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Miss SWOSU and Teen SWOSU To Represent SWOSU at Miss Oklahoma



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Miss SWOSU Megan Bradley of Leedey and Miss SWOSU's Teen Landri Jones of Weatherford will represent Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the Miss Oklahoma Competition set for June 4-10 in the RiverSpirit Resort and Casino in Tulsa.

A send-off celebration is planned for Wednesday, May 31, from 5-7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center East Ballroom on the Weatherford campus. The public is invited to attend, but an RSVP is requested to 580-819-0756 if planning to attend. Refreshments will be served. Both Bradley and Jones will model their competition wardrobes and both will perform their talents. In addition, Little Star Ellie Mae Buie of Leedey will model her evening wear.

Miss and Teen preliminary competitions will be held during the week at Miss Oklahoma with the Miss Oklahoma's Teen Competition finals on Saturday, June 10 at 2 p.m. and the Miss Oklahoma Competition finals on Saturday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Bradley, who is majoring in communications at SWOSU, is #21 of the Omega Group at Miss Oklahoma. She will have her interview competition on Tuesday. Her vocal talent—"I, Who Have Nothing"—will be performed during the first Miss Preliminary on Wednesday. She will compete in Evening wear, fitness and on-stage question on Thursday during the second Miss Preliminary.

Jones, a senior at Weatherford High School is #23 Teen of the Omega Group. Her interview will be on Wednesday, her active wear, on stage question and evening wear competition will be Friday afternoon during the first Teen Preliminary; and talent will be showcased at the second preliminary on Friday evening as she performs her vocal talent—"Feeling Good."

The winners of the competitions will advance to the Miss America and Miss America's Teen competitions in 2024. Both ladies are available for special performances, modeling, hostessing, and other events by contacting Debbie Brown at missswosu@swosu.edu.

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Western Oklahoma High School Celebrate Graduating Class of 2023



Jacob Staggs / WW

Clinton High Schools 2023 graduates parade into McClain Roger's Parks amphitheater for Clinton High Schools 2023 graduation ceremony



Provided

Weatherford High School graduates as well as their friends and family gathered at SWOSU's Pioneer Event Center to honor the Class of 2023.



Provided

Hydro-Eakly graduate Jaysa Slagell performs a piano solo at the Hydro-Eakly 2023 commencement.

Friendship
through the decades
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PERFORMANCES AT 2 PM
Location: Weatherford Public Library
JUNE 1ST: Spaghetti Eddie
PERFORMANCES LOCATION:
Weatherford Public Library @ 10 am
YMCA @ 3 PM
JUNE 8TH: Dino O'Dell
JUNE 15TH: Barrett Huddleston
JUNE 22ND: Rocky Mountain Puppets
JUNE 29TH: Mad Science
JULY 13TH: Extreme Animals

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PITCHING CAMP
June 7-8
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CATCHING CAMP
June 9
9am-11:30am
ADVANCED CAMP
(Jr. High)
June 12-14
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WHEN
June 5-14

WHERE
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Jean Winn

Emma "Jean" Winn was born December 11, 1933, in Cloud Chief, OK to William Edgar and Lera Laverna (Denny) Armitage and passed away Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Brookdale Living Center in Weatherford, at the age of 89 years, 5 months and 2 days.



Jean was raised and attended school in Cloud Chief until 1948 when they moved to Weatherford, graduating from Weatherford High School in 1952.

After high school she worked in the restaurant business until 1957 when she worked for Southwestern Bell.

On August 26, 1960, Jean married Charles Floyd Winn in Weatherford. They moved to Larned, Kansas in 1962, where they lived the next 30 years.

On May 14, 1968, Jean was baptized in the First Baptist Church in Larned. She worked at the Larned State Hospital from 1972 to 1992. Jean also worked alongside of her husband when they farmed and ranched. In 2000, they moved to Weatherford and then moved to Edmond in 2014 until moving back to Weatherford in 2022.

Jean enjoyed farming, gardening, playing cards, taking care of people and visiting with family and friends. She also enjoyed her time in Brookdale Living Center and making new friends with the staff. In 2000, she moved her First Baptist Church membership to Weatherford.

Jean is survived by her husband of 62 years, Floyd Winn of their home in Weatherford and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Van; and three sisters, Muretta McMillan, Norma Kaiser and Sue Rogers.

