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## SWOSU's 53rd annual Jazz Festival Kicks Off February 9th



Courtesy of the SWOSU Music Dept.

The SWOSU Jazz Festival will take place February 9th and 10th and will feature performances by the Tia Fuller Duo as well as the SWOSU Jazz Ensembles. Tickets for the events can be purchased by scanning the QR code.

**Chad Gray**  
WW Staff

The 53rd Annual SWOSU Jazz Festival begins this Thursday, February 9, and will feature performances by the Tia Fuller Duo as well as high school and university bands from across the region.

"This is one of the oldest Jazz festivals in the state of Oklahoma," said Tyler Macon, a SWOSU Music Department Graduate Assistant and assistant director for the festival. "Really big names in the world of Jazz music have come to Weatherford, Oklahoma, to present their music to our patrons and students."

The annual event which began in 1971 has featured legendary jazz musicians such as Clark Terry, Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, and Donnie McCaslin.

This year's featured artist, the Tia Fuller Duo, is comprised of saxophonist Tia Fuller and her pianist sister

Shamie Royston. Tia Fuller is best known as a featured musician in the 2020 Disney Pixar animated feature film, *Soul*, but she is also an acclaimed music educator.

The duo is slated to perform on Thursday, February 9, at 7pm for free at the SWOSU Fine Arts Auditorium and will also perform twice on Friday, February 10 with the SWOSU Jazz Ensemble A at 1pm as well as 8pm. Tickets for the Friday performances are available on Stubwire, and are \$20 for general audiences, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students.

"I've played a lot of great music, played with a lot of great musicians, and this band we've got this year is absolutely rocking," said Macon who is also the lead alto saxophonist for the ensemble. "This is definitely one of the best ensembles I've played in the last 5 years."

In addition to the performances, The SWOSU Music

Department, in partnership with the Weatherford Arts Council, will host a cocktail hour with the Tia Fuller Duo on Friday evening at 5:30pm. This will allow interested patrons an opportunity to get to know the musicians outside of their musical performances. Tickets for this event will be \$30 and are available on Stubwire.

While performances by the Tia Fuller Duo are certain to be a highlight of the event, the festival is, at its heart, a music competition showcasing the talents of regional high school and university musicians.

23 bands from as far as Verdigris, OK, will present jazz programs all day Friday to adjudicators and be allowed clinics to enhance their musical abilities hosted by world class musicians and faculty.

You can find more information about the festivities online at [swosujazz.weebly.com](http://swosujazz.weebly.com).

### Southwest Rustic Market

February 11th @ 10am-6pm  
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SOUTHWEST RUSTIC MARKET

## "Southwest Rustic Market" Coming to Elk City Feb. 11

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

The Southwest Rustic Market and Craft Show is coming to the Elk City Civic Center on February 11th and 12th.

The market will feature over 60 individual craft vendors. Everything from scentsy, homemade goods, custom tees, leather working, engraved wood items, jewelry, cosmetics, and more.

While you're there, be sure to swing by the concession stand to see the Red Dirt Tumblers!

The market is open from 10am - 6pm on Saturday, February 11th and from 11am - 4pm on Sunday, February 12th.



Tommy Paone / WW

Nina Smith gets prepared for Valentine's Day at *Bokays by Nina* in Hydro. This local flower shop is owned and operated by husband and wife duo Nina and Gary Smith.

## HAPPY TRAILS CHIEF FLOWERS



My friend Chief Louis Flowers retired recently. I'll miss seeing him, walking up all good-looking and proud, with that one pant leg cuff in the top of

his boot and his bullet in his pocket (just kidding, Chief!).

I'll miss doing Public Service Announcements with him and District Attorney Marsee. I know PSA's were a little crazy, but they always conveyed an important message to the elderly and people in general.

Let me tell you what I won't miss: I won't miss Chief Flowers and District Attorney Marsee harassing me for insignificant incidents like floating a stop sign at a hectic 4-way stop! Come on! Who doesn't float a stop sign at a hectic 4-way stop once in a while?

Then there was the time I was speeding. Listen, I'm old. I need to get where I'm going while I still can.

One day I was minding my own business, leisurely driving around town, and there they were, pulling me over! Now, my dog Sugar doesn't like sirens, and flashing lights make me dizzy! Anyways, I get a warning for not wearing my seat belt! Needless to say, I wear it all the time now, but when you come

right down to it, "they're not the boss of me."

