

# WEST OK WEEKLY



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## Rouben Tourian Selected to Receive 2022 Cecil Perkins Service Award

**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Longtime SWOSU Athletic supporter and former SWOSU Assistant Athletic Director Rouben Tourian has been selected as the 2022 recipient of the Cecil Perkins Service Award.

The honor, which is presented by the SWOSU Athletic Department, will be awarded at the department's annual All-Sports Award Ceremony held at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

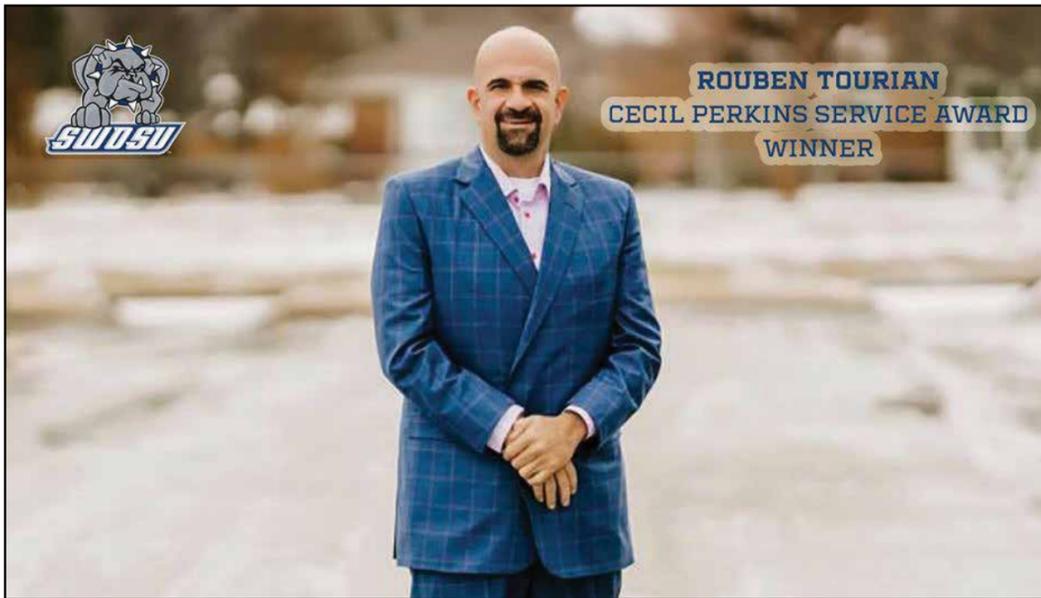
"I told Todd (Helton) when he called me that I don't need any recognition for the things that I do or have done for the athletic department but am so thankful and humbled to be selected," Tourian said. "It really is an honor to be chosen for an award named after the Godfather of SWOSU Athletics himself, Cecil Perkins."

Tourian graduated from Weatherford High School and attended SWOSU in the early and mid-1990s. He played two years on the SWOSU Football team from 1991-92 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Management in 1996. In 2013, Tourian went on to complete his master's degree in Sports Management from SWOSU.

Upon graduation, he owned and operated popular local sports grill and restaurant Benchwarmer Browns in downtown Weatherford before selling it in 2000. He was known during that time for his discounts to SWOSU supporters and his constant support to the athletic teams.

In 2006 Tourian was hired by, then, current SWOSU Athletic Director Cecil Perkins as the Assistant Athletic Director of External Operations. The position allowed him to oversee the department's corporate sponsorship packages, marketing, and promotion efforts as well as work with various support groups, including the SWOSU Athletic Association. He had already been volunteering his efforts for years prior but made the move to work directly for the athletic department full-time.

In his role, Tourian was known for his contributions towards the annual SWOSU Athletic Auction – a fundraising auction held every summer to raise money for the athletic department. He, alongside the SWOSU Athletic Association, implemented the auction with the



**ROUBEN TOURIAN**  
**CECIL PERKINS SERVICE AWARD**  
**WINNER**

goal of boosting scholarships available to student-athletes.

When asked about his favorite memory in support of SWOSU, Tourian did not hesitate.

"Getting a call from Rex Ryan (former New York Jets head coach and SWOSU alum) on my cell phone telling me he was going to gift the athletic department four tickets to his personal suite for a Monday Night Football game. Looking back, seeing how much that gift impacted the department and the kids, and the story behind it – that's got to be it."

Tourian has moved on from his full-time role with the athletic department but remains an active supporter of Southwestern Oklahoma State University and SWOSU Athletics and has previously served as a board member of the SWOSU Athletic Association for many years. You'll find Tourian at most home SWOSU events and often in front of a grill or oven cooking meals in support of various teams.

"If it weren't for SWOSU, I wouldn't be in Weatherford. Plain and simple. I love this university and the athletic

department, and I love to see it succeed!"

Today, Tourian resides in Weatherford with his daughter Ava and currently works for Dillingham Insurance as a Benefits Consultant in Oklahoma City.

