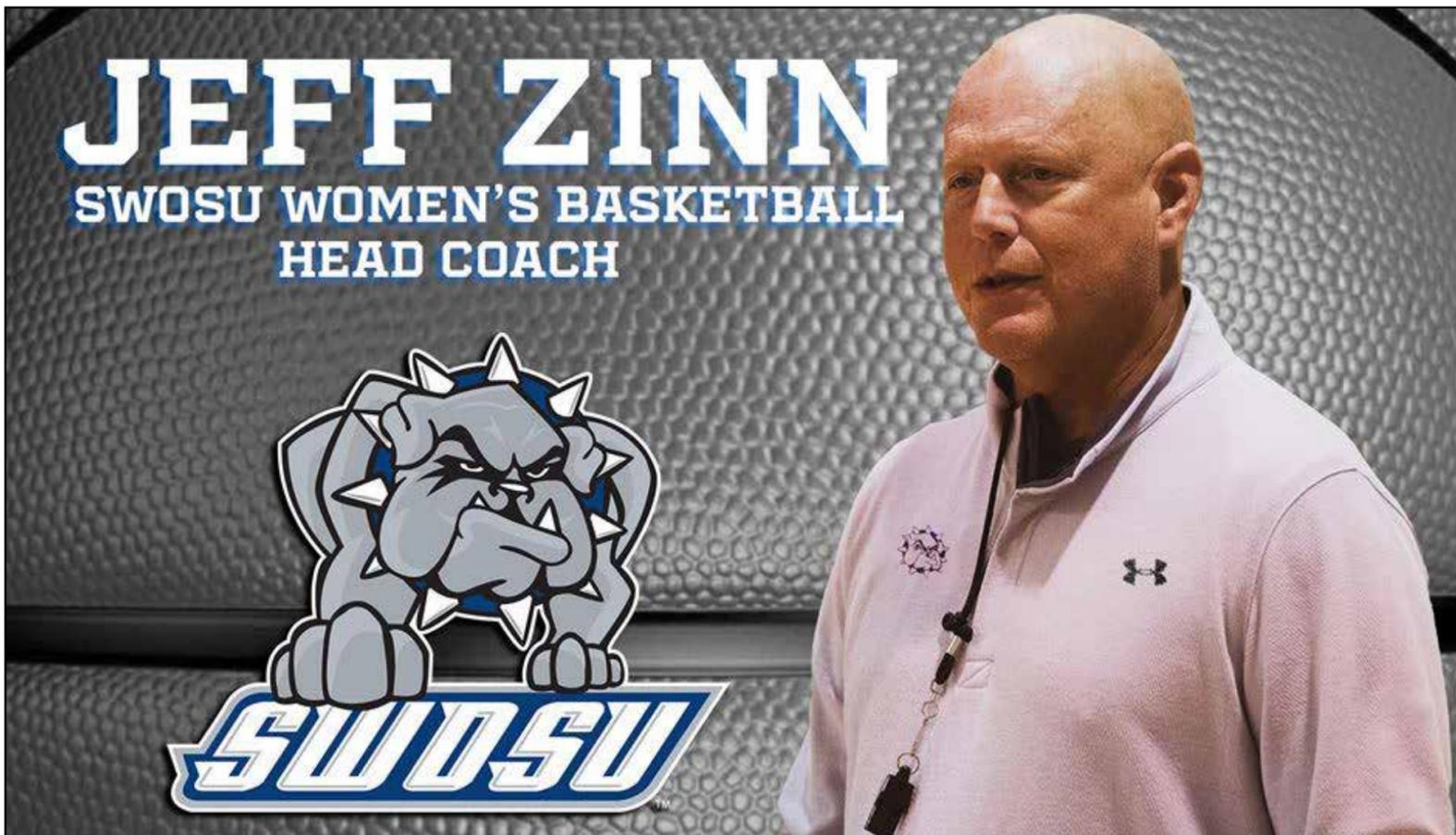


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## Jeff Zinn Hired as Next SWOSU Women's Basketball Coach



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

Zinn becomes the fifth head coach in SWOSU women's basketball history, dating back to the beginning of the program in 1975.

Coach Zinn brings 28 years of successful Oklahoma high school head coaching experience to SWOSU and holds a 563-247 overall record. He spent last season at NCAA Division I Oral Roberts University as an assistant women's coach in his first year after leaving the high school ranks.

"We are excited to welcome Coach Zinn to SWOSU and our Bulldog family," Helton said. "Coach Zinn is the perfect fit to lead Lady Bulldog basketball to excellence

on and off the court. When talking to numerous people about Coach Zinn, they all commented on his incredible integrity and character, his tireless work ethic, his knowledge of the game and how he truly cares for his players. That's exactly the kind of person we want as a mentor for our student-athletes here at SWOSU.

