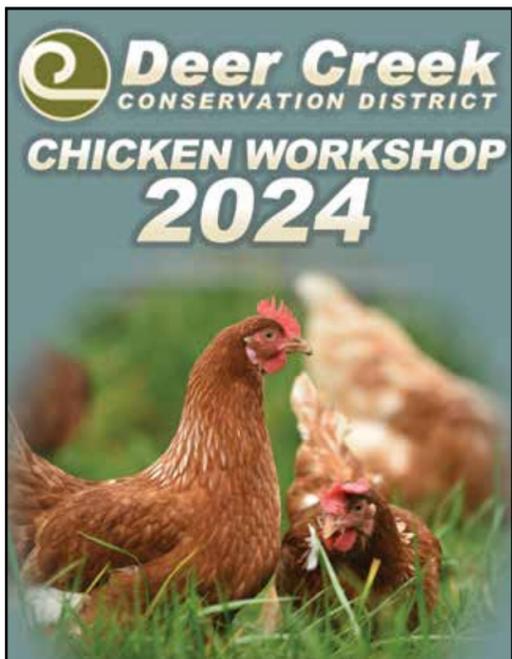


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Deer Creek Conservation Center to Host 2024 Chicken Workshops



This past summer, the City of Weatherford changed their city ordinances to allow permitted residents within city limits to raise chickens and the Deer Creek Conservation District is committed to educating interested residents on how to get properly certified in accordance with the new city ordinance.

The Deer Creek Conservation District will be hosting the Chicken Workshop, led by Wyatt Lohman, Saturday, February 3rd from 9am to 11am at their offices located at 300 S. Broadway Street in Weatherford.

The workshop will go over the requirements to gain and maintain your city permit as well as other topics such as predator prevention, how to lower feed costs, as well as the many benefits of raising chickens.

Refreshments will be provided at the workshop and registration is not required to attend.

Lohman is enthusiastic about the new ordinance and the multitude of benefits raising chickens can do for the environment as well as residents pocketbooks.

During his interview with the WestOk Weekly Lohman referenced the viral story of a homesteading experiment in the Province of Limburg, Belgium. The Province of Limburg offered 2000 families three chickens for each family and the effort helped reduce tons of food waste

from entering landfills.

“In one month, people would put 200,000 pounds of food waste in dumpsters. Then, a city dump truck would haul it to a dump site,” said Lohman. The experiment led to a massive citywide decrease in food waste. As Lohman describes the results: “it was all converted into eggs. Chickens are just awesome like that.”

Lohman’s excitement is most definitely merited as chickens can offer a sustainable way to manage food waste, potentially limiting fuel costs for waste services around the city, while also providing a staple food for families’ diets.

In order to receive a permit to raise chickens within Weatherford City limits, a resident must prove they’ve attended a 2 hour educational course regarding chickens, that they live in an area not under the management of a Home Owners Association, and then they must pay a \$25 fee.

The Chicken Workshop will count towards the 2 hour education mandate required to obtain proper permitting.

For more information about the event you can contact Wyatt Lohman by phone at 405-613-7006 or you can call the offices of the Deer Creek Conservation District at 580-772-7060.

<p>Mostly Sunny</p>  <p>H: 66° L: 46° Wednesday</p>	<p>Sunny</p>  <p>H: 65° L: 47° Thursday</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 63° L: 48° Friday</p>	<p>Rainy</p>  <p>H: 59° L: 39° Saturday</p>	<p>Light Showers</p>  <p>H: 49° L: 34° Sunday</p>	<p>Mostly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 51° L: 30° Monday</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 54° L: 38° Tuesday</p>
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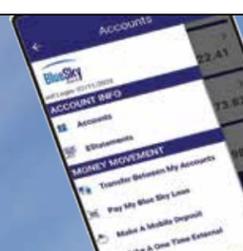
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Vickie Choate

Vickie Diann Choate was born October 9, 1950, in Mangum, to Melvin and Thelma Pearl (Sullivan) Smith and passed away January 22, 2024, at Canadian Valley Integris Hospital in Yukon, at the age of 73 years, 3 months and 13 days.



Vickie was raised in the Texas panhandle. In 1976, she worked at Diamond Shamrock in Elk City as a dispatcher until 1982. On July 24, 1990, Vickie married Ronald Choate in Shamrock, TX. She worked in the childcare department at Church of the Savior in Oklahoma City. In April 2023, they moved to Thomas. Vickie enjoyed going to garage sales, cooking, her grandchildren and spending time with family and friends.