This is the 10th year that the Cecil Perkins Service Award has been presented. The award is named for Perkins, the former SWOSU Athletic Director who passed away in September 2013. Perkins helped pioneer the direction of the Bulldogs' athletic programs for more than a quarter century, elevating the SWOSU Athletic Department to the NCAA Division II level. His philosophy of putting the student-athlete first in any decision has led to hundreds of individual success stories that continue to positively impact the new generation of students, coaches and teams at SWOSU and beyond.

Cecil Perkins Service Award Recipients

2021: President Randy Beutler; 2020: Herschel Brewster; 2019: Stan Garrison; 2018: Les Crall; 2017: Jim Litsch; 2016: Jimmy Harrel; 2015: Rick Koch; 2014: Max & Judy Pyron; 2013: Joe Phillips.

### Western OK Graduation Dates

Arapaho-Butler: 5/13	Clinton: 5/20	Elk City: 5/15	Hydro-Eakly: 5/20	Merritt: 5/13	SWOSU: 5/6 & 5/7
Canute: 5/20	CBA: 5/13	Hammon: 5/15	Lookeba-Sickles: 5/12	Reydon: 5/7	Thomas-Fay-Custer: 5/13
Cheyenne: 5/22	Cordell: 5/9	Hinton: 5/13	Mangum: 5/19	Sayre: 5/20	Weatherford: 5/14

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## SWOSU COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

**Friday, May 6th**  
Pharmacy - 7PM

**Saturday, May 7th**  
Undergrads - 10AM  
Graduates - 12PM  
Undergrads - 2PM

Watch The SWOSU Commencements at  
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**Charlene B. Hollan**

Charlene B. Hollan was born August 2, 1938, in Poteau to Cecil Edwin and Veda LoRetha (Tucker) Bowman and passed away Saturday, April 23, 2022, at Southwest Medical Center in Oklahoma City, at the age of 83 years, 8 months and 21 days.



Charlene was raised in Summerfield and attended LeFlore Public Schools. On October 31, 1955, she married Mart H. Hollan in Poteau and made their home in Summerfield. In 1969, they moved to Colony where she worked at the Weatherford Regional Hospital for two years. She later went to work for 3-M for 17 years before retiring in 1995. Charlene enjoyed quilting, shopping with her granddaughter and doing lunch, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Charlene is survived by one son Marty Clay Hollan and wife Leah Beth of Colony; one daughter Marquette Hollan of Colony; one sister Deloris Phillips of Miami; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband Mart.

Valerie. She is also a great-grandmother and great-grandmother to over two dozen grandchildren.

**Peggy Schimmels**

Funeral Services for Peggy Schimmels, 85, Clinton resident were held 2:00 P.M., Thursday, April 28, 2022, in the Arapaho Baptist Church, officiated by Don Lacy. Burial concluded in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Peggy Ann Schimmels was born February 17, 1937, to Harold Franklin Chandler and Helen Pauline (Moran) Chandler in Quapaw, OK and passed away Monday, April 25, 2022, in the Southwest Integris Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.

Peggy was raised in Clinton and graduated from Clinton High School in 1955. She was employed at the Wag-A-Bag Convenient Store, 21 years with Homeland Store and 11 years with Cafe Clinton and retired in 2012.

She was a member of the Arapaho Baptist Church, she enjoyed reading watching television and just being with friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, a daughter Lori Cavanaugh, and brother Richard Harold Chandler.

She is survived by son Tony Schimmels and wife Laura, Custer City, OK; grandchildren Chad Boggs and wife Trisha, Heather Pennington, Lea Cazares and husband Israel, Tre' Anderson and Nickie Moss; great grandchildren, Breanna Boggs, Chelste Vela, Kaitlyn Miller, Alexis Vela, Lori Boggs, Easton Wall and ChloeAnn Noelle Cazares.

She is also survived by a sister-in-law Sherry Chandler, OKC, OK and her very best friend Sandra McDown, of MO.

**Luther B. Newman**

Funeral Services for Luther B. Newman, 91, long-time Clinton resident and well-known mailman, were held 10:00 A.M., Monday, April 25, 2022, in the Life Fellowship Church in Weatherford, OK officiated by Ric Freeman. Burial will conclude in the Greenwood Cemetery in Weatherford, OK under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Luther B. Newman was born September 25, 1930, to Leo C. and Willa (Taylor) Newman in Clinton, OK and passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2022, in his Clinton home.

Luther spent his early years on the family farm near Indianapolis and attended Belleview Rural School until the 8th grade. He graduated from Weatherford High School in 1948 and attended a year of college at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He farmed with his family for a while before joining the U.S. Army in 1954. He served a two-year stint active-duty status and one and 1/2 years was spent in Germany. He transferred to Reserve status and retired after 20 years as Master Sergeant.