Helton said spending time with him and learning of his burning desire to be at SWOSU leading the basketball program into the future, it was clear that Coach Zinn was the coach for SWOSU.

"Throughout the process, it also became very clear to me he is a relationship-builder who inspires trust and respect with his student-athletes and those who work with and support his program," Helton said. "He is a

natural leader and proven winner who will serve as a terrific role model for all who follow our program."

Zinn spent 10 years at Anadarko High School from 2011-2021 and finished his last three seasons with a record of 76-7. He led Anadarko to two state championships in 2019 and 2012 and made trips to the state tournament in nine of his 10 seasons at the helm of the Lady Warrior program. COVID ended the 2020 season for Zinn who saw his team compile a 29-1 record, while holding the No. 1 ranking in 4A.

"I'm extremely excited to become part of the SWOSU family," Zinn said. "I feel very blessed to have a part

(See Jeff Zinn, page 6)



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**JUNE 4TH, 2022**

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- Start of 5k & 10k: 8am
- Fun Run: 9:00am - 10am
- Wellness Fair: 8am - 2pm
- Food Vendors: 9am - 2pm

Race will begin in downtown Clinton on Frisco between 4th & 5th St. There will be a wellness fair, food vendors, local shopping, and plenty of fun for the whole family!  
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**Oscar Washa**

Funeral services for Oscar Davis Washa, 60 year-old Weatherford resident, were held Thursday, May 26, 2022, 2:00 P.M. at the Clinton Emergency Response Center with Delfred Whitecrow officiating. Burial will follow in Chief Black Short Nose Allotment Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home. Wake services were held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Lockstone Funeral Home Chapel.



Oscar was born February 21, 1962, in Clinton to Porfirio Dean and Clarabelle Bullbear (Silverhorn) Washa and passed away Friday, May 20, 2022, in Clinton. Oscar was raised north of Weatherford, in the Deer Creek community. Oscar was a proud member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, Native American Church, Weatherford Indian Baptist Church and was an accomplished painter and artist. He loved painting, carving staffs, and spending time outdoors, walking and fishing. He also worked in construction as a roofer. Oscar also loved spending time with his family and grandchildren.

Oscar is survived by his daughter Kelly Kisse and her husband James Hutson of Woodward; one brother Tallsun Washa Jr of Weatherford; two sisters: Rose Clayborn and husband Mark of Apache and Judy Sheridan and husband Christian of Weatherford; and three grandchildren: Jakobe Brown, Jady Brown and Jozlynn Kisse. He was preceded in death by parents and grandson Andrew Brown.

**Max Ashley**

Memorial services for Max Joe Ashley, 85 year-old Weatherford resident, were held Saturday, May 28, 2022, 2:00 P.M. in The Chapel of Lockstone Funeral Home with David Lawrence officiating.



Max was born on June 24, 1936, in Anadarko to Mable Douglas and passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at Burford Manor in Davis, OK. He was born and raised in Anadarko, OK. He was named after the famous boxing match between Max Schmeling and Joe Louis in 1936. The "Joe" name has been passed down for three generations in his family. He attended school in Anadarko, OK. He farmed with his grandparents. At the age of 15, Max enlisted in the United States Army on July 27th, 1951. He served in the Army for four and a half years. He was a Combat Engineer and a Squad Leader Petty Officer 3rd Class. He also fought in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged on January 9th, 1956. The next day, he enlisted in the United States Navy on January 10th, 1956. He was on a gearing-class destroyer, called the USS William M. Wood. He was honorably discharged from the US Navy on September 3rd, 1959 after serving three and a half years.

He moved to Chickasha and worked at Fritcher Furniture Company and a mechanic shop for many years. He moved himself and his family to Ft. Cobb Lake. Once his children moved away from home, he moved to Hydro, OK to be closer to his son Randy and his family. He later moved to Weatherford just a block away from his son Randy. Max worked for Winn Car Wash for approximately 5 years retiring in 2010. Most people knew him from the car wash. Max moved to Burford Manor Nursing Home in Davis, OK, where his granddaughter worked at in April 2021.

He loved fishing, being outside and active, football, John Wayne movies, NASCAR races, casinos and coffee.

Max had a smile that would light up the room. He loved his son Randy very much as well as his daughter-in-law Peggy as if she was his own child. He adored his grandchildren very much and his great grandchildren even more. His family loved him so very much. He was the best father, grandfather and father-in-law. Max will be greatly missed, and he was so deeply loved by his family.

Max is survived by his daughter-in-law Peggy Ashley of Weatherford; one granddaughter Lacey Ashley and fiancé Curtis Brooks of Roff; one grandson JD Yandell and wife Joni of Summerfield; seven great grandchildren: Carson, Greyson, Tori, Michael, Carley, Gunner and Gracelynn. He was preceded in death by his son Randy Ashley and great granddaughter Hailey Yandell.