I'll never forget the time I had that little mishap when I rammed into one of their officer cruisers while texting. Hey, you'd have thought I'd killed somebody! Talk about a lecture! The officer? He's fine. What got me was there was a scratch on my front bumper! No one said a word about that!

Now, as most of you know, I've offered numerous times for the Chief to "pat me down." You know, just in case I was carrying some sort of contraband. He always declined, so I guess he didn't think I was too bad.

All foolishness aside, Chief, best of luck on your next endeavor in life. I'll miss your happy, infectious laugh and your sense of humor that mirrored mine to the point that you'd let me write such ridiculous PSA's.

Don't speed, float stop signs, text while driving, and always wear your seat belt! Hmm...maybe I could make a citizen's arrest.

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**Kathleen Alexander**

Kathleen Gail Alexander was born September 6, 1969, in Weatherford to Arthur Gail and Evelyn Marie (Kaiser) Penner and passed away Thursday, January 26, 2023, in Weatherford, at the age of 53 years, 4 months and 20 days.



Kathleen was raised and attended school in Weatherford, graduating with the Class of 1987. She went on to attend Southwestern Oklahoma State University for 3 years. On July 11, 1990, Kathleen married Larry Alexander in Las Vegas, NV and made their home in Weatherford. She was the police dispatcher for the City of Weatherford from 2000 to 2005. Kathleen went to work with the Custer County Sheriff Department and later with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol from 2007 to 2017. She enjoyed traveling with her family, attending cattle shows, and watching her kids show all over the state and country. Kathleen was especially proud of her kid's accomplishments and later in life as well. She will be greatly missed by many. Memorials may be made to the Custer County Free Fair.

Kathleen was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her son Cody Alexander and wife Taler of Weatherford; her daughter Katie Smith and husband Kahler of Clinton; her sister Sharon Penner and Robert Caplener and their sons Alex and Daniel Penner of Edmond; and Larry Alexander of Weatherford.

**Julie McLaughlin**

Julie Lynn (O'Reilly) McLaughlin was born September 7, 1960, at Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego, CA. She passed away Thursday, January 26, 2023, surrounded by her family, at her home in Weatherford, OK, at the age of 62 years, 4 months and 19 days. She was the first of three children born to Robert and Leilani (Evans) O'Reilly. While growing up, the family traveled extensively, until Julie's father retired from the Navy and opened up his own business in Woodward, OK. Julie graduated high school and got married in 1978; and to this union a son James Russell was born.



Julie had an interest in learning how to make things and she developed an interest in art. In 1994, Julie received a BA in Commercial Art. Her favorite medium was watercolor. A museum curator once ranked Julie among the top ten percent best watercolorists in Oklahoma!

Soon after getting her degree, Julie and Jim moved to Beaver, OK and settled into small town life. Some of Julie's past times were volunteering at museums, giving art lessons, antiques, and home improvement projects. In 2011, Julie went back to school and got her Master's in Art Education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, where she met Richard McLaughlin. In 2014, Julie and Richard became husband and wife. That same year, Julie started working at SWOSU, until she retired in 2023.

Julie was preceded in death by her father, Robert O'Reilly and her brother Andy O'Reilly.

She is survived by her husband of 8 years Richard McLaughlin of their home in Weatherford, OK; her mother Leilani O'Reilly of Beaver, OK; her son Jim Russell of Beaver, OK; her step-daughters Sandra Whaley and husband Clay of Shawnee and Regene Kennedy and husband Todd of Shawnee, OK; and step-grandchildren: Blake Kennedy and wife Caitlin and Baylee Kennedy all of Shawnee, OK.

**Donald Miles**

Donald Lee Miles, Sr. was born September 13, 1954, to John Miles and Minnie (Whiteman) Miles in Clinton, OK and passed away Monday, January 23, 2023, in the Great Plains Medical Center in Elk City, OK.



Donald was raised in Hammon, OK where he attended Hammon Schools. He enlisted in the U.S. Marines; in 1972 he was honorably discharged in 1976. He was married to Evelyn Highwalker on December 25, 1977, who passed away in 2004.

He had been employed by the Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma as an Economic Developer, farm laborer, and he worked for the United Parcel Service.

He enjoyed playing pool, bowling, beadwork, playing softball and watching Hammon Basketball.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents, wife brother Rudy Miles, sister Esther Seger and a son Louis Marshall, and nephew Gary Don Chandler.