Vickie is survived by her husband and two sons: Chip Jones and wife Diana of Thomas; and Tom Jones and wife Heather of Mannford; She was preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Duane, Jimmy, Mickel and Terry; four sisters, Mary, Louise, Wendy and Bonnie; and a grandson, Zackary Weir.

Kathryn Callan

Kathryn Denise Callan was born August 6, 1957, to Royce Cleveland Wetherbee and Buelah Rexine (Holderby) Wetherbee at Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, AZ, and passed away at her home in Clinton on January 12, 2024.



Kathryn spent her first 13 years in Avondale, AZ, and then the family moved to Tucson, AZ where she attended Amphitheater High School. Kathryn married Robert Maurice Callan on October 15, 1988, in Tucson, AZ. They moved to Clinton in 2022. Kathryn loved Jesus and attended New Beginnings Assembly of God Church in Cordell. She enjoyed many things such as scrapbooking, gardening, cooking, shooting, hunting, fishing, travelling, singing, music, and spending time with her husband Robert. Kathryn loved to help and serve others and this passion led her to pursue many career fields, including Nursing, Paramedic, and Respiratory Therapy. She served 21 years with the Pima County Sheriff's Department as a 911 Dispatcher, Training Coordinator, Support, and Coordinator/Manager. She retired in 2013. Kathryn loved animals and rescued many dogs in her lifetime. She was known by all for her sense of humor and filled our lives with laughter.

She was preceded in death by her father, Royce Wetherbee, and granddaughter, Rebecca Sargent. She is survived by her husband Robert Callan, her children, Kristen (Michael) Sirmon, Dill City, OK, Teasha (Kenneth) Houston, Sierra Vista, AZ, Gina (Danny, Jr) Sargent, Chandler, AZ, Laurie Walsh, Tucson, AZ, Mitzi Tribolet, Tucson, AZ, Michael (Tabitha) Callan, Alvarado, TX. he is also survived by 15 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, mother Rexine Wetherbee, Marana, AZ, siblings Sheryl (Phillip) Wenstrand, Green Valley, AZ, David (Sandra) Wetherbee, Marana, AZ, Duane (Sheila) Wetherbee, Marana, AZ, Janet (Robert) McLeod, Great Falls, MT, Diane (Phillip) Fabijanic, Marana, AZ, a host of nieces and nephews, special cousin, Debra Harbin, Abilene, TX, special friends, Greg Owens, Salt Lake City, UT and Sandi Babcock, Ardmore, OK and many more family and close friends.

Claud Hanks

Claud Emery Hanks was born October 27, 1939, to Henry L. Hanks and Mary Ann Weldon at Independence near Custer City, and passed away Saturday, January 13, 2024, in the Clinton Regional Hospital.



Claud was raised in the Stafford area and graduated from Stafford High School in 1959. While in high school he was active in baseball. He married Patsy Day August 14, 1961, in Clinton.

He attended the Vo-tech school at what is now the Clinton Veterans Center and achieved his certification for Upholstering. Claud and his wife, Patsy, moved to Wellington, TX, where he was employed with a mattress factory.

Moving back to Clinton, he was employed at the Lin Manufacturing Company before starting a 38-year career with the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company. He retired in 2004 but worked part time for several years.

He was a faithful, active and charter member of the Arapaho Baptist Church. He served in many capacities, including record keeping and treasure. In his spare time, he enjoyed doing work for the church, woodworking, and gardening.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, infant sister, Joann and great grandson, Braydon Sorter.

He is survived by three daughters, Pam Belcher, Arapaho, OK, Brenda Jennings and husband, Thomas, Clinton, OK and Penny Hampton and husband, Larry, Edmond, OK, sister Elberta Kiehn and husband, Jack, Clinton, OK and two brothers, Glen Hanks, and wife, MaryJo, El Reno, OK and Leo Hanks, Yukon, OK.

He is also survived by 10 grandchildren, Amber Roblez, Erin Giles, Bethany Richardson, Ali Belcher, Jacob Jennings, Colby Jennings, Sarah Wynn, Britini Leep, Brooke Smith and Tyler Hampton,

He is also survived by 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

Darrell Haas

Darrell Wayne Haas was born May 31, 1968, in Elk City, to Eldon Wayne and Sharlet Dale Haas and passed away Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at his home in Thomas, at the age of 55 years, 7 months and 15 days.



