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## The 50th Annual SWOSU Rodeo Begins Thursday, April 13th





**50TH ANNUAL SWOSU RODEO**

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE A TICKET TODAY!**

**Chad Gray**  
WW Contributor

Bust out your boots and get ready for a wild ride as the 50th Annual SWOSU Rodeo is coming to the Don Mitchell Arena at Rader Park in Weatherford on April 13-15. Sixteen schools and over 600 Rodeo athletes in the Central Plains Region of the NIRA will compete for glory and some new belt buckles with performances, beginning each night at 7pm.

Hometown favorites, the SWOSU Rodeo Team, comes into the event with the men's team ranked 5th and the women's team standing tall atop the Central Plains Region. This will be the first outdoor event in the Central Plains rodeo season.

While the weather on April evenings in Western Oklahoma has a tendency to be unpredictable, SWOSU Rodeo Coach Mike Visnieski has been preparing his team just for that occasion.

"Control the controllables, and everything else you've got to put aside," said Visnieski. "Our controllables are our preparation, our attitude, and our mindset... And we just try to take the situation we have and make it work to our advantage."

Visnieski believes his team has the mental toughness to execute on a high level and the team is excited to do so in front of the home town crowd. "I'm very grateful for this team," said Visnieski.

They're talented, they work together very well, and they support one another."

The 50th Annual SWOSU Rodeo is guaranteed to be memorable for all involved and Visnieski is glad to be able to put on the show with the support of its sponsors and fans.

Tickets for the 50th Annual SWOSU Rodeo are \$10 and can be purchased online by scanning the QR Code above.

Wright.Media will also be livestreaming the 50th Annual SWOSU Rodeo each night and you can watch live on Bulldog TV, which can be found by visiting <http://wright.media/six/>

## Weatherford High School Soccer Boys Win 3-0 in District Play



Photos Credit: Steve Wheeler

The Weatherford Eagles recently won a key District game against the Harding Charter Eagles, final score 3-0. This comes off the heels of another important game against the Western Heights Eagles, which Weatherford defeated 4-0.



**Daily Specials**

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WEDNESDAY	HICKORY BURGER & FF : \$8.00
THURSDAY	INDIAN TACO & BURRITO SALAD : \$8.00
FRIDAY	CHICKEN FRIED STEAK SANDWICH & FF : \$10.00
SATURDAY	PORK RIB-EYE DINNER \$12.00

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**Sue Carol Gastineau**

Sue Carol (Walton) Gastineau was born on April 23, 1934, to Lucille (Collier) and Carl Walton in Clinton, OK and passed away March 29, 2023, in Corn, OK at Corn Heritage Village. Sue Carol grew up in Clinton, OK, attended school here and graduated from Clinton High School in 1952. She was a cheerleader and was a homecoming queen in her high school days. She was a member of the Sub Deb club while in high school and was on a bowling team. She loved spending time at the farm with her dad Carl Walton and riding her horse Clipper.



She attended Oklahoma A & M in Stillwater for one year where she pledged Pi Phi. Sue Carol went to San Diego and married Glenn Gastineau on April 6, 1953, and they were married for 66 years. To this union three sons were born: Mike Carl, Glenn Kirk, and Joe Kent.

They lived in San Diego till Glenn was deployed, and she returned to Clinton. When Glenn was discharged, they made their home in Elk City and then in Amarillo, TX. While in Amarillo, she continued her education at Canyon College, pursuing a degree in education. They returned to Clinton, and she finished her education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Sue Carol began her teaching career in Clinton in 1970 at the middle school as a 7th grade science teacher and later became the librarian until she retired in 1996. While teaching in Clinton she was Teacher of the Year. She was very involved in the Clinton Education Association and held every office in this organization. She was a member of OEA and NEA and was active in both of these organizations. She was the President of the Southwest District and Zone 8 which was from the state line to I-40 and I-35.

Once Sue Carol retired, she and Glenn traveled a lot, but one of their favorite past times was going to Sequoia, New Mexico, and watching the Cranes fly in and out. She loved taking her grandchildren on adventures in their motorhome.

The two would travel to watch whatever they could that their grandchildren were involved in. She was their biggest fan.

Sue Carol had been blessed with nine great-grandchildren: CJ, Cole, Carter, and Cain of Broken Arrow, OK; Carli, Jack, and Tommy of Ft. Worth, TX; and Lilliana and Slade Gastineau of Lumberton, MS. plus another great granddaughter to be born in August of 2023.

Preceding Sue Carol in death were her husband Glenn Gastineau, son Kirk Gastineau, Daughter-in-law Kim Gastineau, her parents Carl and Lucille Walton, her brother Bobby Joe Walton and brother-in-law Charles Uhles.

