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Western OK American Legion Welcomes National Commander



(Pictured from Left to Right) Clinton Post 41 Commander Donald Miller, Oklahoma American Legion Department Commander Jim Quinn and Clinton Post 41 Adjutant Bobby Stewart at American Legion Post 41 in Clinton.

American Legion National Commander Vincent Troiola (left) speaks with WWII veteran Herman Lowery (right) at the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Clinton.

American Legion Posts from around Western Oklahoma welcomed American Legion National Commander, Vincent Troiola, as he visited with Oklahoma Legionnaires across the state this past week. Troiola's visit in Western Oklahoma last Wednesday took him through Weatherford, Corn, Clinton and Fort Supply Lake.

Starting off the day at the Stafford Air and Space Museum in Weatherford, Troiola first addressed an audience of Oklahoma Legionnaires and their family members.

"I find that when I go to small posts they don't very often see a national commander going through their front door. I think it's important that we come out and recognize and acknowledge everything you do for your communities," said Troiola.

Then Troiola honored a handful of Legionnaires including David Lawrence of Weatherford, Donald Miller of Clinton, and Elmo May of Sayre for their service to their communities and the American Legion and then the group was guided through a tour of the museum. Afterwards, the group headed to Corn to tour the Corn Town Hall Museum where they met Corn Mayor Barbara Nurnberg.

With other Corn residents in attendance, the guests were treated to a proper German lunch at the Corn Cafe.

Troiola spoke after the meal about the American Legion's ongoing mission to better serve veterans across America including the American Legion's "Be the One" Campaign, which is a suicide awareness campaign. Following the lunch and speech, Troiola honored Oklahoma American Legion Department Commander Jim Quinn and Corn Post 300 Commander Scott Taylor for their service.

A group of Legionnaires then traveled to American Legion Post 41 in Clinton to view progress on renovations to Post 41's headquarters. At Post 41's headquarters Weatherford Legionnaire David Lawrence presented a \$1000 donation to Post 41 Commander Donald Miller on behalf of Post 91 in Weatherford.

Then Troiola and a handful of Oklahoma's American Legion leadership visited the Oklahoma Veterans Centers in Clinton where they toured the facilities and met with staff and residents of the Veterans Center.

See "Legion," Page 3

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Dale Smith

Gareld Dale Smith was born April 2, 1942, in Washita County, OK, to Roy Franklin and Ethel Arminda (Dailey) Smith and passed away Friday, June 16, 2023, at Abode Home in San Antonio, at the age of 81 years, 2 months and 14 days.



Dale was raised on the family farm north of Colony and graduated from Colony High School in 1960. Dale has lived an adventurous life.

He has had a variety of careers that include cross country truck driver, iron worker, construction worker, and brick/tile salesman that have allowed him to travel most of the United States.

He has lived the longest in San Antonio where he worked for Acme Brick and opened several Sonic Drive-In's. Dale loved to golf and has been able to play some of the nicest golf courses imaginable.

He also enjoyed hanging out with his friends and family and loved to watch his grandkids participate in their various activities.

Dale was outgoing, energetic and had the best stories to tell about his adventures. But even after all of his travels and his relocation to San Antonio, he was just an Oklahoma farm boy at heart.

Dale is survived by his children, Scotty Dale and wife, Catherine of San Antonio, TX, Debra Morris and husband, Ricky of Weatherford, OK and Michael Smith and wife, Jennifer of New Braunfels, TX; three grandchildren, Paden Morris, Dacey Morris and Madison Smith; three nephews, Lance and Candance Smith, Mike Howell, and Monty and Anice Howell.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Ronda (Willis) Smith; and brother, Delton Smith.

Turid Rogers

Turid Margrete Rogers, 75, of Las Vegas, Nevada was born on September 26, 1947, in Stavanger, Norway. She is the daughter of Konrad and Borghild Marie Eskeland-Iversen. She went to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, June, 9, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Turid owned and operated The Red Velvet in Sayre, OK for five to six years. She also was a school bus driver who enjoyed driving the children to school and activities.

Turid enjoyed many hobbies including hiking, fishing, knitting, and traveling all over the world.

Turid married William "Bill" Dewitt Rogers in the early 1970's in Stavanger, Norway.

She was a baptized member of the Lutheran Church. She loved to spend time with her family and those closest to her.

Cherishing her memory is her two sons, Casey Rogers of Las Vegas, Nevada, Oystein Thorsen of Christiansburg, Virginia; one daughter, Margrete Thorsen of Sayre, OK; one sister, Brit Eskeland of Norway; four grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Turid is preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Ivan Iversen, Kort Iversen; and one sister, Anne Berntsen.

Grant Foster

Randy Grant Foster was born January 7, 1954, in Oklahoma City, to Ralph Randall and Leona (Reynolds) Foster and passed away at his home on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, in Hydro, at the age of 69 years, 5 months and 13 days.