**Linville Lee Murdock**

Linville Lee Murdock was known as "Sissy" to her family and childhood friends. She was born August 13, 1942, in Hondo, Texas. She moved to Hammon, Oklahoma, with her family in 1943 and graduated from there in 1960. While a student at Hammon, she was involved in most all of the extracurricular activities that were available. She was an outstanding basketball player and a good piano player, among other notable achievements. She graduated from Southwestern State in 1964 and later obtained her Master's degree. She taught 2 years in the Clovis, New Mexico, school system and 1 year at Panhandle Oklahoma State University before returning to Weatherford to teach the next 31 years in the Physical Education Department at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.



She taught many classes and touched the lives of a great number of students. She coached volleyball and tennis, served as sponsor of the Physical Education Major and Minors Club, served with the Brownie Playdays and served on the Faculty Senate. She was a member of a number of professional associations and Alliances and was president of the Lamba Chapter of the international women teachers' organization (Delta Kappa Gamma).

Among other things, she was a prolific poem writer that always contained a humorous side, as was her way of life. She was a great sister, devoted and loving daughter and a great friend to so many. She never married but had a close relationship with her fiancé Bill Akers prior to his death.

She is preceded in death by her parents Lloyd and Nora Murdock. She is survived by 2 brothers: John, aka Johnny, and Lloyd Jr., aka Bubby (Barbara), as well as a great niece Tonya (Greg): 2 Nephews, Shawn (Shawn

Rae) and Shea (Jennifer). She is also survived by 4 great nieces and 4 great nephews.

She was a Christian and strived to live by the principles of Jesus Christ and maintained a relationship with him as was evident by peaceful and comforting acceptance of death.

**Dr. Garry Travis Bull**

Dr. Garry Travis Bull was born June 9, 1978, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Richard Lon and Janie (Chapman) Bull and passed away Tuesday, May 24, 2022, near Hinton, Oklahoma having reached the age of 43 years, 10 months and 15 days.



Garry was raised and attended school in Tucumcari, New Mexico, and graduated with the Class of 1996. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was stationed at Tinker Air Base in Oklahoma City, also serving in the U.S. Army and retired with 22 years of service with the Army National Guard. Upon his honorable discharge, he earned a Bachelor degree from SWOSU in 2006. While in college, Garry met his future bride Briana Parker and were married on July 31, 2004, in Oklahoma City. He attended OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine from 2006 to 2012. Garry did his residency for 5 years at Enid. He moved his family to Weatherford in 2017. Garry worked at Integris Bass Baptist Health Center in Enid, Alliance Health Clinton in Clinton, VA Clinic in Clinton and was currently working at Mercy Clinic in Watonga. He enjoyed reading and studying history and theology. He was currently working on his Master degree in Divinity. Garry was the Grand Scribe for the Knights Templar of America.

Garry is survived by his wife of 17 years Briana Bull of their home in Weatherford; his mothers Janie Babcock of Artesia, New Mexico, and Joni DiPatri of Knoxville, Tennessee; two daughters: Lorelai and Annelise Bull; maternal grandmother Jeanne Britton of Belen, New Mexico; one brother Frank DiPatri and wife Gabrielle of Chattanooga, Tennessee; and three sisters: Bethany Barrero of Plano, Texas, Rebekah Jimenez and husband Eric of Artesia, New Mexico, and Christine Atchley of Knoxville, Tennessee. He was preceded in death by his father.

**Terrell Leonard**

Celebration of Life Service for Terrell Leonard, 64, Clinton resident will be held 11:00 A.M., Friday, June 10, 2022, in the Weatherford's First United Methodist Church, officiated by Chuck Horton and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Terrell Vann Leonard was born March 13, 1958, to Robert Max "Cotton" Leonard and Mildred Eloise (Slump) Leonard in Weatherford, OK and passed away Friday, May 20, 2022, in the Oklahoma University Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.

Terrell was raised in Weatherford and graduated from Weatherford High School in 1976. He continued his education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford and achieved a master's in education as well as a license as a professional counselor.

He taught history at the Burns flat High School for over 15 years. He changed his career and became a counselor for the New Horizons Mental Health and later it changed to Red Rock Behavioral Health Center.

He was a member of the Weatherford First United Methodist Church, he loved music, all animals, traveling and boating, skiing, fishing, and anything to do with water sports. He especially loved spending time with his daughter Gina and the grandbabies.

He is preceded in death by his dad "Cotton." He is survived by his daughter Gina Zorolla (who was the apple of his eye) and husband John, San Antonio, TX, mother Mildred Leonard, Weatherford, and brother Gary Leonard and wife Cheryl, Weatherford.