He is survived by four daughters: Donita Philips and husband Jeremy, and Roseann Miles, all of Elk City, OK; Candi Miles, Clinton and Kathy Bullcoming, Elk City, OK; sons Donald "Sink" Miles, Jr., Hammon, OK; and Charles Highwalker Hammon, OK and Christopher Miles, OKC, OK; three sisters: Elaine Bird, Clinton, Cheryl Carter, Hobart and May Ann Miles, Hammon and brother James Miles, Hammon, OK; 14 grandchildren.

**Dawn Anderson**

On Sunday January 29, 2023, surrounded by loved ones, Dawn Renee Anderson went to be with her Lord and Savior, having reached the age of 50 years, 9 months, and 1 day.



Born April 28, 1972, in Ft. Riley, Kansas, to Michael and Alice Sanders. She was a Christian with a servant's heart who devoted herself to her family and helping others. She was a doting mother and grandmother. Her love did not stop at her own family as she was a mother to all children who encountered her.

Known for being an abundantly kind and generous soul, she was always singing and well known for her bubbly demeanor and uncanny ability to find light even in the darkest of times. She enjoyed providing nourishment and compassionate care to others through her cooking and especially with her work in the medical field. She loved God and her church family.

Dawn is survived by her husband of 7 years Jason Anderson, of their home in Weatherford; her parents Michael and Alice Sanders of Hydro; her sons: Bishop Menefee of Weatherford, Levi Sanders and wife Nekole of Weatherford; Nolan Menefee of Krebs; her daughters: Valerie Menefee of Tulsa; Kristian Menefee of Tulsa. One brother Benjamin Sanders and wife Kayla of Hydro ten grandchildren; four nieces and two nephews.

**Helen Maxson**

Dr. Helen Fleming (Maxson) Cervini was born May 29, 1949, in Norwich, Connecticut, and passed away Friday, January 27, 2023, in Weatherford, Oklahoma, having reached the age of 73 years, 7 months and 29 days.



Helen was born and raised in New England-Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. She was the eldest of the three children of William Edgar Maxson and Donna Louise (Curtis) Maxson.

Helen was a graduate of Middlebury College and received a Master of Arts from Middlebury's Bread Loaf School of English. She received a Doctorate of Philosophy in British Literature at Cornell University. She taught at the secondary level and, after Cornell, at the University of Michigan.

In 1989, she joined the faculty of Southwestern Oklahoma State University where she remained until her retirement in 2015. Beloved by her students, she relished engaging them in classroom debate and discussion.

Helen published many articles and conference papers throughout her tenure at SWOSU, focused in separate seasons on the writings of Wendell Berry, Walt McDonald, and Caryl Phillips, among others. She served as President of SWOSU's Faculty Senate and cherished many deep friendships with her colleagues. She also served as the faculty advisor to Sigma Tau Delta, an international excelled English honor society, and to the LDS Institute of Religion.

While at SWOSU, Helen met her husband Michael with whom she shared thirty years of devotion and love.

Helen was a faithful and active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She taught Sunday School at the local congregation for twelve years straight. Every month, she wrote personal letters to women in the Church to inspire and encourage them. Her faith gave her a second family and allowed her to face illness with calm and hope.

She loved the arts, especially music and literature. She wore the hippie mantle proudly and loved to listen to the greats of folk, Motown, Broadway, classical, jazz, early R&B, and rock and roll. She would often get a song or line of poetry stuck in her head for days or weeks at a time. As she used to say, her enjoyment of these lines was like eating fudge.

She was a warm encouraging voice for all who knew her. She showed people the respect of listening and encouraging without advising or correcting. As she returns home to God, the garments of His love should be comfortable and familiar on her shoulders.

Helen is preceded in death by her parents, her brother Stuart Brown Maxson, and her first husband Sidney Bartoo Doolittle, Jr.

She is survived by her loving husband and longtime caregiver Michael Albert Cervini, her son William Maxson Doolittle (Bergen) and her sister Ann Hiller (Maxson) Lewis (Brent), nephew Jonathan, and nieces Becca, Donna, and Jessica.

**Lonnie Huebert**

Lonnie Dale Huebert was born January 9, 1938, to Henry K. Huebert and Lillie Flaming Huebert in Cloud Chief, OK and passed away Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at his home in Corn, OK.



Lonnie was raised in Corn, OK and attended Washita Heights School. He was employed by Lockheed and his title was Computer Operator.

He is a member of the Fourth and College Church of Christ in Cordell, OK. He enjoyed fishing, and watching sports.