Grant enjoyed working on the family farm with his father. At eight years old he was driving a John Deere tractor with his father.

Learning from his father he could fix almost all their equipment. Later in his life he became a certified John Deere mechanic and for over 20 years he worked for Western Equipment of Weatherford before retirement. He loved working with the area farmers and helping them with their mechanical needs. He also enjoyed Nascar racing, off-road racing and being with his family and friends and his most beloved dog "Lizzie."

Grant is survived by his sister, Becky Heger of Weatherford; niece, Mindy Morton and husband, Jeff of Hammon and her family; Meghan Morton of Hammon and Abbey Morton of Oklahoma City; niece, Raquel Mings of Norman and her family; Ryan, Kelsey and Kyle Mings of Norman; a special cousin, Joe Foster of Custer City; and many more family and special friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law, Daryl Heger.

Lavona Eaton

Lavona Jewell Eaton was born May 5, 1941, to Jewell Oran Eaton and Ethel (Cavasos) Eaton in Leedey, OK and passed away Wednesday, June 21, 2023, in the Select Specialty Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.



Lavona was raised in Leedey, OK where she graduated from high school in 1960. She soon moved to Oklahoma City, OK and was employed with Mid Continent News for several years. She returned to Western Oklahoma and began a nearly 60-year career with Strange-Jones Wholesale Parts and The Grand Rental Station as Pricing Clerk and bookkeeper. She was still employed part time up until recently.

She was a long-time member of the Westside Pentecostal Holiness Church and most recently the Hammon Pentecostal Holiness Church. She also attended the New Hope Fellowship Church in Clinton. She had served many years as a Sunday school teacher and over 25 years as secretary for the West Side Pentecostal Holiness Church.

She loved to cook, do craft work and enjoyed canning. Her passion was taking care of and being with children. She had many nieces and nephews and had a hand in helping to raise most of them.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jewell Eaton, Ethel Eaton-Mowles, and stepdad, Joe Mowles, sister, Erma Mowles and two brothers, Jerry Don Eaton and Marvin Eaton.

She is survived by two brothers, Adrain Eaton and wife Connie, Clinton and Charles Eaton and wife, Betty, Hammon, OK; sister-in-Law, Denice Eaton, Clinton, OK; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ruth Delozier

Ruth Mary Delozier was born on September 6, 1949, to Garland Stalnaker James and Thelma Jo (Derr) James in Clinton and passed away at Homestead of Clinton on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 having reached the age of 73 years, 9 months, 21 days.



Ruth was raised and attended school in Custer City. She married Russell Dean Delozier in Wheeler, TX on November 13, 1972.

Ruth enjoyed playing cards and dominoes; loved angels, unicorns and any animals. She volunteered at pet adoption events.

Ruth is survived by her dog, Starlight. Preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister, Martha Ann James; and son, Joe Dean Delozier.

David Julian

David John Julian, 78, of Elk City, OK was born on September 8, 1944, in Brooklyn, NY. He is the son of Harold E. and Anne Marie (Ringinger) Julian. He went to walk the golden streets of Heaven on Thursday, June 22, 2023 at the Oklahoma City VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City, OK.



David attended schools in Brooklyn, New York, graduating from John Jay High School. He later attended Merced College in Merced, California and Oklahoma University in Norman, OK.

He married Penny Lou Jarrell on June 5, 1965. Later David married Rena Faye Harwell on February 8, 1991 at Wheeler, TX and she preceded him in death on August 4, 2021.

David proudly served his country as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Air Force from September 12, 1962 and due to medical reasons he was honorably discharged on December 11, 1972. During that time, he saw action and served in Vietnam. David then moved to Elk City, OK from New York in December of 1962. He was raised in the Jewish religion and his bar mitzvah was in 1957. In Elk City, he attended the United Methodist Church, Elk City, OK.

David enjoyed scuba diving, music, and family get togethers. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and everyone who knew and loved him.

Cherishing his memory is three loving daughters, Kristy Dawn Pettitt of Elk City, OK, Tammie Lynn Lee of Eldorado, KS, Kimberly JoAnn Abooteen of Dallas, TX; one brother, Robert Julian of Wyoming; one sister, Adele Letterman of Walnut Creek, California; nine grandchildren, Patrick Brown of Elk City, OK, Cheyenne Lee of Eldorado, KS, Cody Finley of Elk City, OK, Nathan Finley of Erick, OK, Levi Finley of Weatherford, OK; Mohammad Abooteen of Houston, TX, Hanna Hinton of Dallas, TX, Leyla Abooteen of Dallas, TX, Ryan Lee of Eldorado, KS; and eight great grandchildren.

David is preceded in death by his wife, Rena Faye Julian; his parents, Harold E. and Anne Marie Julian; and one brother, Jay Gordon Julian; one sister, Carole Conely.

