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## WELCOME to our October 2023 Newsletter!



October means fall is in full swing in Southwest Kansas! The season devoted to spooky decorations, crisp fall air, pumpkin spice everything, High School fall sports championships and Halloween!

Many countries around the world celebrate Halloween, which is on *October 31*. Halloween is celebrated differently from country to country, with nations like the United States and Canada practicing in trick-or-treating and hosting Halloween-themed parties. Other nations, like Japan and Ireland, celebrate with parades and public gatherings.

Other holidays celebrated in *October* include Día de los Muertos and Okttoberfest. Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a Mexican holiday that celebrates those who have died. In Germany, Oktoberfest celebrates the craft of beer making, running from late September to early October.

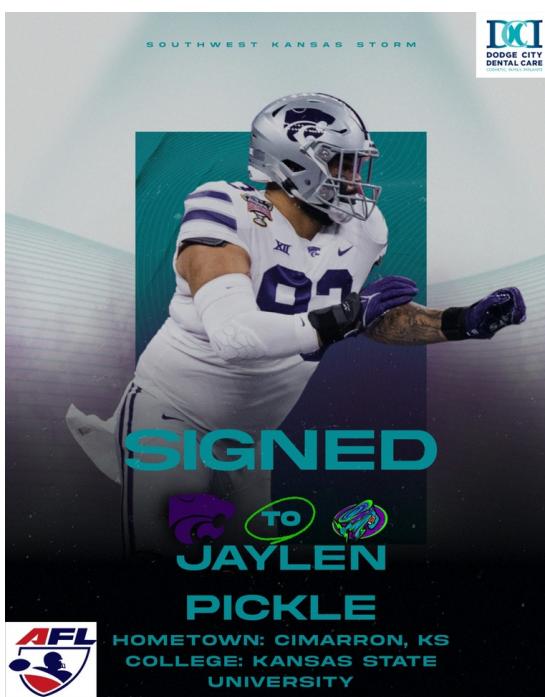
We want to keep our subscribers informed of everything associated with the United Wireless Arena and the Boot Hill Casino & Resort Conference Center, so keep a lookout for a monthly newsletter from us, with insights to our buildings, upcoming events, videos, and fun facts thrown in! As always, information about upcoming events and our calendar are posted on our website at [www.UnitedWirelessArena.com](http://www.UnitedWirelessArena.com) and you can call us with any questions at (620)371-7390.

## Southwest Storm Signs New Talent & Updates League!

The Southwest Storm arena football team is moving on up! In the fall of 2023, they have officially joined the AFL (Arena Football League) along with 15+ other teams. The AFL was established in 1986 with the first game in Rockford, Illinois. AFL has recently undergone new ownership and is geared for a successful relaunch in 2024.

The Southwest Storm football team is also gearing up for a successful season, recruiting some new talent including locals **Caden Walters** (from University of Sioux Falls), returning kicker **Dillon Burkhard**, and recent K-State Graduate **Jaylen Pickle** who will bring sizeable strength, power, and winning leadership experience to the Storm line.

The 2024 game schedule is anticipated to be released soon and tickets on sale before Christmas!



# HISTORY OF THE AFL

1986

First AFL test game was played in Rockford, Illinois with volunteer players. Game was filmed by NBC and ESPN aired the highlights of the game. Ironman football was born.

1987-1999

The league grew rapidly every year. Adding multiple teams every year. Attendance soared, and the Arena Bowl was nationally televised every year on ABC.

2000-2008

Kurt Warner became the face of the AFL and was the first player from the league to star in the NFL. TNN deal allowed all AFL games to be televised live. Ironman football was no longer allowed (2003).

2009

Under a new commissioner and facing financial unrest from team owners, the league suspended the season and filed for bankruptcy due to ownership disputes. Fan attendance and revenue generation was at an all-time high.

2010-2017

After purchasing the league assets for \$6.1MM and restructuring the league it returned in 2010 anchored by the NFL Network and a large brand partnership with Net10Wireless.

2018-2019

With several disagreeing owners and a large worker's compensation lawsuit, the league once again folded under mismanagement and a flawed business model.

2022

Under new ownership, a better business plan, a financial sustainability model, and no longer under a single entity ownership structure, the AFL has a strong and supported plan to be here for another 30+ years



## 2023 KSHSAA State Volleyball 1A-D1 & 2A

KSHSAA State Volleyball returns to Dodge City, KS next weekend! United Wireless Arena is excited to host the championship tournament for the 5th year on Friday, October 27th and Saturday, October 28th. The top high school teams in 1-A Division 1 will play in the morning each day and the 2A teams play in the afternoons.

Bracket updates and schedules will be posted on the [United Wireless Arena website](#) and KSHSAA will livestream the event [here](#).

Tickets are \$11 each with children 5 & under free. Tickets can be purchased at the United Wireless Arena Ticket Office or in advance through Ticketmaster below.

Friday, Oct 27th

Saturday, Oct 28th



# Spirited Fun Facts about Halloween

Want to get in the Halloween spirit? Check out these awesome fun facts about Halloween that you probably didn't already know!

1. Halloween traditions date back to 2,000 years ago.
2. Traditionally, Halloween marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the "dark season."
3. Pumpkins are technically a fruit, not a vegetable!
4. Trick or treating became popular in the United States in the 1930s.
5. There are many origins of 'trick or treating' including the 16th century during the Celtic festival called 'Samhain'. The tradition of dressing in costume in exchange for food and drink dates to the Middle Ages.
6. The first ever Jack-O-Lanterns were made from turnips, not pumpkins.
7. Immigrants from around the world helped bring Halloween traditions to America.
8. Halloween is the second largest commercial holiday.
9. Illinois produces the most pumpkins out of any other state in the United States.
10. Pumpkins are not always orange. They can be white, red, yellow, green, and blue!

Trick-or-Treat Downtown will be on Saturday, October 28th, brought to you by Dodge City Main Street.



11:30 AM - \$1 HAMBURGERS - HAMBURGUESAS DE \$1  
(FIRST 500 PEOPLE - PRIMERAS 500 PERSONAS)  
12 PM - COSTUME CONTEST - CONCURSO DE DISFRASES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS  
& ALL THE PARTICIPATING DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT - PARA MAS INFORMACION CONTACTE A  
CORAL LOPEZ - CORALL@DODGEDEV.ORG OR (620) 371-3872

## Join the UWA Team!

Our busy season is right around the corner and we are ready to hire! Multiple part-time, flexible hour positions are available in our Food & Beverage/Catering department on the Arena side and in the Conference Center. We are also looking for Event Staff, including ushers and stagehands. All positions have competitive starting wages and no experience required! These are great for a second job, after-school hours, or during the day while the kids are at school!

Fill out the application on our website! [Click here](#)



Follow us on Social Media for Arena updates!



# COMING SOON TO UNITED WIRELESS ARENA:



**THE GREATEST LOVE OF  
ALL – A TRIBUTE TO  
WHITNEY HOUSTON**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

**Pre-sale Oct 23rd**

**Public On-Sale Oct**

**25th**

**THE HARLEM  
GLOBETROTTERS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21**

**BUY NOW**

**MORE EVENTS  
ANNOUNCING SOON!**

## SCAM ALERT!

Don't fall for fraudulent websites! When purchasing tickets online, ONLY purchase through Ticketmaster.com. United Wireless Arena is an exclusive Ticketmaster facility and cannot guarantee tickets purchased through other websites.

United Wireless Arena | [tickets@unitedwirelessarena.com](mailto:tickets@unitedwirelessarena.com) For Email, use [info@unitedwirelessarena.com](mailto:info@unitedwirelessarena.com)  
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