Kurt Conway

Kurt Wayne Conway was born January 20, 1982, to Curtis Conway and Renee (Gray) Conway in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and passed away Sunday, May 14, 2023, in the Veterans Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Kurt started school in Norman, Oklahoma, and moved to Clinton while in the 6th grade. He continued school in Clinton and graduated from Clinton High School in 2001. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2002 and was honorably discharged in 2006. He returned to Clinton and attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Park Law in 2023.

He worked several years as a bus driver for the Clinton Public Schools.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church, he enjoyed working on cars, playing video games and working out at the gym.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Bill Rex and Peggy Conway and maternal granddad Dale Ray.

He is survived by his daughter Lexie Conway and son Jesse Conway, both of the home; mother Renee Gauger of Clinton, Oklahoma; and dad Curtis Conway of Wayne, Oklahoma.

He is also survived by his sister Angela Gauger of Childress, Texas; brother Blake Conway and his wife Kayla Ann of Grove, Oklahoma; and his maternal grandmother Peggy Gray of Norman, Oklahoma.

James Smith

James Robert Smith, 81, of Elk City, Oklahoma, was born on June 19, 1941, in Mountain View, Oklahoma. He is the son of James Benjamin and Joyce Mae (Derrick) Smith. He passed away on Friday, May 12, 2023, at Great Plains Regional Medical Center, Elk City, Oklahoma.



He enjoyed doing carpentry work and being around his family and friends. He will be missed dearly by all those who knew him.

Cherishing his memory is his son Chad Smith and his wife Sherry of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; four grandchildren: Ethan Smith and his wife Tana of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; Drake Boyce and his wife Mckenzie of Madison, Wisconsin; Hunter Whiteneck and his wife Amber of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; Dixie Smith of Weatherford, Oklahoma; three great-grandchildren: Stryker Smith of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; Stetson Smith of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; Hayes Whiteneck of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; one brother Larry Smith and his wife RaDonna of Cheyenne, Oklahoma; three nephews and nieces: Shawn Smith and his wife Jeanna of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, Jared Smith of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Matt and his wife Leisha Carlson of Sweetwater, Oklahoma.

James is preceded in death by his parents James Benjamin Smith and Joyce Mae Smith Anderson; one daughter Regina Lynn Kahl; one brother, Rex Smith; and his infant brother, Frank Smith.

George Prairie Chief

George Edward Prairie Chief was born February 17, 1955, to George Edward Prairie Chief, Sr, and Happy Calf Prairie Chief and passed away Tuesday, May 9, 2023, in the OK University Medial Center in OK City, OK.



George was raised in Clinton and Weatherford and attended school at Chilocco Indian School in New Kirk, OK. He worked most of his life in the oilfields as a tool pusher. He had worked all over Western OK. He was a member of the Baptist Church, he enjoyed going to pow wows, bead work, making chokers, doing crafts, and fishing. Roud member of the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes of OK.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister Linda Prairie Chief, Anabelle Prairie Chief, and a brother Mack Prairie Chief.

He is survived by his companion Kathy Nitch, Corpus Christi, TX, daughter Avril Prairie Chief, Las Vegas, Nevada and son Phillip Prairie Chief, Watonga, OK, four sisters: Georgiann Welbourne, Weatherford, Ercel Brian, Weatherford, Phyllis Prairie Chief, Clinton and Janice Boswell and husband Frank, Weatherford, two brothers: Cedric Prairie Chief, Clinton and Eugene Prairie Chief, Woodward. He is also survived by one grandchild and several nieces and nephews.

Earlene Holley

Earlene Holley, 100, of Elk City, Oklahoma was born on February 1, 1923, in Buchanan, New Mexico. She is the daughter of Dorse Hilry and Queenie (Curtis) Aldridge. She went to hold the hand of her heavenly Father on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at Elk City Nursing Home, surrounded by her loving family.



She married the love of her life George Sherman Holley on July 27, 1940, in Carter, Oklahoma. He preceded her in death on May 29, 1997.

Earlene worked along side George, running the Holley Service Station from 1962 to 1990 and the scrub Room Laundry Mat from 1970 to 1990 when they retired. She enjoyed working, ironing, and cleaning house. Most of all, Earlene loved just spending time with her family and friends.

Cherishing her memory is her son Blain Holley and his wife Karen of Elk City, Oklahoma; daughters: Connie Payne and her husband Randy of Elk City, Oklahoma, Sherlene Brewer and her husband Jerry of Elk City, Oklahoma; thirteen grandchildren, twenty-nine great grandchildren; ten great great grandchildren.