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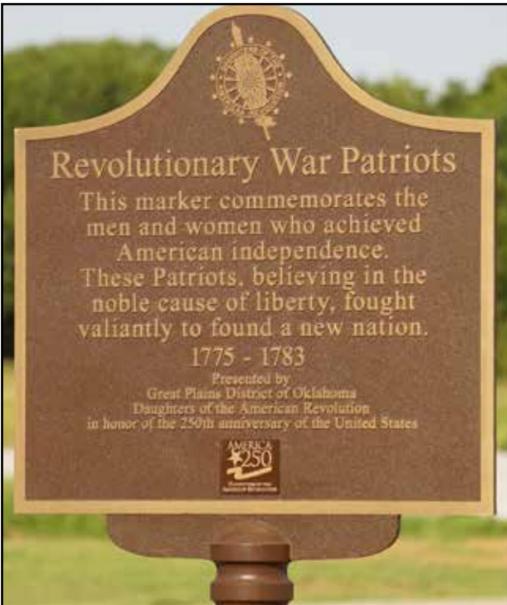
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Daughters of the American Revolution Dedicates Patriotic Marker



Chad Gray / WW

Pictured above: The Daughters of the American Revolution American 250 Patriots Marker, which stands just outside the entrance to the Stafford Air and Space Museum in Weatherford. For more information about DAR or their American 250 Patriots Marker initiative, visit www.dar.org

Members of the Great Plains District of the Oklahoma Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) as well as several community leaders from around Western Oklahoma gathered this past month at the Stafford Air & Space Museum to dedicate a memorial honoring the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

The new DAR American 250 Patriots Marker stands just outside the entrance of the Stafford Air & Space Museum and is part of an initiative by DAR to “honor the memory of the men and women with whom we have a sacred compact to ensure that these United States of America continue as a government of the people, by the people, for the people. It is also designed to raise appreciation amongst current and future generations of Americans of our Patriots’ sacrifice for their benefit,” according to their website.

The national organization hopes to place American 250 Patriots Markers in each of America’s 50 states before the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War and Oklahoma chapters of the DAR have already dedicated 2 markers, the other marker being located in Broken Arrow.

“We have three main purposes; historic preservation, education and patriotism,” said Philly Stevens who is a member of the Washita Chapter of DAR and attended the dedication.

DAR was founded in 1890 and is comprised of women who can trace their lineage back to supporters of the colonial cause during the American Revolution. As part of their mission DAR regularly supports veterans as well as servicemen and women across the globe.

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LEGION

Continued from Page 1

After the tour, Troiola spoke with the WestOK Weekly regarding the Legion’s “Be The One” Initiative:

“We’re trying to spread the word about our ‘Be The One Initiative’. It’s a suicide awareness program. It’s a national program. It’s about the 12,000 legion posts throughout the United States becoming resource centers for Veterans at risk. So there’s a stigma out there for Veterans stepping forward and that’s hard to break through. It takes courage. You know a lot of them have this [idea], some founded some non founded things, that there’s going to be repercussions if they step forward, [...] whether they’re losing their security clearances, losing their jobs, losing their families. So what we’re trying to do is have veterans talk to veterans, which is Legionnaires talking to veterans or maybe members

of the community opening a conversation with them. Building a relationship that that veteran will trust. That we truly want to help them. Sticking with them when they go through their therapy. Getting the help that they deserve. and hopefully we get it at a local level because a lot of the hospitals have staffing issues and you can wind up waiting for mental health therapists for an extended period of time. But if we can get them local health, it could be a clergymen, it could be a social worker, it could be a county veterans service officer, something like that. Get them on the road to recovery, explain to their families what’s going on and see if we can get them back in the civilian arena where they’re not sitting isolated at home.”

For more information about the American Legion or their ‘Be The One Initiative’ you can visit their website www.legion.org/



Chad Gray / WW

The National Commander of the American Legion honoring Western Oklahoma Legionnaires. From left to right are Elk City Post 181 Adjutant Doug Haught, American Legion National Commander Vincent Troiola, Weatherford Post 91 Commander David Lawrence, 7th District Commander Elmo May and Clinton Post 41 Commander Donald Miller.

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Jim Morrison

Some years ago a futurist predicted that this would be the “information age.” Never has a prediction been more true! We have more information at hand that we need to know. Some of it is good...some not so good. At the click of a button we can get information on about any subject or person. But often the information obtained in this manner is shallow and can be deceptive. Real knowledge that is useful long term is more likely obtained by serious study that requires effort and time. Because the internet has shortened our attention span few are willing to do the necessary work to develop habits of study that will produce serious thinkers who live out great truths.

The Scriptures are quick to point out the importance of renewing our minds, of being approved of God as diligent students. (2 Tim 2:15)

Some are adept at reading large quantities of the Bible in order to reach a goal. This is not all bad but I would caution against assuming that this will actually make you a Bible student. While one should make the effort to read the Bible through, I find it also helpful and fruitful to read small portions several times slowly, reflectively, and prayerfully.

