TODAY'S WEATHER
69° / 46°
Light rain · 75% rain

The Capital Weekend

From The Oklahoma State Capital · Reporting from Oklahoma's First and Finest Capital City

YESTERDAY
0.00″
of rain at the Guthrie Mesonet

An interactive edition: every headline marked ↗ is a link. Tap it to read the whole story at oklahomastatecapital.com.

BREAKING NEWS

Southwest Power Pool Scraps 40-Mile Power Line Planned South of Guthrie ↗

The vote ends a project that worried landowners over a 130-foot-wide easement and raised questions about hyperscale data center development near its western end.

By OSC Staff

GUTHRIE — Just shy of a year ago, an army of utility sector representatives took over the Logan County Fairgrounds to roll out plans for what looked like an unstoppable project. Landowners came to study maps ↗ and see whether a massive new power line might cut a swath across their own property. Then came word this week that the once unstoppable project had just been canceled.

Continued on page 2 →



THE OKLAHOMA STATE CAPITAL

GUTHRIE, Okla. — (December 10, 2025) Transource officials staff a display at the Logan County Fairgrounds promoting a proposed power line that would have cut a 130-foot-wide swath through Logan County south of Guthrie. The Southwest Power Pool officially canceled the project on Tuesday, November 17, 2026.

INSIDE

Three Deer Strikes Reported on Local... 2
Bluejays Fall to Bishop McGuinness in... 2
Southwest Power Pool Scraps 40-Mile... 1
The Morning Report 2
First Capital Forecast 1
Logan County Public Safety Radio 1
On This Day 1
The Wire 2
Community Calendar 2

First Capital Forecast ↗

Saturday: Light rain, high 69, low 46. 75% chance of rain. Wind S 19 mph, gusts to 27. Sunrise 7:12 a.m., sunset 5:18 p.m.

Mesonet Yesterday at the Guthrie Mesonet: high 70, low 51, no rain. mesonet.org ↗

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
51° / 31°	50° / 31°	44° / 26°	51° / 25°	55° / 32°
sunny	*sunny*	*cloudy*	*sunny*	*partly sunny*

Weather data from Google.

ON THIS DAY · 1903

Guthrie bank puts a fistful of Russian money in its curio collection

President Billingsley of the Capitol National Bank held $114 in Russian currency on Saturday. Not a soul in Guthrie could say exactly what it was worth. The notes had been taken in from a Russian at the Bank of Cushing and sent on to Guthrie. Finely woven, larger than American bills and printed on parchment covered with stamps, they were headed for the bank's curio department.

Logan County Public Safety Radio ↗

These are over-the-air radio reports, not confirmed facts.

FRI 9:34 A.M. **Officer removes debris from roadway at Division and Allen** ↗
Guthrie Police
A Guthrie police officer removed debris from the roadway at Division and Allen.

FRI 11:12 A.M. **Goat in road on Waterloo just west of Santa Fe** ↗
Logan County Sheriff
A deputy reported a goat in the road on Waterloo just west of Santa Fe. The goat went back behind the fence line in the 2900 block of Santa Fe, and the deputy could not reach an owner before clearing.

5 more calls continued on page 2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Southwest Power Pool Scraps 40-Mile Power Line Planned South of Guthrie

The Southwest Power Pool board voted Tuesday to withdraw the Mathewson–Redbud project. The proposed line had stirred fears among local landowners over where the steel towers would go and whose land would fall within a 130-foot-wide easement along a proposed route south of Guthrie. It also raised the specter of hyperscale data centers as developers eyed sites near the line's western end in the four-corners area where Logan, Canadian, Oklahoma and Kingfisher counties meet.

The roughly 40-mile, 345-kilovolt line would have connected OG&E's Mathewson substation near Piedmont to its Redbud facility near Luther. The Southwest Power Pool announced the project in May 2025 with a $72 million price tag. But by June 2026, it was set to cost $89.52 million, and the target for putting the line into service had slipped eight months, from December 2027 to August 2028.

"Not doing this project actually provides more benefits at a lower cost," Southwest Power Pool President and CEO Lanny Nickell said. Nickell said future projects could meet the region's transmission needs.

By the time Transource brought its route maps to the Logan County Fairgrounds in December 2025, the Southwest Power Pool board had approved the line more than two years earlier, mostly unbeknownst to local residents. The board voted for the project on Oct. 31, 2023, as part of its Integrated Transmission Planning assessment. The study said the line would give Oklahoma City another way to draw power from the east, easing congestion on the west side of the metro. It would also help move wind power generated in western Oklahoma to areas with greater electricity demand farther east.

