extra inning games on Saturday to conclude the conference series, with the Bulldogs winning the first game 5-3 and dropping the finale 7-6.

Despite the split, SWOSU earns the series win 2-1 thanks to a win on Friday in the series opener. They have now won three of their last four GAC series and will return home next weekend to host Southeastern in more league action.

GAME ONE – SWOSU 5, ECU 3 (11 innings)

Nate Postlethwait gave the Dawgs a competitive start on the mound to begin the day, allowing three runs in 6.2 innings of work. Grant Ewy and Ernesto Hidrogo did not allow a run in relief for the remaining 4.1 innings, with Ewy picking up the decision victory and Hidrogo the save.

Both sides had opportunities in the form of baserunners throughout the game but left a combined 17 on-base in the contest.

ECU starting pitcher Bryan Terry threw 10.0 innings and managed to keep the SWOSU scoring offense in check for most of the game. The Dawgs notched 11 hits

against Terry but could never get the timely hit(s) needed to get him removed from the game.

Tied 3-3 in the 11th, Terry was finally pulled after walking the first two batters of the inning. Tyler Richey, pinch running for Enzo Bonventre, eventually scored the go-ahead run following a wild pitch. Alex Rice then added a run with a sacrifice fly.

GAME TWO – ECU 7, SWOSU 6 (8 innings)

Alex Rice had a strong game hitting in the finale, finishing 3-4 with four RBI. In extra innings, he put the Dawgs ahead with an RBI single and SWOSU then needed just three outs on defense to close out the game.

The final out never came though as ECU took advantage of a Bulldog defensive error and added three hits, including the walk-off game winner, in the bottom half.

Five pitchers saw action, including Grant Ewy who got the start. He pitched in all three games of the series and gave SWOSU one inning to begin game three. Ewy gave way to Dakota Jones who threw the next three innings, followed by Philip Sanders and Rafael Perez-Guzman who split the fifth and finally Ernesto Hidrogo who pitched the remaining 2.1 innings.



Provided
Ramon Vingochea fields a ball during SWOSU Baseball's double-header against ECU this past weekend. The Bulldogs would win the series against the Tigers.

Friesen Freezes Tiger Offense; Softball Wins Third Straight GAC Series

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Alisa Friesen threw her first complete game shutout of the season, the offense did just enough by plating the game-winning run in the sixth inning, and SWOSU notched the third consecutive home series victory of the season with a 2-1 weekend against ECU by taking game three 1-0 on Saturday.

The Dawgs have defeated Oklahoma Baptist, Ouachita Baptist, and now East Central at home this season in conference action, by series scores of 2-1 in each weekend.

Saturday's game winning hit came off the bat of

Kaylee Barkley – a two out hit in the sixth that plated Breanna Simmons who singled up the middle earlier in the inning. Simmons previously thought she drove in the go-ahead run with that single but Jewell Lee, who walked to lead things off, was gunned out at the plate for the first out of the inning.

After a Maddie Rahon bunt that moved Simmons over, Barkley delivered the clutch hit.

Friesen had herself a day. She earned the much-qualified win by pitching all seven innings and scattering seven hits while striking out two and walking one. With runners on second and third and one out in the top of the sixth inning and the ECO offense threatening, Friesen

buckled down to strike out her hitter for out number two and forced a ground out to get out of trouble.

Friesen only allowed one other Tiger player to touch second base all game. It was her pitching, alongside strong defense that kept the shutout intact. The Dawgs pulled off two double plays in the game, and catcher Dani Carmo threw out two runners attempting to steal second base. No errors were committed all game, by either side.

Lee, Simmons, Barkley, and Jordyn Wadley represented SWOSU's hits on the afternoon – all singles.

The Bulldogs are 6-5 at home this year, compared to 1-10 on the road.

WHS E-Sports Team Competes in State Tournament

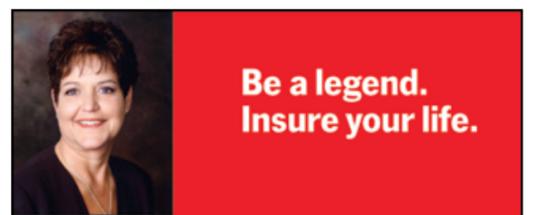


Provided
(From Left to Right) Brett Bozarth, Caden Henderson and Alberto Arrieta stand with their State Championship trophy in Rocket League Trios. Bozarth and Henderson also took home the State Runner-up title in Rocket League Duos.