One could easily spend a month reading one of Paul’s letters over and over, gaining and recording insights, teachings, warnings, and even memorizing verses that speak to your heart in your present situation. In difficult portions of scripture, seek other translations, or gain wisdom from scholars who have deeper understanding of the culture of the day or better understanding of the language in which the scripture was written.

Someone has said, “We think so highly of what God says to us as we read the Bible, but not so much what he may say to others in their reading.” Let me offer a couple of suggestions that have been helpful to me.

A wise pastor said that the difference between reading the Bible and studying the Bible is a pencil and paper. This suggests, of course, that it is important to write down in a journal or notebook what you are gleaning from your study. Jerry Fine in his Discipleship course, One on One with God, uses three P’s...Paraphrase, Personalize, and Prayer.

Observing key verses or phrases he suggests writing out the verse in your own words, then personalize the verse using personal pronouns to make it real to you. Next, think through the verse, thinking of how this meets your needs or struggles and write a brief prayer using the key thoughts of ideas of the verse. I will attach an example that might be helpful. In this example, I paraphrase and personalize it to shorten the effort.

Bible study is the priority. So many people go days, weeks, or months, without opening the Bible. But to be an approved workman we can also learn from other Godly people who have learned great truths of God and have shared those truths in books. Read biographies of great saints of the past—men like Hudson Taylor or George Mueller. Some Godly Christian writers of today will encourage you and provide insight into the ways and truths of God. There are also excellent books on marriage and parenting. Don’t shortchange your spiritual growth by assuming that all you need to do is hear a sermon on Sunday. Your greater growth and fruitfulness will come from your study. “Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled (disciplined) and set your hope on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.” I Peter 1:13

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LOCAL AND AREA NEWS

Mike Smith
News Director

"The Coin Guy" - 2021 Dollar Bills in Circulation



Trent Boesen

History was made when the two women in charge of the nation's money system signed their names on our currency--the first women signatures on notes.

The new \$1 bill has been seen in circulation, bearing the signatures of Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Lynn Marder, chief of the Mohegan Tribe and United States Treasurer.

The first known sighting of these new \$1 notes, which was reported from a store in Ohio.

\$5 Federal Reserve notes, with both women's signatures, have been printed for several months. Yet, no new \$10, \$20, \$50, nor \$100 notes have been printed either in Fort Worth, Texas or Washington, D.C.

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Heston Wright / WW

As one of her last official acts for Rotary International, outgoing District Governer Dr. Deena K. Fisher swears in six new board members and officers for the Weatherford Rotary Club.

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CLINTON / SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE - Looking forward to the next school year, student attendance is a main concern for clinton public schools according to Superintendent Tyler Bridges. He says the district also looks at test scores and scheduling efficiency.

WEST OK / PET CARE - As the weather warms up in western oklahoma, area pets are at a higher risk of injuries from heat exposure. According to weatherford animal control officer andrew vaughn, suitable sheltering for animals outside is an area of shade to get out of the heat. Vaughn also reminds area residents to be mindful when having pets in their vehicles for extended periods of time to avoid heat related injuries.

CORDELL / STREETScape - A town revitalization effort is underway in Cordell. Mayor Phil Kleewer says that the city is in discussions to revamp landscaping downtown. This would include work on flowerbeds, perennials, shrubbery, and sprinkler systems. Kleewer also says that waterline work is ongoing and urges residents to have patience as the work continues.

SWOSU / PANAMA - Students from the SWOSU Pharmacy and Nursing schools recently took a trip to Panama to assist in running medical clinics for underserved populations, according to Dr. Randy Curry, over 500 patients were seen by the clinics in four days of operation. SWOSU students were responsible for, among other things, intake, triage, and consultation of patients in conjunction with Panamanian health officials.

CLINTON / DAYCARE DEMO - Demolition of the former Clinton Public Schools Employee Daycare is behind schedule. Schools Superintendent Tyler Bridges says the recent rainfall has prevented the demolition crew from accessing the municipal dump to dispose of rubble properly. The former daycare is on the site of the new Clinton Middle School facility.

WEATHERFORD / CHICKEN PASS HL - The Weatherford City Commission has approved the keeping and raising of chickens by a vote of 4 to 1. City attorney David Duncan says that he expects the ordinance to be revised multiple times as the city figures out what works and what doesn't. Applications for permits are expected to begin early next month.

WEATHERFORD / HOMICIDE - A recent victim of homicide in Weatherford has been identified. Weatherford police say 33-year-old Giddel Sotelo was found dead in the 200 blocks of North Bradley around 11 pm Saturday night. An arrest warrant has been issued for 20-year-old Rodolfo Sotelo. The investigation into Sotelo's death is still ongoing, but Weatherford Police say this appears to be a domestic-related incident between family members.