Darrell was raised and attended school in Cordell, graduating from Cordell High School. He worked in the oil field as a rig hand and most recently he worked as a yard hand for Western Oklahoma Metal Recycling. Darrell enjoyed music, attending concerts, riding 4 wheelers in the Canadian River, spending his summers at Foss Lake and getting together with family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Eldon, and survived by his mother, Sharlet.



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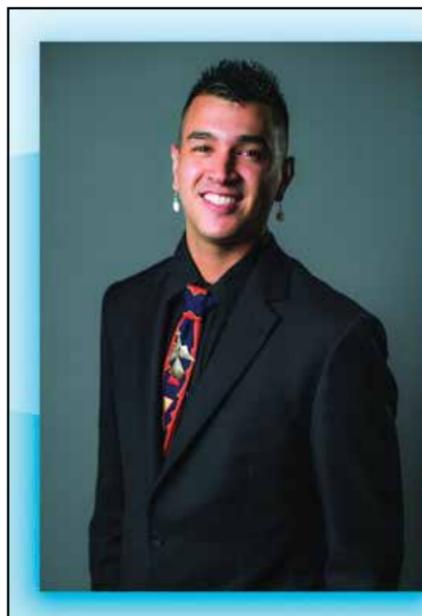


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SWOSU Indigenous Student Association (ISA) Reschedules Tradition Not Addiction Program



J. Boone Clemmons
SWOSU News Release

The Indigenous Student Association (ISA) at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) will be hosting the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes' Tradition Not Addiction program. Christian Wassana, actor and Director's Assistant in Paramount Network's "Yellowstone," and founder of the motivational movement, "I Am, I Can, I Will," is the guest speaker for this event. Wassana has worked closely with the youth and young adults, playing a pivotal role in addressing drug and alcohol prevention, culture, mental health, and suicide prevention.

and anxiety, and works to prevent tobacco and vaping usage among Native youth. The program achieves these goals by providing culture classes, in-depth messaging within classrooms, and hosting outreach events in communities and schools.

SWOSU ISA invites the public and the SWOSU community to attend this free event, now scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. in the East Ballroom of the Memorial Student Center at 6 p.m. The rescheduling is due to inclement weather on the originally planned date.

The classes and activities offered by the Tradition Not Addiction program are not exclusive to Native youth; they are open to anyone and everyone. Over the past two months, the program has partnered with Christian Wassana, who has been actively involved in the program. Wassana has been instrumental in reaching over 1,200 students in Weatherford, Canton, Geary, Anadarko, and will soon be speaking at Calumet and Norman public schools.

This program, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is an organization dedicated to prevent both underage drinking and the misuse of medical prescription drugs within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal service area, covering 10 counties.

Since November 2023, Wassana has addressed youth audiences, delivering powerful messages about staying away from drugs and alcohol, reconnecting with one's cultural roots, and pursuing aspirations and dreams. His presentations emphasize the importance of realizing one's purpose in life and the significance of seeking help when needed.

The Tradition Not Addiction program is part of the Prevention Programs, which focuses on raising awareness of mental health issues, such as depression

SWOSU looks forward to the positive impact that Christian Wassana and the Tradition Not Addiction program will bring to the university and the broader university, reinforcing a commitment to well-being and the promotion of a substance-free lifestyle.

ROGER MILLS CO / ACCIDENT - A Strong City man was last listed in critical condition at OU Medical Center after the bulldozer he was operating rolled two and a quarter times while being backed off a hill. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol says 59-year-old Jeffery Hensley was injured in the mishap just west and north of Cheyenne in Roger Mills County.

SENTINEL / STRUCTURE FIRE - No injuries have been reported in a residential structure fire that occurred last week in the 100 block of West Whitmer in Sentinel. Fire officials say the home was a total loss and the cause of the fire was suspicious. Fire crews from Sentinel, Rocky, and Burns Flat worked the scene.

HYDRO / HELICOPTER CRASH - Officials with Air Evac have released the names of the three flight crew members who were recently killed when their medical helicopter crashed last week in a remote area near Hydro. The chopper crashed as the flight crew was returning to the Weatherford base from transport to Oklahoma City. They are identified as pilot Russell Haslam, flight nurse Adam Tebben, and medic Steven Fitzgerald. The National Transportation Safety Board is looking into the cause of the crash.

WEATHERFORD / CEO RESIGNATION - Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton says he resigned from his position Tuesday. In the interim, Bridget Cosby of SSM Health will serve as CEO. Cindy Carmichael, Regional Vice President of Rural Health for SSM Oklahoma, confirms the change in leadership. Carmichael outlines the next step, saying an "all-out search" has begun for Denton's replacement. "We will be looking for someone who is experienced in Critical Access Hospitals to serve in Weatherford."