Lonnie was preceded in death by both parents, and three wives, brother Lee Henry Huebert and sister Evelyn Shephard and an infant child.

He is survived by son Jason Huebert and wife Valerie and sister Loree Schlichting, two grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, all of Corn.

**Lena Dell Shunkwiler**

Lena Dell Shunkwiler, born November 2nd, 1930, passed away in Friso, Texas, in the company of loved ones at the age of 92 on January 24th of 2023.



Born to Delbert and Lena (Seger) Cronk, Lena Dell grew up in Colony, Oklahoma, among seven siblings: LaVerne, Thomas, Mary, Kenneth, Corrine, Nadine, and Franklin.

A 1948 graduate of Colony High School, Lena Dell, like the two sisters before her, was the president of her senior class. A woman of faith, she received a white Bible from the congregation as a gift, celebrating five years of perfect church attendance. She was a guard on the Colony High School basketball team at the same time her older sister Nadine was a forward.

Lena Dell was a stalwart attendee of the Colony High School reunions until her later years when those she was most interested in seeing had passed away. Her favorites included visiting with Betty Lou Lowry at the school reunions and watching Wheel of Fortune and OU football on TV.

Lena Dell met her future husband Curtis Shunkwiler, in Colony. The two were wed in Fort Worth, Texas, on December 3, 1951. To this union, three children were born.

After Curtis completed his service in the U.S. Air Force, he and Lena Dell settled down in Oklahoma City. Her work at Western Electric for 33 years provided a stable income and environment for the family.

Lena Dell was known for her hard work ethic and her love for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. A wonderful mother and friend, she was always there for those who needed her. This allowed her to be a loving matriarch of the Shunkwiler family.

She was the last living grandchild of John H. Seger, who in 1886 brought the Arapaho and Cheyenne to the southeast corner of their reservation, which was to become Colony and Washita County.

Lena Dell was preceded in death by her parents, her spouse, her siblings, and grandson Seth Hansen.

She is survived by three children: Curtis Allen Shunkwiler and wife Paula of Oklahoma City; Glendon Shunkwiler of Oklahoma City; and Pamela Hansen of Prosper, Texas; seven grandchildren: JoLena Hansen, Seth Hansen, Cody Hansen, Neilan Shunkwiler and wife Suyapa, Jennifer Smith and husband Ryan, Christi Bell, and Rachel Bell; and eight great-grandchildren: Aiden Smith, Arlyn Smith, Aaden Drew, Richard McCraw, Kaylee McCraw, Geraldine Rodriguez, and Desiree Shunkwiler.

She is also survived by on-the-way great-grandchild Brooklyn Shunkwiler.

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## The George and Donna Nigh Scholarship Has Been Awarded to Glen McCormick

**Grant Kopycinski** SWOSU Sports Asst. Glen McCormick, a nursing student at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) was recently awarded the George and Donna Nigh Scholarship, an award that is presented annually to one outstanding student per campus.

As the recipient of this award, McCormick will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for the Spring 2023 semester. McCormick has also been invited to attend the Nigh Leadership Academy in Oklahoma City on Feb. 4-7, where he will represent SWOSU and have the opportunity to expand his personal skills as well as his understanding of leadership. He will participate in seminars on public service offered by the Nigh Institute during his time there.

The 1999 Oklahoma Legislature authorized the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to establish this scholarship with the goal of providing opportunities to outstanding students who choose to pursue careers in public service. Students who are nominated for this award must have strong leadership qualities, high academic achievement, and strong community involvement.

McCormick was recently selected for a competitive commissioning program to become a Navy Nurse Corps Officer, an honor that will allow him to deliver nursing care wherever he is needed after his completion of the National Council Licensure Examination. Additionally, McCormick is part of the SWOSU Student Nurse Association and is on the Curriculum Advisement Committee for the SWOSU Nursing Department. He has also been a member of the President's Honor Roll during all the semesters he has studied at SWOSU. To qualify



for the President's Honor Roll, an undergraduate student must earn all A's in 12 or more hours during a semester.

"Glen was nominated by his nursing instructors, based on his self-initiative in the classroom in addition to his high academic achievement," said Elissa Saunders, program director for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and instructor at SWOSU. "I have been Glen's advisor for a few years and have witnessed him select and succeed in more challenging courses than the basic requirements at every opportunity. He is unafraid to carve his own path in life and is a natural leader."