CUSTER CO / AGREEMENTS - During the Custer County Commissioners' regular meeting, yearly agreements for various county service providers ranging from inmate transportation and electric services to office products, water, and ice were agreed upon and signed off for.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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Happy Birthday Wishes for July 5th - Alecia DePasa, Renae McGregor, Milburn Outhier, Dana VanHuss; **July 6th** - Jennifer Edler, Jenn Gemaehlich, Allison Gossen, Trey Graybill, Eugene Hunnicutt, Campbell Jacobsma, Kadie Lucas, Ashley Oliver, Leslie Panama, Tiffany Parrish, Alicia Wingo, Scott Woodall; **July 7th** - Clausia Estala, Francisco Estala, Lylah-Ann Hanson, Ruth Kidd, Hollis Lee, Pat Pope, Allison Richardson, Daniel Rodriguez, Mike Roulet, Philip Smith, Brendon Stain, Doyle Taylor, Alex Tompkins, Dennis Vermillion; **July 8th** - Jeanine Berrong, Bradley Blackwell, Lou Hamilton, Jr., Billy Karlin, Robin Karlin, Terry McGill, David Miller, Jim Rodemeyer, Terry Thomson, Julie Tisdal; **July 9th** - Carolyn Dibler, Jerry Hill, Frank Johnson, Glenda Jordan, Mark Lantz, Frances Moore, Caitlin Russel, Sheila Settles, Michael Webb; **July 10th** - Les Crall, Carolyn Curell, Leshia Jackson, Connie Lopez, Bobby Marsee, Rachel Smith, James Taylore II; **July 11th** - Hessie Atteberry, Rebecca Blake, Paula Blake, Delores Davidson, David Matz, Lori Stewart, Sue Vermillion.

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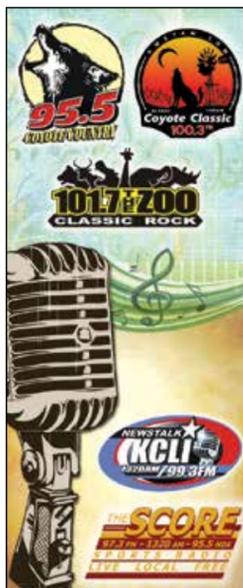
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Terry Evans Resigns Amid Family Medical Concerns



Jon Chidester
 SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Men's Basketball Head Coach Terry Evans has announced his resignation after five seasons in Weatherford.

Coach Evans became head coach of the Bulldogs in March of 2018 and the 2022-23 season was his fifth as head coach at SWOSU. During his tenure, Evans guided the Dawgs to a 2022 Great American Conference Tournament Championship – the first conference championship in SWOSU's decade-long membership in the league. That 2021-22 team qualified for the NCAA Tournament for just the second time in SWOSU's Division II history.

"I want to thank all of my former and current SWOSU players, coaches, and staff for allowing me to be part of Bulldog Nation these past five-plus years," said Evans. "I also want to thank all of the SWOSU administration, my fellow coaches in the athletic department, and the fans for all of the support over the years."

Evans continued. "I enjoyed my time in Weatherford but I need to step away from coaching right now to address family medical concerns. God said it's time to help family and others."

Evans, who has coached in the state of Oklahoma for nearly 30 years overall, holds a collegiate coaching record of 314-206 (.604) between 13 years at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) and his time at SWOSU.

As a high school coach, he won a combined four OSSAA State Championships at Midwest City and Edmond North.

"I'd like to thank Coach Evans for his commitment to the program during the years he was a Bulldog," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "SWOSU Athletics wishes him the best with full support for the challenges he faces moving forward."

The search for the next head men's basketball coach at SWOSU will begin immediately.

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Watonga Schools Begins Work on New Gymnasium



Chad Gray / WW

Construction has begun on Watonga's new gymnasium. This \$20 million project will also include a new cafeteria facility for Elementary-aged student. Development is expected to finish sometime next year. Pictured above is construction workers as they lay the building's cement foundation.

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SWOSU Volleyball, Softball Teams Earn GAC Awards



Jon Chidester
 SWOSU Media Relations

The Great American Conference announced the 2022-23 Sportsmanship Awards on Thursday where both SWOSU Volleyball and Softball earned team recognition in their respective sports.

It's the third consecutive year SWOSU Volleyball has earned the conference's sportsmanship accolade. Meanwhile, SWOSU Softball notched its first honor dating back to the formation of the conference in 2012.

"These awards emphasize the NCAA Division II focus on sportsmanship and game environment," says GAC Commissioner Will Prewitt.

Prewitt continues, saying that "we could not be prouder of what these programs have put forth on the field and in ways that aren't necessarily reflected in the outcome."

In 2012, The GAC's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee initiated a sportsmanship award to be presented for all team sports. The winning school will receive a banner similar to the one presented to GAC tournament championship winners.