He married Miss Janice Ann Reeder on March 26, 1955, in Burns Flat, OK. After active-duty military service, he returned to Oklahoma and settled in the Cordell and Clinton areas. The Newmans farmed for nearly 10 years. Luther started a career with Clinton Sherman Airforce Base in 1966 but soon changed over to the U.S. Postal Service. Retiring in 1990 after a

total of 24 years of service to the U.S. Government. He worked several years on the Custer County Election Board.

Mr. Newman is a member of the Life Fellowship Church in Weatherford, OK; he is a lifetime member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and two brothers Leon and Willard Leroy Newman.

He is survived by two daughters: Nedena Pimentel and husband Kenneth, Skiatook, OK; and Regena Record, Sapulpa, OK, son Leroy Brian Newman, Clinton: sister Wilma Jetty and husband Retired Colonel Billy Fowler, Fayetteville, TN, and sister-in-law, Judy Reeder, Edmond, OK.

He is also survived by two grandchildren Ja'nic Mitchell Lewis and husband Bonner, and Kayla Record, all of Sapulpa, OK; three great grandchildren: Cohen, Daniel, and Lucy and a host of other relatives and friends.

**David Lee Collins**

Funeral Services for David Lee Collins., 76, Clinton resident were held 1:00 P.M., Friday, April 29, 2022, in the Custer Ave. Church of Christ, officiated by Pat Peters and Ryan Driskill. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



David Lee Collins was born October 5, 1945, to Holliebe Collins and Oralee (Baskin) Collins in Holdenville, Oklahoma, and passed away Wednesday April 20, 2022, in the Integris Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.

David was raised in Clinton, OK and attended Excelsior School. He married Marsha Marie Moore in December of 1982. He was employed with the Railroad for several years and farmed for many years.

He is a member of the Church of Christ; he enjoyed the outdoors and fishing, he enjoyed doing scratch tickets, manicuring lawns, loved watching westerns, Wheel of Fortune, and Championship Wrestling.

He is preceded in death by his wife Marsha Collins, Father-in-law George Moore, Mother-in-law Nellie Manley Johnson, brothers and sisters: Willie Collins, Julia Ballard, Josephine Smith, Leonard Collins, Gracel Gaston, Ethelene Collins, James Collins, Olivene Thomas, Rosa Lee Sadler; sisters-in-law, Sharon Manley (BayBay) Abner Jones, Lewis Smith, Stacy Gaston Sr., Tommie Overstreet and Lillian Collins, Grandson Leevonte Motes and Great Grand Daughter Jy'Lynn Collins.

He is survived by his daughter Stephanie Collins-Littleton and husband Anthony, Clinton and son Louis Craft; and four bonus children: James Collins, Rossetta Underwoods, Gwen Murphy, Tiffany Barron; four grandchildren: Joplynn Collins, Derron Jackson, JaMarley Littleton, and Alexandria Myers, Ronnie Jones and Wife Loretta, Sandra Jones, Rhonda Manley, Zellie Manley, Courtney Manley, Pamela and husband Cleve, Angela Manley and Michael Shelton, LeVert AbdulAleem and Amintha and husband Anthony Turley.

He is also survived by brothers and sisters: Louise Jones, Lessie Mae Collins, Lester Collins and wife Ollie Geraldine Overstreet Norma Gholston, Holliebe Collins, Jr., brothers and sisters-in-law, Theophilus Ballard, Sr., Guy Sadler, Sr., Mildred Collins, three special friends: Doris Scarlett, Scott Moore and Kaye Randle, The Hayes Family.

**Sally Govea**

A Mass of Christian Burial for Sally Govea, 84, Cordell resident were held 1:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 4, 2022, in the St. Ann's Catholic Church in Cordell, OK officiated by Father Balaswamy and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



A Rosary were held 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 3, 2022 in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel in Clinton, OK.

Her burial will be held later in the Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Albuquerque, NM.

Sally Marie Govea was born July 28, 1937, to James Sewert and Fern Marie (Metz) in Chicago, IL. However, her mother married James Sewert in 1956 and he adopted her.

She was raised in Chicago, IL where she graduated from high school. She continued her education at the University of New Mexico. She had moved to Mexico in the 1970's and became a Respiratory Therapist. After marrying Mr. Govea, they added six more children to the family: five brothers: John, Bruce, Tim, James, Richard and sister Phyllis. She moved to Cordell in 2016, where she was an active and faithful member of the St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Besides being full time mom and active with the church, she loved to garden, paint, do sculpturing and spending time with her many animals.

She is preceded in death by her parents, daughter Katie Garcia, and a son Paul Govea.

