



Echoes from the Hill

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni

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Echoes from the Hill

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's
Alumni Magazine
Volume 86, No. 2

Spring 2006

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Echoes

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ECHOES *from the Hill*

Editors Kari Jones and Brandi Gateley
 Alumni Director..... Jim Waite
 Public Relations & Marketing..... Brian Adler
 Publication Design..... Joel Kendall
 Contributing Writers..... Joel Kendall, Elizabeth Beach, Melody Bowen
 Carrie Carney, Marshall Dougherty, Jazz Ellis, Ariana Farris
 Aaron Fish, Julie Fite, Andrea Fleig, Glenn Forbes, Adrienne Frame
 Zach Grossman, Lori Hatfield, Cashlie Hines, Amanda James
 Steven Jeffrey, Bryan Justice, Ashley Kehl, Brian Klepczyk,
 Katherin Martin, Kem Mendizabal, Maghin Merrill, Jayme Reichert
 Doris Thunderbull, Kristy Wilson, Craig Wrice, Leslee Yount
 Contributing Photographers..... Kyle Wright, Joel Kendall, Andrew Roewe

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Wellness Center Dedicated

SWOSU held a dedication ceremony in honor of the new Wellness Center that was finished in 2005.

The ceremony was held on December 2, 2005 on the campus of SWOSU. About 300 people attended the event. Among those who took part in joining President John Hays in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were: State Regent Steve Poag, Oklahoma Higher Education Chancellor Paul Risser, State Regent Jimmy

Harrel, State Regent Joe Anna Hibler, Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Kauger, and SWOSU Vice President Tom Fagan. Oklahoma State Representative James Covey also joined in the ribbon ceremony.

Close to \$40,000 was raised at the event. The money will be put into a fund to complete the west wing of the Wellness Center. The project will take approximately \$1 million to complete the center.

The 72,000 square-foot Wellness Center houses three regulation size basketball courts with all-purpose flooring, a rock climbing wall, a walking track and cardiovascular workout area. There is also a health food bar.

Also, the center includes a number of classrooms and offices for student counseling, university nurse and the intramural department.

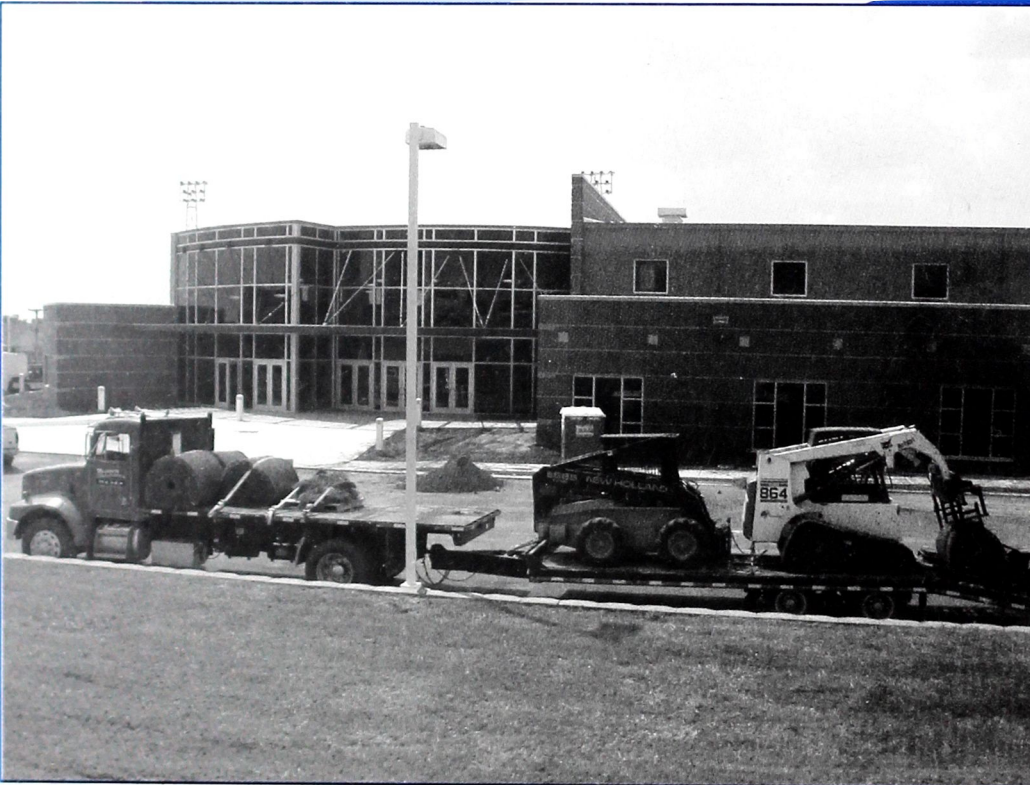
by Jayme Reichert



Dedication of the new Wellness Center took place Dec. 2. Around 300 people attended the event. Among those joining SWOSU President John Hays (front left) for the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (far left) State Regent Steve Poag, (fourth from left and continuing on the front row) Oklahoma Higher Education Chancellor Paul Risser, State Regent Jimmy Harrel, State Regent Joe Anna Hibler, Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Kauger and SWOSU Vice President Tom Fagan. Oklahoma State Representative James Covey (fourth from left in back row) was also among the people who joined the ribbon-cutting picture.



Students try out the climbing wall located inside the new Wellness Center.



Weather and other delays extended the wait for the Wellness Center to open, but it finally did in the fall semester.

Focusing in on SWOSU

capital campaign continues

SWOSU alumni can now drive by and see their alma mater looking quite different thanks to their own generous donations. SWOSU's \$5 million FOCUS campaign is fully up and running. Now more than ever you can see what is taking shape.

One donor to the campaign, Doug Baker, said, "SWOSU gave me a great education and an excellent opportunity to provide for my family. You really don't realize the big picture when you're 18 to 22

years old. Thanks SWOSU for a great educational foundation to step out in the world and succeed."

John Hays, president of SWOSU, said the University is thankful for the donors.

"Additional funding provided by those who believe in the services that SWOSU has to offer really does make a difference," Hays said.

The campaign is focusing on four areas, including academic programs for enrichment, scholarships, wellness and

athletic complexes, and deferred/planning giving.

One major milestone for the campaign was the completion and grand opening of SWOSU's Wellness Center. The center provides students three basketball courts, rock climbing, physical fitness machines, along with much more.

For further information about the FOCUS campaign, call the SWOSU Foundation Office at (580) 774-3267.

by Julie Fite



Doug Baker (left) of Cushing recently gave \$5,000 to the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation in Weatherford as part of the University's FOCUS fundraising campaign. Baker is a 1984 graduate of SWOSU. Accepting for SWOSU is Dr. David Ralph, associate dean of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy.

Amarillo Couple Donates \$100,000

donation establishes pharmacy scholarship

SWOSU has received a \$100,000 check from Jerry and Margaret Hodge of Amarillo, Texas.

Jerry Hodge is a 1965 graduate of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy.

The gift will be used to establish a scholarship fund with the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Foundation. The Jerry and Margaret Hodge Practice Grant Fund will be for deserving students in the College of Pharmacy.

"This wonderful gift is a great compliment and statement of support by one of our loyal pharmacy graduates to the future of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy," said Patti Harper, alumni and development officer for the SWOSU College of Pharmacy. "The donation is a vote of confidence for the continued advancement of pharmacy education for SWOSU students."

Hodge said the family gave the gift, because SWOSU is a great university and that many family members are alumni, including his mother. Hodge received the SWOSU Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1979.

"This is truly a very generous gift," SWOSU President John Hays said. "We are grateful to the Hodges and know that many students will benefit in the future from this act of kindness."

Hodge is currently chairman of Maxor National Pharmacy Services Corporation, the successor company to Maxor Drug, which he purchased in 1966. At the time of purchase, Maxor Drug was a single retail pharmacy in downtown Amarillo. Under Hodge's leadership, Maxor has evolved into a nationwide provider of integrated pharmacy services, with divisions in correctional healthcare, pharmacy benefit management, mail order, infusion therapy, specialty injectables, inpatient and outpatient pharmacy management, and pharmacy counseling.



Jerry and Margaret Hodge of Amarillo recently donated \$100,000 to SWOSU to set up a practice grant fund for pharmacy majors.

He has been active in Amarillo civic activities, serving two terms as Mayor of Amarillo and two terms as city councilman on the Amarillo City Commission. He has served as president of the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, vice chairman of the Texas Department of Corrections and chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice.

In addition to his various business and civic activities, Hodge operates the High Card Ranch in Donley County (TX), which is devoted to the preservation of Texas Longhorn cattle and the ranching traditions of the old West.

He and wife Margaret have four children—Jerry Heath Hodge, Ryan Hodge, Sunny Hodge-Campbell and Angela Serio. They also have five grandchildren.