The goal of the program is for member institutions to promote good sportsmanship among its teams, fans, and all involved with the events.

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Oklahoma History: The Lost State of Sequoyah



Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The Lost State of Sequoyah is one of the few U.S. states lost to history (like Transylvania, Texlahoma, Absaroka, or even “Lost Dakota”). As one of the select group of “states that almost were,” the State of Sequoyah was conceived back in 1905 by members of the Five Civilized Tribes – Native Americans from the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole tribes. The dream was to create a state under the Native American constitution and governance as a way to allow the tribes to maintain control over their lands.

These tribal governments were being pressured to give up control of Indian Territory after the passing of the Curtis Act of 1898, an amendment designed to break up communal lands in past Oklahoma territory, layout town plans, allot land, and ultimately pave the way for the region to reach statehood. The “coercion” to move these tribes stemmed from the uniquely complicated statehood preparation Oklahoma was receiving. For much of the western United States land, a simple Organic Act passed by Congress was enough to begin the work of transitioning a territory into a state.

However, Oklahoma’s own Organic Act came about through a series of legislative acts that would first break the state into two parts: Oklahoma Territory and Indian Territory. These newly Organized territories would then face a system of Reconstruction following the American Civil War featuring relocation, treaties, and land purchases, with each step more complicated than the last. Ultimately, the Oklahoma Organic Act would merge the two territories into a unified State of Oklahoma.

But, before its official state status was realized, members of the Indian Territory, which controlled the entire eastern half of the state and 13% of the future state’s population, announced a constitutional convention to meet. The convention (spurred on by the fact that much of the Native American population and land had been recently lost due to land cessions, land runs, and treaties) met on August 21st, 1905, in Muskogee. At the convention, a president and vice presidents were decided from among the tribes, a constitution was drafted, a map with their governing counties was drawn up, a seal was made, and delegates to the United States Congress were assigned.

Each of the Five Civilized Tribes agreed with majority votes to approve the constitution and statehood petition, settling on the name Sequoyah in honor of the Cherokee, who created a writing system for the Cherokee language (making reading and writing in Cherokee possible).

A campaign to bolster the state’s chances when it went to Congress was carried out up to the November 7th election. The proposal was shot down in Congress after little deliberation squashing the hopes of a future State of Sequoyah. However, President Theodore Roosevelt, who was a proponent of the idea, proposed a compromise that would join the Indian and Oklahoma Territories together to form a single state. Both sides agreed, terms were set, and President Roosevelt signed the Oklahoma Enabling Act of 1906.

With both territories bringing unique methods of governing to the table, further compromises had to be made and requirements laid out. For example, the Osage Indian Reservation would be organized separately in the state, and “nothing...in the said constitution shall...limit or impair the rights...pertaining to the Indians of said Territories”. After all the fine details were hashed out, the State of Oklahoma officially joined the United States on November 7th, 1905.

While the State of Sequoyah would never see its star placed on the American Flag, the constitution its members created would play an important role in shaping the Oklahoma Constitution we know today. Many of the leaders present at that convention would go on to have a solid voice in the future of Oklahoma.

Residents’ Rights Waived for COVID Reinstated with End of PHE

Cherrie Nutley
SWODA Ombudsman

With the end of the Public Health Emergency brought on by COVID on May 11, 2023, there are some things that will impact long-term care residents.

Residents receiving Medicaid will undergo a check, or redetermination of their eligibility, which is based on their income, assets, and functional ability. States typically do this by using existing information; however, individuals may be asked to submit additional information.

Residents and their representatives should ensure their contact information is up to date with the Medicaid Agency. Medicaid enrollees who receive a notice of potential termination have the right to appeal against the decision, and to a hearing. Ask for help if needed.

Waived residents’ rights like choosing one’s roommate, refusing facility relocation, and receiving transfer notice to contain or treat COVID are reinstated. Residents moved for these reasons should be given a choice to return to their original room or nursing home, or to remain in their new location, depending on room availability.



Local West Oklahoma Graduate Shares Success Story from Aeronautics Industry

Derek Lawrence is quickly advancing in Oklahoma’s soaring aerospace and defense industry, and he credits his success, in large part, to his time at SWOSU.

Hailing from Weatherford with both parents teaching at SWOSU, it comes as no surprise that Derek ended up enrolling there. It’s also not surprising that Derek’s experience at SWOSU is what propelled him to success at NORDAM, which is headquartered in Tulsa and is one of the world’s largest independently owned aerospace companies.

Before embarking on a full-time career in the state’s second-largest industry, Derek earned his Bachelor’s of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology, a program that he considers unmatched in its ability to prepare him for his professional journey.

While the curriculum, clubs, and coursework undoubtedly set Derek up for success, like many before him, he acknowledges the dedicated faculty and staff who offered unwavering support.