She is survived by six children: Paul, Frances, Katie, Thomas, Mary and Therese; and grandmother to Cynthia, Johnathan, Marty, Lisa, Becky Sue, Amanda, Giovanni, Gina Isabella, Brandon, Sara and



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SCAN ME

## Students Named to SWOSU President's Leadership Class

Six western Oklahoma high school seniors have been selected to the President's Leadership Class (PLC) for 2022-23 at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Each of the class members receives a \$500 per semester scholarship for two years, room scholarship for one year and enrollment in a leadership class that is offered exclusively to PLC students. After completing their second year of the program, students receive a sponsored trip to Washington, D.C.

During the third and fourth years of the program, students serve as mentors for the first- and second-year PLC members and serve in campus leadership roles, university activities and internships. Students may be eligible for continuing scholarships.

The PLC is a four-year program offered by the

university to recognize outstanding leadership qualities and to encourage students in their participation as SWOSU campus leaders and future leaders in Oklahoma. The program is designed to assist in promoting and developing effective academic, social and leadership skills, which is accomplished through direct participation in campus activities, seminars, guest speakers, recruitment and alumni efforts.

SWOSU offers 14 nationally-accredited academic programs—the most among Oklahoma's regional universities. SWOSU has three campus locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon and offers nearly 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including a doctorate in pharmacy. Additional information is available at [www.swosu.edu](http://www.swosu.edu).



## "The Coin Guy"

**Rare \$20 Gold Coin Sold at Auction**



Trent Boesen

During a coin auction on April 6, 2022, a very special 1870-CC (Carson City) \$20 Gold Double Eagle was the highlight of the evening. It was from the Fairmont Collection/Hendricks Set.

This gold coin is a well-known rarity in the \$20 Gold series. It is from a low mintage of only 3,789 pieces. The surviving pieces are estimated to be 55 to 65 examples known to researchers.

It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service as an Extremely Fine 45. It sold for \$810,000.

Are you interested in collecting \$20 gold coins but don't know where to start? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 to get the help you need. Thanks for reading.

## Heartbeat Bill Passes Again with Civil Remedy

OKLAHOMA CITY – A bill that would allow a private civil action to be brought against anyone performing an abortion after a fetal heartbeat has been detected, except in a medical emergency, passed the House this past week.

Senate Bill 1503 by Rep. Todd Russ, R-Cordell, and Sen. Julie Daniels, R-Bartlesville, creates the Oklahoma Heartbeat Act. It would allow any citizen to bring a \$10,000 lawsuit against anyone they believe has performed or induced an abortion, or anyone who

aids and abets an abortion. The woman receiving the abortion would not be subject to the civil action.

"This follows on important legislation I passed last year that protects the life of babies in the womb once their heartbeat is detected," Russ said. "This measure goes further in allowing civil penalties to be brought against abortion providers. Combined with other Oklahoma statutes now on the books, it is hoped the practice of abortion will cease in our state for all time. We will continue our work until that is accomplished."

It is estimated that between 3,000 and 5,000 babies are aborted each year in Oklahoma, and more than 62 million abortions have been performed nationwide since Roe v. Wade was enacted in 1973. SB1503 was modeled after successful legislation in Texas that has been challenged but not overturned in court.

"Senate Bill 1503 is about saving innocent lives. The Texas law has already accomplished this, and we

(See HEARTBEAT, page 8)

## HIGHER GROUND

May 5th—National Day of Prayer



Jim Morrison

On May 5th—this coming Thursday-- people across the land will meet in small and large groups, in churches, homes and community buildings. They will be gathering to pray in repentance, acknowledging God's blessings on our land, seeking His power and expressing our great need of His blessings on our land. In 1952 Congress established the NDP as an annual event by a joint resolution of Congress signed into law by President Truman. In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Reagan, designating the first Thursday of May as the NDP.

In the midst of another divided period of our

country, during the civil war, President Lincoln called the nation to join in a National Day of Prayer and Humiliation. He said, "...we have grown as a nation in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has grown. But we have forgotten God. . .we have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that these blessings were produced by some superior power and wisdom of our own."

E.M. Bounds wrote, "Not to pray is not only to declare there is nothing needed, but to admit your failure to recognize how needy you really are."

Our nation and world stands on the brink of crisis. The family structure is in disarray. The value of human life and dignity may be at its lowest point. Truth is elusive. Self-sufficiency, indulgence, and the rule of pleasure seem to be the norm.

But we dare not dismay, God is on His throne, and prayer still changes things. Prayer can take many forms and styles. The important thing is a sincere and broken spirit for the heart of God.

Your church may have scheduled special times or events for you to be involved. If not, please consider calling a friend, asking them to join with you as a prayer partner and schedule a time to meet and pray at length for repentance and revival in our land.

Your small group or Sunday School Class can have a special time of prayer. A prayer guide is available on the website of National Day of Prayer.org.

