

# CONNORS STATE COLLEGE

CONNECTION

JAN 2012



**CONNORS**  
STATE COLLEGE

*Introducing...*  
**CONNOR**

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# CONNORS

— STATE COLLEGE —

Building Futures One At A Time Since 1908



Over 27 Foundation Scholarships have been helping CSC students for more than 20 years with the costs of higher education. Pictured above are General Studies student Jessica Parsons (R) and Pre-Nursing student, Shana Webster (L).



## Connors Receives Largest Endowed Scholarship in School History

One of the central goals of the Connors Development Foundation is to provide scholarship support to our Connors State College students, and CSC is very happy to share that we have recently endowed over \$130,000 for the E.P. and Roberta L. Kirschner Endowed Scholarship Fund and \$15,000 for the Ray Freedman Endowed Scholarship Fund. This endowed fund will allow our students opportunities they may otherwise not have thought possible. Our supporters will leave a lasting legacy, not only with Connors State College, but with individual students as well,” said Dr. Tim Faltyn, President of CSC.

Endowments are critical because they allow us to provide a permanent source of scholarship revenue by using only the interest that the endowment principal earns each year. Ryan Blanton, CSC Foundation Director said, “This is an exciting opportunity for the foundation. This scholarship will allow the college to continue our support for disabled students by providing them resources for their education.”

The E.P. and Roberta L. Kirschner Endowed Scholarship is open to students attending at least half time who have a documented physical or learning disability. The Ray Freedman Endowed Scholarship is open to full time students, with a preference give to business and accounting students. The students may attend any of Connors State College campuses. Dr. Tim Faltyn closed by saying, “Endowed scholarships for students like these two scholarships are central to our mission of changing lives and providing permanent sources of help for our students to achieve their dreams.”

For more information regarding all of the scholarships available through the Connors Development Foundation or to download an application, visit us at [connorsstate.edu/cdf](http://connorsstate.edu/cdf). You may also call our office at 918-463-6343, or visit us in Gatlin Hall.

## Dr. Grady Receives Award

In recognition of Dr. Gary Grady’s excellence in teaching, he received a Legislative Commendation and Governors Commendation from Governor Mary Fallin. Grady was also named at the Muskogee Area’s Outstanding Educators. Grady was surprised and very pleased with the recognition, “I am just happy that people are given an opportunity to learn about Connors when I or any of our teachers are recognized.” President of Connors State College, Dr. Tim Faltyn, presented this award at the spring inservice saying “This is a great honor for our college, as well as Dr. Grady. We strive to offer our students the best educators we can, and I believe we do that.”



## SGA- HARD AT WORK

The Connors State College Student Government Association is the voice for the student body. SGA is responsible for meeting the needs of the students and making sure the college is providing a positive student experience. Throughout the year they participate in leadership seminars, community events, and campus activities. As well as take on a couple campus projects each year. This year, SGA members have decided to remodel the Warner Campus Gazebo. This Gazebo was once the location for Warner kids to gather in during cold winter days while waiting for the school bus. Construction is underway and proposed completion will be early spring. In late spring students will head to the Muskogee Port Campus to focus on their next project. “SGA is always looking for new members,” said Director of Residential life, Aaron Wright. “Our organization builds leadership skills that will benefit our students throughout the rest of their lives.” SGA is made up of representatives from each CSC club or organization, as well as independent students. They are always looking for new members to join their force. Contact SGA President, Lee Stewart at (405) 567-7010 for more information.



SGA President, Lee Stewart and Vice President, Tell Runyan work on this years Gazebo project.

# CSC Student

Presenting at State Capitol

Connors State College sophomore, Jessica Monks' research project entitled, "Alternative Energy in Southeast Oklahoma; Socio-Demographic Opportunities and Challenges" has been accepted for presentation for the Annual Research Day at the Capitol. Monks will get to attend a training session in addition to the presentation day on March 15, 2012. She will be sharing her research accomplishments with the Oklahoma Legislature and the people of our state. Throughout the day she will be competing against other student researchers from across the state. Monks research project discusses the fact that Oklahoma has always been a leader in the energy industry and the overall purpose of the paper is to investigate which alternative source(s) is best for Southeastern Oklahoma. Monks' research project is just the start of the undergraduate research initiatives that Connors State College has on the horizon. Adopting undergraduate research is another way that Connors plans to grow in the future.