She is survived by two sons: Mike Gastineau and wife Marti of Ft. Worth, TX; and Joe Gastineau and wife Cheri Lou Gastineau of Clinton; six grandkids: Stephen Gastineau and wife Charla of Broken Arrow, OK; Alex Gastineau and Katie Fleury of Denver, CO; Emily Gastineau and wife Libby of Oklahoma City, OK. Tyler Gastineau and wife Kim of Ft. Worth, TX. Kyle Gastineau and wife Michal of Yukon; and Wesley Gastineau and wife Amber of Lumberton, MS; sister Jeanette Uhles of Broken Arrow, OK; niece Heather (Uhles) Bates and husband Alan (and their son Logan) of Tulsa, OK; and various cousins and friends, including Duckie Donaldson, her best friend since 1st grade, of Arapaho, OK.

**Michael Sterbach**

On March 24, Michael William Sterbach, beloved son and brother went to be with the Lord too early at the age of 58 years old. Born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, he moved with his family to Overland Park, KS where he graduated in 1982 from Shawnee Mission North High School and earned multiple degrees from Emporia State University in Business & Communications in 1986.



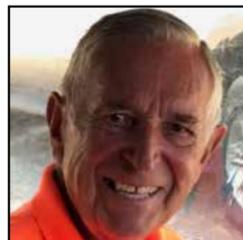
Michael was a man of many talents. Sales and Leadership were strong qualities that he possessed, but his passion was for ministry. Michael was always an active member in his local church and enjoyed serving the communities where he lived. He lit up the room wherever he went and had a way of making others feel special.

Michael was preceded in death by his father A. William Sterbach and sister Dana Lynn Sterbach.

He leaves behind a Mother Junita Jane Cook Sterbach of Emporia, KS, three brothers: Nick A. Sterbach & his wife Julaire Sandberg Sterbach of Lenexa, KS; James A Sterbach Sr and his wife Shannon Cornelison Sterbach of Rogers, AR, and Mark C. Sterbach of Kansas City, KS and many nieces and nephews.

**Bob Maine**

Bobby "Bob" Ray Maine was born January 30, 1934, in Buffalo, OK to Ray Maine and Gladys (Prince) Maine. He passed away, unexpectedly, at the age of 89 on March 30, 2023, in Elk City. He married the love of his life Betty Brown on October 11, 1982.



Bob was raised in El Reno, OK and graduated from El Reno High School in 1952. He went on to Oklahoma A & M and walked on to the men's basketball team and played for Coach Henry Iba. He was a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity and was active in the Air Force ROTC.

In 1954 he was married to Marlene Friedeman. He graduated in 1956 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Degree.

After college he went on to serve in the United States Air Force from 1956-1959. Upon being honorably discharged from the Air Force, he went to work for Montgomery Ward in 1959, working throughout Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas, landing in Elk City in 1964.

In 1966, Bob and Tom Johnson opened Maine Johnson Ford in downtown Elk City. In 1976, the dealership became Bob Maine Motors, serving the Elk City Ford community until 1994 when he retired. Because Bob could never sit still and loved to interact with people, he went to work for Great Plains National Bank where he worked for 13 years, retiring for the second time in 2014.

He was the second grand ruler of the BPOE "Elks Lodge," helping to establish the lodge in Elk City. He served as Elk City Chamber of Commerce President for three separate terms.

He served on the Elk City City Council. His most prized accomplishment was being elected Mayor of Elk City in 1995. Bob also served on the Ford Dealer Council, Ford Advertising Council, and the State Motor Vehicle Commission.

Bob enjoyed golfing, spending time in the mountains with Betty and friends and attending and watching all OSU sporting events. Above all else, his true passion was watching his grandkids and great grandkids in all of their activities where you would find him on the front row.

Celebration of Life services were held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, April 3, 2023, at United Methodist Church, Elk City. Rev. Danny Ringer will officiate and Rev. Scott Rodgers will assist. Services have been entrusted to the care of Richard and Tammy Dugger and the staff of Martin-Dugger Funeral Home in Elk City.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ray and Gladys Maine.

He is survived by his wife of forty years Betty Maine. His favorite daughter Lori Maine of Dallas, Texas. Two sons: Mark DeGarmo and wife Tammy, Danny DeGarmo and wife Misti, all of Elk City; Grandson Dustin DeGarmo and wife Melissa of Elk City; Granddaughters Jennifer Nightengale and husband Slade of Foss, OK; Tina DeGarmo and fiance Jesse Meyer of Elk City; Kimi DeGarmo of Elk City; Great grandchildren :Meliah and Brennon Draper and Briggs Nightengale, Addy Foley, Brantley and Briley Meyer, and River DeGarmo. And a host of many friends and family.