The Hodge gift is part of SWOSU's College of Pharmacy FOCUS campaign, designed to address funding priorities. The priorities include scholarships, academic enrichment, and endowments. Additional information is available at the Pharmacy Foundation at (580) 774-3191 or the College of Pharmacy Alumni and Development Office at (580) 774-3190.

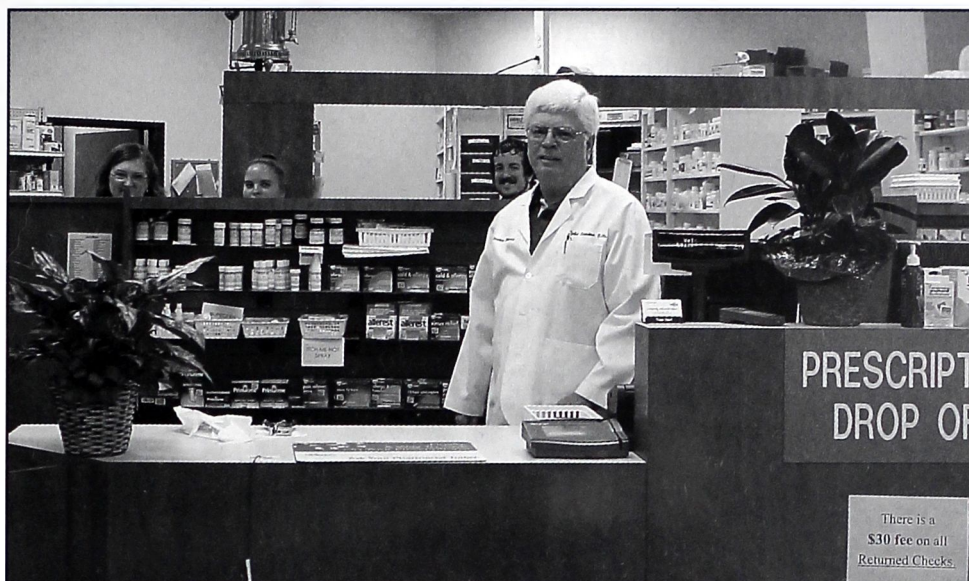
Lassiter Pledges \$10,000 to Campaign

John Lassiter of Del City has pledged \$10,000 to the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation in Weatherford as part of the university's FOCUS fundraising campaign.

Lassiter, a 1963 graduate of SWOSU, is owner of Lassiter Drug, a specialty compounding pharmacy where pharmacists meet unique physician and patient needs. His daughter, Shonda, is a 1999 graduate of SWOSU and is pharmacy manager at Lassiter Drug.

The former state representative is a past president of the Oklahoma Pharmacy Association and a past president and board member of the Oklahoma Board of Pharmacy. He is also a member of the Oklahoma County Pharmacists Association and the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association.

Lassiter worked as a pharmacist after graduation until 1967 when he was drafted and assigned to Irwin Army Hospital at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he served until his discharge in 1969. Shortly after, he opened the doors of Lassiter Drug, which remained in the same location until 2004 when the store moved to



John Lassiter, owner of Lassiter Drug in Del City, recently pledged \$10,000 to the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation.

its current state-of-the-art facility in Del City. Lassiter continues to participate in the SWOSU pharmacy practice program.

Lassiter's wife, Shirley, is a retired principal from Moore Public Schools.

SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean David Bergman said Lassiter's gift is very important for enrichment for students.

The SWOSU College of Pharmacy is focusing on three areas during the current FOCUS campaign, including academic program enrichment, scholarships and the College of Pharmacy's museum.

Abbots Donate to Fund Students

Kent and Jalee Abbott of Hydro have donated \$4,000 to the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Foundation.

The Abbotts have designated that \$2,000 will be used for the Abbott Family Scholarship that will benefit a third year practice student and the other \$2,000 for a PharmcareOK Scholarship that will benefit a second year pharmacy student.

Patti Harper, alumni and development officer for the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, said the gift is part of the College of Pharmacy FOCUS fundraising campaign.

Both Kent and Jalee are lifetime members of the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Association. The Abbotts said they wanted to make a contribution to the campaign

Browns Donate to Pharmacy Campaign

Bob W. and Tany Talbot Brown of Hale Center, Texas, have given \$5,000 to the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation in Weatherford. The gift is part of SWOSU's FOCUS fundraising campaign. Accepting the gift for SWOSU was Dr. H.F. Timmons, president of the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation Board of Directors.

Tany is a 1960 graduate and Bob is a 1962 graduate of SWOSU. Tany is originally from Olustee, Oklahoma, and Bob is originally from Pampa, Texas.

Bob is the owner of three pharmacies, one in Hale Center and two in Lubbock, Texas, while Tany is a retired pharmacist who spent most of her career in institutional pharmacy. The Browns were excited to help the SWOSU fundraising campaign.

"SWOSU gave me the education to pursue a fulfilling career," Bob said. "I feel SWOSU is doing a great job in preparing students for success."

Tany said their gift will perhaps help some young person prepare to work in a career which has meant so much to her.

Both Bob and Tany were active students



Pharmacy Foundation President Dr. H.F. Timmons (left) accepts a \$5,000 gift from Bob and Tany Talbot Brown.

during their collegiate careers at SWOSU. Bob served as treasurer of Phi Delta Chi and was active in the student chapter of the American Pharmacy Association and the Baptist Student Union. Tany was a cheerleader, served as charter president of Kappa Epsilon and was active in APhA, Student Senate and the Baptist Student Union.

Bob and Tany have one daughter, Holly, and a son-in-law, Rick Turner. They have one granddaughter, Erin.

because SWOSU provided them with an education that allowed them to succeed.

"The Pharmacy School at SWOSU continues to attract students from families and towns that understand the importance of helping others," the Abbotts said. "SWOSU produces pharmacists with a good work ethic."

Kent is a graduate of Holdenville High School, while Jalee is a Hydro High School product. At one time, Jalee's family boasted the most active practicing pharmacists with nine family members.

SWOSU's FOCUS campaign is focusing on four areas, including academic program enrichment, scholarships, wellness and athletic complexes, and deferred/planning giving. For additional information about the FOCUS campaign, call the SWOSU Foundation Office at (580) 774-3267. For information about giving to the College of Pharmacy, call the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation at (580) 774-3191 or the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Alumni and Development Office at (580) 774-3190.

6-Year-Old Donates to SWOSU

SWOSU recently received a donation from its youngest-ever donor.

Weatherford 6-year-old Cassidy Moses recently presented \$1 to SWOSU President John Hays and SWOSU Foundation Director Jim Waites, because she wanted to "help kids go to school."

The whole story started when Moses' grandmother, Carol Moses, was babysitting Cassidy. Carol had a meeting at the university.

"Isn't that where Uncle Jim (Waites) works?" Cassidy asked her grandmother.

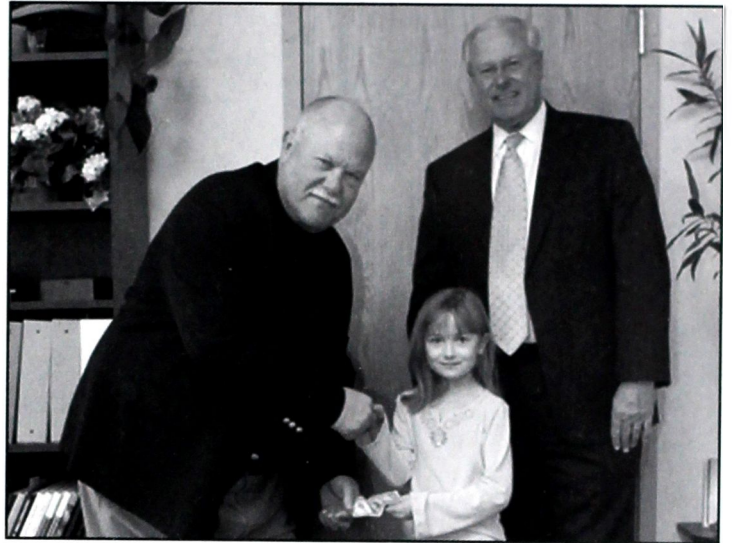
She then wanted to know what Uncle Jim did at the university. Carol thought about the best way to answer, so she told Cassidy that Uncle Jim collects money to help kids go to school.

Cassidy thought for awhile and then proudly told her grandmother that she had some extra money, and she wanted to help kids go to school.

Of course, Grandma Carol thought that was a nice gesture. She ignored Cassidy's intention thinking she would forget. But, she didn't.

"I tried talking her out of it," Moses said. "I told her to keep her money for when she goes to college. But, Cassidy wouldn't budge. She was bound and determined to give that dollar to SWOSU."

So, Cassidy recently visited the



Weatherford's Cassidy Moses recently became SWOSU's youngest donor. The 6-year-old kindergarten student made a \$1 donation to the SWOSU Foundation, because she wanted to help kids go to school. Accepting the donation were (left) SWOSU President John Hays and Foundation Executive Director Jim Waites.