He is also survived by is companion Lesa Fox of the home; two grandchildren: Meric Leonard and Mallick Leonard, San Antonio, TX, and a very special uncle Garland Leonard, Weatherford.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions may be made to Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge, 33 Refuge Headquarters Road, Indiahoma, OK 73552.




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SCAN ME

## Ella Barnett is 2022-23 Orbie Wilburn Memorial Scholar at SWOSU

Ella Barnett has been named the 2022-2023 Orbie Wilburn Memorial Scholar at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU).

Barnett is a 2022 Weatherford High School graduate and will be a freshman at SWOSU in August 2022. She is the daughter of Amy and Randy Barnett, both SWOSU professors.

The Orbie Wilburn Memorial Scholarship was established in 2004 by Gary and Linda Wilburn (SWOSU Class of 1997) of Weatherford to pay tribute to their son, the late Orbie DeWayne Wilburn.

The Orbie Wilburn Memorial 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 over \$37 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For information on how to make a



Pictured left is Orbie Wilburn and pictured right is Ella Barnett. Barnett is the recipient of the 2022 Orbie Wilburn Memorial Scholarship.

charitable gift to SWOSU please contact the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. at 580-774-3267 or visit [www.SWOSUFoundation.com](http://www.SWOSUFoundation.com).

## John & Leslie Robinson Family Named to SWOSU Planned Giving Society

The John & Leslie Robinson family of Amarillo (TX) has been named to the SWOSU Tomorrows planned giving society.

Dr. Diane Lovell, president of Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU), recently made the announcement.

John has generously made provision for SWOSU in his estate planning. His thoughtful investment in SWOSU will be used to provide substantial endowed support to the SWOSU College of Pharmacy via the John & Leslie Robinson Scholarship Fund at the SWOSU Foundation, Inc.

John and Leslie both attended SWOSU and while here, started dating, then married. John graduated from the SWOSU College of Pharmacy in 1966. Their 55 years of marriage were filled with much joy, though none greater

than their pride in sons Stewart Robinson and the late John Mark Robinson. Leslie passed away on September 18, 2020.

“SWOSU stands firmly on the Hilltop today because of visionary philanthropic partners like the John and Leslie Robinson family,” Lovell said. “We are honored that John chose to invest in SWOSU by including our institution in his estate planning and to honor Leslie’s memory in such a special way. This truly generous gesture will provide support to our students for decades to come.”

To better equip those who choose to remember SWOSU in their estate planning, the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. has launched [www.SWOSUTomorrows.com](http://www.SWOSUTomorrows.com), a comprehensive website with updated information about

(See ROBINSON, page 7)

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A researcher, Dan Owens, has deduced the 246 quarter eagles were test coins for the Mints' coin presses and dies.

The above pictured 1854-S quarter eagle was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service as a Very Good 10. It sold for \$360,000.

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**For Sale- New Carlisle Trail HD Trailer Tires, ST 175/80R13, 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**

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

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# LOCAL & AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

## Leadership Weatherford Class 23 Celebrates Completion of Program



*Provided*  
Members of Leadership Weatherford Class 23 recently completed their nine-month program, sponsored by Southwestern Oklahoma State University and the City of Weatherford. The class had a luncheon to celebrate the year. Members of the class are (from left): Matt Bartel, Billie Crispin, Ashley LaGrange, Dustin Michaels, Courtney Thiessen, Brian Denton, Te Dragg, Brandon Lewis, Jennifer Cook-Johns, Billy Smith, Amanda Currier and Alyssa Bane.

**CLINTON/SUMMER FOOD SERVICE-** The summer food service program for Clinton Public schools will start May 31st at Southwest Elementary and Clinton High School. The program will provide free meals to anyone under the age of 18 from May 31st-July 22nd. Adults can eat breakfast for \$2 and lunch for \$4.25. Breakfast will be served at Southwest Elementary Monday-Friday from 7:30-9am and lunch from 11:30-1pm. The Clinton High School site will offer breakfast meals Monday-Thursday from 8-10am.

**CLINTON/LT. GOV-** Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell will visit the city of Clinton during a luncheon June 7th. Chamber of Commerce president Julie Caldwell said the luncheon will be held at the Frisco Center and will begin at noon. Those who have interest to attend the luncheon should RSVP to the chamber by calling 323-2222.

**SWOSU/GARZA-** Salina Garza will assume the role of assistant director of admissions and recruitment at Southwestern Oklahoma State University effective June 1st. Garza has served various roles in the admissions & recruitment office, including admissions coordinator and administrative assistant.

**ELK CITY/ACE HARDWARE RELOCATION-** Plans have been announced for the relocation of Ace home center in Elk City. Officials with Elk Supply said the all-new indoor home center will relocate to south main street and contain 90,000 square feet and include a complete repurposing of the Terry's Furniture building. The project will include a drive-thru building materials and lumber yard. 40,000 square feet of the 90,000 square foot project will include a retail hardware store. Construction of the more than \$5 million project is expected to begin January 1, 2023. The new Elk City Ace Home Center will employ over 40 associates.

**VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE-** June 3rd is the last day to apply for voter registration to be eligible to vote in the June 28th federal, state, and county primary election.

Applications must be received by the county election board and postmarked no later than midnight June 3rd. Applications postmarked after that time will be accepted but will not be processed until after the June 28th election.

**WEATHERFORD/ROUTE 66 NIGHTS-** The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for another season of Route 66 nights in 2022. Spokesperson Michelle Lee said an ice cream competition is scheduled July 29th at Means Park to kickoff the series. Then a back-to-school bash will be held August 26th. A route 66 celebration will be held September 10th and October 29th will feature a Halloween theme including trunk or treat.

**CUSTER COUNTY/FUEL COSTS-** Custer County Sheriff Dan Day said the rising cost of goods is putting a strain on the sheriff's budget. Day said the Sheriff's Department is still able to conduct patrols, but says many years ago, the department had to wait on calls to come in because of high fuel costs.

**BOONE/DIST 55 CANDIDATE-** Cordell city councilman Tad Boone said family, abortion, second amendment, economy and health care are some of the reasons why he is seeking the district 55 state representative seat. The seat is up for grabs as current representative Todd Russ is term limited and is seeking the seat of state treasurer. Jeff Sawatzky of Clinton and Nick Archer of Elk City are also seeking election to the district 55 seat.

**CADDO COUNTY FATALITY-** An accident on U.S. 281 just east of Hinton claimed the life of a Weatherford man. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said forty-three-year-old Garry T. Bull died at the scene after his vehicle hit standing water. Troopers said Bull lost control of the vehicle, which slid off the road and struck the end of a bridge rail.



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**Happy Birthday Wishes for June 1st-** David Blake, Joshua Brittenham, Traci Brownen, Erika Cordes, Betty Dobbins, Clay Gilliland, Candace Kelley, Laura McKinsey, Arnold Miller, Linda Retzloff, Alison Slagell, Candi Williams; **June 2nd-** McKenna Albert, Sherreea Baden, Fran Brooks, George Browning, Sadie Burton, Julianna Leppke, Hillary Wise; **June 3rd-** Barret Cloninger, Kylee Crawley, Rachel Fast, Dr. Wes Levy, Justin Maguire, Stacy Strong, Belinda Thacker, Mavis Wilks, Becky Wood; **June 4th-** Jordan Nel, Hayden Boone, Jeff Brown, Ken Keeton, Bo Lovelace, Deb Mooney, Elizabeth Olguin, Larry Parker, Kendra Parkhurst, Heather Randy, Janice Smith, Laura Lynn Trent, Charmaine Yellow Eyes; **June 5th-** Leonard Abrahams, Caren Edwards, Richard Ratcliffe, Sue Ringler, Luke Sewell, Blake Shaddon, Alisyn Shellhorse, Micahel Shipman; **June 6th-** Kaci Axtell, Raymond Cole, Daryl Jones, Jasmine Lamp, Janet Little, Donna Poeling, Janet Roulet, Dwight Slagell, Brittany Theis, Bo Thomason; **June 7th-** Deon Basler, Angeline Evans, Ryan Fox, Tommy Klein, Nickie Lee, Ashley Oliver, Denise Slagell, Dennis Slagell, Raymond Vermillion

# SPORTS Presented by:



## Jeff Zinn

Continued from Page 1

in leading such a tradition rich program. I am also extremely thankful for all my past players who have helped me get to the opportunity I have in front of me today. I look forward to growing in Weatherford and adding onto the program which will continue to be about family and a winning culture.”

During his time at Anadarko, he earned many accolades for himself including NFHSA State Coach of the Year (2021), NFHSA National Sectional Coach of the Year (2020), Daily Oklahoma Coach of the Year (2019), and OGBCA State Coach of the Year (2012, 2019).

Prior to coaching at Anadarko, Zinn coached at Newkirk High School. While at Newkirk, the Tigers finished as the state runner-up in 2009 and a state quarterfinalist in 2010.

Zinn began his head coaching career at Blanchard High School where he was named Canadian Valley Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2001.

A native of Buffalo, Oklahoma, Zinn completed his bachelor's degree in education at Northwestern in 1990 and earned a master's degree in administration from East Central in 1998. He has four children, Averi, Libbi, Layni, and Taylor, and a granddaughter, Amay. Layni is a returning sophomore and current member of the SWOSU women's basketball team.

An official summer meet and greet for Coach Zinn will be scheduled at a later date.