**Bill Tilley**

Billy Don Tilley was born March 24, 1933, in Wewoka, Oklahoma, to Virgil and Della Mae (Knight) Tilley and passed away Monday, March 27, 2023, at his home in Austin, Texas. He graduated from Clinton High School in 1950 with a degree in Geology from the University of Oklahoma in 1955.



After serving in the Navy, he spent his career of 31 years in oil exploration, rising from a trainee in a seismograph crew to a senior executive and General Manager of Exploration for North America. His time with Conoco took him to many corners of the world, and he and his family lived in many locations across the country, including eight states.

He was a member of the Church of Christ and enjoyed fishing, reading, traveling, and visiting with his sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren. He enjoyed researching genealogy and wrote a book on the history of the Tilley family. Starting from his time as a halfback for the Clinton Red Tomados, he was an avid football fan and closely followed the Oklahoma Sooners.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Peggy Rae Tilley.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years Earlene Tilley of Austin, TX, his sister Gay Carrol Jack and husband Charles of Clinton; his sons: Terry Don Tilley and wife Rosemary of Orinda, CA; Kevin Lynn Tilley and wife Dani of Houston, TX; Jim Darin Tilley and wife Laura of Houston, TX, and Keith Andrew Tilley and wife Laura of Austin, TX, as well as 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**Mary Pool**

Mary Ruth Steele Pool was born July 7, 1930, the tenth child, to Herman and Madeline (Nipper) Steele in McLeansboro, IL and passed away Sunday, April 2, 2023, in Cordell, OK.



Mary was raised in McLeansboro, IL where she attended and graduated high school. She married Arvil Winston "A.W." Pool on September 21, 1946, in Morganfield, KY. She worked in a movie theatre, selling popcorn and met the love of her life Arvil Winston "A.W." Pool, and they were married on September 21, 1946, in Morganfield, KY. They started a drilling company in 1952 and moved the business to the Panhandle of Oklahoma in 1965 where they also farmed. In 1980, they moved the business to Clinton, OK and opened a machine shop.

She was a member of the Baptist Faith. She loved animals, going shopping and spending time with her grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents Herman and Madeline (Nipper) Steele, husband A.W. Pool, daughter Christy Lynn Pool, and son Greg Pool.

She was also preceded by nine siblings: Oakley Steele, Otha Steele, Orpah lea Stelle Bond, Ora Newton Steele, James Monroe Steele, Ruby Alice Steele, Williams, Ella Mae Steele Harre, Helen Eldora Steele Townson, and Lillian Steele.

She is survived by two sons: Winston Pool and wife Marie of Clinton; and Keith Pool and wife Nancy of Clinton; 10 grandchildren: Jason Pool, Tucker Pool, Chris Pool, Jeremy Pool, Ty Pool, Bradley Pool, Jake Pool, Caleb Pool, Ethan Pool, and Lacey Hough; and 16 great-grandchildren.

**Beth Gowdy**

Myretta Beth Gowdy, 72, of Amarillo, TX, formerly of Elk City, was born on July 16, 1950, at Elk City to Arland B. and Norma M. (Hager) Lowry in Elk City, OK. She went to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, in Amarillo, TX.



Beth enjoyed making furniture and making things for her animals. She worked for Amarillo Community college for twenty years and retired in 2017. Beth will be missed by all his family and friends who knew and loved her.

Beth is survived by her son Brock Gowdy of Elk City; three grandchildren: Braden Gowdy of Elk City, Kamayn Gowdy of Eufaula, OK, and Maddock Vande Brake of Elk City; one sister Linda Wray of Elk City; two dogs: Diddy and Zuki; as well as many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents Arland B. and Norma M. (Hager) Lowry; one son Bryce Aaron Gowdy; two brothers: Kent Lowry and Steve Lowry; and one sister Arletta Trout.

**Shane Bonner**

Shane LaMar Bonner, 36, of Elk City, OK, was born on January 12, 1987, to James Olen and Linda Lou (Stone) Bonner.



He went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at his residence in Elk City, surrounded by his loving family.

Shane resided in Elk City for 34 years (graduating from Elk City High School with the class of 2005). Shane has worked for Wal-Mart and "Now Oilfield Supply Company."

Shane was a proud member of the National Riffle Association. In his spare time, he enjoyed playing video games and watching TV.

He will be missed by all his family and friends who knew and loved him.