SWOSU campus after her kindergarten class to present the \$1 to the SWOSU Foundation. She told President Hays and Uncle Jim that she told all the kids in her kindergarten class that she was going to college that day.

"Of course she's my granddaughter, but she is a very thoughtful person," Carol said.

Cassidy is the daughter of Jeff and Krystal Moses of Weatherford. Her grandfather is Rob Moses, who is the husband of Carol.

"This is one of the most heart-touching donations we have ever received," Hays said.

Former Weatherford Resident Donates

SWOSU's Pharmacy Alumni Foundation has received a \$10,000 gift from former Weatherford resident Smith Wycoff, who now lives in Eufaula.

Patti Harper, alumni and development officer for the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, said the gift is part of the College of Pharmacy FOCUS

fundraising campaign.

Wycoff operated a pharmacy in Weatherford for many years until he retired. He was named the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Outstanding Alumnus in 1996. He is a member of the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Foundation Board of Directors, and a lifetime member of the SWOSU

Pharmacy Alumni Association.

Wycoff, a 1967 graduate, has three children and four grandchildren. He is enjoying traveling and boating during his retirement years. Wycoff said he wanted to contribute to SWOSU, because he is thankful for what the College of Pharmacy did to prepare him for a career in pharmacy.

Medco Contributes \$5,000 to Program

Medco Health Solutions of Fort Worth, Texas, recently contributed \$5,000 to the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Scholarship Fund.

"Through the years, Medco has encountered many successful stories from SWOSU College of Pharmacy graduates who have joined our company fulfilling their career ambition as pharmacists," said Ross Luce, director of pharmacy

practice for Medco.

"It is important for Medco to play an active role in supporting the SWOSU pharmacy program, and we look forward in the future to further strengthening our mutually enriching relationship."

By providing scholarship funding, Medco is fulfilling the goals of its University Level Support Program to advance

pharmacy training with selected colleges committed to educating students for the areas of professional pharmacy practice.

SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean Dr. David Bergman said the active role that Medco is taking with

SWOSU is greatly appreciated. The gift will benefit deserving pharmacy students at SWOSU.

Threadgill Leaves \$50,000 Gift

SWOSU recently received a \$50,000 gift from the estate of Elby (Ward) Threadgill of Wichita Falls, Texas.

Mrs. Threadgill passed away earlier this year.

The gift will be used to establish a scholarship fund with the SWOSU Foundation in the name of Threadgill and her late husband, Edward. The gift will be known as the Edward and Elby Ward Threadgill Language Arts Endowed Scholarship Fund and will be restricted for students with majors in English or speech.

Threadgill was born in Shattuck and was a 1944 graduate of Shattuck High School. She

attended Oklahoma Baptist University for two years and transferred to SWOSU where she received degrees in English and speech.

After her retirement from teaching, and since education was one of her priorities in life, she volunteered for over 30 years to raise money for scholarships for the Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls. She married Edward in 1947, and he preceded her in death in March 1992.



Harper Named Pharmacy Alumni and Development Director

The new Alumni and Development Officer for the College of Pharmacy at SWOSU is Patti Harper. Not only is she the new Alumni and Development officer, she also is administering the development plans and alumni events for the College of Pharmacy.

The Pharmacy Alumni Association and the College of Pharmacy hosted pharmacy alumni dinners in Abilene, Texas; Amarillo, Texas; Ardmore; Fort Smith, Arkansas; Fort Worth, Texas; Lawton, Ponca City and Stillwater during 2005. They also hosted a 50-Year Pharmacy Graduate Recognition Ceremony and a 10-Year Class Reunion along with an Open House on Homecoming Day. They also hosted pharmacy alumni dinners in Dallas, Texas; McAlester, Guymon, and Odessa, Texas, during the spring of 2006.

Harper is also helping with the efforts of the SWOSU The Focus Fundraising campaign. The campaign



Patti Harper

is designed to address the future of the College of Pharmacy with funding and advancement of pharmacy education with scholarships, academic enrichment, and endowments for the future. Several alumni have already donated to the campaign.

You can contact Patti Harper at the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Alumni & Development office at 580-774-3190 or e-mail her at patti.harper@swosu.edu.

By Adrienne Frame

Pratt Donates Award to University

Pharmacist Kelly G. Pratt of Littlefield, Texas, recently won a leadership award from Leader Drug Stores and, as part of the award, designated SWOSU's School of Pharmacy to receive a \$1,000 scholarship to be given in Pratt's name.

Pratt was one of five pharmacists honored by the company. The purpose of

the leadership award is to recognize Leader member pharmacists who have demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment to independent pharmacy and their customers over the years. Pratt's award was in the field of technology.

Pratt is a 1982 graduate of the SWOSU School of Pharmacy.



OVERCOMING NATURAL DISASTER

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf States. The destruction of the coast and the flooding of New Orleans affected people across the country. Among those were current students, like Falante Hill of south Louisiana, and alumni, like Mike Sekul of Biloxi, Mississippi. These events set SWOSU students, staff and alumni in motion to help out. Here are just a few examples of what happened in the months after the devastation.

SWOSU Community Helps Hurricane Victims

When disaster hit home soil this past year with Hurricane Katrina, many SWOSU students volunteered to help.

In September, the five residence halls at SWOSU had a competition called Penny Wars. The object of the competition was to be the hall with the most points. The halls collected donations at the front desk and each denomination of money was worth a different point. Pennies were worth the most, and as

the value of money increased, it's point value decreased.

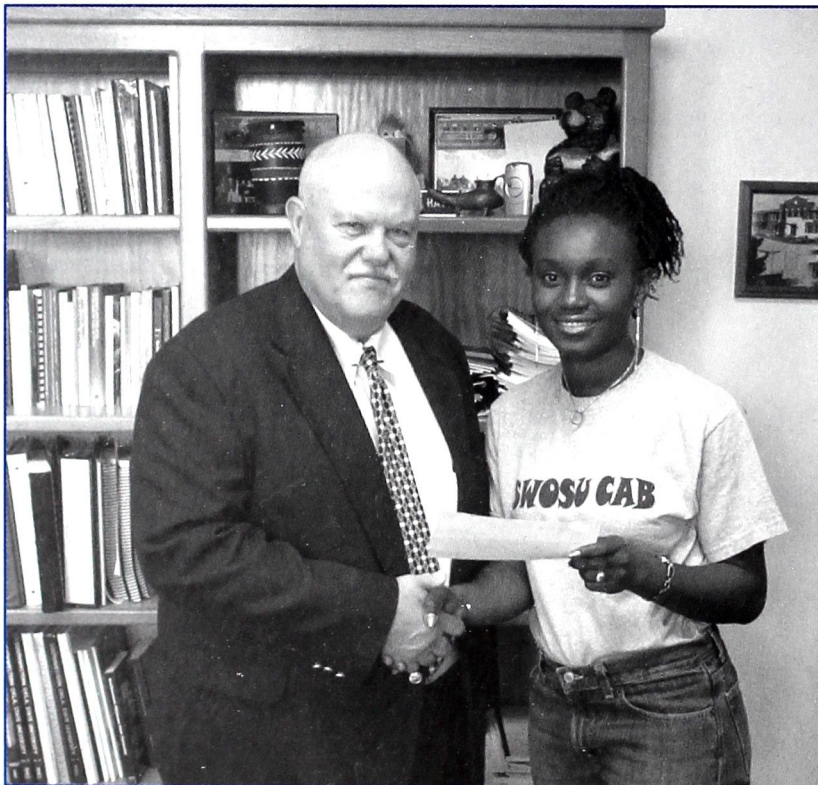
Also, helping Hurricane Katrina victims were the SWOSU Nursing Student Association. In October, these students voted to donate the money that they received from the SWOSU Homecoming decorating contest to a shelter in Oklahoma City that provided help to evacuees. The senior nursing students also made silk bouquets to send to the victims.

Helping individually at the shelter was nursing student Heather Hursh, who cared for people from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Roy Foust, another nursing student, was activated with his reserve unit to provide security in New Orleans.

Many student groups either donated or collected items to send to New Orleans. These groups included the Young Democrats, Social Work Club, Biology Club and Phi Delta Chi. The student bookstore also donated 10 percent of its sales to relief efforts.

by Carrie Carney



Shameika Williams hands President John Hays a check to send to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina fund. Williams is president of the Collegiate Activities Board, one of many student organizations that coordinated relief efforts.

HURRICANE KATRINA HELP



Alumni Cory Wilton and Nina Morris at the LSU Maddox Field House Special Needs Shelter.

Cory Wilton is a pharmacist with the US Public Health Service, Indian Health Service and lead pharmacist in southern Louisiana for the Public Health Service efforts in Katrina relief.

Pharmacy Alumni Set Up Shelter

Rescue crews were sent to New Orleans from across the United States to help with the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Among the crowd was a group that represented Oklahoma, Weatherford and specifically SWOSU.