### THE ZINN FILE:

#### Coaching Career:

- 2021-22: Oral Roberts (Assistant Coach)
- 2011-21: Anadarko HS (Head Coach)
- 2007-11: Newkirk HS (Head Coach)
- 1994-07: Blanchard HS (Head Coach)
- 1990-93: Guymon HS (Assistant Coach)

#### Playing Career:

- 1988: Northwestern Oklahoma State
- 1986: Panhandle State
- 1985: Northern Oklahoma College

#### Education:

- East Central University M.A. Education in Public School Administration, 1998
- Northwestern Oklahoma State University B.A. Business Administration, 1990

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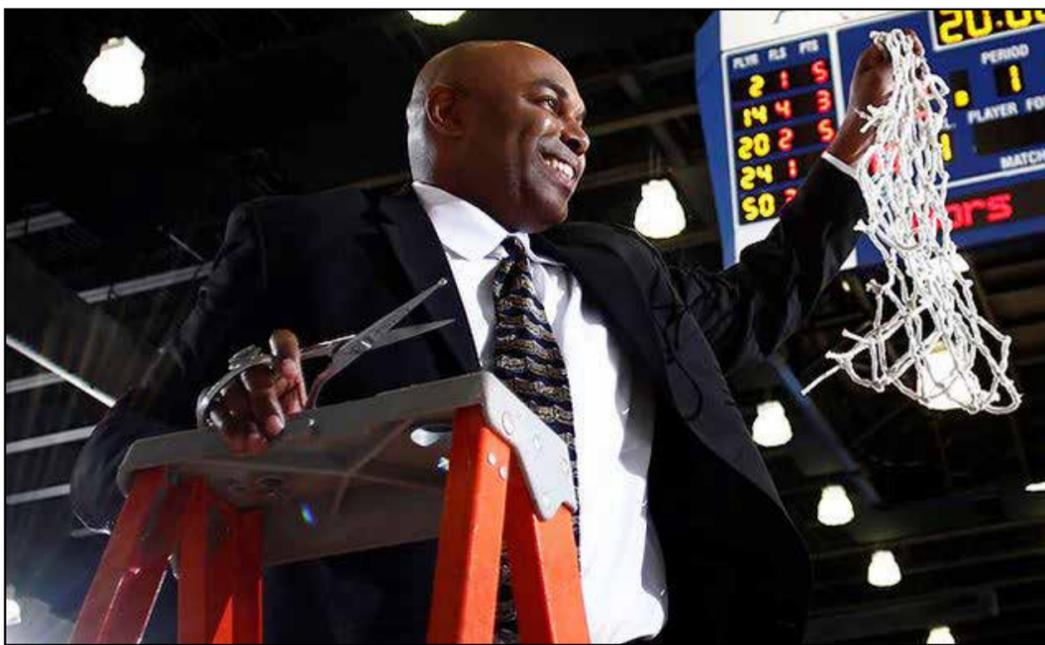
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Provided

Did you know? Men's basketball head coach Terry Evans (pictured above) surpassed 300 career college victories during the GAC Tournament run this past season! Congratulations Coach Evans on a great season and for leading the SWOSU Men's Basketball to their second ever NCAA Division II Basketball Championship Tournament appearance!



Krystal Blackwell/WW

Smith, 10, of the Weatherford Yankees runs towards Home. The Weatherford Yankees faced off against Burns Flat in Summer little league baseball this past week.

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# SWOSU Students Win Reach Higher Program Awards



Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) students (left) Rhannon Calfy of Temple, (third from left) Jennifer Nightengale of Foss and Abigail Ulery of Yukon were recently honored with Reach Higher awards at the Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology spring awards ceremony on the Weatherford campus. With them is Dr. Todd Wiggen, coordinator of SWOSU's organizational leadership program—Reach Higher Flex Finish.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) students Jennifer Nightengale of Foss, Abigail Ulery of Yukon and Rhannon Calfy of Temple were recently honored with Reach Higher awards at the Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology spring awards ceremony on the Weatherford campus.

Nightengale and Ulery each received a \$1,000 Reach Higher scholarship from the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. Calfy was named the outstanding student in the Reach Higher program.

Reach Higher is a degree-finishing program designed for adults that have successfully completed some college coursework but have not yet finished a college degree. The program of study results in a Bachelor of Science degree in organizational leadership with an area of focus in general business.

“The Reach Higher program is the best option for me and my family. I love that it has the flexibility of completing my schoolwork as I can while also maintaining my full-time job,” Nightengale said. “If this program were not available, I would not be able to complete this goal. I am thankful for the opportunity to complete this program all online.”

Nightengale said that completing her degree sets a positive example for her children.

“I believe that the benefits from the Reach Higher program and from getting a college education will lead me and my family to a better future,” Nightengale said.

Ulery has overcome some challenging life experiences and sees the Reach Higher program as a path to overcome those struggles while financially supporting her family.