Shane is survived by his loving parents James Olen and Linda Lou (Stone) Bonner; two brothers: James Wayne Bonner and his wife Shannon; and Heath Bonner; niece Tammy Bonner; and numerous aunts, uncles, relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: T.K. and Violet Stone; Kenneth Bonner, Fern and Nyle McVey, and step-sister Shelly Bonner.



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## Thriving During the Springtime in Oklahoma

It is hard to believe that it's springtime. Many trees and shrubs are leafing out and blooming. Residents of long-term care look forward to spring just as we do and many still enjoy gardening as they did before making the move from home to long-term care.

Each of the long-term care facilities in Western Oklahoma have dedicated space for vegetable or flower gardens. Many residents look forward to being outdoors tending to the green spaces. When you are making your springtime trip to the local nursery or gardening store pick up a few extra plants, or seeds and maybe some easily used gardening tools and donate them to your local long-term care facility.

Even better, if you have time to spare, arrange a time to come and help the residents with the planting and care of these small gardens. If you are unsure if the facility in your area has a gardening space, just give them a call.

We each know how uplifting it is to look outside our windows at home and see the beautiful flowers blooming and the garden producing vegetables. Residents in long-term care want to share in this rite of spring as well.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding long-term care facilities, please contact your area Ombudsman Supervisor Cherrie Nutley at 580-562-5032.



Coach Givens and Coach Willis spoke at the weekly Weatherford Rotary Club meeting about the 2023 WHS Soccer season. Pictured (from left): Josh VanDeburgh, Delydia Givens, Tommy Willis, Moush Tourian.

Heston Wright / WW



Dave Anderson is our March Volunteer of the Month. Dave has been serving at Connections since October. He is a regular helper on Tuesday and Thursday; however, he can be called on short notice, and he will assist us on Monday, too. Dave moved to Weatherford in 1985 with his wife (whom has since passed). Dave loves to help others and it keeps him active. Dave is willing to step up and serve the people of Western Oklahoma as often as needed. However, if he isn't there, you can always find him at a fishing hole with his good friend Kenny Wood.

Dena Friesen / Connections Volunteer Coordinator

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## HIGHER GROUND

### How to "Follow Jesus"



In our present world there is a lot of confusion about what it means to be a Christian. For many people it means only that they are not Muslim or Hindu and they believe in God and their grandma was a Christian so they assume they are too. Some of the phrases we use to invite people to follow Jesus are simplistic and trite with little connection to the cross or forgiveness of sin. The Bible says, "Except you repent you shall also perish." Yet repentance or surrender is often not mentioned in calling people to Christ. Repentance implies that there has been sin or rebellion in your life. You must acknowledge that and ask God to help you forsake that lifestyle and turn instead to Jesus acknowledging that he died in your place to take upon himself your sin and mine.

You surrender to Him as Lord, as best you know how you ask God to empty your life of selfishness and pride, and in humility begin the journey of following Him obediently. To believe in Christ is not a head acknowledgement of the facts but a heart change when we receive and believe all that Christ taught and came to rescue us from. Col. 1:13

**A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST UNDERSTANDS:**

- 1. God's great love for us. God made us to love us.**  
Eph. 3:17-19, "I pray that you may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, . . . that you may be filled to the fullness of Christ."  
Roms. 8:38-39, Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. . . we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.  
Paul said it was the love of Christ that compelled him; that drove him on in spite of great persecution. I Cor. 4:11-13
- 2. A follower of Christ has died to himself.**  
Paul in 2 Cor. 5:15. Reminds us that "He died for all that those who live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."

Paul in praising Timothy said, in Phil. 2:21. Everyone (else) looks out for his own interests not those of Christ."

To live for Christ is more than just attending church, paying your bills, and being a good neighbor. It is to daily place yourself in His hands and say "what can I do today to advance the kingdom."

You begin to see people through the eyes of Christ. Paul said, "So from now on we regard no one from a world pint of view. Though we once regarded Christ that way."

- 3. A follower of Christ is on Mission for Christ.**  
As an instrument of righteousness (Romans 6:13)  
As a minister of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:19)  
As the King of Kings. (2 Corinthians 5:20)  
In the way we spend our money.  
In the way we spend our time.  
In opportunities of growth and service in Christlikeness.

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



## "The Coin Guy" - A Mysterious Gold Coin



New discoveries of unusual coins can cause excitement in the collecting universe, especially if it is a gold coin.

The above coin is an 1854 California gold dollar made as a locket and was found in a heap of scrap gold heading for a melting pot!

After checking a book on privately minted California gold coins, it became a "unique" rare item since it was never a coin destined for circulation.

On August 27, 2022, it was auction for \$38,000, graded as an Extremely Fine 45.