CUSTER CO / STEHR - A Clinton man is charged in Custer County District Court with kidnapping, domestic abuse, assault-and-battery, and possession of a firearm after a former felony conviction. 50-year-old Brennon Scott Stehr allegedly grabbed a woman by the hair and dragged her across the house when officers were knocking on the door of the home to check on the welfare of the victim.

SWOSU / HODGE CONSTRUCTION - Officials say construction of the Jerry & Margaret Hodge Center for Pharmacy & Rural Health will happen soon. Officials say the construction trailer has recently been delivered and is now positioned at the future site of the building. The project means big things for healthcare programs at SWOSU, including more capacity for nursing, allied health, and the pharmacy doctoral program.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!



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Happy Birthday Wishes for Jan. 31st - Nocona Cook, Wayne Davis, Kimberly Hacker, Evelou Ledford, Tiffany Lightfoot, Glen Mavity, Sheila Meinhardt, Bruce Potter, Keagen Smith, Delores Thiesen, Ryan Vandersee, Edie Visnieski; **Feb. 1** - Brandon Bell, Dennis Caler, Malorie Cartwright, Madge Cartwright, Addi Duerksen, Sheryl Franco, Blaine Gee, AJ Hamlin, Emily Jones, Jarred Jones, Cheryl Lockstone, Elane Lockstone, Adrianna Lopez, Mary Miller, Lisa Pebley, Cameron Purintun, Gary Seifried, Betty Woody; **Feb. 2** - Maghin Abernathy, Kraig Bartel, Sarah Bergman, Keri Brookshier, Sharon McDow, Eddie Mendez Jr., Tom Miller, Chris Renison, Jordan Sallaska, Berdella Stangel, Marty Spencer, Tyler Ussery, Sharon Watson, Carolyn Youts; **Feb. 3** - Steve Bieberich, Michael Brooks, Blake Clonce, Misty Duque, Cash Entz, Lee Hight, Misty Holman, Carrie Howry, Faron Jones, Alicia Shaw, Kenzie Skinner, Wanda Smith, Jimmy Washa; **Feb. 4** - Michael Altland, Blaine Boyd, Kallie Hollowel, Jordan Kasper, Gary Prophet, Nichole Rushing, Garrett Sloan, Jamie Sutton, Delores White; **Feb. 5** - Jimmy Alexander, Michaela Davis Ann, Kelli Jo Finley, Joe Funkhouser, Matthew Harmon, Lucille Jones, Ed Klein, Gatlin Lokin, Jessica Reed, Christy Rhoads, Gary Severn, Destiney Smith, Misty Wise; **Feb. 6** - Lin Farris, Donald Johnson, Randlett Klinekole, Elizabeth Malone, Lana Newman, Vergil Roper, Beverly Thomason.

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For Sale - (3) Dixon Lawnmowers, (2) Craftsman Lawnmowers. \$800 for all. 405-639-9667

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Oklahoma History: EMS - A Lifesaving Legacy



Roger Klock / Oklahoma Historical Society

Paramedics rush wounded victims of the Edmond Post Office Massacre, August 20, 1986.

Katelyn Wade
 ODAA Marketing Coordinator

Today, when we talk about pre-hospital emergency care, we often think of it as a carefully crafted “hierarchy” – an organized system that brings together people and resources, all working in sync during critical moments to provide the best care possible until more definitive treatment can be arranged. This system, much like any well-structured hierarchy, wasn’t built overnight. It has a history that goes way back, tracing its roots to the challenging times of the Civil War.

In 1862, during the war, Major Jonathan Letterman established the US Ambulance Corps that would triage the wounded on active battlefields instead of waiting until the battle ended. The success of the Ambulance Corps was adopted throughout the Union Army.

Fast forward to 1865, and a game-changer came into play – the first civilian ambulance hit the streets of Cincinnati. Then, four years later, New York added another piece to the puzzle by introducing a civilian Ambulance Surgeon. It was a step forward in the evolution of pre-hospital emergency services.

The New York service, unlike today’s approach, had an interesting touch; each responding unit came prepared with a quart of emergency brandy for every patient. It’s a quirky detail that shows how emergency care has come a long way, constantly evolving to meet the needs of the times.

Papers and bills began getting published and submitted over the need for pre-hospital care and organized systems. These recommendations led to the creation of the National Highway Safety Act of 1966 which set up the Department of Transportation (DOT).