Early in the study, planners favored rebuilding four existing 138-kilovolt lines in the area served by OG&E's Cimarron substation near Yukon. That plan included adding a transformer at Cimarron. When the scope and estimated cost of the transformer work grew, the Southwest Power Pool set aside the package and instead turned to the new 345-kilovolt line, whose proposed routes would have taken it across private land south of Guthrie.

The cancellation was an unexpected win for landowners who had mobilized against the project along the corridor from Piedmont in the west to Luther in the east, including the swath of Logan County.

For months, it appeared there was little landowners could do as the proposed line advanced through a regional planning and bidding process shaped by an Obama-era federal rule. Transource, a partnership between American Electric Power and Evergy, planned to seek route approval from Oklahoma's elected Corporation Commission; but, the decision to put the line in the regional plan and ultimately to take it back out belonged to the Southwest Power Pool board, whose members local voters had no power to vote out.

Local resident Karmin Grider made the issue central to her campaign for the House District 31 seat. She went door to door throughout the area targeted for the project, encouraging local residents to hold strong against the purchasing attempts by Transource.

"The only way to buy time is for landowners and local leaders to actively oppose it now, but we have very little time to understand the implications on personal health, agriculture, and property values," she explained in her publication, *The Grider Ledger*.

Grider said the consortium would be graded on how cheaply it acquired the land when it bid on projects. If local residents opposed the property acquisitions, instead of simply giving in and selling quickly, the cost rises and the conglomerate would be less likely to see that swath of southern Logan County as a target for metro-area power lines.

Grider faulted incumbent Rep. Collin Duel for failing to track the issue and inform local residents. She said Duel had abandoned the town hall style of representation she wanted to bring back.

"It's sad that our legislators are allowing the implementation of Obama's agenda. Local leaders need to know what is happening and to inform the public well before these projects surface. In this case, particularly as it pertains to the incumbent state representative, that responsibility was not met. Why didn't he inform us that we were in the crosshairs at a time when we could fight back?" Grider asked.

Jenni White, who ran for the House District 36 seat in eastern Oklahoma County, took on the role of organizing opposition to the project in the Luther area.

Strong opposition also formed farther west, where Piedmont-area residents organized against a proposed data center.

It remains unclear whether it was the local opposition that drove up the cost of the project and caused the reversal, but for the landowners who stood over maps at the Logan County Fairgrounds last December, wondering whether steel towers would go up on their property, the routes they traced that night — they will stay on paper.

LOCAL REPORT

Bluejays Fall to Bishop McGuinness in Class 5A Quarterfinals ↗



THE OKLAHOMA STATE CAPITAL

The Fighting Irish broke a 7–7 halftime tie with 31 unanswered points, ending Guthrie's six-game winning streak and an 8–4 season.

By OSC Staff

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — (November 20, 2026) The Guthrie defense attempts to block a second-half field goal during Friday night's Class 5A playoff game at Bishop McGuinness. The Fighting Irish defeated the Bluejays, ending Guthrie's 8–4 season in the second round of the playoffs.

OKLAHOMA CITY — Guthrie went to halftime even with Bishop McGuinness on Friday night. But the Fighting Irish took the lead on the opening drive of the second half and never looked back, going on to defeat the Bluejays 38–7 in the Class 5A quarterfinals at Pribil Stadium in Oklahoma City.

The highlight of the night occurred early in the second quarter as Guthrie senior quarterback Daelon Rice found senior receiver Dereon Whitehorn for a 20-yard touchdown to tie the game at 7–7. Whitehorn finished his final game as a Bluejay with 11 catches for 101 yards.

The Bluejays threatened again before halftime, reaching the Irish 13. On fourth-and-two, Rice's throw into the end zone fell incomplete, ending the chance to take the lead. Guthrie's defense kept McGuinness off the scoreboard for the rest of the half, sending the teams to the locker rooms tied.

McGuinness junior Bryce Morris returned the second-half kickoff 50 yards, giving the Irish a short field. Quarterback Gage Chance finished the drive with a touchdown run.

The Bluejays' defense made the highlight reel in the third quarter when, with McGuinness leading 21–7, a Rice pass intended for Whitehorn was deflected and intercepted, giving McGuinness another opportunity at the Guthrie 39-yard line. However, the defense stepped up after McGuinness reached the 1. On fourth-and-goal, senior linebacker Rowan McHone broke into the backfield and brought down the McGuinness runner, giving the ball back to the Bluejays at their 7.

“We just, you know, ran into a buzzsaw tonight,” Guthrie coach Kelly Beeby said during GNP TV's postgame interview.

Beeby pointed to poor field position and trouble producing first downs while playing into the wind as factors in the loss. He praised the players' effort through all four quarters.

The Irish improved to 11–1 and advanced to face unbeaten Elgin in the Dec. 4 semifinals. Elgin beat Bishop Kelley 35–27 on Friday.