If anyone needs help selling "Grandpa's" coin collection, call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076. Thanks for your support.



Provided

Pictured left to right are Macey Barger, Conlee Morrow, Maggie Bartmann, Tennery Burrows and Tori Roper as they model clothing from The Sassy Sister Boutique at the "Walk this Way" Fashion show.

The Weatherford Regional Hospital Foundation recently held a Fashion Show, benefiting the Weatherford Regional Hospital at the Stafford Air and Space Museum. Katie Bartmann and Martha Sauer, current board members along with other board members helped organize the evening featuring local clothing boutiques and businesses. They profited a total of \$41,400 for the evening. "It was a huge

success. The turn out was unexpected, and we had incredible support from the community. People were amazed with how many stores there were in Weatherford, so it was also a great way to showcase our business owners and remind people to shop local. We will keep you updated on how this will benefit the Weatherford Regional Hospital." Katie Bartmann said.

**HYDRO-EAKLY SPORTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**  
**SOFTBALL : 4/17**  
**BASEBALL : 4/20 - 4/22**  
**PLAY BALL!**  
**WRIGHT MEDIA**

**WRIGHT MEDIA WILL BE LIVESTREAMING HYDRO-EAKLY'S DISTRICT PLAYOFF GAMES FOR SOFTBALL & BASEBALL NEXT WEEK. SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH ON BOBCAT TV!**

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**ELECTIONS / TFC** - Voters in the Thomas-Fay-Custer school district gave 78% support to allow the district to join the Chisholm Trail Technology Center.

**ELECTIONS / BECKHAM CO** - Elk City voters approved reappropriating funds for upgrades to the police and fire departments. Shea Whitson won Ward 2, Place 1, City Council seat in Sayre.

**ELECTIONS / CORDELL** - Voters in the Weatherford and Cordell School Districts approved two propositions, each, at the ballot box. Voters in Cordell put Phil Kliever in the mayor's spot as he picked up 87.5% support. Greg Cox, Blake Reed, Buddy Holman, and Cheri Nabors won city council seats in Cordell.

**FEDERAL COURT / ALLEN** - A Clinton man has been sentenced to 24 years in federal prison for bank robbery and illegally possessing a firearm after a prior felony conviction. Forty-four year-old Ronald DeYoung Allen was sentenced for the July 2020 robbery of the security state bank in Hammon. The court also ordered Allen to pay more than \$194,000 restitution to the bank.

**CUSTER CO / WILDFIRE** - Fire crews in the Custer area battled a large and dangerous wildfire for much of last Tuesday afternoon into the evening, five miles west of Weatherford. Fire Chief Mike Karlin says no structure loss was reported. State officials say the fire burned just over 1,500 acres.

**BECKHAM CO / JONES** - Testimony continued yesterday in the trial of Troy Justice Jones of Sayre, who is charged in Beckham County District Court with first-degree murder-child abuse in connection with the death of 2-year-old Benji Taylor. A neuro-radiologist from OU Health testified about the brain, neck, and spinal area injuries caused by trauma and not from other reasons. Meanwhile, in an unprecedented turn, a doctor from California testified he could not say one way or the other how the child died. The witness testified early in the trial to accommodate his schedule better. The testimonial period concluded with the child's grandfather.

**BECKHAM CO / HOWELL** - A Sayre man has been charged in Beckham County District Court with terrorist threats. Fifty-three year-old Michael Scott Howell allegedly sent threatening messages by e-mail to a Sweetwater school official. One of the messages had a link to a news article in reference to the Nashville, TN, school shooting that occurred on March 27th. School officials felt the e-mail was a threat to Sweetwater school staff and students.

**CUSTER CO / ARSON** - Four Custer County Jail inmates were charged in Custer County District Court with 4th-degree arson in connection with a fire in a jail pod last month. Court records show that inmate Ellie Dodge allegedly set fire to a bunch of paper on a table in a pod. Three other inmates who helped aid in putting items on the fire included Sierra Thacker, Amara Ferrell, and Capacine Watan. All were charged with 4th-degree arson in connection with the incident.