## SWOSU Alum Benoit Signs Professional Overseas Professional Volleyball Contract

Former SWOSU Volleyball student-athlete and graduate assistant coach Markenzie Benoit recently signed a professional contract to play overseas. She becomes the first volleyball alum in program history to do so.

"It is always exciting to see our student-athletes move up to the next level," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "Especially, when the student-athlete contributed as much to Bulldog Athletics as Markenzie did. We couldn't be prouder of her or for her."

Benoit signed with KV Fer Volley, a team based out of the country of Kosovo, located in Southeastern Europe. Fer Volley competes in a pair of professional leagues, the George Kastrioti joint Albania-Kosovo League and Kosovo Super League A.

"I'm thankful for Fer Volley for giving me this opportunity to join their club," said Benoit. "I'm really excited to share new experiences with my teammates and can't help but be grateful for the ability to continue playing volleyball and travel the world at the same time."

Benoit was a standout for the Bulldogs during the 2021 season after coming from Division I Tulane University as a graduate transfer. In her lone season, representing SWOSU, she was named the Great American Conference Newcomer of the Year and a First Team All-GAC selection.

After finishing up her playing career, Benoit remained in Weatherford and became a Graduate Assistant Coach for the 2022 season. She graduated with her master's degree in Classroom Teaching, following the 2022 fall semester and recently embarked on her new journey of



professional volleyball.

"When you simply count the days that Mark spent in Weatherford, it seems like a very short period of time," SWOSU Volleyball Head Coach Josh Collins said. "However, when you start counting the ways that she impacted our volleyball program, it seems as though she spent her entire collegiate career as a Bulldog. Her impact on the court was obvious. She was clearly a very gifted athlete and a savvy volleyball player, but her influence in the locker room and at practice was just as important. She conducted herself as a professional long before she signed a contract."

After arriving in Weatherford, 18 months ago, unsure of what the future might hold, Benoit proved to be a catalyst for the SWOSU Volleyball team. Her time at SWOSU, however, also proved to be a catalyst in preparing her for the challenge of pursuing a professional career.

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## HIGHER GROUND

### Black History Month



Jim Morrison

"Righteousness exalted a nation—sin is a reproach to any people." That was the cry of one of the greatest black leaders in our history. February marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass one of the most vocal leaders of the anti-slavery in the 19th century. Born into slavery in 1818, he spent his first 20 years witnessing the violence and cruelty of white masters.

As a child he saw his aunt, a 15 year old girl, her wrist tied over her head and hanging from the ceiling: Naked from to her waist, as the master lashed her back 40 times with blood streaming from her wounds. When she was untied, she crumpled to the floor in a pool of her blood. Douglas never got over this sight. When he was 20 he decided he could stand it no more and managed to escape to the North.

Before his escape, when he was eight, he was sent to Baltimore to live with Hugh and Sophia Auld. Late one night he heard Sophia, a devout Methodist reading from the book of Job. He wondered how Job who had lost everything could still say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." Sophia began to teach him the alphabet but Hugh soon forbade it. Douglas secretly taught himself, using old warn spelling books and Methodist hymnals. By age 13 or 14 he could read and write. Free black Methodists showed him that there might be more than that which he had heard from the perverted gospel of slaveholders.

In 1833 he was sent back to the plantation where he served as a field worker. He saw how the slaveholders distorted the gospel to justify their oppressive cruelty. One Sabbath morning he stood on Chesapeake Bay looking out over the waters. He lamented, "Why am I born a man, of whom to be made a brute!" I am left in the hottest hell of unending slavery. O God, save me! God, deliver me! Let me be free! Is there any God? Why am I a slave? I will run away...God helping me, I will. It cannot be that I shall live and die a slave?"

His brilliant mind soon led him to absorb the writings of William Garrison's, the leader of the abolitionist movement of the day. His oratorical skills soon became apparent and he began to speak

of the hypocrisy of the slaveholders who would be leaders in the church, often filling the pulpits, yet resorting to the cruelty of tearing families apart robbing them of their dignity through harsh and oppressive measures.

He rejoiced in the victory of the Union and the right to vote finally being given to all people. Yet, he saw the remaining prejudice of the reconstruction period, of sharecropping, segregation, and Jim Crow: the lynching of at 200 men each year in the 1890s. But he still had a hope of redemption laid on a "broad foundation laid by the Bible itself, "that God has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth."