Weatherford High School's E-Sports team members competed in their first ever state competition hosted at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University E-Sports arena on the SWOSU campus Friday, April 1.

Alex Brown won Runner-Up in the Super Smash Bros event while Caden Henderson and Brett Bozarth won Runner-Up in Rocket League Duos.

Caden Henderson, Brett Bozarth, and Alberto Arrieta teamed up to take home the State Title in Rocket League Trios which stands as WHS's first State E-sports Title.



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Rice & Friesen Earn Bulldogs of the Week



ALEX RICE



ALISA FRIESEN



BULLDOGS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 30 - MARCH 28-APRIL 3



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Alex Rice and Alisa Friesen have been named the latest Bulldogs of the Week, brought to you by Wright Wradio – the voice of SWOSU Athletics heard on both 95.5 ‘The Coyote’ and 100.3 ‘Coyote Classic.’

Rice (Lenexa, Kan.) racked up nine hits last week for SWOSU Baseball, three more than the next best

hitter, and led the team in weekly batting average. The junior finished 9-for-16 at the plate which included three doubles and seven RBI. The Bulldogs went 3-1 last week which included a midweek victory over Cameron and a 2-of-3 series victory over East Central.

Friesen (Arnett, Okla.) threw a complete game shutout to close out SWOSU Softball’s home series

against East Central on Saturday, helping clinch the series victory for the Dawgs in the process. The senior scattered seven hits against the Tigers in the series finale, while striking out two and walking one. With the win, SWOSU clinched their third consecutive home conference series victory of the season by taking 2-of-3 from ECU.

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"The Coin Guy"

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The mint struck 475 pieces which were given to members of Congress for inspection which was standard practice at the time. It was a well-known fact the Congressmen gave their \$4 gold coins to their respective “girlfriends” at certain nefarious houses in Washington, D.C. as “gifts”.

These \$4 gold coins rarely come up for sale. On February 24, 2022, an auction was held in Dallas, Texas. On this day two \$4 gold coins were the stars of the auction.

An 1879 \$4 Stella certified by the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation as a Proof 65 Cameo set a record price of \$184,500. The other 1879 \$4 Stella was certified by the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation as a Proof 65 which brought \$174,000.

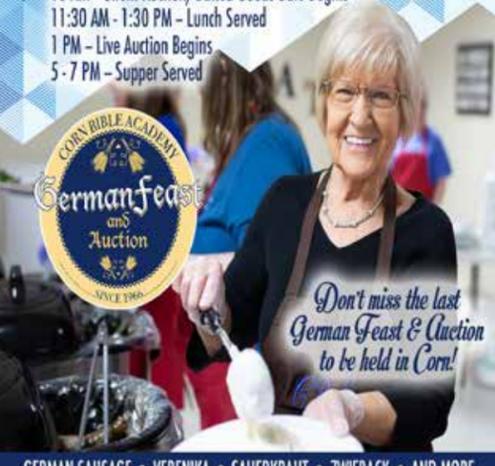
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Goerend Wins Grand Prize at Oklahoma Research Day

For the second straight year, a Southwestern Oklahoma State University student in Weatherford has won the overall grand prize at the 27th annual Oklahoma Research Day at the Capitol.

Camille Goerend of Weatherford took top honors at the event held March 29 in Oklahoma City. Goerend becomes SWOSU's fourth grand prize winner since the inception of the Oklahoma Research Day at the Capitol event.

Goerend won a \$5,000 stipend to continue research during the upcoming summer. Her research topic is "Antibacterial Target." Her faculty mentor is Dr. Vijay Somalinga, assistant professor in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences. The complete title of the project is: b-Carbonic Anhydrase – A potential novel antibacterial target against Rhodococcus equi, the causative agent of pneumonia in foals.

As a component of the event, students presented their work to an independent panel of judges. The panel selected the top seven researchers in three categories—one overall winner, three regional university winners, and three research-intensive institution winners.

"This competition involved the top 21 undergraduate student researchers in the state, and we are extremely pleased for Camille and SWOSU," said Dr. Lori Gwyn, director of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs.

Previous SWOSU grand prize winners are Courtney Garcia in 2011, Madison Duckwall in 2017 and Emily Bedea in 2021.