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**

**OH HAPPY DAY TO YOU!**

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**Happy Birthday Wishes for April 12** - Billy Birkenfeld, Teri Boyd, Cindi Bruce, Rhownw Grossman, Rob Grogan, Leslie Harrison, Kelis Hart, Amy Hoffman, Sonny Makescry, Bobby Richardson, Lisa Stephens, Julie Weichel; **April 13** - Emily Garrison, Donis Hardaway, Kim Heger, Mollie Reeves, Troy Shirey, Tristan Shirey; **April 14** - Tisha Campbell, Bobbie Edwards, Harold Goldmann, Clayton Johnson, Rickey Mackin, Pam Martin, Kim Pickett, Debra Purdum, Alfredo Reyes, Michella Sims, Tinaya Sisler, Allan Weil; **April 15** - Amy Albert, Courtney Albrightson, David Henderson, Doris Johnson, Bud Lamke, Terry Lofland, Kathryn Lowry, Taybor Moss, Lonnie Penner, Kim Potter, Jerry Ritchison, Lexy Roy, Wessyn James Short, Joyce Stewart, Brady Taff; **April 16** - Hadley Graybill, Deb Hanzon, McHayla Howry, Randy Switzer, Ashley VanDeBurgh, Johnny Wall; **April 17** - Louis Flowers, Shannez Garcia, Carol Godwin, Garnita Hamilton, Atom Hampton, Braden Huff, Alicia Humble, Chad Kimble, Braeton Kimble, Linda Pitt, Lauren Smith; **April 18** - Dayton Altland, Kennedee Cox, Lane Goodman, Dana Green, Gus Hunojosa, Brian Jackson, Kenneth Richardson, Patty Scott, Haley Spradlin, Miranda Toney.

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## Bulldog Offense Stalls, No. 23 Bisons Take Shawnee Series

**Grant Kopycinski**  
 SWOSU Sports Assistant

SWOSU concluded their series with No. 23 Oklahoma Baptist with a doubleheader, with OBU taking all three games.

### Game 1 – OBU 6, SWOSU 0

SWOSU looked good out of the gate. Maddie Rahon doubled to left center to leadoff the game and give the Dawgs a great starting position. After this hit though, SWOSU only reached base two more times in the game, both of them being walks.

Kayleigh Jones pitched almost perfectly for OBU. She gave up nothing to SWOSU hitters across the seven innings.

The Bison put up the first score of the day thanks to a two-out triple in the bottom of the third. Even with the offensive woes, SWOSU stayed right in the game until the end in part to the defense. Brianna Cryer was dealing for 5.1 innings of the contest. She gave up only one hit through the first five innings.

Eventually, the top team in the GAC got the bats going. They scored five runs, in a multitude of ways, in the sixth to put the finishing stamp on the game.

Brianna Cryer pitched the complete six innings with a tough sixth hurting the image of what was a solid game in the circle before that. Rahon finished with the one hit for the Bulldogs.

### Game 2 – OBU 5, SWOSU 2

SWOSU started the day with a score. Two singles kicked off game one and Katie Boline brought one home with a double to center field.

OBU answered in the next frame. A two out single put the first base runner of the game on for the Bison. The next batter hit a two-run bomb to right center to give the lead to Oklahoma Baptist. They kept the scoring up in the bottom of the second.

A couple singles and an error caused the Bison to put another run on the board to make it 3-1.

The Bulldogs would get three on base in the third but all of them were unable to cross home plate. OBU locked in defensively and achieved the necessary two outs to keep SWOSU at one run.

OBU added insurance runs in the third and fifth innings to stretch their advantage to 5-1.

SWOSU had runners at first and second with no outs to start the seventh, giving the game some drama near the end. An error on a fielder's choice scored one run, but that was all for the Dawgs.

Taryn Westbrook went the whole game and received the loss. Maddie Rahon had another good performance in the batters' box, finishing 3-4 with a run scored.

### Game 3 – OBU 9, SWOSU 0

Kayleigh Jones shut down the Bulldogs' offense for the second game in the series with this one. SWOSU managed one hit and three base runners in the five-inning shortened game.

Six runs in the first inning for the Bison set the tempo for the game. A double, a three-run homer, and another double were the scoring knocks for OBU.

They put the finishing touches on the contest in the fourth. A two-run home run and an RBI single tacked three more on the board for the game to reach run rule territory.

Brianna Cryer took the loss. Kaylee Barkley pitched 4.0 innings in relief as well. innings in relief.

SWOSU looks ahead to a rivalry game for their midweek after the Easter holiday. They head to Alva on Tuesday for a 3:00 pm showdown with Northwestern Oklahoma State.



## Bison Keep Bulldog Bats Quiet Throughout Three Games

**Grant Kopycinski**  
 SWOSU Sports Assistant

SWOSU Softball ended their series against East Central with a 0-3 defeat.

### Game 1 – SWOSU 13, ECU 8

The Bulldog bats were bound to cool off at some point after the recent hot streak, but that cool off came abruptly as Bison pitcher Brek Galbreath limited SWOSU to just three hits in 8.0 innings of work.