It is probable that many of you do not want to hear of the sins of our past. It is true that we have made great strides in the area of racial equality and justice. But to ignore the past is not fair to those who were harmed by it and even today bear the scars of that period. We need to be reminded of the tendency we all have to justify our sins when it is profitable to us. We all need redemption from our sins of omission and commission. May God help us to see ourselves as He sees us and come to repentance. Much of this material has come from the December 2017 issue of Christianity Today.

To comment: 580-302-1142 or jhm85@outlook.com.

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



## "The Coin Guy" 1958 Lincoln Cent Makes History



Trent Boesen

The 1958 Lincoln cent had a mintage of 252,525,000 pieces. From that mintage only three coins have been found showing the doubling of "LIBERTY" and "IN GOD WE TRUST".

Doubling occurs because of a mistake in the "hubbing" process. Hubbing is the method of making several dies with the same intended design for each coin.

This in turn created a rarity in coin collecting. The above pictured coin is the only piece, of the three known cents, to come to auction.

It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) as a Mint State 65 RD (red). On January 22, 2023, it sold at auction for \$1,136,250. Unbelievable!

Collecting error coins is a fascinating area which many enjoy. Should you need assistance call The Coin Guy 580-890-8076. We can meet at the Downtown diner. Coffee is on me. Thanks for reading.

## SAGE STEAM Camp Nominations Now Open



Oklahoma students will have the opportunity again to experience the SAGE STEAM Camp at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford in 2023.

The Southwest Alliance for Girls Enrichment (SAGE) Committee members are looking for students from across the state who are currently in seventh grade and interested in exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/Humanities, and Mathematics. The camp is geared toward students (especially girls) who may have limited access to STEAM-related activities and may truly benefit from this experience, personally or academically. This year is the fifth anniversary of the camp at SWOSU.

"We have experienced change and challenges over the past five years, including COVID-19, different programming, new collaborators, adding the Educators Program, etc. Through it all, the SAGE STEAM camp remains a place where girls can learn and grow, meet others who share their passions and let their true colors show," said Dr. Lisa Appeddu, camp director. "We appreciate the ongoing support of SWOSU, the City of Weatherford, Devon Energy, and other organizations and individuals who make it possible for us to inspire the next generation in STEAM. Cheers to the next five years!"

Students will stay overnight in university residence halls during the week of camp, from June 11 to 17, 2023. They will participate in hands-on activities, interact with role models from STEAM fields and travel off-campus to experience STEAM on-site. Students will also learn about career opportunities in relevant fields.

Student nominations by high school faculty must complete an online application before February 15 and then undergo an introduction phone interview in March. Up to 50 students will be selected to attend the SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU.

Campers pay a non-refundable \$200 registration fee; the remaining \$900 in costs per camper is covered by grants and generous supporters, which include personal donors, Oklahoma businesses such as Devon Energy, and community organizations. Reduced registration fees and payment plans are available as needed to reduce financial burden. Tax-deductible donations to the SAGE STEAM Camp may be made via the SWOSU Foundation. Both in-kind and monetary contributions are welcome.

By emailing [sagesteamcamp@gmail.com](mailto:sagesteamcamp@gmail.com) or visiting <https://linktr.ee/SAGESTEAM>, you can receive more camp information and the student nomination form.

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A camper builds domino art as part of a team project.

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**WSB / PROPOSITIONS** - The Weatherford School Board of Education has approved two bond propositions for capital improvements and for transportation needs to be on an upcoming ballot. Superintendent Jill Henderson says the capital improvement election is \$1.48 million over ten years. Henderson says the transportation bond is \$550,000. Passage of the bonds will not affect ad valorem rates for district homeowners. The election is planned for April 4th.

**WEATHERFORD CC / PSO** - PSO Representative Mike Hixson presented to the Weatherford City Commission, regarding the renewal of the PSO franchise agreement with the city. The commission will consider calling for an election during its February meeting to put the request before city voters on May 9th.

**CUSTER / LAWTER RD** - At the weekly meeting of the Custer Commissioners, District 2 Commissioners Bruce Walker updated the Lawter Road project. Walker says they will not have to move a pipeline that had been a source of delay, but it will be abandoned and capped off. Walker says bids could be let by the summer, and work could begin in September. Walker also says the project would take approximately 300 days.

**CUSTER / JAIL EXERCISE YARD** - At their weekly meeting yesterday, Custer County Commissioners discussed possible action to enclose an outdoor courtyard in the old county jail for storage. The estimate for converting the outdoor courtyard from Rick Scott's construction was \$515,000. Commissioners voted to take no action as they each had issues with the cost of the project and the lack of square footage it would provide. District 1 Commissioner Wade Anders wants to see about converting the already climate-controlled side of the jail into usable office storage.