Many alumni, including Jim Luckie (1999), Paula Veach (1987), Cory Wilton (1991), Scott Hawkins (2003), Robert Mackey (1993), and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice Nina Morris (1975), were deployed as medical teams to special needs shelters in Baton Rouge and Lafayette, Louisiana, for two weeks.

The teams consisted of physicians, nurses,

pharmacists, social workers, dietitians and safety officers.

Hurricane Katrina was the sixth strongest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded, according to Wikipedia.com. The nation knows the statistics of the great storm, but only those who were sent to the rescue know the true demolition that took place on the soil and in the heart of Louisiana.

The group's shelter was set up for people with medical problems that would require special attention. They had people with diabetes, injuries from the hurricane, paralysis, chronic respiratory conditions and chronic heart conditions.

Everyone worked in 12 hour shifts in big tents. These tents were provided by the United States Public Health Service and housed not only medical personnel, but also emergency relief workers.

Nina Morris said her time in New Orleans was very moving.

"The most moving experience I had while I was there was when I got to see a family reunited," she said. "They hugged and kissed and cried, but then they started singing gospel songs. I don't think I've ever heard anything more beautiful or sung with more deep feeling than I heard that day."

--Lori Hatfield

HURRICANE KATRINA HELP

Alumnus Coordinates Relief Efforts

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in August 2005, SWOSU alumnus Stacey Cannon (1999) was unaware of how much she would contribute to the relief effort.

Her involvement simply began with helping serve meals to survivors at a local church, and then led to finding locations for the newly displaced victims to find food and shelter throughout several affected areas.

Because of her determination and selfless effort, the Red Cross even contacted Cannon requesting her to coordinate transportation for relief workers.

Cannon also aided in getting free medical services to the evacuees who were ill and in need, enrolling kids that were required to find new schools, and completing several additional tasks for victims.

Thanks to Cannon's encouragement and effort, SWOSU is now the new home to a New Orleans transfer student, Siri Sama Teyha, from Cameroon, Africa.

Siri once attended Delgado in New Orleans,



SWOSU alumnus Stacey Cannon poses with Siri Sama Teyha. Siri was a New Orleans college student who was displaced when her host family lost their home in the flood. Cannon arranged for Siri to transfer to SWOSU.

but her host family had lost their home in the hurricane. Siri then began to look elsewhere to continue her education. Cannon shared with Siri her experience at SWOSU, and helped Siri enroll for classes on the Weatherford campus.

SWOSU provided a new start and an open door for one student, with a transfer that was pleasant, uplifting and hopeful.

by Ashley Kehl



Alumnus Stacey Cannon helped coordinate food and shelter efforts for these and other evacuees. She also helped enroll children in new schools among other tasks.

HURRICANE KATRINA HELP

Former SWOSU Quarterback Survives Hurricane Katrina

Former SWOSU quarterback, Mike Sekul, who now resides in Biloxi, Mississippi, was one of the many individuals who felt the wrath of Hurricane Katrina.

Sekul, who helped lead the Bulldogs to the National Championship game in 1977, was thrown out of the window of his house by a 20 foot wave.

He and his girlfriend were able to survive the horrifying confrontation by grabbing on to a boat that was floating by in the storm.

In a letter from Mr. Sekul to former teammate Rocky Powell, he expressed his current status by saying that he had lost everything, the only remains being his front and back steps. When viewing recent pictures of his house and lot, the look was more of a junkyard.

Hurricane Katrina not only made its presence



Mike Sekul sits on the steps of what used to be his home, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Sekul and his girlfriend survived the storm by grabbing a boat after they were swept out of their house by a 20-foot wave.

felt in parts of Mississippi, but also in parts of Alabama and did devastating damage on the city of New Orleans, Louisiana.

by Glenn Jones

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Alumni Sponsor Landscaping Projects

The year 2006 looks to be a big one for landscaping projects on the SWOSU campus. With the partnership of alumni and friends, the process of beautification nears an end.

With a completion date of fall 2006 for most landscaping projects, the 2003 goal is quickly becoming reality.

Current projects include the landscaping of the Pharmacy Annex, the east entrance to Rankin Williams Fieldhouse, Stewart Hall and Neff Hall.

Previously completed landscaping developments have been a tremendous addition to the campus.

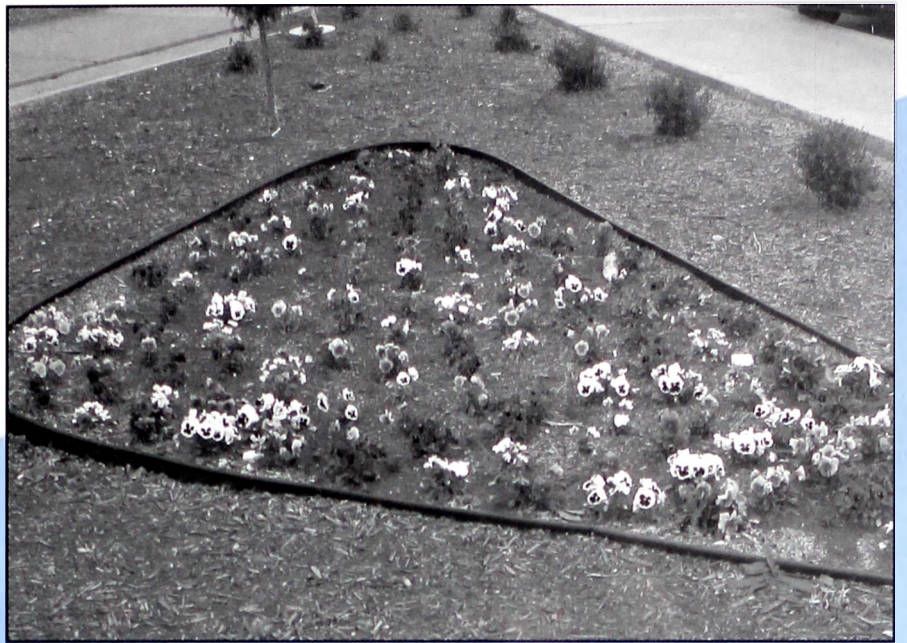
Finished landscaping ventures include the Education Building, Technology Buildings, Campbell Building, the south side of Oklahoma Hall, Rogers and Jefferson Halls entrances and the corner of Public Safety.

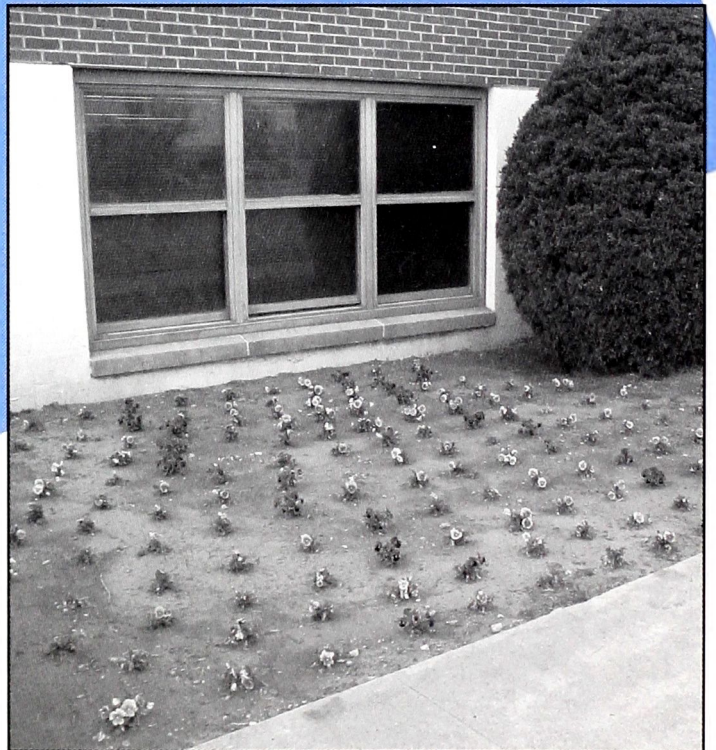
Plans for landscaping have been put in place for the 2006 year. The alumni plans to plant 50 trees around campus. Parking lot pocket beds placed at various locations around campus will further beautify the campus. The south entrance of the Conference Center will undergo the beautification process as well.

-Andrea Fleig



*Alumni-
sponsored
flowerbeds
across
campus*





Brandi Gateley

Joins Alumni Office

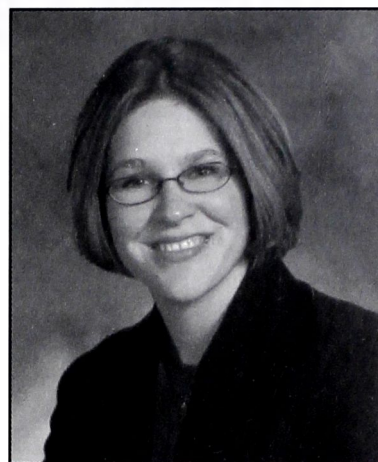
Brandi Gateley is the new assistant director for alumni and development at SWOSU in Weatherford.