Earlene is preceded in death by her husband George Holley; son Jerry Holley; parents Dorse and Queenie Aldridge; two brothers: Edward Aldridge and Mac Aldridge; two sisters: Clara Neal and Winnie Tomlin.

Donald Sproull

Donald Edward Sproull, 89, of Granite, OK was born on July 13, 1933, in Clinton, Michigan. He is the son of Willis L. and Marion Irene (Foor) Sproull. He went to be with his Lord on Saturday, May 13th, 2023, at his residence in Granite OK.



Donald graduated from Clinton High School with the class of 1951. He married Judy Faye Daniels on September 24, 1966, in Tecumseh, MI.

He worked for many years at Motor Wheel, Ypsilanti, MI. He was self-employed with J.S. Farm and hauled horses all over the United States. Donald starting riding cutting horses at a very young age and continued to ride until he was seventy years old. Riding horses was a family affair that the entire family enjoyed.

He adored his children, grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren and will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Private family service will be conducted at a later date. Services have been entrusted to the care of Richard and Tammy Dugger and the staff of Martin-Dugger Funeral Home in Sayre, OK.

Cherishing his memory is his wife Judy Faye (Daniels) Sproull of Sayre, OK; one son Lowell Sproull and his wife Janet of Dill City, OK; one daughter Niki Graumann and her husband Larry of Blair, OK; nine grandchildren; and nine great great-grandchildren

He is preceded in death by his parents; Willis L. and Marion Irene (Foor) Sproull; two brothers: Bill Sproull, John Sproull; one sister Barbara Sproull.




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SCAN ME

Enroll Now for 28th Annual Arts Academy

Jeanine Berrong
 Weatherford Arts Director

The Weatherford Arts Council is excited to hold its Summer ARTS ACADEMY once again on July 24-28, from 1:00-5:30, on the campus of SWOSU in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom, Ed & Winnie Ola Berrong Music Building, and the Hilltop Theatre in Weatherford! Enrollment is limited to a maximum of forty 3rd - 8th grade students, which is 10 per class.

3rd - 8th grade students rotate through 4 different 50-minute classes each day from 1:00 - 5:30 p.m. After refreshments are served, students attend special twenty-minute presentations by area artists and performers daily. This year's instructors and classes are Dr. Marc DiPaolo - Creating Comic Strips, Dr. Alex Lee & Didier Khoo - Violin, Wally Tarkington - Ukulele, Kelcey Jordan - Folk Dance Music, and Abigail Darragh - Acting.

Enroll quickly to guarantee a spot before enrollment is full. Enrollment deadline is THURSDAY, June 30.

Download the enrollment form at the website artsacademy.weatherfordartscouncil.org. Mail the form with \$50 to Weatherford Arts Council c/o Jeanine Berrong at 520 E. Main St., Weatherford, OK 73096, or enroll in person at the same address. No refunds after July 7, 2023. A limited number of scholarships are available based on need. To apply, contact Director Berrong.

This ARTS ACADEMY is made possible by a matching grant from the OK Arts Council, which receives support from the State of OK and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information about the Weatherford Arts Council's ARTS ACADEMY or to enroll, contact Director Jeanine Berrong at 580-772-7238 or 580-302-1575.

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July 24 - July 28, 2023
Cost: \$50

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SWOSU Student Union Ballroom
3rd - 8th Grade (as of Fall 2023)

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Wally Tarkington - Ukulele (oldest class only)
Kelcey Jordan - FOLK DANCE MUSIC
Abigail Darragh - ACTING
 (Enrollment is limited to 40 students.)

Enrollment deadline is Friday, June 30, 2023.

Download enrollment form at
<http://artsacademy.weatherfordartscouncil.org>
 Make check out to Weatherford Arts Council and send to 520 E. Main Street, Weatherford, OK, 73096, or enroll in person at the same address.
 No refunds after July 7, 2023. Limited scholarships available based on need.
 For more information call 580-772-7238 or 580-302-1575.

Sponsored by THE WEATHERFORD ARTS COUNCIL
 This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

HIGHER GROUND

The Battle is On



Jim Morrison

Since the beginning of recorded history there have been many physical battles between nations and states that have taken countless lives. That continues today in Ukraine where the destruction of lives and property has been enormous.