**CADDO / FATALITY** - The Oklahoma Highway Patrol released details about a fatality accident in Fort Cobb yesterday. OHP says 78-year-old Gary Orrell of Fort Cobb died en route to the Tri-County Municipal Hospital in Carnegie. The Orrell vehicle was struck by a second vehicle driven by 59-year-old Mary Salazar of Carnegie. A passenger, 71-year-old Javier Salzar of Carnegie, was hospitalized in serious condition.

**CUSTER / JAIL YARD** - Twenty-two year-old Jesse Tointigh (TOE-IN-TIE) of Weatherford was arrested by OKC Police for allegedly harassing two people outside of a local Hotel. Tointigh has been booked for the warrant issued after he walked away from custody on January 16th for possession of meth. He will soon return to the Oklahoma Department of Correction, where he will face additional charges for walking away.

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**Alcohol causing problems?** Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information. **Christian Free Store** - Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. **Alfalfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. Five miles South of Hwy 152. For more Information contact (405) 643-9211. **Free and Open to the Public. Oklahoma Parkinson's Alliance,** monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, except December, at 5:30 p.m. at Weatherford's Pioneer Center, 1000 Gartrell Place. Patients, caregivers, family or friends are welcome. **Questions? Contact OK Parkinson's Alliance (405) 810-0695 or [info@oklahomapa.org](mailto:info@oklahomapa.org).** **Iron sharpens Iron** is a Christ centered adult support group every Tuesday night at 7pm. 233 E Main in Hydro, First Christian Church.

**Happy Birthday Wishes for February 8** - Axton Boone, Diane Byrd, Terry Colwell, Cale Duncan, Lexy Fariss, Amanda Green Ben Hearn, Jacey Howard, Grant Kohout, Grant Kohout, Chris Maggard, Jerry McCoy, Jessica Ramirez, Sean Staggs, Samantha Steffes, Wanda Triplett, Kevin Wager, Chase Walker, Brandy Wilson; **February 9** - Sarah Barton, Julie Carr, Savannah Chervenka, July Hatter, Addison Sage Hinton, Matt Hollan, Andrea Maddox, Jerry McCoy, Hannah Nance, Michele Permenter, Rylie Rodriguez, Clay Roper, Rod Thompson, Larry West; **February 10** - Alexis Adams, Billy Joe Adams, Christopher Albright, Mickey Allen, Billy Austin, Blake Brewer, Corissa Crosby, Rachelle Epp, Adam Esparza, Hudson Ingram, Misty Krewall, Ridley Matthews, Dr. Karen Miller, Courtney Milligan, Shirley Pendleton, Diviya Rolens, Anita Spradlin; **February 11** - Cody Chase, Brad Anderson, Tony Davenport, Yvonne Davis, Lynlea Hunter, Matthew Klassen, Revlynn Moore, Neva Taff, Joyssmy Stucky, Joseph Ray, Travis Watson; **February 12** - Lucille Boeckman, Allen Brock, Chris Crabtree, Tammy Deela, Grace Hassen, Chris Kirk, Vicky Meachum, Raegan Nestell, Julia Schantz; **February 13** - Chris Sadler, Randy Ernst, Sonya Judd, Kimberly Maloney, Cole Martin, Deena Outhier, Kimberly Williams, Francis Tarr; **February 14** - Bobbie Lou Allen, John Collier, Stan Eaton, Carol Eaton, Rylee Hart, Joe Merrell, Carol Henderson, Bill Leatherbury, Rod Millard, Ayden Rodriguez, Jeannie Toppah.

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# SPORTS

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	<b>57</b>	<b>Southwestern Okla.</b>	10-11, 6-9 GAC
	<b>60</b>	<b>Ark.-Monticello</b>	8-13, 4-11 GAC
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
		<b>F</b>	
Southwestern Okla.		42	15
Ark.-Monticello		26	34
			57
			60

in the next 10 minutes. The Lady Dawgs shot 0-10 from the field and 0-7 from the three-point line. They were outscored 23-5, with all of their points coming from the free throw line. On the opposite side, UAM shot 8-13 overall and 3-5 from three in this quarter.

UAM played well with the lead in the second half and didn't let SWOSU back into the game. SWOSU's shots were also not falling. Their best field goal percentage in a quarter was only 41.4% in the third.