Gateley, originally from Weatherford, came to SWOSU after serving three years as office manager at the Great Plains Family YMCA in Weatherford. She graduated from SWOSU in May 2005 with a bachelor's degree in business management

with a minor in art.

She and her husband, Dylan, have a three-year-old son, Lane, and a one-year-old daughter, Maci. Her parents, Mark and Vicky Gregory, also live in Weatherford. The Gateleys are members of the Weatherford Church of Christ.

Gateley will serve as an assistant to Jim Waites, who directs the Alumni and Foundation offices



Brandi Gateley

at SWOSU. Gateley will work primarily with the SWOSU Alumni Association. She can be reached at (580) 774-3267 or brandi.gateley@swosu.edu

Former President Honored on 96th Birthday

Former SWOSU President Al Harris was honored with a small surprise celebration December 15, 2005, in honor of his 96th birthday.

Former SWOSU President Joe Anna Hibler and current SWOSU President John Hays were among the participants who enjoyed cake and punch and then listened as Dr. Harris reminisced about his collegiate days.

Harris was at SWOSU when the university had its largest growth pattern. In 1960 when he became president, SWOSU had 1,871 students. By 1972, that number had jumped to 5,563, the university's largest ever enrollment number. Harris remained president until 1975 when he retired.

Harris was the first alumnus of SWOSU to return as its president. He graduated from SWOSU in 1931 with a bachelor's degree and immediately accepted a position in the Custer City schools. By attending school in the summers, he completed requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree and also acquired



Former SWOSU President Al Harris with current president Dr. John Hays and past president Dr. Joe Anna Hibler.

enough hours in various fields of study to qualify for majors in mathematics, science, history, government and industrial arts. During Harris' tenure, SWOSU built the Chemistry, Pharmacy, Physics Building, a new library, an arts and science building, three dormitories, a second cafeteria, a swimming pool, and an office addition to the Physical Education Building.

Alumni Golf Tournament Scheduled

The SWOSU alumni golf tournament will be held on Saturday, June 24 in Oklahoma City at the Silver Horn Golf Course.

On Friday the 23rd at the Marriot Hotel there will be a chance to meet some of the alumni and get to know one another.

Jim Waites, host of the 13th annual alumni mixer, said, "This year will be one of the best years that we've ever had. The tournament is one of his favorite events to do, because its a chance to see a lot of friends that are members of the Alumni Association who come from all over to play in the tournament.

"There will be cash prizes to the top three winners, and over half the players

will receive some prize so there is a good chance that you would be a winner," he said.

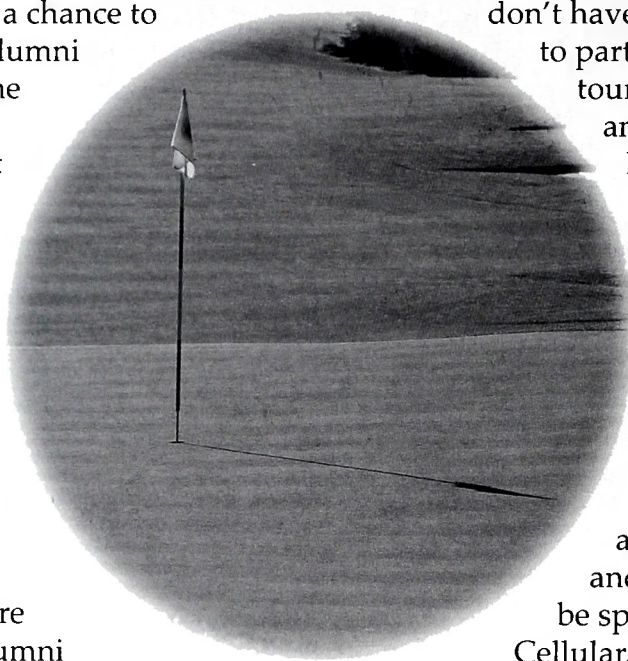
"There is usually about 130 people that attend the tournament, but you don't have to be a member

to participate. The tournament is open to anyone that would like to come and play and the price to play is just \$100, which includes lunch," Waites said.

The tournament will be catered by Duncan Taylor, director of SWOSU's auxiliary services, and the beverages will be sponsored by Dobson Cellular.

To enter in the tournament, call Waites in the Institutional Advancement Office at (580) 774-3267.

by Brian Justice



**June
24
Silver
Horn
Golf
Course**

Dawg Dates 2006

Aug

23 Fall Semester Begins

Sept

30 Parent's Day

Oct

12 Oktoberfest, Bricktown Brewery
28 Homecoming

**J
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23 Alumni Golf Mixer at the
Oklahoma City Marriott
24 Alumni & Friends Golf
Classic, 8 a.m., Silverhorn
Golf Course

ALUMNI PROFILE



Alumni Jeff Dodd's mural "Black Gold" is located in the Rotunda of the Oklahoma State Capitol.

Dodd's State Scenes Grace Capitol

Jeff Dodd saw many Oklahoma scenes while growing up in western Oklahoma -- oil fields, farms, ranches. He even worked on the farm during summers.

Now Dodd's depictions of those scenes grace the hallways of the Oklahoma State Capitol in Oklahoma City.

Dodd received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from SWOSU in 1985. He worked for his family's convenience store for three years before pursuing a master's degree. He first went to Wichita State, then he studied figure drawing intensively at the Art's Student League and New York Academy of Art in 1988-89.

After returning to Oklahoma to work on a farm, the traveling artist went to Santa Fe, New Mexico for three years, teaching himself how to paint. While he was at Santa Fe, he showed his work at Turner Carroll Gallery.

He moved from New Mexico to Wichita,

Kansas, to work on his graduate program in 1995. He stayed for one semester before starting one of two mural paintings for the Oklahoma State Capitol. He completed "Black Gold" in 1996 and then went on to complete "We Belong To The Land" in 1998. They are hanging at the Oklahoma State Capitol Great Rotunda for everyone to see what Oklahoma means to him.

His solo exhibits from 1991 to 2004 were in spots like Woodward, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Norman, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Fayetteville, Arkansas. His group exhibits were from 1992-2003 in different museums and galleries. He also received several awards from 1989-1996 for his work.

The traveling artist has settled down in Enid. He shows his work at M.A. Doran Gallery in Tulsa and Mainsite Contemporary Art in Norman.

By Melody Bowen



The above map shows the number of SWOSU graduates in each state.

Alumni Achievements Span the U.S.

SWOSU graduates' accomplishments extend from the icy Alaskan wilderness to the temperate Florida Keys.

Whether building today's neoclassical motorcycles or lobbying for the gas industry of tomorrow, SWOSU graduates demonstrate that Bulldog pride exists beyond Campbell's hallowed halls and the echo of the old stadium walls.

Mike Jones (1979) is Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer of Level 3

Communications in Broomfield, Colorado. Rick Shelby (1970) is vice president of the American Gas Association from McLean, Virginia. His classmate, Brad Fitzgerald of Woodbury, Minnesota, fabricates components for Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Approximately 30,000 alumni live and work in the United States. Their jobs range from a scuba diving instructor off the coast of Hawaii, to a top government position in Wyoming.

by Marshall Dougherty

Peterson Promoted at Farm Bureau

Lori Kromer Peterson (1995) was recently promoted to the position of Vice President of Public Policy for Oklahoma Farm Bureau and Affiliated Companies.

Her career at Oklahoma Farm Bureau began in January 2002 as director of the national affairs and political education division within the Public Policy Department.

Peterson, a native of Hollis, graduated from Altus High School in 1992 before attending SWOSU. She completed a bachelors degree in business administration with minors in marketing and speech, graduating in December 1995.

Peterson said her time at SWOSU played an important role in her success.

"Todd Boyd, director of Admissions and Recruitment, showed me the great opportunity that SWOSU offered when I visited him at a college fair and Mark Mouse, former director of Placement and Field Representation for SWOSU, offered me a job in the high school and college relations office where I met outstanding students and faculty and developed my skills in speech and marketing."

After graduating from SWOSU, Peterson earned her law degree from the University of Oklahoma in 2000.

She and her husband Blaine, who is an attorney in Oklahoma City, reside in Norman with their two-year-old son, Charlie.



Lori Kromer Peterson

by Cashlie Hines

DR. JOE B. THOMPSON has been appointed visiting assistant professor of theatre at Illinois College, which is located in Jacksonville, Illinois. Dr. Thompson's academic background includes B.A. from SWOSU and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Texas Tech University.

TERRY MAXWELL, Leedey High School softball coach, has been elected to the Oklahoma High School Fast-Pitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Maxwell, a 25-year coaching veteran, has coached at Leedey, Vici, Carmen-Dacoma and Taloga. He has an overall record of 372-108. His teams have made the state tournament ten times. Maxwell is a graduate of Vici High School and SWOSU.