At the same time battles in the unseen spiritual world are a constant threat. The forces of evil from the world of darkness controlled by Satan are a constant threat to truth and righteousness. Peter admonished his readers to "Be righteously and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8) The Apostle Paul, writing to a church in Corinth gives encouragement and truth to the church that had had trouble fighting the battle for truth. He writes, "For though we live

in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretention that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (11Cor. 10:3-5)

The world fights its battle with human resources—with reason and logic that has been flawed by the fall. Early in Genesis God warned Cain that "sin (Satan) lies crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it" (Gen. 4:7b) Paul points out to the church and to us today that we have divine power—the power of the One who set the world in order. We do not have to depend on human reasoning or military might, we have divine resources on our side.

God gives us himself through the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. But even true believers have made horrible mistakes because their hearts are still stained by selfishness, pride and the cares of this world. As Martin Luther said, "We are all both sinners and saints." But while imperfect, those who truly desire to follow Jesus have access to divine resources. God's pure love has been "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. (Roms 5:5) He provides wisdom to those who ask. (James 1:5) He convicts of sin and helps us remember

the truths taught by Jesus. He demolishes strongholds. There are those conflicts to Truth that he Spirit can destroy. They may be personal desires, addictions, prejudices, pride, or anything that holds you in its grip, keeping you from bowing down to truth. He demolishes arguments of men that are based on human reason from a depraved culture. There are those in this world who make it their business to put up arguments against the truths of God. Prov. 14:12 warns us that "There s a way that seems right to a man but in the end it leads to death."

To draw upon the resources of the Almighty begins with "taking every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ." Truly we are what we think about. Our thoughts must come from seasoned time spent in the Word of God. The Spirit speaks to us though His Word. He gives us discernment and insight. Paul prayed that God would give the Ephesians a spirit of wisdom and revelation...that the eyes of their heart would be enlightened...that they might have power to grasp the full extent of God's love for them. (Eph. 3:16-19) But this knowledge must be accompanied by obedience. We must learn to obey, not just know the truth. May God help us all to draw upon His resources to win in the battle for truth.

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Community Preparedness and Public Outreach Manager Tracey Bender from the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security was at Weatherford Rotary to speak about how the rise in illegal grow operations using forced labor has led to an increase in human trafficking in the state. She also spoke about disaster preparedness and domestic terrorism.



Provided
After almost 2 years of planning and designing, Weatherford Fire officials say they will soon add a new ladder truck to the department. Fire Chief Mike Karlin says he was in Dublin, Ohio yesterday to conduct a final inspection of the unit. Chief Karlin says the new truck will be delivered the first week of June.

WEATHERFORD / DIESEL SPILL - A diesel spill in downtown Weatherford last week required cleanup from the city fire department. Fire Chief Mike Karlin says a piece of equipment being transported through town came loose and punctured the fuel tank of the machinery. Karlin says it took crews about 2 hours to complete the cleanup process.

CLINTON / PRIDE GRANT - Clinton City Council, while acting as the industrial authority, did not make a motion for a vote on a tourism grant application for Western Oklahoma Pride Parade. The organization is planning a pride festival in Clinton June 10th in McLain Rogers Park. The group originally requested \$10,000. However, the chamber recommended a \$1,000 grant for the group. Mayor David Berrong questioned if it is the appropriate use of public money by awarding the dollars to an advocacy group. The grant dollars would have helped fund the activities planned for the festival, which includes live music, special event speakers, a kids' area, an open mic area and art show.

REP. MOORE / ORANGE ALERT - State Representative Anthony Moore of Clinton says the Governor has signed into law a bill that creates an "Orange Alert" to notify residents within a 40-mile radius of a correctional facility in the event of a prisoner escape. The legislation was drafted by Arapaho-Butler High School senior Katie Edelen. Moore says the alert created in House Bill 1546 would work like Amber Alerts that people receive on their cell phones. The new law takes effect November 1st.

CLINTON / CONSULTING - Clinton City Council acting as the hospital authority this week approved ratification of the city manager's execution of a consulting agreement with Northeast Oklahoma Management Services Organization. Under the agreement, the city will pay the consulting company an amount not to exceed \$12,500 per month for services over the next six months beginning on May 15th. Additionally, the city will pay a \$2,500 stipend for travel and living expenses per month for performing work for the closed Clinton Regional Hospital.