Jessica Monks (second to the left) is pictured with the CSC Academic Mind Games Team. Academic Mind Games awarded over \$63,000 in scholarships this year. Connors students were awarded approximately \$1500 each.

## President Faltyn Updates Employees at In-Service

Faculty and staff gathered January 5th to learn what progress has been made since Dr. Faltyn's first inservice in the fall and to hear the details of what is planned for the future. Everyone that attended was given a copy of Dr. Faltyn's "hit list" – A document showing a categorized list of the programs and renovations achieved in his First 100 days as president of Connors. Faltyn's principal goal set at the Fall inservice was improving the student experience at Connors. He believes that we are on our way to achieving this goal with changes like increasing Campus activities 400%, renovating all classroom buildings with new restrooms, New heating and air, replacing broken windows, and doubling the amount of campus lighting . These improvements also directly affect other goals such as Safety and Security and improving the learning environment.

Faltyn also spoke about improving the work environment for employees by adding new positions, increasing work study availability by 30%, launching an employee wellness program, and working to bring their salaries in line with their counterparts at other A&M institutions. Dr. Faltyn explained that of course these things require additional funds and informed everyone that the way we pay for these improvements is through advertising and growing our presence in both Muskogee and Warner communities and helping our alumni to tell our history through the legacy campaign. Dr. Faltyn wrapped up by thanking everyone for their hard work saying they are "serious people doing serious work and doing it well".



CSC employees gather at the A.D. Stone Library Auditorium for Spring 2012 In-Service.



President Faltyn addresses employees at Spring 2012 In-Service.

# Dr. Gary Grady Psychology Instructor



“Life is a series of opportunities and education is the door that opens them. The more education a person has, the more doors of opportunity will open for them.” This was Psychology instructor, Dr. Gary Grady’s response when asked why higher education was important to him. Dr. Grady has been at Connors State College for nearly five years and the favorite part of his job is standing in front of the classroom teaching. He believes that Connors is a good choice for students because it is structured to help students have initial success in their college experience, giving them confidence and a good background for continuing their education elsewhere. Dr. Grady feels fortunate to be at Connors where he is “constantly supported and encouraged by my division chairman and the administration to become a better teacher.”

Recently, Dr. Grady has been selected to speak at the Southwestern Psychological Association’s Conference in April. The presentation he will be giving is entitled, “Taste it! You’ll Like it!” It is about how he uses a blog to whet the appetite of beginning psychology students. He will be sharing his knowledge and experience with other psychology teachers and explaining how they can adapt it for their own classes. “Everytime I speak at a conference, or am recognized for something I have done, it is an opportunity for more people to learn about the quality education we offer at Connors.” said Grady.

## ANGIE LANE Meet One of Connors’s Biggest Fans

“Once a Cowboy always a Cowboy,” said class of 1985 alumni and current Connors Bursar, Angie Lane. Almost 12 years ago, Angie Lane began her employment with CSC and in 2007 she took the position as Bursar. “I do not think of Connors as a place or a job, for me and my family it’s more like a lifestyle. We pretty much revolve around baseball, basketball and softball games. I am very proud to say that I am both an alumni and an employee. To say I bleed black and orange is the standing joke around here and I am proud of that,” commented Lane.

Off the top of her head she could think of at least 7 relatives that have attended Connors, and her oldest daughter, Michaela is currently attending. Lane believes Connors is a place of strong family values.



“This is a place that is filled with good people who have a desire to help people succeed and better themselves. This is a place where everyone can become a “Cowboy” and be on equal grounds no matter your race, religion or nationality. Connors is truly a melting pot and it’s an awesome atmosphere.” Lane’s favorite part of her job is fall enrollment. “When I see a smile come across a student’s face. When I can see that I’ve done something that made someone’s day a little easier. My goal is to make a lasting impression and teach them to do the same.. you know.. The Cowboy Way!”