Also, we have a unique opportunity to join the national observance of this event on Utube. It is being broadcast nationally on Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. CST from the Museum of The Bible in Washington D.C. It can be seen on Daystar. Daystar is found at 369 on Direct TV, Dish-- 363,8415 or 116 on Cox. Nationally known personalities such as Joni Eareckson Tada, Anne Graham Lotz, Ed Young, Ronnie Floyd, Chris Tomlin, and many others will be leading us in prayer. This can be a extremely spiritual time as these prayer leaders call out to God. We learn to pray by praying and hearing others pray. Please make the effort to participate in this unique opportunity.

II Chronicles 14:11 "Then Asa called to the Lord his God, and said, 'Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. O Lord, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you.'" To comment: [jhm82@outlook.com](mailto:jhm82@outlook.com). Jim Morrison 5803021142

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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## GARAGE SALE

One man's junk is another man's treasure sale. 567 N. Caddo St, Hydro OK Saturday, May 7, 8:00 am -2:00 pm Old doors, Pump jacks, Stove, plumbing fittings, Wheat drill wheels, sewing treadle, old bike and tricycles, ladders, trim wood, concrete tools, Pepsi machine, lots of miscellaneous. Also Hydro Town wide Garage sale going on.

## BUSINESS SRVCS/ PRODUCTS

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## AUTOMOBILES & AUTO MISC.

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**\*16 3/4 ton Dodge pick-up bed - Brand new. \$1650.00 (405) 639-9667**

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**For Sale- Ford V8 motor 5.4 engine with tinted windows. 4 door, tool box and step-side. 140K miles. \$6,000 OBO**

**For Sale- 2015 Dodge Flatbed pickup bed. \$1000. 405-639-9667**

**For Sale- 2006 Chevy HHR. Good on gas! \$4500. 480-330-3489**

**For Sale- 02 Mercury Sable, 130K Miles, \$4,800. Great Condition. New Tires. 580-330-3489**

**For Sale-20ft gooseneck stock trailer, almost new tires. \$3,500. 580-309-1988**

**For Sale: Chevrolet truck tires/ wheels LT235/75/15 set of (4). \$225.00 WFD 580-330-1437**

## RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

**For sale or trade: 2002 Suzuki Savage 5500 miles. \$2,500 OBO or trade. Excellent condition. Go-Kart frame willing to trade. 405-639-9667**

**2001 Honda 600CC- good condition, new battery, navy blue, 16k miles, \$2,000. 405-892-8301**

**For Sale- New Carlisle Trail HD Trailer Tires, ST175/80R13, Load Range 'D'. 918-415-4236. Weatherford. \$150 for the**

pair.  
**For Sale- 2 Yamaha ATV's. \$3000 per or get both for \$5000. Call 580-628-1383**

**For Sale- NIB, Boat Trailer, "Bunk Glide" Kit, stainless hardware, Sized for Pontoon or smaller. 918-415-4236. located in Weatherford. \$300**

## FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

**For Sale - Large Beautiful Antique cedar chest; \$95 580-613-0108**

**For Sale - All wood rocking chair; \$65 580-613-0108**

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**For Sale- Adirondack chairs, handmade with screws instead of nails \$70. 580-613-0108**

**For Sale- Nearly New all wood Baby bed with mattress. Excellent Condition. \$100. 2 matching swivel chairs with metal backs and padded cushion. \$35/each. 580-613-0108**

**For Sale- Anitque Curved glass China Cabinet. Mirrored and lighted. \$1500. 580-243-1143**

**For Sale- Washer/Dryer pair. \$150 for each or \$275 for both. 580-774-7242**

**For Sale - Budweiser leather baseball gloves, giant chair, brand new; freaking awesome, \$475 580-330-1437**

**For Sale- Dirt devil hand held vaccuum (3). \$30/each. Large fance framed mirror. \$50. Plain mirror no frame. \$20. Full length mirror \$10. 580-613-0108**

## FARM, LAWN & GARDEN

**For Sale- Troybilt garden tiller with 7hp motor, like new. \$600. 8N Ford tractor, good condition. \$1,500. (580) 729-0001**

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# LOCAL & AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

## SWOSU Fire Dawgs Win Impressive Race

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) in Weatherford recently competed in an aerospace design competition and exposition, and the SWOSU Fire Dawgs came away with some impressive awards.

The SWOSU Fire Dawgs won the main race in the Charlie class at the 11th annual Speedfest held in Stillwater. The team also placed second for their overall design.

This was the first year SWOSU had an entry at Speedfest.

The competition challenged students to design and build an autonomous fire truck that could navigate a course using sensors and GPS coordinates with a goal of finding and extinguishing a fire. The SWOSU entry came closest to the fire and set the fastest time.

The Fire Dawgs were funded primarily through grants from the Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium with additional support from the SWOSU Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology.



Provided

The SWOSU Fire Dawgs won the main race at the 11th annual Speedfest, an aerospace design competition and exposition recently held in Stillwater. Members of the team are (front from left) Marc Crume, Weatherford; Jessica Massey, Altus; and Dr. Jeremy Evert (faculty advisor). Back from left--Dr. Brian Rickel (faculty advisor), Riley Smith, Arnett; Jacob Liao, Oklahoma City; Jarrett Burnham, Weatherford; Jarett Mitchell, Weatherford; and Marc Leonard (faculty advisor).