Despite 13 OBU hits, only two of the five runs they scored were earned. A pair of errors in the second inning allowed the Bison to take a 2-0 lead and a pitcher/catcher miscommunication allowed a passed ball to eventually plate two more in the fifth. The Bison added a fifth run in the eighth following a leadoff walk and two hits which brought the final run around.

Chris Goldston (L, 1-4) pitched five innings and struck out nine before handing the ball to Matt Milner who threw the rest of the way.

Alex Rice, JC Reed, and Cade Hamilton produced hits for the offense.

Three hits is the second lowest hit total SWOSU has had this season. The Dawgs are now 0-5 on the year when finishing the game with five hits or less.

### Game 2 – SWOSU 15, ECU 4

The Bison used a three-inning crescendo with four, five, and finally six runs in the fourth, fifth, and sixth innings to deliver the knockout blow. They put a stamp on the game in the seventh with an additional five runs.

All of SWOSU's runs came via home run courtesy of Geoff Marlow, Reece Burke, and JC Reed.

### Game 3 – SWOSU 19, ECU 3

Trailing 9-3 entering the fifth inning, the Dawgs woke up with six runs to tie the game back up with two outs.

Now 9-9, the Bison broke the tie in the final inning with a solo home run to left center which proved to be the game winner.

Brooks Red led the lineup with a 3-4 showing at the plate, followed by Caleb Clines who was 2-3. Geoff Marlow was 1-4 but had the Dawgs' biggest hit when he doubled to dead center field which tied the game at nine. Bryson Armstrong (L, 2-1) was handed the tough decision after allowing the seventh-inning home run. It was his only run allowed in 4.0 innings of relief work.

SWOSU (19-19, 11-13 GAC) will face off against Southern Arkansas on Friday, April 14.

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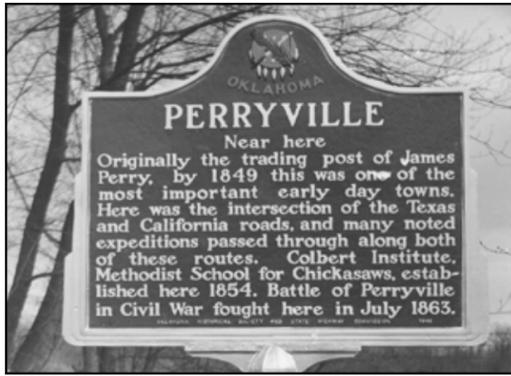
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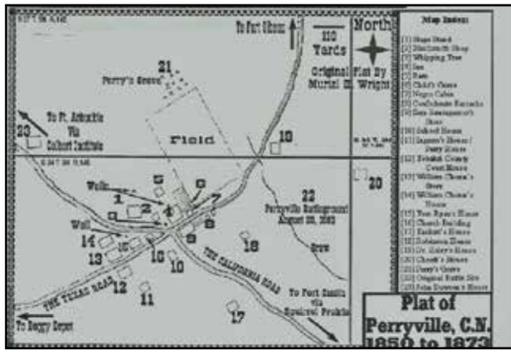
# Oklahoma History: The Battle of the Perryville Trading Post



**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

As a follow-up to the Oklahoma History piece last week (The Battle of Honey Springs Depot), let's take a look at another impactful moment during the Civil War: The Battle of Perryville. This battle was between Federal forces, commanded by Major General James Blunt, and Confederate troops under Brigadier General William Cabell, Brig. Gen. Douglas Cooper, and Brig. Gen. William Steele. It took place in the aftermath of Honey Springs Depot. To recap, Union leader Blunt seized Honey Springs Depot from Cooper and the Native American troops (before Cabell could arrive and reinforce Cooper's defenses), secured the northern Arkansas River supply line for the Union.

However, Blunt decided to pursue Cooper with haste and came across Steele at Perryville. Steele had set up a hastily crafted picket line with two howitzers blocking the northern road into town. On August 26, 1863, Blunt's forces quickly widened their board and began firing artillery into the defense line. The battle, a rare night fight, was over quickly as the exchange speedily fell into Blunt's favor. The Confederate forces, reeling from news of their comrades' recent defeat at Honey Springs, retreated without their stockpiles and wares. Blunt seized the supplies and ordered the town burned. Perryville, due to its close proximity to the Texas Road (a major trade route across Indian Territory between Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri), was a major strategic depot for the Confederacy, and they suffered a big blow by forfeiting it to the Union. Oklahoma Historical Society logs compare the loss of the depot to be as detrimental to the South as if Cooper's entire army had been destroyed. Blunt's victory landed a mighty blow against the South.