CHRISTINE REID has joined the law firm of Harrison and Mecklenburg, Inc., as an associate. Reid received a bachelor of science degree from SWOSU in 1992 and a law degree from Oklahoma City University in 1996. Following graduation, Reid worked as an assistant district attorney in Garfield and Blaine counties. She is married to Kingfisher newspaperman, Gary Reid, and has two children, Ellyn, 9, and Robert, 6.

Pharmacy graduate **RHONDA DERRICKSON NORTON** of Dallas, was profiled in *Women's World Magazine* for her efforts in saving the life of a Dallas man. Norton was working at a Medco Pharmacy when she had a telephone conversation with a man who became ill during the call. Her efforts to get medical attention to the man earned her national recognition through an article in *Women's World Magazine*.

Aldrich Finishes at Top of Med School

SWOSU continues to produce outstanding students year in and year out. These words are from SWOSU graduate, Ryan Aldrich.

Aldrich is one of those top graduates. After leaving SWOSU in 2001, he attended the University of Oklahoma Medical School, where he was ranked in the top of his class when he finished in 2005.

Aldrich said his four years at SWOSU helped him develop skills and knowledge. Aldrich credits Ms. Ball's anatomy class and Dr. Wolgamott's classes that "peaked his interest in medicine." When asked how SWOSU best helped in preparing him for the overwhelming material in medical

school, Aldrich said, "Being a part of the excellent science department and curriculum, and the prevailing attitude at SWOSU is one of working together with peers and respecting others regardless of position."

As for any advice he would give to others that aspire to attend medical school or any other professional school, Ryan suggests, "not to limit yourself or feel like you are at a disadvantage coming from a smaller state university."

Ryan is one great graduate out of hundreds others that credits much of their success to SWOSU. Needless to say, we can only expect more great ones to come.

by Maghin Merrill

ALUMNI NOTES

CHRISTY FOUST, previously of Thomas, received the 2005 Upper Elementary Teacher of the Year award at Sequoyah Public School District. Foust graduated from SWOSU in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. She completed her internship at Westside Elementary School in Claremore. Christy has taught two years of fourth grade and is currently teaching her first year of fifth grade.

LARRY PALMORE was recently inducted into the Oklahoma Coaches Hall of Fame. Palmore graduated from Vinson High School, Sayre Junior College and SWOSU. He played baseball for the Bulldogs. He also earned his Master's in Administration for SWOSU. His first Oklahoma coaching job was at Arnett, and then in 1967 he took a coaching job at Hollis. He served as head football coach, basketball coach, and athletic director for the school. During his 20-

year career, Palmore's basketball teams recorded a 305-187 record and made the state tournament three years. His 10-year football record at Hollis was 66-46, with a runner-up title in 1983. Palmore has two sons, Stan, of Yukon and Dee and his wife, Susan, of Wichita Falls, Texas, and two grandchildren, Colin and Katie, of Wichita Falls, Texas.

MARTY RIVERS, branch president of First State Bank in Denton, Texas, was chosen as the Denton Business and Community News Businessperson of the Year. It is one of several honors Rivers has gained through the Denton Chamber of Commerce. Rivers grew up in Weatherford and graduated from SWOSU. Four years ago, he graduated from the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University. Rivers and his wife, Toni (also a SWOSU graduate), have two children, Cole, 8, and Kendall, 6.

ALUMNI NOTES

ANNIE (HAND) WHITFIELD, a 2003 graduate of SWOSU, is living in Edmond and working for the Electric Cooperatives of Oklahoma's *Oklahoma Living* magazine. As part of the job, she co-authored a book depicting ghost towns of Oklahoma. She is working on her master's degree at the University of Oklahoma.

SUSAN SMITH HAMBURGER, who received a bachelor's degree from SWOSU in 1968 and a master's degree in 1970, was a YWCA Women on the Move honoree in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Susan was recognized for her accomplishments as a drama director, bringing 11 high school dramas to the stage at Hope Evangelical Free Church. (Susan won the Duke Award for drama at SWOSU in 1968.) She also has directed numerous children's choir performances and events. Susan is a substitute teacher in the Albuquerque Public Schools, and teaches child birthing classes for couples. Susan is married to Dr. Gary Hamburger, who is also a graduate of SWOSU (1968) and pastors Hope Evangelical Free Church.

BOB KLAASSEN was presented with the WAVES (Western Association of Veteran Education Specialists) "Bill Pearson Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award." This award is given in recognition of meritorious service to the Western Association of Veteran Education Specialists and to the veterans in the Muskogee VA (Veterans

Administration) regional processing office territory. Klaassen serves as Treasurer of WAVES and has been on the "board" in one capacity or another for six years. WAVES is made up of school officials in the 14 states in the Muskogee region, running from Arkansas and Louisiana on the east through California, Washington, Alabama and Hawaii on the west.



Bob Klaassen receives the WAVES Lifetime Achievement Award.

Homecoming Later in the Day

afternoon parade, evening game is something new

The 2005 Homecoming weekend had a new twist. Instead of the traditional morning parade and afternoon football game, the events were pushed back. The parade was at 2:00 p.m., with the game at 6:00 p.m.

"I was glad the parade was later in the day because the temperature was much warmer. I was freezing at last year's parade," said senior Leah Crosnoe.

Many merchants also liked the change, noting the increase in business for the day. Both the parade and the game were well-attended.

The activities started at 8 a.m. with the Big Dawg Golf Scramble at the Prairie West Golf Course.

The SWOSU Alumni Association &

SGA sponsored a tailgate party south of Milam Stadium. The Pearlsnaps entertained while students and alumni enjoyed Indian tacos, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Drawings for scholarships awarded four SWOSU students with \$250 toward tuition.

At 4 p.m., an alumni awards dinner for the 50 year grads was held in the Conference Center.

Then it was time to kick off the big game against in state rival, University of Central Oklahoma. The Bulldogs started out on fire, feeding off a large crowd. The football game did not go as planned, but Bulldogs fans were not disappointed. The SGA provided fireworks to end the day's events with a BANG!



SWOSU's marching band marches down Main Street during the Homecoming Parade. For the first time in SWOSU's history, the parade was in the afternoon instead of the morning.

Homecoming 2005



Cashlie Hines and Misty Williams enjoy the bonfire the night before Homecoming.



Homecoming queen candidates wave to the crowd during the Homecoming parade.



Sigma Sigma Chi's float makes it down the street.



The annual parade bed race was as competitive as ever.



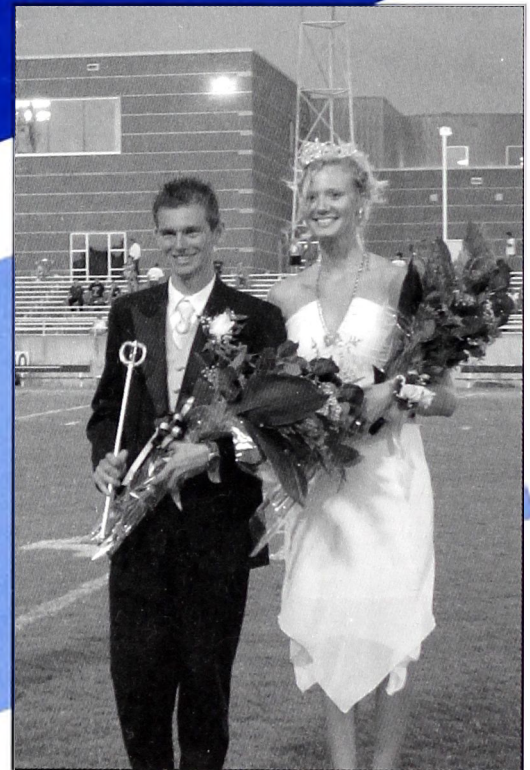
The Medallion recipients for 2005 pose during the alumni luncheon.



Winners of Homecoming blankets were named during the alumni luncheon.

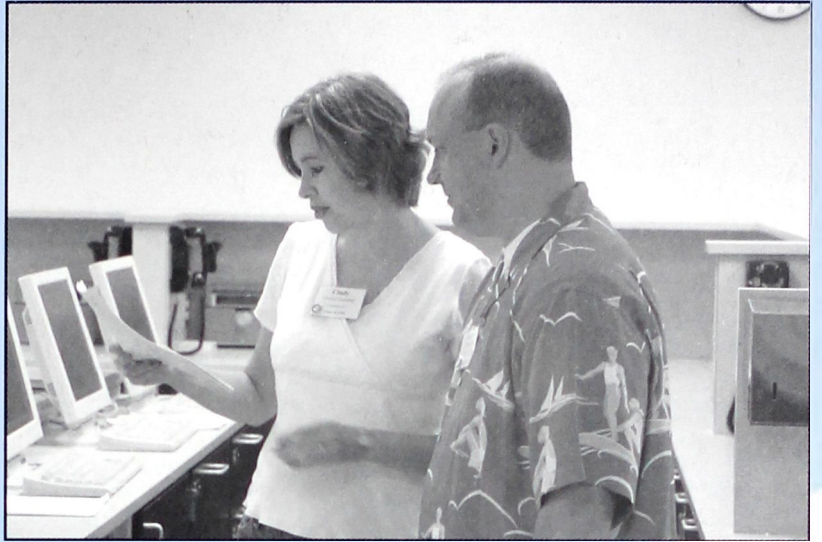


Several people played golf Friday during the annual Homecoming golf scramble. Those participating included (left to right) Tony Louthan, Mike Davis, Lane Goodman, Josh Jolley, Haydon Battles, Loy Taylor, Ross Everett, Rouben Tourian, Zack Saunders, Matt Bartel, Ben Stewart, Tyler Lumpkin and Jim Waites.