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## SWOSU Commencement Events Set for May 6-7

Southwestern Oklahoma State University graduation ceremonies are planned May 6-7.

All ceremonies will be held at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center on the Weatherford campus and will also be live streamed at wright.media on BulldogTV.

All pharmacy graduates will graduate on Friday evening, May 6, at 7 p.m.

All 2022 undergraduate ceremonies are on Saturday, May 7, either at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Graduate degrees will be conferred on Saturday, May 7, at 12 noon.

No tickets are required. Other information is available on the SWOSU graduation website: <https://bulldog.swosu.edu/commencement/index.php>




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**CUSTER CO DIST COURT/SMITH-** A warrant has been issued in Custer County District Court for a Colorado man charged with robbery with a weapon. Court records show Cauy James Smith is suspected in the February robbery of the ASAP General Store in Thomas. It's alleged that Smith handed the clerk a note saying he had a gun and to give him all the money in the register and some cigarettes. The clerk told police that the suspect showed the gun to her. Smith reportedly fled the store after the clerk handed the cash to the suspect. Smith was stopped by Guymon Police on a traffic stop and learned that Smith was a suspect in a robbery in Fort Supply in Woodward County. Smith faces a robbery charge in connection with the Fort Supply incident and is set for a preliminary hearing June 17th in that case.

**SPACEPORT/PINNELL-** During an exclusive interview on KCLI's "The Wright Time," Oklahoma Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell spoke about the future of the spaceport at Burns Flat. Pinnell says the spaceport is first on the list for future investment to lure companies to Western Oklahoma.

**WEATHERFORD SCHOOLS/AEROSPACE-** A new aerospace class will be offered at Weatherford High School starting next school year. During a recent community coffee event, Superintendent Jill Henderson says the course has a lot of interest with 74 students who have already pre-enrolled for the program. The course will be taught by Ronnie Flemming, Regional Director of Flight Operations for Air Evac.

**WEATHERFORD/MEMORIAL WALL HL-** Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown says work at the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Weatherford is scheduled to be done by next month. Brown says city officials are hoping to have the work done by May 21st when some 200-300 motorcyclists stop in Weatherford on their run for the wall trip.

**SWOSU/ALEXANDER-** Taler Alexander will assume the role of Director of Admissions and Recruitment at Southwestern Oklahoma State University beginning May 1st. Alexander has worked in the office for 8 years, serving in a variety of roles including Recruiter, Coordinator of New Student Orientation Programming, among other things.

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**Happy Birthday Wishes for May 4th-** C.R. Christensen, Adrienne Kern, Tasha Marshall, Austin McCullough, Jenny Morley, Preslee Jade O'Connor, Kevin Permenter, Lakyn Smith, Peggy Wehba, Ed Weichel; **May 5th-** Larissa Adams, Kayla Christensen, Jack Crawford, Jesse Fleming, Brandon Grove, Bodhi Hines, Kinzie Kardokus, Kalie Kerth, Alasha Lehman, Jacob Pankraz, Sue Patterson, Ronald Pebley, Nelson Perkins, Whitney Roper, Andrea Stobbe, Sonora White; **May 6th-** Samantha Altland, Preston Bragg, Kyla Brooks, Jill Coykendall, Christine Hart, Jim Johnson, Jeanne McRae, McKayla Mercer, Scott Miller, James D. Moore, Jeff Nickel, Emily Steffes, William Steffes, Esther Taylor, Daron Worrell; **May 7th-** Ruth Bearshield, Brett Bonham, Tory Haynes, Sherry Menke, Virginia McCarthy, Kaylynn Music; **May 8th-** Ginger Emmons, Michelle Huckabay, Mike Richardson, Marc Whittington; **May 9th-** Landon Little, Susan Pierce, Donald Settles, Emily Spradlin; **May 10th-** Jennifer Bass, Denise Richardson, Rhonda Ridgeway, Courtney Ringler

# SPORTS *Presented by:*



## Makyrá Tramble and Gregor Weck Named Athletes of the Year

**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

The SWOSU Athletic Department hosted the 2021-22 All-Sports Awards

Ceremony on Wednesday evening at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center in celebration of the past year in Bulldog Athletics. Makyrá Tramble of women's basketball and Gregor Weck of men's golf were both labeled SWOSU's Athletes of the Year.

Other honors handed out on Wednesday were the Scholar-Athlete of the Year Awards, which were presented to Allie Hoang (volleyball) and Weck. SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton also presented the Cecil Perkins Service Award to Rouben Tourian in appreciation for his long-standing support of the athletic programs.