After wresting control of Honey Springs, Blunt began marching out of Fort Gibson to defeat the remaining Confederates in Indian Territory. Blunt knew Cooper's forces were fleeing towards Boggy Depot and would make their way through Perryville Depot. He also received word that Cabell's forces out of Arkansas were deserting and that Cabell were heading to the nearby Fort Smith to gather strength.

After his victory at Perryville, Blunt moved on towards Cabell at Fort Smith and captured it on September 1st. Perryville, postbellum, was partially rebuilt but had lost its importance and members due to a new rail-line and station named McAlester which bypassed Perryville. Businesses and residents moved to the new railway town to retain their livelihood. Now, the community Chambers occupies the original townsite.

## Las Vegas-Themed Weatherford Prom Goes LIVE April 15

**Chad Gray**  
WW Contributor

The glitz and glamour of the Las Vegas strip is coming to Weatherford, OK on Saturday, April 15, at 7pm as the Weatherford High School will be hosting their promenade at the Lt. General Thomas P. Stafford Elementary.

The promenade promises to be a night to remember with flashy dresses, tuxes, and of course all of the sweet rides. Bleachers will be set up in the western driveway of the elementary for family and loved ones who wish to see their students walk the red carpet.

Wright.Media will also be broadcasting the Weatherford High School promenade at Weatherford Eagle TV on Saturday April 15 beginning at 7pm for family and friends who can't attend the event in person. You can watch the Weatherford Promenade at <http://wright.media/one/>

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# Strand and Dodgion Capture Bulldogs of the Week

**Grant Kopycinski**  
SWOSU Sports Assistant

Anders Strand (golf) and  
Drew Dodgion (golf) 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.

Strand (Solrod Strand, DK) brought his A game on the course at The Mule last week. He finished with a score of 211 after three rounds of play. This put him T-5 in the standings and propelled the Bulldogs to fifth place in the tournament. His first two rounds put him in a great position, shooting two sub-70 rounds at 69 and 68. This tournament marks the fourth straight that Strand has been at the top of the Bulldog finishers.

Dodgion (Guthrie, OK) led the pack for the Lady Bulldogs at her last tournament. She shot a 159 over both rounds to finish at the top of SWOSU's board at T-12. She shot the lone round in the 70s by SWOSU, when she 78 in her second round. This is her second time leading the Lady Dawgs at the conclusion of a tournament this spring.



# Fight for a Cure at the Beckham/Custer Relay for Life



Relay for Life, the world's largest fundraising event, dedicated to helping communities in their fight against cancer, will take place on April 21, from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) Wellness Center. The event aims to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society.

This year's theme, "Fight for a Cure," with a boxing motif, promises to deliver an engaging and entertaining event for all attendees. The event will feature a range of activities, including booths and games, raffles, prizes, and a basket auction, as well as free food and entertainment, all centered around the theme of fighting for a cure against cancer.

Luminaria bags can be purchased for a survivor or in honor of someone at the event or after signing up with this link: <https://bit.ly/3JOtAP>. A luminaria ceremony will be held at the end of the night, followed by a moment of silence in honor of lost loved ones.

The event's fundraising goal is set at \$20,000, and the current donations stand at \$14,248, surpassing last year's fundraising goals. The proceeds will be allocated toward supporting cancer patients in Beckham and Custer County, providing them with funds for travel and accommodation during appointments, cancer research, 24/7 patient and family support, lifesaving screenings, and other services.

We invite everyone, including SWOSU alumni, staff, and students in the area who are cancer survivors, to participate and support the cause. Survivors can contact Brianna Weber at [weberbc@student.swosu.edu](mailto:weberbc@student.swosu.edu) to register for the event or call 1-800-227-2345 and select option two. Teams/sponsors can register by signing up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3JOtAP>.

Join us in making a difference in the fight against cancer. Attend Relay for Life and help us raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society's mission.

# Western Oklahoma Hosts Various Kids' Easter Egg Hunts



Provided

The Kiwanas Club hosted an Easter Egg Hunt at Burcham Elementary School on the last day of class before Easter Sunday.



Provided

Demi Rogers, 4, hunts Easter Eggs in a unique pool setting at the Great Plains Family YMCA in Weatherford.

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LF9722 '21 Kubota M6060D MFWD tractor

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<p><b>LF9772</b> '20 Kubota KX040-4 mini excavator</p>	<p><b>LF9753</b> John Deere 4520 MFWD tractor</p>	<p><b>MM9393</b> Kubota M5-091D MFWD tractor</p>

**OPEN INSPECTION:**  
Wednesday, April 26 • 9 am - 4 pm (2 locations)  
GPK Norman:  
2548 Melba Lane, Norman, OK 73072  
GPK Duncan:  
4575 US 81, Duncan, OK 73533

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