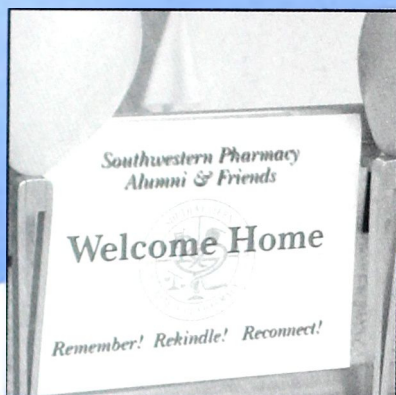


Homecoming King Zac Dumas and Queen Marce Muller pose after receiving their trophies during halftime of the football game.

Homecoming 2005



Pharmacy style



A combined 10-year class reunion for the SWOSU College of Pharmacy classes of 1994-98 was held during Homecoming weekend. Graduates and their families gathered at the College of Pharmacy open house for reminiscing, a casual lunch and viewing the latest remodeling project of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy. Among those attending were (front from left) Kristi Tran Craven, Oklahoma City; Alan Spies, Birmingham, Alabama; and Amy Anderson Carothers, Guthrie. Back from left--Laura Phillips Stewart, Edmond; Kim Folks, Miami; Mitra Salehi Deimling, Weatherford; and E. Carol Johnson, Edmond. Not pictured are Greg Adams, Clinton; Tim and Cindy Butler Gardner, Marshfield, Missouri; and Roy Lee Mason, Flint, Texas.



A 50-year pharmacy graduate recognition ceremony was held during Homecoming weekend at SWOSU in Weatherford. Attending were (front from left): Virginia Milliner ('47), Weatherford; Lowell M. Irby ('55), Artesia, New Mexico; D.M. Sokolosky ('55), Owasso; Derrel Andrus ('54), Lawton; and Harlene Chastka ('55), Muskogee. Back row from left—William G. Bernhardt ('48), Midwest City; Don Turner ('55), Fairland; Donald Scott ('52), Tulsa; Don Barker ('54), Edmond; James Brandenburg ('54), Tulsa; and Ralph Magill ('50), Weatherford.

We Remember

NAME	TOWN	GRADUATED/ ATTENDED	NAME	TOWN	GRADUATED/ ATTENDED
CHERYL L. AITSON	OKLAHOMA CITY	1982	LARRY DALE HIGGINS	LONGDALE	ATTENDED
JOSEPH RAY "JOE" BATTLES	SEMINOLE	1960, 1967	JOHN HYER	FAIRVIEW	1933
DONNA DEE BAYLESS	OKLAHOMA CITY	1968	JODY RAY JACKSON	WEATHERFORD	2002
JOHN VICTOR BECK	BLOOMINGTON, IN	1965	DR. JAMES JURRENS	WEATHERFORD	FACULTY
ELLOWEEN RUHL BENNETT	HYDRO	1960, 1967	BO LIGHTFOOT	WEATHERFORD	1990
STEVEN EUGENE BENSCH	SEILING	ATTENDED	MANUAL "MANNY" MACIEL	HENNESSEY	ATTENDED
JERRY BROOKS	WATONGA	1971	LORENA "SAVAGE" MALES	CHEYENNE	1935
MARY McLAURY BURCH	SAYRE	ATTENDED	HELEN (HUNT) MALEY	CLINTON	1942
HAZEL BYNUM	ROOSEVELT	ATTENDED	LISA MARSHALL	ARAPAHO	ATTENDED
CLAY JOSEPH CABANISS	CLINTON	2003	OUANA MCCOLLUM	AMARILLO	ATTENDED
WALTER ALBERT CAGG	ANADARKO	ATTENDED	DOROTHY (BOYD) MINTON	FAY	ATTENDED
NORMA (JOHNSON) CARTER	CARNEGIE	1966	CHARLENE MONA MOTT	CLINTON	1990
DARRIL CHRISTIAN	HOLLIS	1958	ALICE LOUISE NEECE	SAYRE	1975
ARTHUR "CORKY" WHITEBIRD			RONALD LEE PAULSEN	HANNIBAL, MO	ATTENDED
COMETSEVAH	GALLUP, NM	ATTENDED	JOE REDDEN	YUKON	ATTENDED
V. RAY CORDRY, SR.	HENNESSEY	ATTENDED	A.F. ROACH	TUTTLE	ATTENDED
DONNELL DENTON	TULSA	ATTENDED	FRANCES DOREEN ROULET	CLINTON	1940, 1958
TERRY DORSEY	BINGER-ONEY	1972	FLORENCE SCHNELL	CARLTON	ATTENDED
KEITH DOWDELL	CLINTON	ATTENDED	HELEN SEALES	ELK CITY	1968, 1970, 1977
JESSIE DEAN DOYEL	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	ATTENDED	PAUL SENKOFF	LONE WOLF	ATTENDED
EMMITT "LEE" DRANE, JR.	MEDFORD, OR	1970	BILLY JOE SHEPHERD	CARNEGIE	1971
CHARLES LINDBERGH GAMBRELL	WEATHERFORD	1954	OLGA SHEPHERD	CARNEGIE	1943
GERALD DWAYNE GARMAN	AUSTIN, TX	ATTENDED	MERLE EUGENE SHORT	MUSKOGEE	1970
J.R. GILLILLAND	EL RENO	1971	JEFFREY ALAN SMITH	HARMON	1995
LARRY E. GREER	FREDERICK	ATTENDED	NADINE (HOGG) STEEDS	MOORE	ATTENDED
THOMAS HAGER	WILLOW	1951	ELSIE STOUT	WOODWARD	ATTENDED
BETTY (GREGORY) HALL	CORDELL	ATTENDED	ROBERT NICHOLAS VAUGHAN	FT. COBB	ATTENDED
RITA LYNN HALEY	EAKLY	ATTENDED	MAYME WINTERS	WATONGA	1943
N. ELAINE HENRY	HINTON	1970	RONALD WYATT	HYDRO	1973

College Football Coach John Goodner Remembered

SWOSU alumnus and former college football Coach John Goodner passed away in December.

Goodner, who spent 21 seasons as an assistant coach at Baylor, Texas Tech and Kentucky, died of a brain tumor at a Waco, Texas, hospital. He was 61.

Former Baylor coach Grant Teaff hired Goodner as linebackers coach in 1982, a position he held until the close of the 1992 season. He also served as Baylor's defensive

coordinator in 1992.

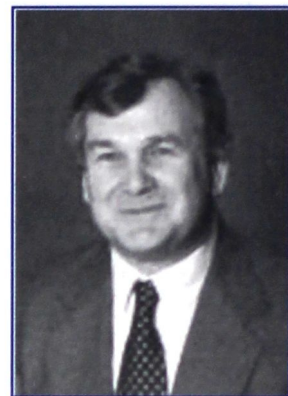
Goodner then coached inside linebackers at Texas Tech from 1993 to 1999 under Coach Spike Dykes and was defensive coordinator for his final five seasons. Goodner also served as defensive coordinator at Kentucky for the 2001 and 2002 seasons.

He returned to Baylor as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach under Coach Guy Morris for the 2003 season before retiring.

A native of Frederick,

Goodner played college football at SWOSU and then spent 14 years as a high school coach in Oklahoma

and Texas. He is survived by his wife, Karen, of Frederick, and a daughter, Kathi, of Hewitt, Texas.



Football Legend Joe Battles Remembered

Joseph Ray "Joe" Battles, 72, Bulldog football legend, passed away on August 25, 2005.

Funeral services were held at the First Baptist Church in Seminole, and he was buried at the Mound Valley Cemetery in Thomas.

Joe Battles was born to Shelby and Ruth Mae Battles on March 20, 1933.

Joe Battles and his family have been long-time residents of Seminole. After graduating from Lovington High School in 1950, he and his brother

Haydon were members of the Bulldog football team at SWOSU.

At SWOSU, Joe married Bonnie Droke in 1960 and received his Bachelor of Arts in Education. He received a master of teaching degree in July 1967 from SWOSU and an administration degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1978.