“The smaller class sizes and personal approach from the professors created opportunities outside of the classroom that other schools just can’t offer. The ability for me to be involved in First Robotics as well as a member, and ultimately the president of, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, taught me crucial skills, particularly in leadership, which played a vital role in my career development.”

“Every day in class, there was a sense of belonging because professors knew your name. They consistently invested their time and expertise in you, even outside of the classroom. Those times spent interacting with the professors and learning from their industry experience was invaluable to my career. If I had the opportunity to go back in time, I would still choose the same path. Now, being aware of the biggest needs in the aerospace industry, I can see just how special SWOSU’s program is and how it’s missing at other universities in Oklahoma in terms of workforce development.”

“Looking back, there was no better engineering program, at any school, to prepare me for my career. The Manufacturing Engineering Technology program at SWOSU directly applies to the aerospace composite manufacturing world. I still use the topics covered at school on a daily basis in my role with NORDAM.”

Following his graduation from SWOSU in 2017, Derek began his engineering career at a manufacturing company in Chickasha before receiving an enticing opportunity from NORDAM in 2018. Since then, he has diligently worked his way from a Manufacturing Engineer to a Manufacturing Engineer Supervisor and currently holds the position of a Bid and Proposal Manager. In 2019, Derek returned to SWOSU to earn his MBA. Derek, his wife, and their cat reside in Lawton. Outside of work, he enjoys fishing, golfing, and passionately cheering on the Denver Broncos.

<p>BUILDING & MAINTENANCE MANAGER Stafford Air & Space Museum City of Weatherford</p> <p>The STAFFORD AIR & SPACE MUSEUM, a department of the City of Weatherford, announces the opening for the position of BUILDING & MAINTENANCE MANAGER. This is a full-time, 40 hr./week manager position that reports directly to the Director of the Stafford Museum.</p> <p>General Description: The position is a multi-faceted job with primary focus on overseeing the entire facility’s maintenance and cleaning programs, both internal and exterior. Responsible for maintaining all facility mechanical systems, including HVAC, electrical, plumbing, lighting, and other mechanical equipment, including forklift, scissor lifts, and shop equipment, and the exterior of the facility, including immediate museum grounds. Additional responsibilities include supporting the museum’s dynamic exhibit development program, and all exhibit maintenance, and to orchestrate large shipments, including selecting shippers, and the loading and unloading of large cargo.</p>	<p>General Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of an Associate Degree from a qualified university or technical school, with a strong focus on mechanical and technical areas; • Must have solid mechanical skills, and working skills in woodworking and metal work (welding and plasma cutting) are highly preferred, along with working knowledge of HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems; • Must be highly organized, with attention to detail, able to follow directions, and capable of overseeing multiple programs at the same time, while consistently understanding and meeting the high-quality standards required by the museum; • Must have a “can-do” attitude, lead by example, and capable of organizing an efficient and effective working team, or able to work independently, when necessary; • Must be able to climb ladders, and work from lifts as high as 40-feet, lift and carry 50 lbs., and become highly aware and careful while working around the museum’s exhibits and historical artifacts; • Able to work closely and professionally with museum staff and outside contractors, to acquire bids when necessary, and to oversee completion dates for projects; 	<p>General Qualifications (cont):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure that the museum meets all City and State building codes for safety and operation; • On rare occasions, must be available for after-hour events, or emergency situations; • Must be able to pass routine drug and alcohol testing. <p>Compensation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good competitive salary, with full City benefit package, consisting of paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, life insurance, retirement, etc. <p>Application: To apply, please fill out standard City application form that can be found on the City of Weatherford’s web site or by visiting https://cityofweatherford.com/available-positions/. Applications can also be picked up and dropped off at the Stafford Air & Space Museum at 3000 Logan Road in Weatherford. In addition, a basic resume of job experience would be helpful! For further questions, please contact Teresa Schoonmaker at the Stafford Museum @ 580-772-5871</p>
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Scissortail Productions Inc. Receives \$1,500 Grant from OK Humanities



Scissortail Productions Inc. (SPI), located in Norman, Oklahoma is pleased to announce it has received a \$1,500 grant from Oklahoma Humanities. The grant will be used to assist in funding Delbert Anderson: The Intersection of Jazz and Native American Music lecture, which allows SPI to provide a humanities cultural event celebrating Native American artists.

Delbert Anderson: The Intersection of Jazz and Native American Music is a 45-minute lecture followed by a Q and A session. This event is free and open to the public and will take place at the Frisco Conference Center in Clinton, Oklahoma on July 21, 2023, at 2 pm. This event is sponsored by the Oklahoma Humanities (OH), Scissortail Productions Inc., the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Clinton. Delbert Anderson, trumpet, creates Diné inspired musical pathways. Anderson preserves and propels his culture's music by creating a foundation of new Diné melodies and then fuses them through jazz, jam, and funk.