HYDRO-EAKLY / COMMUNICATIONS - Hydro-Eakly Schools Superintendent Jeremy Bussey says the district is working to improve communications with parents. Bussey says the plan is for a communications device to be available beginning in August that will allow teachers and parents to communicate under one platform.

ECPD / OFFICER INJURY - Elk City Police say an Elk City officer was injured during an arrest of an individual on a Beckham County warrant. Police Chief Eddie Holland says during the arrest, the person became non-compliant, and the officer suffered multiple stab wounds to the arm. The suspect was subdued and taken into custody by the officer, who did require stitches at Great Plains Regional Medical Center. The suspect, whose name has not been released, was booked into the Elk City jail on a complaint of assault with intent to kill. The incident remains under investigation.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

OH HAPPY Day TO YOU!

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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. OK Parkinson's Alliance, monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, excluding 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@OKpa.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 May 24 - Teresa Barnhill, Kendra Brown, Megan Coit, Shaquanda Conway, Aubrey Denton, Kiana Friesen, Vivian McDough, Kelsie Stephens, Hadden Thompson; **May 25th** - Ciara Arriaga, Melinda Christensen, Sid Griffith, Ashlyn Maddox, Jay Richardson; **May 26th** - Greg Kissler, Ethan Newman, Travis Pugh, Linda Punneo, Dwayne Ricks, Alex Shook, Emmazetta Sutton; **May 27th** - Greg Bickle, Nancy Crissman, Virginia George, Jim Hardin, Roy Hoch, Angie Odom, Logan Roles, Marla Russ, Chase Stutzman; **May 28th** - Leo Boling, Randy Hacker, William Jeffers, April Marley, Bobby McGregor, Ashley Schones, Donna Taylor, Kasha Thomason, Sarah Ynguanzo; **May 29th** - Brenda Anderson, Ethan Anderson, Betty Deela, Bobby Kyucates, Chandler Miller, Wayne Schoonmaker, Natalie Simpson, Sondra Smith, Kason Thomason, Heath Wright; **May 30th** - Keith Bodrick, Brian Brunner, Jonathan Coronado, Kayla DeWitt, Katherine Kreizenbeck, Gabriel Neely, Caleb Edens Rodolph, Gary Roller, L.T. Scott, Lloyd Shaffer, Cordelia Stephens, Krystin Turney, Ann Vogt.

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WPS Hosts Annual SPUD Fundraising Events



Krystal Blackwell / WW

Weatherford High School recently held a Powderpuff Flag Football game, as part of their SPUD (Students Performing Unselfish Deeds) Field Day. All proceeds went towards helping local Kindergartener Sterling Swiney overcome the expenses for three separate open heart surgeries.



Krystal Blackwell / WW

East Intermediate School kicks off the annual SPUD Kickball Tournament. This year's tournament was held at the Kiwanis Ball Park.



Krystal Blackwell / WW

Dyson sprints to first base as his opposition rears back to throw the ball behind him. His team is already down 6 points in this second inning, so he hopes to score the first point of the game.



Krystal Blackwell / WW

Fifth Grade teacher Michael Misak smiles as he and his kickball team bears witness to the early lead they've accrued in just the first inning.

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Oklahoma History: Baseball (The State's Favorite Pastime)



WALTER JOHNSON OF WASHINGTON PITCHED OILTON
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CLEVELAND.

From Oilton Chamber of Commerce

Parking for the pro game Oilton vs Cleveland, Oct 6th, 1918. Oilton wins 1-0, after 10 innings.

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Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Oklahoma and its sports history may be more widely known as a football state. Still, in comparison, Oklahoma has made more of an impact on the baseball diamond. Most American baseball originated from the pastimes of several Civil War regiments that could start a pickup game anywhere with the easily transported bats and balls. When the war ended, and the men settled around the country, community baseball games began.

In Oklahoma, while it was still an Unassigned Indian Territory, one of the first known iterations of Oklahoma baseball began in 1880 in Krebs, OK. The Oklahoma Historical Society had reported that at the time, Krebs's baseball days originated when "coal miners from Ohio and Pennsylvania settled near Krebs...and baseball provided them a clean, healthy diversion from the rigors of mining". On July 4th, 1882, Krebs organized its first baseball game to a crowd of 300. The town took on neighboring Savanna and used sacks of hay and cans for bases. The game was exciting, full of "gambling and fan violence." It ended with Krebs's victory over Savanna: 35 to 4. Still, the blowout win wasn't the night's highlight. All attention was on the Krebs catcher, who played the game with no mask or glove.