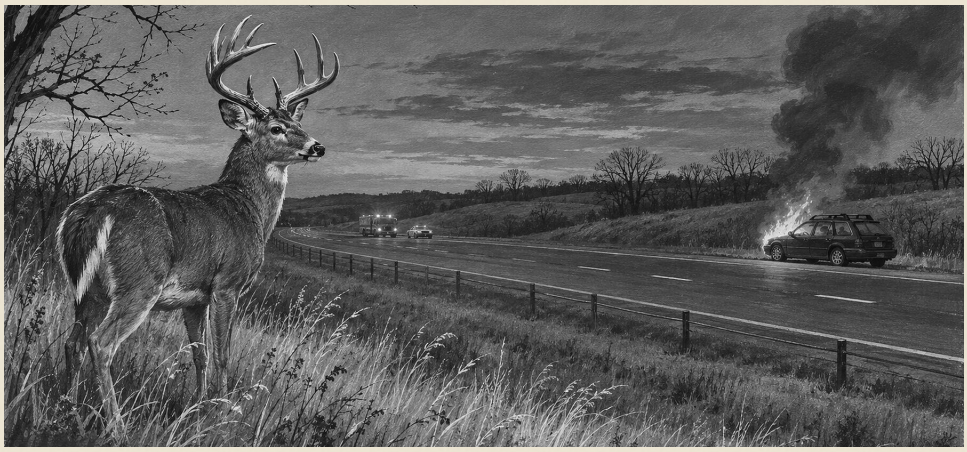
Guthrie finished 8–4 after a season that turned around in district play. The Bluejays opened with losses to Tuttle and Elgin, then beat Bethany and Blanchard before dropping a 17–16 decision at Carl Albert in the district opener. That left Guthrie at 2–3 heading into October.

The Bluejays won their next five against Midwest City, Lawton, Noble, Durant and Duncan to finish second in District 5A-1 at 5–1 and earn a home playoff game. Guthrie made it six straight at Jelsma Stadium last week, scoring touchdowns on its first four possessions in a 45–0 shutout of Lawton MacArthur, its largest win of the season. Guthrie matched last season’s eight wins and went one round deeper in the playoffs than last year. The Bluejays finished 8–3 in 2025 after a 42–35 first-round loss to Bishop McGuinness, which went on to reach the Class 5A championship game.

Guthrie will have to replace 17 seniors, including starting quarterback Daelon Rice and receivers Dereon Whitehorn and Skylor Scamman. Junior backup Jameson McBride already has some playoff experience, having thrown a touchdown pass in the first-round win over Lawton MacArthur. Sophomore Levi Dennis saw varsity action as a pass catcher this fall, and junior edge rusher Gabe Jackson gives the Bluejays an experienced pass rusher heading into 2027.

LOCAL REPORT

Three Deer Strikes Reported on Local Roads in Less Than 11 Hours ↗



THE OKLAHOMA STATE CAPITAL

A Subaru caught fire on I-35 just north of Waterloo Road Thursday night. OSC’s review of local public-safety radio traffic tallied at least 10 reported deer strikes from Nov. 9 through Friday morning.

By OSC Staff

A reported deer strike on Interstate 35 left a vehicle in flames Thursday night and was among three deer strikes reported on local roads in less than 11 hours.

The three responses occurred between about 8:06 p.m. Nov. 19 and 6:49 a.m. Nov. 20, according to The Oklahoma State Capital’s ongoing

review of local public-safety radio traffic.

OSC identified at least 10 distinct reports of vehicles striking deer in the radio traffic it monitored from Nov. 9 through Friday morning.

The first of the three responses began Thursday night with reports of a Subaru engulfed in flames after a deer strike on southbound I-35 just to the north of Waterloo Road. The fire spread into nearby grass.

Oak Cliff crews responded, and mutual aid was requested from Woodcrest and Deer Creek. County deputies closed the right lane.

At about 10:27 p.m., a county unit checked on a red Dodge Journey near Highway 33 and Douglas. People with the vehicle said they had struck a deer. At about 6:49 a.m. Friday, another deer strike was reported at Broadway and Rainbow Lake Drive.

Earlier incidents in OSC's review included a Nov. 11 collision on westbound Highway 33, about half a mile east of Douglas. Radio traffic indicated that the driver was injured and the vehicle had gone off the shoulder and into the trees. Medics transported one patient to Mercy Logan.

In an Oct. 20 advisory, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation said bucks become more active as they chase does during the rut, or breeding season, from mid-October through November. The department warned that a deer crossing the road may be followed by another.

The agency's Nov. 18 field report identified mid-November as peak breeding time in central Oklahoma. Oklahoma's deer gun season opens Saturday, Nov. 21.