## Connors Lights the Barn

During this year's holiday season, Connors State College and local sponsors lit up the campus with over 3,500 lights! President of Connors State College, Dr. Tim Faltyn said, "CSC will continue to host an annual event with a future goal to make Warner and the college campus a destination for people to come and see holiday lights. We value corporate partnerships and we want to get the entire community involved with what is happening here on campus." The official lighting took place on December 8 at the Equine barn on the Warner campus. The Director of Residential Life, Aaron Wright said, "It is a great opportunity for the Warner Community to come out and enjoy the holiday season with Connors State College." At the event, holiday music played while Connors gave out apple cider and hot chocolate. Local sponsors included the following: Armstrong Bank (McClarren Hall), Cross Communication (Gatlin Hall), Sodexo (Student Union), UGL (Melvin Self Fieldhouse), and Connors State College (Equine Barn).



Connors State College also participated in local parades to kick off the holiday season. Dr. and Mrs. Faltyn are pictured with CSC students on the college's float.



As holiday break approached, students were packing their cars and leaving Connors for their month long break. Normally, the campus would fall silent for those four weeks, but this year the sound of hammers, screwdrivers and heavy machinery filled the campus. Connors has seen lots of changes over the last six months. The Muskogee Branch Campus moved to its new location, (read more about this on page 1) the West Campus. At the Warner Campus the maintenance department has been working hard repairing locker rooms, bathrooms, buildings, sports facilities, campus lighting, windows and classrooms. "One of our main focuses on campus is the student experience. I believe in order to attain a positive one, the facilities must meet the needs of our students." said, Dr. Tim Faltyn. Connors State College will continue to make changes in order to offer students the facilities needed to be successful.

## BIG Changes on Campus



Updated locker rooms for students and community members.



New windows in McClarren Hall

# INTRODUCING.....

# CONNOR



## A&M RIVALRY

The "A&M Rivalry" game between Connors State and Northeastern A&M was played on January 10 at Melvin Self Field House. The winner of the game was awarded a trophy that will be presented between the two schools each time they play.

The Lady Norse women defeated Connors State in the battle for the first trophy taking a 67-58 victory. In the night cap the Connors men rolled over the Norsemen 81-67 to secure the win and the coveted trophy.

It was also the Cowboys 41st consecutive home court victory at Melvin Self Field House and Connors State head coach Bill Muse's 450th win at CSC.

Muse, who took over the Cowboy program in 1992, has posted a 450-183 record for a .710 winning percentage.

"Those 450 wins belong to the current and former players who I've had an opportunity to coach during my tenure at Connors State," said Muse. "I've been fortunate to have coached some very good players here. We hope to continue the tradition at Connors for many more years."

Connors State College introduced its new mascot on November 29, 2011 between games of the Connors Cowboys and Cowgirls contest against Carl Albert State College at Melvin Self Field House.

"Connor" was greeted with enthusiasm and excitement by students and fans attending the game. Lyndsey Sharp, Coordinator of Student Life/Activities said, "The debut went really well and I think it was taken very well. Everyone was pleased and I haven't heard anything negative about how the mascot looks or acted. I think we chose the perfect guy for the suit."

The person inside the "Connor" head is freshman Taylor Victory from Gans, Okla. The agricultural science major, who is also member of the rodeo team, has served as a mascot for several athletic teams since the eighth grade. While at Gans High School he was the school's Grizzlies mascot. Victory said when he was a child he always wanted to be a mascot. "In my eighth grade year I had the opportunity to become a mascot, so I took it. I've been doing it ever since when the opportunity came up," said Victory.

Sharp said that "Connor" will be representing the college at all the basketball games. "He will attend every home basketball game and some other functions at the school.

"We want him to promote school spirit here at Connors," said Sharp. The mascot was selected from 10 entries and Heath Hodges' design was selected. Hodges is directory of IT services at Connors State.

"I have always liked entertaining people," said Victory. "I am a rodeo clown also and I guess being a mascot and rodeo clown just go together. It's a lot of fun to do."