Tramble (Shawnee, Okla.) is now a back-to-back winner of the SWOSU Female Athlete of the Year Award. She helped guide women's basketball to a fifth straight Great American Conference regular season championship and NCAA Tournament appearance, alongside winning the program's fourth GAC Tournament title. She was named the Ron Lenz Division II National Player of the Year by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) and was the only player in division II this season to average 20.0 points, 5.0 rebounds, and 5.0 assists per game. Tramble earned All-America status from two different organizations and one media outlet for the 2021-22 season and was also the Central Region and GAC Player of the Year.

Weck (Wiesbaden, Germany) was named the SWOSU Male Athlete and Scholar Athlete of the Year, becoming the first student-athlete to sweep the athlete and scholar athlete superlatives. He was a standout member of the men's golf team, racking up five top-10 finishes this



season in a very competitive region. He has two top-2 finishes including at the Great American Conference Championships where he carded the tournament's lowest score in any round – a 4-under 68 in round two. Weck was also recognized as the GAC's Golfer of the Week two times this season. He and the Bulldogs qualified for the NCAA Central/Midwest Super Regional and will compete in Noblesville, Indiana May 5-7. Academically, Weck is a back-to-back GAC Elite Scholar Athlete. The award is given to the golfer with the highest GPA in the championship field. He currently holds a 3.97 GPA in his Business Finance major and is set to graduate this spring.

Hoang (Plano, Texas) is a five-year member of the volleyball team and the 2021 GAC Setter of the Year. She broke SWOSU's career assists record this season and is a back-to-back first team all-conference selection and has been named all-conference in each of the past four seasons. Most recently, she was named a GAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete and is an academic all-conference selection. Hoang holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and graduated with a 3.97 GPA. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in Sports Management.

## SWOSU Baseball and Softball Conclude 2022 Seasons



The SWOSU Bulldogs Baseball team faced off against the NWOSU Rangers, but dropped both games in a doubleheader. The Bulldogs fell 13-2 in game one and 11-10 in game two. SWOSU's Baseball team finished their season with a record of 19-27.

The SWOSU Lady Bulldogs Softball team played against the Cotton Blossoms of Arkansas Monticello and were able to complete a conference sweep, their first of the season. The Lady Bulldogs defeated the Cotton Blossoms 9-8 and finished their season with a record of 12-30.

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# Vingochea and Franklin Named Bulldogs of the Week

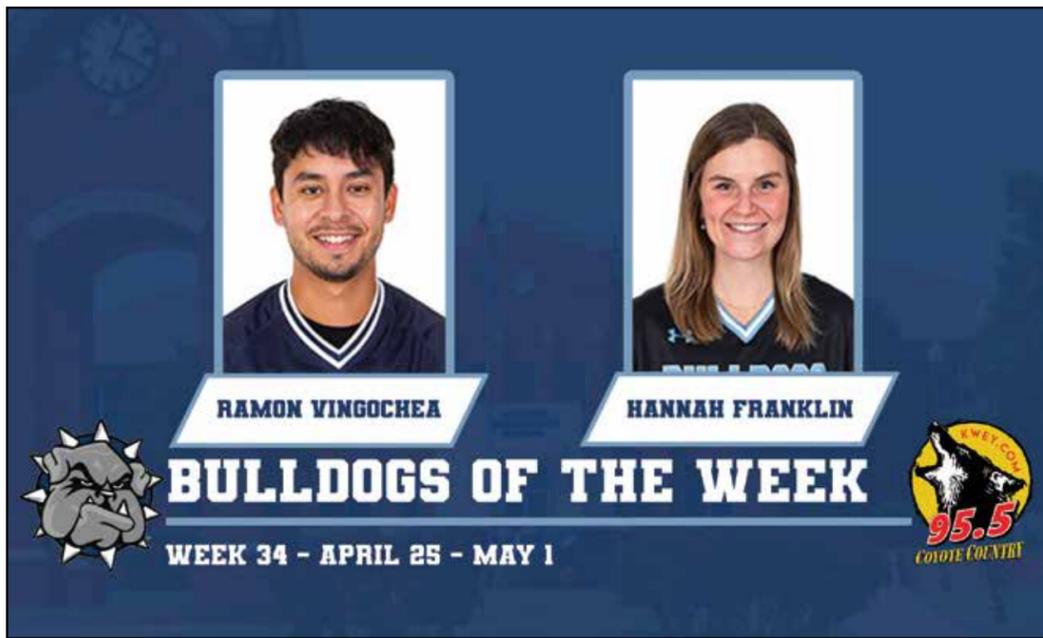
**Jon Chidester**

SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

A pair of SWOSU senior standouts, Ramon Vingochea and Hannah Franklin, have been named the final recipients of the 2021-22 Bulldog of the Week award after their performances on the diamond this weekend. The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the voice of SWOSU Athletics heard on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Vingochea (San Antonio, Texas) batted an impressive .700 in SWOSU's three-game series against Northwestern over weekend. In Friday's game one, he finished a perfect 5-5 at the plate with a pair of doubles, four runs batted in, and three runs scored. He then added a hit in each game Saturday to finish the weekend 7-10.