“What the Reach Higher program means to me is

flexibility,” Ulery said. “I can complete my work after I get off from my job.”

Ulery is considering continuing her education and pursuing a career in the mental health industry.

Calfy, a previous scholarship winner, completed her degree in organizational leadership this spring.

“The Reach Higher program has meant the world to me,” Calfy said. “I stumbled upon information about the Reach Higher program and immediately reached out to Dr. Wiggen (Todd) and started the process to be a part of the program. Dr. Wiggen has become my mentor and role model. The program has been my saving grace and inspiration on my darkest days.”

Calfy has been admitted to the Master of Science in management program at SWOSU and will continue her studies this fall. Eventually, she would like to work in the nonprofit sector and perhaps start her own nonprofit organization to assist families with children who have serious illnesses.

Dr. Todd Wiggen, the coordinator of SWOSU's organizational leadership program—Reach Higher Flex Finish—said the Reach Higher adult-friendly degree completion options through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education encourage adults who have earned some college credit to successfully complete their degrees.

“The program is really geared to working adults by offering flexible enrollment and online coursework. Students can go as fast or as slow as they want and are able,” Wiggen said. “Many of our students may only take a class or two a semester due to their other obligations, and others will take five to six courses to try and finish as rapidly as possible. It is truly up to the individual.”

The program is also examining other area of focus options aside from business to provide even greater flexibility.

The Reach Higher/Organizational Leadership program is currently accepting students for the 2022 fall semester at SWOSU. Additional information is available by contacting Wiggen at todd.wiggen@swosu.edu or at leadership@swosu.edu.

## Johannes Becht is 2022-23 Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Scholar at SWOSU

Johannes Becht of Pforzheim, Germany, has been named Southwestern Oklahoma State University's 2022-2023 Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch scholarship award winner for the pursuit of authentic journalism.

Becht is a senior at SWOSU pursuing a degree in strategic communications as well as minors in world languages and filmmaking. Becht is also contributing to several short films over the summer/ As a part of his scholarship application, Becht wrote an essay about Mstyslav Chernov, an award-winning Ukrainian photographer, filmmaker and war correspondent whom he admires.

The Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Memorial

Scholarship Fund was established in 2017 to honor the life and accomplishments of the late Jack B. Shelton and the late Walter Crouch. The fund has been generously endowed by Shelton's widow, Margaret Shelton of Oakland (MD), and their children: daughter Becky West (SWOSU Class of 1976) and husband Bill of Lake Eufaula; daughter Susan Smith of Oakland (MD); and son Jack “Barney” Shelton (SWOSU Class of 1988) and his wife Wanda of Ham Lake (MN).

Together, Shelton and Crouch invested over four decades of service to SWOSU. The two men worked passionately and diligently to cultivate the university's distinctive and enduring brand and style. Shelton and

Crouch mentored and inspired many students during their years at SWOSU.

The Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Memorial 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 over \$37 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For information on how to make a charitable gift to SWOSU please contact the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

### Robinson

Continued from Page 3

how planned gifts of any size and type can be made to SWOSU.

Donors who choose to record their planned gifts to SWOSU will be named as part of the SWOSU Tomorrows giving society and recognized according to their wishes and preferences, joining a special place of honor amongst the university's many benefactors. Former SWOSU Presidents Dr. Joe Anna Hibler and the late Dr.

John Hays served as the founding honorary co-chairs of the SWOSU Tomorrows effort under the guidance of the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees.

The SWOSU Tomorrows planned giving program is coordinated 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 information on how to make a planned gift to SWOSU or to notify SWOSU that a provision has been made for the university in estate planning, please contact the SWOSU Foundation by telephone at 580-774-3267; by e-mail to Executive Director Garrett King at garrett.king@swosu.edu; or by visiting www.SWOSUTomorrows.com.

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## HIGHER GROUND

### Jesus Loves the Little Children



Jim Morrison

These are the days of waking up to horrific news of insane acts of brutality. In my youth of the 40's and 50's we never dreamed of someone coming into a school with the intent of doing harm to little children. I lived on the farm and none of our doors had any locks on them. Our society and culture has drastically changed.

The value and sanctity of life has reached the depth that road rage and gang violence no longer surprises us.

Both the Old and the New Testament speak of the importance of our children and the responsibility of parents. Psalm 127:3-5 says, “Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. Blessed is

the man whose quiver is full of them.”

Jesus said in Matt. 14:19 “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Life is sacred both from the womb to the tomb. It is sacred because it is God given. The miracle of conception and the process of the development of the little body during those nine months is so marvelous that it demands a loving creator God who guides the process.