"I came to rodeo tryouts with a buddy of mine and I talked with Ms. (Lyndsey) Sharp and asked her about it and she said "you got it" Victory said a mascot is important to a school. "It keeps students involved during timeouts and halftime. It plays a big part in school spirit. The mascot takes up the dead time and keeps everybody going," said Victory.

Following graduation Victory is hoping to continue his mascot days at either Oklahoma State or Panhandle State.

"If I go on to Oklahoma State I would like to become Pistol Pete (OSU mascot)" said Victory. "Last year I got to put the head on (Pistol Pete) and hang out with those guys. They filled me in on what you have to do. It's really neat."

But for now its Victory's time to help the Cowboys and Cowgirls on to victory as Connors State's mascot.

The evening didn't end with the debut. Other events included a battle of the "C's" a competition between the Connors State and Carl Albert State College cheerleading squads. Connors won both the cheerleading competition and the basketball games winning the women's game 88-54 and the men capturing an 81-51 victory.

CSC also kicked-off the \$20K give away for both students and fans that attend the games. The giveaway will be held at every home game of the season.

# FALL BULL SALE

*One of the Best Ever*

The Connors State College Agriculture program was proud to open the doors of the newly renovated sales facility at the Warner Campus for this year's Fall Bull Sale. Each year, CSC hosts two bull sales, one in the fall and one in the spring. The Ag students and farm staff feed and perform the daily responsibilities for nearly 130 bulls each year. The bulls are cared for by bull test Veterinarian, Dr. Kevin Fenton, a Connors State College Alumni. These top notch performance tested bulls bring in anywhere from 200 to 250 potential buyers from around the region, such as Texas, Kansas and Missouri. Fall 2011 turned out to be one of the best bull sales ever with an average sale price of \$2,680.00.

Director of Farm Operations, Blake Nelson accredits this year's success to, "A great offering of bulls and a strong cattle market." The highest selling bull was a Sim-Angus bull raised by Wilson Cattle Co. of Pittsburg, OK that brought a sale price of \$6,000. Auctioneer Bruce Brooks stated, "The updates to the sale facility was much needed and it is a sign of the commitment of Connors State to the beef business and to the success of the Division of Agriculture." President of Connors State College said, "Our Ag Department is very distinctive. It is an important part our past time, but it is equally important to our future."



*potential buyers at the newly renovated CSC sale facility.*

The spring bull sale will be held on April 12, 2012.

## \$20K Giveaway

CONNORS STATE COLLEGE



*CSC Recruiter, Spencer Nero explains the rules to contestant, Asya Webb.*

Connors State College student, Asya Webb was one of the first contestants to shoot for a chance to win \$10,000 during the school's \$20k giveaway contest. Connors State College is wanting to engage community members by hosting the \$20k Giveaway contest. CSC wants to encourage community members to visit the campus and see what new accomplishments and positive changes have taken place. CSC loves the Warner community, and wants to develop relationships and share their visions on how to build upon their future through education. More community events are in the making and CSC is asking people everywhere to participate. Please come out to support your Cowboys and Cowgirls by attending home games and to sign up for the \$20k Giveaway! Two lucky contestants, one being a student and another being a community member is randomly drawn for their chance to win 10k. Any lucky contestant has the opportunity to pick a spot on court and make shots in each basket to win! You may enter the drawing each time you attend a home game. Come out to Melvin Self Fieldhouse to cheer on the Cowgirls and Cowboys.