A Macy Gore three cut the deficit to seven midway through the fourth to give the Lady Bulldogs some hope at the media timeout. The Blossoms went on a 7-0 run after that and put the game away for good.

Shamica Smith was a bright spot for SWOSU. She totaled another double-double with a team high 14 points and 12 rebounds on the day. Averi Zinn scored 10 points and grabbed a career high eight rebounds. Macy Gore did a little bit of everything, accumulating eight points, four rebounds, three assists, and four steals.

SWOSU shot 29.6% from the field and 25.9% from three. UAM ended the game at 37.9% overall and 33.3% from three. The Blossoms outrebounded the Lady Bulldogs 39-30.

## Woeful Second Quarter Causes SWOSU Loss

**Grant Kopycinski**  
SWOSU Sports Asst.

It is rare that a second quarter decides the fate of a basketball game, yet that is what happened to the Lady Bulldogs on Saturday afternoon. They fell to Arkansas-Monticello 61-50, after a disastrous second period in which SWOSU did not make a single field goal.

SWOSU drops to 6-14 and 6-9 in the GAC. They will travel back home and prepare for a pair of home games next weekend. Henderson State is up first at 5:30 pm on Thursday night.

SWOSU took a 19-11 lead after one quarter and looked to be in the drivers' seat. This all changed

	<b>50</b>	<b>Southwestern Okla.</b>	6-14, 6-9 GAC
	<b>61</b>	<b>Ark.-Monticello</b>	9-12, 6-9 GAC
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
		<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
		<b>F</b>	
Southwestern Okla.		19	5
Ark.-Monticello		11	23
			13
			13
			50
			61

## SWOSU Drops Second Matchup Versus UAM

**Grant Kopycinski**  
SWOSU Sports Asst.

The SWOSU men's basketball team lost a hard-fought road game in Monticello. They were taken down 60-57, in a game of two completely different halves. SWOSU falls to 10-11 on the year and 6-9 in the

GAC. Their next contest will be at home on Thursday night against the Reddies of Henderson State at 7:30 pm.

The first half was all SWOSU. They shot over 57% from the field and 43% from three. They held Arkansas-Monticello to 26 points as well. They were

playing stingy defense, forcing 11 first half turnovers from the Boll Weevils. Everything was going in favor of the Bulldogs. They walked into the locker room up 16 points with all the momentum.

Then came the second half. UAM slowly worked into the SWOSU lead, getting good shots while playing solid defense. SWOSU's lead was cut to eight by the halfway point in the half. This is where UAM went on a 11-0, holding SWOSU scoreless for over seven minutes of game time. After a Ben Smith jumper with 11:10 left, the Bulldogs only managed four more points for the rest of the game.

SWOSU went cold in the closing stretches of the game. After a fiery shooting start, they shot just 6-28 in the second half and went 1-11 from three. Only shooting two free throws in the later half hurt them. Their big first half lead was aided by 14 free throw attempts in the first 20 minutes.

Ben Smith scored 17 points and grabbed four boards to lead the Bulldogs. MJ Warrior, Jr. had 13 points. Kamden Gipson scored seven points to go along with six rebounds.

SWOSU ended the game shooting 39.3% and 28% from three. UAM was an even 50% from the field and shot 41.2% from three.

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# Smith and Berry Named Newest Bulldogs of the Week

**Grant Kopycinski**  
SWOSU Sports Assistant

Grant Ewy and Maddie Rahon have been named the newest Bulldogs of the Week. This award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the official partner of SWOSU Athletics for both livestream and radio.

Ewy (Moore, OK) performed well in the circle in the Bulldogs' opening weekend. He threw against Pittsburg State in his only appearance at the Edmond First Pitch Classic. This was the continuation of a game that was postponed and moved due to electric malfunction. Ewy struck out seven batters, walked none, and allowed just three hits. He also did not allow a run until his final inning of work with two outs gone.

Rahon (Placentia, Calif.) showed up for the Bulldogs in Lubbock during opening weekend. She was SWOSU's best hitter in three games at the Lubbock Christian Tournament. She started the weekend off by hitting a home run to score the only run against Nebraska-Kearney for SWOSU. In her next two games, she hit 4-for-8, including a double and an RBI, and scored two runs.

**Bulldogs of the Week**  
Week 21 - Jan. 24-30

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# Ends Feb. 28th

### Every 5 books=1 entry

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### STEW AND CHILI DINNER FUNDRAISER

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