This system aided the push for developing EMS systems with standardized education and standards at the state level. Paramedic education came shortly afterwards and the nation’s first call to 911 was received in Haleyville, Alabama.

Despite these quick advancements in the EMS world, issues arose regarding funding and setup for EMS – at this time, it was typically used as a simple transportation agency that provided first aid. Tensions arose between state and federal governments’ limited development, and in January 1973, proposals for an EMS System Development Act began.

At the same time, other funding and demonstration projects took place, including one in Oklahoma. On February 1st, 1973, Oklahoma implemented what is likely the first full EMS system within a state. Its success, and the success of other local systems and demos provided by other organizations and states led to the official passing later in November of the EMS Systems Act of 1973 which created more than 300 EMS systems in the nation.

Just a short time later in 1975, there were 300 EMS systems and 32 EM residencies around the nation to train responders at all levels for EMS – from educators to hospital directors.

From there, advancements continued to our first responding system and created the emergency system we rely on today. Thanks to the effort of many individuals and programs, and Oklahoma’s vision of a more coordinated and effective approach to emergency medical services, EMS became more than just a system. It became a commitment to saving lives and enhancing public health.



Provided by Jeff Berrong

Volunteers kick-off the door-knocking campaign for the “Yes Weatherford for Families” half-cent sales tax renewal on Feb. 13th. The city reported an “overwhelmingly positive response at voters’ doorsteps” and would like to thank volunteers helping with the community-wide campaign. For details on the proposal, please go to www.yesweatherford.com.

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Jalen Johnson and Averil Zinn Earn Latest Bulldogs of the Week

Grant Kopycinski
Sports Information Graduate Asst.

Jalen Johnson and
Averil Zinn of SWOSU

Basketball have been named the latest Bulldogs of the Week. The weekly SWOSU student-athlete recognition is brought to you by Wright Media, the home of SWOSU Athletics for both livestream and radio.

Johnson (Oklahoma City) led his team in scoring last week which included a 20-point performance in a win against Northwestern that tied a career high. Johnson, who is SWOSU's three-point makes leader this season, was 9-of-21 from the three-point line in two games for the Dawgs.

Zinn (Anadarko, Okla.) was also the women's leading scorer on the week. She averaged 12 points, 5.0 assists, and 5.5 rebounds and helped lift the Lady Bulldogs to a bounce-back win over Oklahoma Baptist on Saturday after falling to No. 23-ranked Northwestern two days prior. Zinn currently ranks second in the GAC in assists per game and assist-to-turnover ratio.



HIGHER GROUND

Lost



Have you ever been lost? I have—not for very long and not really hopelessly lost.

Once I was with a group on a mission trip to Bosnia. We had an overnight layover in Viena, Austria. The hotel was a couple of miles out of town but the attraction so too great so we hiked into the big city to see what we could see in the few hours we had.

On the way back I spotted a newspaper rack with a USA Today reaching out to me.

The temptation was too great and I raced over to purchase the paper. After all, maybe the Red Sox had won a game and I had missed it.

I hurried back to join the group only to discover they were all gone. No one was there. I was all alone.

I figured my wife would surely miss me and if I stayed put someone would come back to rescue me. Sure enough, in a few minutes, the leader of the group and my wife came back and get me. The lost was found!

My kind of lostness was only temporary. But we live in a world that is lost and cannot find their way. The Bible tells us that Jesus came on a rescue mission to seek and to save that which was lost. The Scriptures picture this quite clearly in Luke chapter 15 in the stories of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son.

Man's rebellious nature which flows through the life stream of everyone creates a great gap between Holy God and sinful man. We want to be in control. He calls us to a life in which we relinquish control to a loving Master; one who knows and what will most bring us a life of fulfilment and purpose.

With all his wisdom, creativity, and effort man could not bridge that gap. God gave the Ten Commandments so that we might see our sinfulness, knowing that no man could fully keep them all. They were to be a school master to bring us to see our need of a Savior.

In our helplessness God became flesh to live among us. The night before he was to be crucified, he prayed with a broken heart, asking God the Father if there was any other way, knowing full well that it was for this cause that he came into the world.

Jesus resigned his will to the Father and went to the cross bearing our sin so that might experience forever life with Him.

He paid the price, imputing his righteousness to those who follow him in repentance and obedience.

"God make him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2nd Cor. 5:21

There are many who are lost in your hometown and mine. He entrusted us to be a part of his rescue team to seek those who are lost in their sin and to show them the way home. Ask God to help you see people as those made in the image of God and worthy of our attention and love. Pray that God will give you a heart of love for the lost and lonely in your path.