Contest dates are: 1/19, 1/26, 1/30, 2/4, 2/6, 2/20, and 2/27

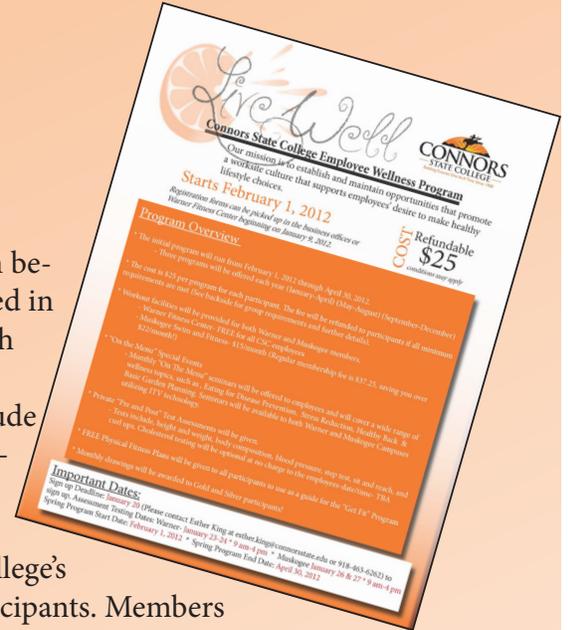
# HEALTH TIPS

BY:LYNDSEY SULLIVAN

## CONNORS STATE COLLEGE LAUNCHES NEW EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM

“Live Well” is the new Connors State College Employee Wellness Program being offered starting February 1, 2012. This is the first program being offered in nearly 20 years for the employees. The mission of “Live Well” is to establish and maintain opportunities that promote worksite culture that supports employees’ desire to make healthy lifestyle choices. The program will include a physical fitness component, called “Get in Step,” as well as wellness seminars called “On the Menu.” Some of the sessions being offered are, eating for disease prevention, stress reduction, healthy back and basic garden planning. These seminars will be available to both campuses using the college’s ITV system. Monthly drawing and rewards will be given to all active participants. Members will have the chance to earn up to one day of comp time and will have also have the opportunity to win prizes such as, day spa certificates, iPods and much more!

The program is essentially free to all who meet the specified requirements of each group. Pre and Post assessment health screenings will be given to each member of the program. Assessments are geared at helping participants track their success. Connors will offer free membership to the fitness center in Warner and a minimal fee of \$15/month to use the Muskogee Swim and Fitness Center. Muskogee Swim and Fitness offers a variety of options for members such as, pool access, fully equipped gym and group exercise classes. “A majority of our employees have children, so we are particularly excited that Muskogee Swim and Fitness offers a child watch program. This will allow our employees to have more freedom to work out.” stated Director of College and Community Relations, Lyndsey Sullivan. There are options for everyone who want to be a part of the new program. The initial program will run through the end of April and new sessions will kick off again in May and in September. Sign up today! Assessment screenings will be held January 23-24 in Warner and January 26-27 in Muskogee. For questions contact Wellness Coordinator, Esther King at [esther.king@connorsstate.edu](mailto:esther.king@connorsstate.edu) or (918) 463-6262.



Muskogee Swim Fitness Center Group Fitness Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6:15am - 7:00am <b>Spinning</b> Brienne		6:15am - 7:00am <b>Spinning</b> Brienne		6:15am - 7:00am <b>Spinning</b> Brienne
8:30am - 9:30am <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Inette		8:30am - 9:30am <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Inette		8:30am - 9:30am <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Inette
10:00am - 11:00am <b>Tai Chi</b> Billy Jo "BJ"	10:00am - 10:45am <b>Joint Flex</b> (Conference Room) Kent	10:00am - 11:00am <b>Yoga</b> Martha	10:00am - 10:45am <b>Joint Flex</b> (Conference Room) Kent	10:00am - 11:00am <b>Tai Chi</b> Billy Jo "BJ"
	10:45am - 11:15am <b>Fitness 180</b> (Fitness Center) Kent		10:45am - 11:15am <b>Fitness 180</b> (Fitness Center) Kent	
11:15am - 12:00pm <b>Boxing Cardio Circuit</b> Clint		11:15am - 12:00pm <b>Boxing Cardio Circuit</b> Clint		11:15am - 12:00pm <b>Boxing Cardio Circuit</b> Clint
3:00pm - 4:00pm <b>Bench Blast</b> (Fitness Center) Clint			3:00pm - 4:00pm <b>Bench Blast</b> (Fitness Center) Clint	
	4:30pm - 5:15pm <b>Strength Cardio Ab Circuit</b> Katie		4:30pm - 5:15pm <b>Strength Cardio Ab Circuit</b> Katie	
5:15pm - 6:00pm <b>Pilates</b> (Last Class Jan 11th) Sharon	5:30pm - 6:45pm <b>Rockstar Yoga</b> (Aeromats) Heather	5:15pm - 6:00pm <b>Pilates</b> (Last Class Jan 11th) Sharon	5:20pm - 6:20pm <b>Boxing Cardio Circuit</b> Clint/Chris	5:00pm - 6:00pm <b>HIP HOP FITNESS</b> Winter
5:30pm - 6:30pm <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Cindy	5:00pm - 5:45pm <b>POWER H2O</b> Brooke	5:30pm - 6:30pm <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Cindy	5:00pm - 5:45pm <b>POWER H2O</b> Brooke	5:30pm - 6:30pm <b>H2O Aerobics</b> Cindy
6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>HIP HOP FITNESS</b> Winter	6:50pm - 7:30pm <b>ZUMBA</b> Krista	6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>HIP HOP FITNESS</b> Winter	6:20pm - 7:15pm <b>ZUMBA</b> Krista	
7:00pm - 8:15pm <b>Belly Dancng</b> Teresa	7:40pm - 8:30pm <b>Boxing Cardio Circuit</b> Mike		7:15pm - 8:30pm <b>Belly Dancng</b> Eve	