Oklahoma NSF EPSCoR, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the National Science Foundation sponsor this event.



SWOSU student Camille M. Goerend of Weatherford is congratulated by State Representative Anthony Moore for winning the Grand Prize at The 27th Oklahoma Research Day. *Provided*

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Jim Morrison

When I was privileged to serve as a Campus Minister through the Baptist Student Union, I tried to expose students to outstanding, Godly men who had far more to say than I did. One of those was Rick Warren. While at the time he was in his last semester at Southwestern Seminary, he was already recognized as man on the move. As a student he had written in manuscript form a book to be published under the title, Methods of Bible Study. It was 1978, and he had spoken at the BSU at OU and I somehow persuaded him to come to Southwestern to lead our students in a Methods of Bible Study weekend conference. We couldn't afford to house him in a motel so

Mary and I took him in. He spent the night with us and ate at our table a couple of times. He spoke of plans that he and his wife Kaye, had to start a new church in California. Little did we know the extent to which his dream would be realized.

He did start that church, now known as Saddleback Community Church, which reaches over 20,000 people each week. He has an international ministry, but one of his most noteworthy accomplishments was to author a book entitled, Purpose Driven Life, subtitled, What on Earth Am I Here For? It immediately became a best seller. In fact it is reported to be the bestselling non-fiction hardback in history. It has sold between 35 and 40 million copies. Time Magazine said this about the book, "Millions of people—from NBA and PGA players to corporate executives to high school students to prison inmates—meet regularly to discuss the Purpose Driven Life."

A gracious Oklahoma City business man has made the paperback version available, free to every inmate in Oklahoma. I have given away over a thousand copies to inmates and truck drivers. You would do well to read or reread it for yourself.

One of the chapters in the book is entitled, "Becoming

a World-Class Christian." For your consideration I am sharing a portion of that chapter that is most appropriate.

"The Great Commission is Your Commission. You have a choice to make. You will be either a world-class or a worldly Christian. Worldly Christians look to God primarily for personal fulfillment. They are saved, but self-centered. They love to attend concerts and enrichment seminars, but you wouldn't find them at a missions conference because they aren't interested. It's a "me-first" faith: How can God make my life more comfortable? They want to use God for their purposes instead of being used for his purposes. In contrast, world-class Christians know they were saved to serve and made for a mission. They are eager to receive a personal assignment and excited about the privilege of being used by God. World-class Christians are the only fully alive people on the planet. Their joy, confidence, and enthusiasm are contagious because they know they are making a difference. They wake up in the morning expecting God to work through them in fresh ways. Which type of Christian do you want to be?"

To comment: jhm82@outlook.com or 580-302-1142...no land line available

SWOSU & Delta Dental Oklahoma Establish Scholarship Endowment

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon and the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Foundation have announced the establishment of the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Pre-Dentistry Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The endowed scholarship fund will provide ongoing support to SWOSU sophomores and/or juniors with demonstrated financial need who are preparing to pursue a career in dentistry. The scholarship will benefit SWOSU students who "shadow" dental health professionals; who perform dental health-related community service projects; and who participate in dental health organizations.

"SWOSU has a strong track record of producing dental health professionals who contribute positively to Oklahoma communities and to their professions," said Delta Dental of Oklahoma Foundation Director Terrisa Singleton. "Ensuring Oklahomans have access to quality dental providers in our state is crucial. We are delighted to partner with SWOSU to assist students with the costs of their higher education."

Delta Dental of Oklahoma Foundation and SWOSU each contributed \$25,000 in funds to establish the scholarship endowment.

"We are truly grateful to the Delta Dental of Oklahoma and its Foundation for this generous investment in our students," said SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell. "These resources will significantly enhance the experiential learning opportunities afforded to our students who have chosen to work in dental health."

The Delta Dental of Oklahoma Pre-Dentistry Endowed Scholarship Fund is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. The Foundation was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation

currently stewards nearly \$37 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, please contact the SWOSU Foundation at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

About Delta Dental of Oklahoma
Delta Dental of Oklahoma is the leading provider of dental benefits in the state. Delta Dental of Oklahoma (DDOK) serves more than one million eligible members and nearly 9,500 Oklahoma-headquartered companies. DDOK established its Foundation in 1998 to advance the company's not-for-profit mission to improve the oral health of all Oklahomans. For more information about Delta Dental of Oklahoma, please visit DeltaDentalOK.org.

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