The city's baseball popularity grew, eventually pulling in National Baseball Hall of Famer Joe "Iron Man" McGinnity to Krebs in 1889. He became the pitcher for Krebs and was a crucial voice in organized play. Over the next decade, baseball exploded throughout the territory, and many cities founded teams. Additionally, in 1889, the newly found towns of Stillwater, Kingfisher, Guthrie, and OKC began hosting Sunday afternoon pickup games.

Baseball was not just a city phenomenon, as the Apache tribe at Fort Sill was known to play to a crowd of soldiers with their famous chief Geronimo.

Soon, baseball fever had reached every corner of the state, and every small town and community had teams to challenge its neighbors. Many played on sandlot fields, and winning the games gave the towns a sense of pride. Before long, sandlots turned into baseball fields, which then became grandstands, and grandstands held state tournaments where thousands of fans gathered to watch.

In 1927, the DAILY OKLAHOMAN sponsored the first state sandlot tournament and, following its success paved the way for Oklahoma to "lead the nation in winning and maintaining championship-caliber clubs." Oklahoma's sandlot days would go on to produce an abundance of Hall of Fame players.

Oklahoma's prowess in baseball went beyond the pro level. Collegiate teams produced a wide variety of pro talent, none more than Oklahoma State University. OSU won the NCAA in 1959 and was a runner-up five times. With talent like Robin Ventura, OSU's dominance of the Big Eight tournaments was unmatched. They won sixteen straight Big Eight tournaments, and in 1987, "Ventura's fifty-eight-game hitting streak, which is two games longer than Joe DiMaggio's major league professional hitting streak, continued as a record in the 21st century". Many other Oklahoma collegiate teams have won similar championships and produced world-class players.

For the professional league, Oklahoma has produced the like of Jim Thorpe, potentially the greatest athlete of all time; Mickey Mantle, the star centerfielder for the New York Yankees; Carl Mays, another Yankee whose pitching prowess helped lead the 1927 Yankees to legendary status; Warren Spahn, who won more games than any other left-handed pitcher; Jerry Walker, the youngest pitcher to start an All-Star game; Johnny Bench, who could be the best catcher of all-time winning 6 division titles and 2 World Series; and Jay Hanna "Dizzy" Dean, one of the elite pitchers to win 30 games or more under current regulations, led the league in strikeouts and went on to revolutionize color-commentating and sportscasting.

This piece has already described an impressive list of accolades for the players who grew up or came to Oklahoma on their path to greatness. However, many more can be listed. Oklahoma's baseball history is full of phenomenal athletes, a high number of National records, and baseball will continue to be one of the state's greatest pastimes.

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Children's Illustrator is Coming to Sayre

Alexander Shook
WW Contributor

Local up-and-coming
illustrator Melissa Larson

Craig will be visiting the Sayre Public Library on Thursday, May 25. Melissa will be selling the two books she has illustrated, each autographed and with a personalized drawing on the hardback cover.

These include *Iver & Ellsworth*, which follows the story of a factory worker and the bond he shares with an inflatable polar bear that sits on the roof.

The other story available is *Ripple Grove*, where a forest hike between a girl and her father leads to the

two reminiscing over a fairy tale the two had been building over many years.

Both books are targeted at young, elementary-aged kids. The illustrations are highly praised by critics and parents alike, bringing the stories to life in a way that builds upon and improves the source material.

Each book costs \$23 with doodle and autograph. If you plan on paying via check, please make them out to Melissa Craig directly. You can also pre-order a book by visiting the Sayre Public Library, located at 113 E Poplar Ave.

@illustrated_whimsies / Instagram
The two books (left) available for purchase, as well as a look at how your signature and doodle might look (right).



Wyatt Peterman / WW

Seven of the Weatherford High School's Color Guard swing their oversized fans while the band play "Darklands March" behind them during the band's final performance for the year.

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Edgar Cruz performs more than 300 times a year and has played throughout America, Europe and South America. He has been a headliner at the prestigious Chet Atkins Guitar Festival every July in Nashville since 1995 and has been a strong icon at major art & music festivals in Oklahoma since the late 70's.

Those who witness Cruz's performance immediately become entranced at the precision, speed and complexity with which his fingers strike the strings of his guitar to create a symphony of sound unusual to just one instrument.

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Edgar Cruz performs
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