Warner Campus Fitness Center



Full-time student, Christie Hayes knows exactly what it's like to go to class on only a couple hours of sleep. However, her lack of sleep doesn't come from staying out too late with friends. She is also a full time mom. "Balancing a family and school can be very hard," said Hayes. Adding, "You have to find the time to spend caring for your baby and then late nights are spent doing homework." Hayes has one adorable three month old baby girl, Hayden Hayes. Connors State College offers family housing at Miller's Crossing right on campus. This is Hayes second year living in campus family housing. "Connors offers flexible class schedules and a small campus which helps students with children go to school. The Director of Student Life, Aaron Wright does an exceptional job with assisting students with all their needs during their time at Connors," added Hayes. Hayes is a general studies major and plans to pursue Medical Business after she leaves Connors. "I've had a very good experience at Connors. One of my biggest challenges these days is keeping the house clean!" stated Hayes.



*Above: Christie pictured with her daughter, Hayden. She is learning to balance books and baby.*



*Right: Christie and husband, Dusty are both students at CSC, and balance their time between parenthood and being students.*

## MOVING CAMPUSES

Connors State College's move from the Charles Haskell Building in Muskogee (201 Court St.) to its new Muskogee West campus (2400 W. Shawnee Bypass) was completed the 19th of December and up-and-running for its 1,300 students. The transition from the eight-story downtown building to the new two-building facility went very smooth according to Rhoda Strode, director of CSC Muskogee Branch campuses. Strode said "We received a lot of help from the Warner campus with the move and everyone had a wonderful attitude" adding that "everyone pulled together" as a team to make the move a success.

The largest task in making the move was the library and bookstore. The move was made much easier with the assistance of a moving company who moved more than over 630 boxes in one day according to Strode. "When we actually moved from downtown to Connors West it was done in two hours. The desks and computers were already set up and the staff just boxed upped what they needed to do business." She added "The move was very quick and that afternoon we were serving students the same day they moved. Many, many people worked to make that happen. It was tremendous. The Information Technology Department was amazing. Without their great support it couldn't have happened," said Strode. Strode said it will be a much more comfortable environment for the students and staff. Connors State.

"Now the students are not going up eight floors, but between two buildings. Some of the students are afraid they are going to get lost. We are telling them it's simpler.

"But they like it. Everything is new, especially when they walk into the bookstore," said Strode.

The downtown campus officially closed on January 3 with the new facility opening the same day.

Margaret Rigney, director of the CSC library and learning center had the difficult task of making sure that 5,000-6000 volumes of books were unshelved and reshelved at the new library.

"It was definitely a cooperative effort and venture," According to Strode, "The library was the pacesetter in the move, They were the leaders in packing materials. It was huge."

The CSC library will share its new space with the NSU-Muskogee library, which has moved from the campus administration building. The NSU-Muskogee bookstore is also sharing space with the relocated CSC bookstore. Strode said there has been tremendous cooperation between Northeastern State and "They have made us feel so welcome."