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Lady Bulldogs Hang on at Home Against Oklahoma Baptist, 63-61



Jon Chidester
Sports Asst. AD

SWOSU Women's Basketball started strong against Oklahoma Baptist but had to endure a hard-fought fourth quarter before securing a 63-61 victory on Saturday.

The win gives the Lady Bulldogs a sweep of the regular season series in the first game past the halfway point of the conference season.

SWOSU started the game on a 15-0 run and enjoyed a lead as big as 18 in the game (2Q) but got outscored in both quarters in the second half which caused things

to tighten up significantly down the stretch on Saturday. Despite the close finish, the Lady Dawgs did not trail at any point in the game.

Eight forced turnovers in the opening quarter and hot shooting allowed the quick start. Mason Jones and Averil Zinn both scored eight of their team high 13 points in the quarter and SWOSU led 25-9 after one.

Shooting for SWOSU went cold in the second quarter after their percentage dropped from 55% (11-20) in the first to 25% (4-16) in the second. Despite the woes, the defense continued to see success and both teams played

to a 10-10 stalemate in the second quarter. At the break, SWOSU led 35-19.

SWOSU again shot 25% in the third quarter while OBU began to find success scoring the basketball. The Bison went on to outscore the Lady Bulldogs 21-10 in the third quarter which gave them new life entering the game's final 10 minutes.

With the score 46-40 to start the fourth, OBU had the deficit inside two possessions on four occasions but was continually deterred the lead change with timely answers on the other end by SWOSU's offense.

The game's closing sequence gave fans some stress inside the final minute of the ball game. The Bison connected on a three pointer with just under 20 seconds to play to get within two at 62-60. After SWOSU turned the ball over on the ensuing possession, OBU drew a shooting foul but made one-of-two from the line with just eight seconds to play to remain trailing. They did not get another shot off after that. Final, 63-61.

SWOSU forced 19 turnovers in the game, shot 39% overall and knocked down 10 three pointers. It's the fifth time this season they reached double digit makes from deep.

OBU finished at 32% shooting in the game and took just eight shots from beyond the arc.

The win moves SWOSU to 10-8 on the season and 7-5 in the GAC. They'll stay home for two more games next week against Monticello on Thursday and Southern Arkansas on Saturday.

Oklahoma Baptist Bulls Hand Dawgs First Home Conference Loss



Jon Chidester
Sports Asst. AD

SWOSU Men's Basketball dropped the first home GAC game of the season to Oklahoma Baptist, 74-65.

The Dawgs led by three at halftime but were plagued by turnovers the entire way. They finished with a season high 20 in a physical game from start to finish. Those turnovers got cashed into 19 points for OBU, 13 of which came in the second half. The Bison outscored SWOSU 40-28 after the intermission.

Entering the second half, SWOSU's lead hovered between one and two possessions for nearly 10 minutes of game time before roles switched and OBU began to lead and hold control of the game.

Trailing by five points with a little over two minutes to play in the game, Jalen Johnson knocked down a three ball out of a timeout and had SWOSU knocking at the door for a comeback before an immediate answer by the Bison pushed the margin back to five with 1:36 to play.

SWOSU scored just two more points on a pair of foul shots in the final six possessions while OBU continued to hit their free throws which iced the game.

Final numbers showed the Dawgs at 44% shooting overall (23-52) including 9-of-27 from beyond the arc. SWOSU finished 10-for-17 at the foul line, just 59%.

Meanwhile, OBU was held to 40% from the field (25-62) and 35% from the three-point line with six makes. They got to the foul line 24 times and made 18 of them, a 75% clip.

Four Bulldogs finished in double figures led by Jalen Johnson's 15.

Smith's three-pointer to open the game's scoring marked his 1,000th career point, having scored the first 73 points of his career at Emporia State before compiling the rest at SWOSU. He is now 62 points away from joining Kamden Gipson, Damion Thornton, Clarke Hale, and Chris Braggs, Jr. as players who have totaled at least 1,000 while playing for SWOSU in the Division II era.

Ben Smith was right behind him with 14 points and a team high eight rebounds.

For a second straight game, MJ Warrior dished out seven assists while adding another 10 points offensively.

Following the loss, SWOSU drops to an even 6-6 in league play.

They'll get two more chances at home next week against Arkansas-Monticello and Southern Arkansas to close out the four-game homestand.

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