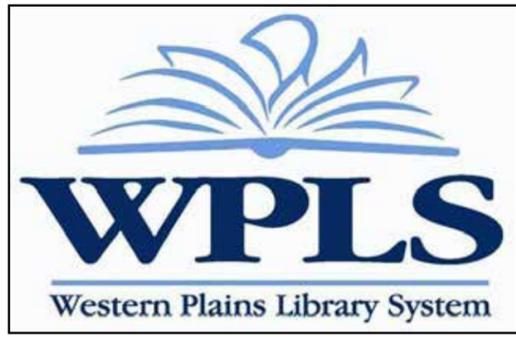
We cannot imagine the pain and grief of the loved ones who lost a precious family member in Uvalde, Texas. But we cannot ignore the over 60 million little ones who were not given the chance to experience fullness of life since Roe Vs Wade came into law in 1973. All in the name of freedom. In August of 1967 my wife and I experienced the loss of our first born. But by the Grace of God we were blessed on Christmas day to be informed that we could adopt a baby from an unplanned pregnancy by a College co-ed. She was willing to give up that beautiful baby to be raised by a mom and dad who would cherish her. Fast forward to 1973 and it is likely that that baby would never have had a chance to grow up to be the gracious, lovely middle age lady she is now.

On another level, thousands of children die every day in third world countries from diseases brought on by drinking dirty water, or by diseases that would be easily treated if medical care was available. Yet because they are far away and out of sight we do not feel the pain of the mothers who lose their children. We could do something about those conditions were it not for our indulgent, materialistic lifestyle.

In these early summer days, camps are being prepared for children and youth. Mission trips involving youth are planned. Vacation Bible Schools are in motion. Yet there are many children who will never have those experiences because of uncaring parents and because nice, too busy church folks never made the effort to touch their lives.

In Uvalde, Texas a young man grew up without a dad to give him guidance; shuttled back and forth between a mother and grandmother. He was a loner, unable to deal with anger and the realities of life. The devil had an inroad into his heart and mind because there were no restrains upon his impulsive and evil mind. Today, we pay the price. Let us be careful to look around us and sacrificially enter into the world of at risk children who desperately need love, attention, and guidance. To comment: jhm82@outlook.com or call 580-302 1142.

# WPLS To Begin Summer Reading Series June 1st



reading goals for each group are as follows:

- Children - 8 hours
- Tweens - 10 hours
- Teens - 12 hours

Reading hours can be logged at Beanstack, an interactive site designed to host fun reading challenges. If you prefer to log your hours on paper, you can keep track in your Summer Reading Program 2022 Badge Book or on a log paper available at any WPLS branch.

Check out the branches' calendar of events to see what in-person activity/entertainment is coming near you! Reaching your reading goal will also gain entry to the Grand Prize Drawings! There will be 1 children's winner and 1 tween/teen winner per branch, and winners will get to select 1 option from the group of prizes!

Prizes include: a customizable OKC Zoo trip (animal feedings, train rides, and more!), a Gamer package (win a pair of headphones and a Game Stop gift card), or a Lego Store Card!

So, don't miss out on summer reading fun, and be sure to hit your goals to make it to the reading party at McClain Park in Clinton, OK on July 16th, where there will be swimming and putt-putt!

School's out and that means it's time to embark on adventures, like: joining 3 friends at a secret wizarding school, solving mysteries with the world's most famous cowdog, or finding riches atop a tall, tall beanstalk! That's right, the Western Plains Library Summer Reading Program is here! Between June 1st and July 15th, children, tweens, and teens can participate in fun reading challenges, in-person library programs, and the End of Summer Reading Party!

Sign-ups can be done online at wplibs.com or at one of their many local branches. To get admission to the reading party at the end of the program, readers just need to reach their reading goal to attend; the

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**Maxx McCullough**

## Belated Mother's Day Salutations

If my calculations are correct, and I believe they are, I've been through 65 mothers' days for myself. I can't remember having a bad one. How elaborate the day was had to do with where I was in my life's journey.

If you have one small child, your day is much up to other people. As

more children come along and they grow older, the better the Mother's Day. Or at least the more cards, flowers, calls, texts, that sort of thing. This year was no exception. A very good Mother's Day.

I have three children; one daughter, two sons. I have four grandchildren, three girls and one boy. My son-in-law grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, so that takes care of good Mother's Day food. I decided to do something fun this year, so I chose my grandson and my two sons and sent them a text saying, "What I want for Mother's Day is for you to pick one good thing you remember about me growing up and to text it to me."

The answer came quickly from my grandson. He said, "So many good things grandma, but when you picked me up at OSU and we went to Kansas City to the Big 12 basketball tourney." (I remember that also as one of my favorite things of my life.) The next came from my intelligent first son. He said, "Your sense of humor across all levels, from crude to hyper intellectual. (Wow, ok, I'll take that with a smile.) Next was the second son's text. He said, "Who is this?" (Now that's funny) He wins the biggest laugh.

I hope all mothers had a great day.



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