The department recommends slowing down, leaving more room between vehicles and watching both sides of the road, especially around dawn and dusk and where brush or trees grow close to the road.

If a deer enters the roadway, wildlife officials advise staying in the lane and braking safely. Swerving can send a vehicle into oncoming traffic or into a tree, utility pole or culvert.

THE MORNING REPORT

GUTHRIE, Okla. — Good morning, First Capital. The Southwest Power Pool has scrapped a 40-mile power line planned south of Guthrie, and the Bluejays fell to Bishop McGuinness in the Class 5A quarterfinals. We also report on three deer strikes on local roads in less than 11 hours, while the opinion page weighs in on Tom Gann's flock ban. Friday morning, deputies were called to a report of a goat in the road on Waterloo just west of Santa Fe. The Guthrie Flea Market opens at 8 a.m., light rain and all. KFOR reports embezzlement charges against a man who took over a longtime Edmond store, and News 9 reports a state senator's new bill targeting food dyes in schools and prisons.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GUTHRIE FLEA MARKET 8 a.m. · Guthrie

VFW Auxiliary Monthly Meeting 10 a.m. · Guthrie

Dinner & Discussion 5 p.m. · Guthrie

LOGAN COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO

continued from page 1

FRI 1:56 P.M. Crash blocks northbound lanes in 2700 block of South Division
Guthrie Police

Police and EMS responded at 1:56 p.m. to a crash in the 2700 block of South Division that blocked both northbound lanes, according to radio traffic. An arriving crew reported moderate to heavy damage, and police directed traffic through a southbound lane around the scene. Command reported no one was transported, a wrecker was called for a Toyota Corolla, and police later reported all units clear.

— OTHER TRAFFIC —

FRI 4:16 P.M. Traffic stop at 10th and Noble turns up possible county warrant
Guthrie Police

FRI 6:26 P.M. Two-vehicle crash reported on northbound I-35 south of Waterloo
Logan County Sheriff

FRI 7:09 P.M. Man puts out small fire at reported homeless camp near West College
Guthrie Police

SAT 1:58 A.M. Parking-lot collision and fight reported on East College
Guthrie Police

FROM THE OPINION PAGE OF THE CAPITAL

OPINION: Tom Gann Gets There First With a Flock Ban and a Rewrite of House Rules – Will Your State Rep. Have the Courage to Join Him?

By Jason W. Murphey

The Inola Republican filed the first House bill and the first House resolution for 2027, reviving three subjects Speaker Kyle Hilbert declined to let the House study.

Read the full column: oklahomastatecapital.com/s/DvCHm25

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AROUND THE STATE AND BEYOND

From other newsrooms, each credited to its own; every headline opens the story where it was published.

— LOCAL —

Embezzlement charges filed against a man who took over longtime Edmond store
KFOR

Mazzei's First Appointments, Very Disappointing ↗ THE SOONER SENTINEL

Christmas lights brighten Mitch Park in Edmond for the holiday season ↗ KOCO

Bond set at $2.5M for Edmond man in child exploitation case ↗ NEWS 9

Custom Dental celebrates 50 years by honoring community service with $1,000 award ↗ GUTHRIE NEWS PAGE

— STATE —

Federal bank says manufacturing is expanding in Oklahoma and other states ↗ OKLAHOMA ENERGY TODAY

Oklahoma Death Row inmate Ronson Bush dies after being found unresponsive ↗ NEWS ON 6

Oklahoma Senator files new bill targeting food dyes in schools, prisons ↗ NEWS 9

— NATIONAL —

More than 140 sick on cruise ship that departed Fort Lauderdale, CDC says ↗ CBS NEWS

4.2-magnitude earthquake rattles Los Angeles area ↗ CBS NEWS

Why the Army says it needs to detonate unstable explosives in Iowa ↗ CBS NEWS

Dem Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear under fire from state auditor over waste, fraud, abuse fears ↗ NEW YORK POST

— INTERNATIONAL —

Moscow hits Kyiv after Putin's threat of 'painful' response ↗ TAIPEI TIMES

Zelensky says Crimean Bridge strikes 'fair response' as he meets UK's Streeting ↗ BBC NEWS

Satellite images reveal UAE military buildup at Somali airfields - report ↗ JERUSALEM POST

AT THE AIRPORT ↗

Guthrie-Edmond Regional, 6:50 a.m. Friday to 6:50 a.m. Saturday: 7 takeoffs and 9 landings, by 14 aircraft.

Military: an aircraft (HOBO48) took off at 4:29 p.m. Friday and landed at 4:29 p.m. Broadcasts as a military aircraft.

The Capital Weekend comes every Saturday morning from The Oklahoma State Capital · Reporting from Oklahoma's First and Finest Capital City · oklahomastatecapital.com ↗
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