# Connors State College Introduces Student Wellness Program



## Healthy Students Healthy Minds

Connors State College Student Wellness Program

# FREE

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**Child Watch Program**

Muskogee Swim and Fitness  
566 N. 6th Street  
Muskogee, OK  
(918) 681-4733

For more information

VISIT [WWW.CONNORSSTATE.EDU](http://WWW.CONNORSSTATE.EDU) & Click on



## The Connors

### Boxing

The manly art of fistcuffs blossomed for the first time on Connors' campus this winter with the addition of the new gymnasium to the physical education program.

Starting off with an intramural card in the fieldhouse, the "Fighting Farmers" opened their season at home to determine the most likely candidates.

Making up in sheer grit what they lacked in experience, this group, coached by N.Y.A. instructor Jack Hull, and captained by 160 lb. Merle Chapman, runner-up in the Northeast District Golden Gloves, entered every major tournament and always were opponents to be reckoned with.

The District and State Golden Gloves and the State A.A.U. tournaments, along with several dual and three-way matches with Muskogee and Okmulgee took up most of the winter for the battlers.

Back Row: John Knight, heavyweight; Clyde Pinkerton, light-heavy; Merle Chapman, middle-weight; Ernest Woods, welterweight; Arthur Denny, welterweight; and coach Jack Hull.

Front Row: George Holloway, bantam-weight; Billy Wise, lightweight and Otis Walker, flyweight.



Page Fifty

Merle and Eugene Chapman

# The Boxing Brothers



Left to Right:  
Holloway, 112 lbs.  
Woods, 142 lbs.  
Chapman, 160 lbs.  
Dick, 114 lbs.  
Ascue, 112 lbs.



### BOXING

The manly art of self-defense was provided on a large scale at Connors this year, with the N. Y. A. sponsoring the pugilistic squad. The boys extended their activities to dual and tournament bouts. The team chose to enter the Arkansas Golden Gloves instead of the Oklahoma meet. Tulsa was the outstanding dual competitor.

Mainstays of the team were Eugene Chapman, Ransom Dick, and Furl Ascue. Chapman was a finalist at both the Ft. Smith Golden Gloves and the Eufaula tournament, while Dick was bantamweight champion at Ft. Smith and fought as a representative of that team in the Tournament of Champions in Chicago. Ascue was a semi-finalist in the annual Oklahomi A. A. U. Tournament. Chapman and Dick were invited to participate in the annual Oklahomi A. A. U. Tournament. J. H. Hull was coach of the team.

## Our Alumni

Merle (1938-40) and Eugene (1939-41) Chapman both attended Connors State Agricultural College on football scholarships. Merle, who played right guard, and Eugene, who played center, were best known, however, for their hard hitting abilities in the boxing ring. The two brothers started the Connors boxing team, the "Fighting Farmers," in 1939 with the help of Coach Jack Hull. The team started with an intermural bout, but they soon began entering tournaments, with 160 pound Merle fighting as their captain.

The young team found early success, with Eugene, also at 160 pounds, winning the Oklahoma Golden Gloves Championship in 1939. In the 1941 season, the team, now called the "Aggies" was headed by Eugene, who was a finalist at the Ft. Smith Golden Gloves and the tournament in Eufaula. Eugene would go on to serve in the Navy during WWII, after which he began a long and successful career as a coach/teacher, and eventually Assistant Principal in Oklahoma City. Eugene was inducted into the Connors State College Hall of Fame in 2009.

Merle passed on in 2001, and Eugene in 2011. They hold a special place in Connors State College history as the founding brothers of the "Fighting Farmers."

CSC is proud of all of our Alumni at Connors State College. In order to continue our educational tradition, each year the Foundation is responsible for creating scholarships for students. Donate today and be a part of the Cowboy tradition. Visit [www.connorsstate.edu/cdf](http://www.connorsstate.edu/cdf) or call 918-463-6343.

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MUSKOGEE, OK 74401  
(918) 687-6747

PORT CAMPUS  
2501 N. 41ST ST. EAST  
MUSKOGEE, OK 74403  
(918) 684-5471