Each path serves Indigenous culture through stories, healing, history, and collaboration. Our expectation is that the individuals who attend Mr. Anderson's lecture will have a more robust understanding of the fusion between the jazz idiom and traditional music of the Diné peoples.

Scissortail Productions Inc. (SPI) is a not-for-profit organization developed to promote Western European Musical and Theatrical traditions for performance and education within the State of Oklahoma and surrounding states. It began in 2010 as a chamber music organization focused on traditional art music but has grown to include several other genres of music, including jazz, Broadway, pop, country, and a variety of world music.

SPI has spoken theatre projects as well as art education enrichment programs for Pre-K through 12th grade students. SPI also provides consultation services and workshops for arts administrators and communities. SPI serves multiple audiences across Oklahoma, ranging from Pre-K to senior citizens.

Last year, SPI served over 3,000 audience members through their various program offerings.

"We are so pleased to receive this grant," says Dr. Susan Adams-Johnson, Executive Director of Scissortail Productions Inc. "It is important to the staff and board members of SPI that we support and engage with the artists who provide meaningful content by fostering significant conversations between fine arts professionals and their audience members. SPI is committed to enriching our audiences with the development of podcasts and short documentary films that provide insight from artists who appear at our concerts.

Funding for this program is provided in part by a grant from Oklahoma Humanities (OH) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent OH or NEH.

"This opportunity provided by Oklahoma Humanities in conjunction with other funding entities will provide an avenue of intentional cross-cultural conversation between Mr. Anderson, an enrolled Diné tribal member, and the general public attending this lecture and his concert later that evening," says Dr. Adams-Johnson. "All events are free to the public."

Oklahoma Humanities (OH) is an independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is to strengthen communities by helping Oklahomans learn about the human experience, understanding new perspectives, and participate knowledgeably in civic life through humanities disciplines such as history, literature, art criticism, and philosophy. As the state partner for the National Endowment for the Humanities, OH provides a free educational magazine, Smithsonian Institution exhibits, reading and discussion groups, and other cultural opportunities for Oklahomans of all ages. OH engages people in their own communities, stimulating discussion and helping them explore the wider world of human experience.

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THURSDAY, JULY 13

6-9PM

LIVE MUSIC, SHOPPING, ARMY BAND, EAGLE SCOUTS, FOOD TRUCKS, FARMERS MARKET, GAMES, & MORE

FRISCO AVE.

77TH ARMY BAND AMERICAN STANDARDS

Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series

McLain Rogers Park

Route 66

Army Bands promote the Army and our national interests, enable commanders to shape the environment to accomplish their mission, and set the conditions that lead to trust and confidence in America's Army and its readiness to conduct operations in peacetime, conflict, and war.

DELBERT ANDERSON JAZZ QUARTET FOUNDER

Delbert Anderson creates musical pathways inspired by Native Diné culture.

Anderson preserves his cultural music by creating a foundation of new Diné melodies and fuses them through jazz, jam, and funk.

Each path serves Indigenous culture through stories, healing, history, and collaboration.

Jessica Tate and the Green Mystic Quartet Friday, July 14th, 7pm

77th Army Band Fri. July 14th, 7pm

Phillip Martinson Fri. July 21st, 7pm

The Delbert Anderson Quartet Friday, July 21st, 7pm

McLain Rogers Park • Clinton, OK 73601

LEVITT FOUNDATION Clinton Chamber of Commerce Scissortail Productions Inc.

Auction Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:00 a.m.

305 ACRES WASHITA COUNTY FARM - GRASSLAND GREAT HUNTING & HOME BUILDING SITE

SALE SITE: South of Weatherford, OK on Hwy. #54 9 miles to CR # 1120, then 1 mile East to the NW corner

SOUTH OF WEATHERFORD, OK CLOSE TO CROWDER LAKE

The W 1/2 of Section 32, Township 11 N., Range 14, W.I.M., Washita County, OK, less & except approx. 12 ac. off the West Side. Surface rights only.

Selling in 2 tracts
These tracts will be offered "by the acre" and selling choice. Buyer will have option to take either tract or both.

TRACT #1: NW/4 of 32-11-14, W.I.M., Washita County, OK. Containing approx. 150 acres MOL. Surface rights only. The tract has 69 acres of Good Highly Productive Cropland, with the balance being Native Grass Pasture.

TRACT #2: SW/4 of 32-11-14, W.I.M., Washita Co., OK. Containing approx. 157 acres MOL. Surface rights only. This tract has approx. 148 acres being in Very Good Highly Productive Cropland, with the balance being Native Grass Pasture.

These 2 tracts have a combined Wheat base of 265.30 acres, which will be divided according to the cropland acreage of each tract if sold separate.

TERMS: 10% of the purchase price due day of sale to be placed in escrow, balance due at closing. Possession will be given at close of final sale.

Any announcements made day of sale supercede any and all written statements

Sellers: Gleghorn Living Trust and Judy D. Pugh Living Trust

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