Franklin (Yukon, Okla.) also had a strong showing at the plate this weekend after finishing 6-9 (.667) with two doubles and a home run. She led the lineup in runs batted in with seven in three games and had at least one hit in every game she played. Franklin capped off her career in SWOSU's final game by hitting a perfect 3-3 which included a pair of doubles. SWOSU Softball swept the series with Arkansas Monticello, winning by scores of 13-5, 7-4, and 9-8 to end the season.



## Cookiebots 2.0 Receive Award for Model at World Festival in Houston



Provided

Pictured from left to right: Hannah Cline, Leah Cline and Evie Freeborn

The Cookiebots 2.0 team 24941 is a Girl Scouts robotics team from Custer County that are part of the FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego Explore Program. This rookie team's members include Evie Freeborn, Hannah Cline, Leah Cline, and Savannah Daniels of Weatherford along with mentors Laila Freeborn and Ada Smith; and coaches Jessica Smith and Lori Gwyn. The 2021-2022 season began in November at Newcastle where they received the Teamwork Award. In February, they attended the State qualifier at Mount St. Mary's in Oklahoma City where they learned about making presentations and sharing fun with others. The team was then invited to apply to attend the World FIRST Robotics Festival/Championship in Houston, TX April 21-23. The Cookiebots 2.0 was chosen as the sole Explore team to represent the state of Oklahoma! The Explore level teams consisted of 36 United States teams and 13 international teams from countries including China, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Kazakhstan, United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, Romania, and more. The Cookiebots 2.0 team won an award for

best model!

In Explore, teams of students ages 6-10 focus on the fundamentals of engineering as they explore real-world problems, learn to design and code, and create unique solutions made with LEGO® bricks and powered by LEGO® Education SPIKE Essential or WeDo 2.0.

We greatly appreciate Boeing, DoD STEM, the Oklahoma Science and Engineering Foundation, American Association of University Women, Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma Service Unit 670, Girl Scout Troop 262, the SWOSU BCM, Weatherford Kiwanis, MSM Team Rocket 2723, the Weatherford Press, Rhonda Branstetter, Carole Gwyn, Regina and Larry McGrane, Shelli Wasson, Jessica Smith, Brandi Bowen Starr, Rose Viau, Denise Landrum-Geyer, Marsha Carmen, Stuart Burchett, LaCreta Bowen, MSC Cheboski, Sarah Nicholas, Tiler Rose, Ronna Vanderslice, Brian Adler and Terin Kelly for sponsoring this opportunity for our team.

If your daughter is interested in learning more about Robotics and possibly being a part of next year's team, contact Lori Gwyn at [LoriGwyn@gmail.com](mailto:LoriGwyn@gmail.com).

## HEARTBEAT

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can save the lives of unborn children with this law in Oklahoma as well," Daniels said. "I want to thank my House author, Representative Russ, and the members of both chambers for their support, and I look forward to Governor Stitt signing this bill into law."

Several Oklahoma faith leaders added comments praising the passage of SB1503.

"I am thankful for the leadership in Oklahoma for their continued support of pro-life policies and

legislation that recognize the gift of every human life from conception until natural death," said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. "It is important as we move forward to ensure that families and expectant mothers know of the many free and low-cost resources available to assist them so they can be successful parents or find wonderful adoptive homes."

"Oklahoma Faith Leaders is celebrating victory for life in Oklahoma with the passage of both SB 1503 and HB 4327. Today, Oklahoma and our state representatives decided what kind of state we wanted to be - overwhelmingly pro-life. We believe the Oklahoma Heartbeat Act is the strongest pro-life legislation passed in the United States to date. We are hopeful that these laws will encourage more women to choose life when faced with a difficult decision. Our sincere gratitude goes to Representatives Wendi Stearman and Todd Russ, as well as Senator Julie Daniels, for their leadership on the passage of these bills."

SB1503 passed the House with a vote of 68 to 12. Upon the governors' signature, it will be the strongest

pro-life legislation in the United States actually upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

Gov. Stitt last year signed into law House Bill 2441 by Russ and Daniels, which stops abortions from being performed once an unborn child is determined to have a detectable heartbeat. The measure allows for abortion only if a medical emergency exists that threatens the life of the mother. It requires reasonable medical judgment to determine that a mother has a condition that so complicates her medical condition that it necessitates the abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or serious or irreparable physical harm to her.

Stitt this year also signed Senate Bill 612 into law, which has been called the most extensive abortion ban in the nation. That bill would make abortion illegal in the state except in cases where it is the only option to save the life of the mother. The bill would punish physicians performing an abortion with a \$100,000 fine and they would face a 10-year prison sentence. The bill does not punish the mother.

Russ said his legislation is necessary should other bills be held by court challenges or struck down.