Joe Battles held various positions in his career. He was head basketball and football coach for three years in

Cunningham, Kansas.

After coaching, he began a career in administration in 1968 which at that time he served as a high school principal and also as an assistant superintendent.

He retired from Seminole Public Schools in 1995 after 37 years of service in public education.

Joe Battles was active in the community as Rotary Club president in 1984 and a member of First Baptist Church of Seminole.

Sonny Tims Remembered

Sonny Tims, of Altus, passed away June 26, 2005. He was born May 23, 1931, to Roy and Nell Tims.

He graduated from Altus High School where he was an outstanding athlete. He was a letterman in football, basketball and baseball. He earned All-State honors in baseball.

After high school, he went on to SWOSU to continue his education. While at SWOSU,

he also lettered in football, basketball and baseball.

After college he played professional baseball for several years in the West Texas-New Mexico league and later signed a professional contract with the Milwaukee Braves. After his baseball career, he coached and taught at Altus Junior High.

In 1955 he became co-owner of Tims Funeral Home

where he served through 1990.

He was very involved in the community and started Christmas in the Park in Altus.

He revived the Bulldog Booster Club and was a member of Kiwanis Club, the Masonic Lodge and a member of First Baptist Church. He also helped start the God and Country Camp for area youth.

Amos Thomas Passes Away

One of the greatest Bulldog basketball players passed away on November 5, 2005.

Amos Thomas, the once great Oklahoma basketball star, died from complications dealing with a stroke. Thomas was 56 years old.

Thomas began to shine as a basketball player at Douglas in the late '60s. Thomas was also named co-player of the year in 1967 by *The Oklahoman*.

Thomas signed with Oklahoma State after his high school career. After being in Stillwater, Thomas

made the switch from being an Aggie to becoming a Bulldog. Thomas's career at SWOSU made him an All-American.

Thomas went to the NBA and was drafted by the Buffalo Braves in 1971. Thomas was a second round draft pick.

"If you make a list of the top 10 basketball players in the history of Oklahoma, he would be put in that category," Oklahoma high school sports historian Ray Solden said in the *Daily Oklahoman's* report on the death of Thomas.

Frederick artist passes away at 59

Frederick artist Larry Greer passed away September 24, 2005, in his sleep. He was known for his passionate love of the arts and theater.

Larry was born January 17, 1946, in Frederick. After graduating high school, he married Dana Fry, his long time sweetheart.

At SWOSU, he majored in art and art education, minored in drama, and won the Duke Award for Acting.

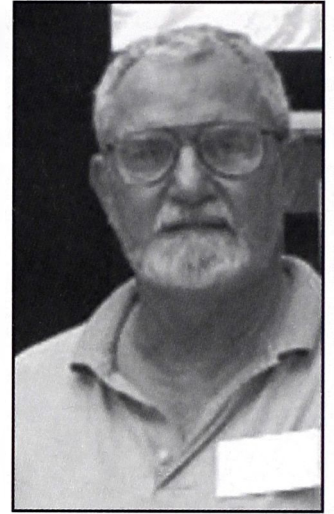
In 1969, he moved to Yukon, where he taught art and drama to high school students. He was director for the Yukon Community Theater.

Larry and his family later moved back to Frederick. He and his wife became members of the Frederick Arts and Humanities Council, and Larry served three terms as president of the council. He received the Most Useful Citizen Award, the Governor's Art Award for

Community Service, and the Oklahoma Heritage Regional Award over the next two and a half decades in addition to numerous awards for his artwork displayed at shows nationwide.

Larry was known for always being a great friend and cherishing the little things in life. He hosted Artists-in-Residence, fed the birds, gave blood, and took care of stray animals.

He was survived by his wife, daughter and two sisters.



Longtime Educator Lorena Males Remembered

Lorena Gladys Savage Males passed away at the age of 96 on January 3, 2006, in her home in Cheyenne.

Lorena graduated from SWOSU. She majored in Elementary Education and Music.

In her life, she was an influence on many people. At an early age Lorena felt compelled to become a school teacher.

Her students were a multitude, and Lorena always considered them to be the greatest blessings in her life.

Her mother and father were great contributors to her becoming a school teacher. She lived in an orderly household equipped with a blackboard in her living room. It was her parents' way of managing her and her siblings' household chores.

Lorena began her teaching career in Strong City, where she met her husband Lowell Males. Lorena and Lowell had eloped in Cheyenne on June 22, 1928. They were later married on July 12, 1928 in holy matrimony.

Throughout her teaching career, Lorena gave encouragement to many young women, advising them to pursue a career.

In 1984, Lorena and her husband Lowell (Red) were given a "Red and Lorena Males Appreciation Day" by their hometown people of Cheyenne.

On July 5, 1984, Lorena was inducted into the Western Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

Lorena's successful long and happy life was a reflection of Oklahoma history in itself.

Student Union Food Court Reopens

The largest renovation ever on SWOSU soil nears completion as the construction on the Student Union continues.

Construction crews have worked diligently on expanding and refurbishing the Student Union since the project's start in mid-2005. The \$4 million dollar project will allow for renovations and expansions to the Ballroom, banquet room facilities, lobby areas, and an enlarged food court. It will also provide an atrium and new restroom facilities.

The University Grill, located on the east end of the Student Union, was the first major phase in the reconstruction process. It opened on February 14. The modified food court features Arrizzo's Italian, the Corner Bakery, Chicken Strip Joint, Casa Solana Mexican, and the Bulldog Grill. The University Grill now has a seating capacity for 350, which is 100 more than before.

"We are very excited about the Student Union renovation project and feel this will help us in serving the needs

of the University and area communities," said Duncan Taylor, Student Union Director. Taylor said there is a new entrance area on the north side of the building. The east entrance also remains and eventually there will be an atrium entrance from the west.

The wait will continue, however, for the total completion. Crews are working hard to complete the other phases and are expecting a completion date around August of this year.

by Steven Jeffrey



Students enjoy the new Student Union Food Court

Beutler Brings Legislative Experience to Strategic Operations Job

Walk into office 208 of the Administration Building and you will be greeted by Randy Beutler, whose official title is Assistant to the President for Strategic Operations.

What does that mean? It means Beutler's job is not easy to pin into one neat niche.

He, in fact, is a large part connected with public relations for SWOSU. He not only helps to keep the University in the local and regional picture, but also in the legislative forefront.

His background as a State Representative and member of Governor Brad Henry's legislative agenda team makes him a perfect icon for SWOSU at the Capitol. His previous

employment as an adjunct professor at SWOSU, high school teacher at Washita Heights and Weatherford, and rancher (which he continues to be) establishes him as more than credible to represent SWOSU.

One of Beutler's immediate projects is the President's Leadership Class. This program will build on the incoming freshmen of 2006 and continue to add with each consecutive freshman class. The Leadership Class is designed to encourage student involvement within the campus and develop strong relationships between the class and SWOSU administration.

As well as developing a good rapport with the student body, Beutler has a strong commitment to establishing a firmer connection with alumni.

SWOSU alumni can assist Beutler by being accessible when he visits, being a positive representative of SWOSU, and being available to help when asked. He expressed his desire to let alumni and students alike know that he is available for questions, concerns, and general "chit-chat" whenever his schedule permits.

Beutler can be reached in his SWOSU office at (580) 774-7193 or by e-mail at randy.beutler@swosu.edu.

by Amanda James



Randy Beutler, assistant to the president for strategic operations, is ready with a welcome smile to greet any student or alumni. Much of his job will entail serving as a liaison between the University and the legislators at the State Capitol.

CAMPUS NEWS

SWOSU's Graduation Rate High Compared to State Universities



Students sit at SWOSU's 2005 graduation. Recent statistics show that the university is at the top of the state in its graduation rate.

Recent statistics about graduation rates show that SWOSU is at the top of all state universities.

The statistics tracked the academic progress of freshmen who started full-time in the fall of 1998. Graduation rates for new freshman entering an institution as full-time students and graduating within 1.5 times the normal time for their program is used as a benchmark.

The most current graduation data is based on those students graduating by the summer of 2003 that were first time entering freshman.

The graduation rate of all SWOSU students is 36.7 percent. SWOSU also graduates 50 percent of athletes of all sports.

This is compared to Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a graduation rate of 32.3 percent for all students and 43.0 percent for athletes (www.sosu.edu).

Northwestern Oklahoma State University graduation rate is 29 percent of all students. No athletic graduation rates were available (www.nwosu.edu).

Oklahoma State University has a graduation rate of 24.7 percent of all students (www.okstate.edu).

These statistics are further proof that SWOSU is dedicated to giving a quality education to all its students.

by Katherin Martin



The above is a scene from SWOSU's latest television commercial.

Marketing Efforts Connect with Oklahoma City Students

SWOSU has acquired the help of Phase Two to help market SWOSU to Oklahoma City metro students.

The marketing firm is working hard to market SWOSU. Phase Two has incorporated a strategy to use media to reach the metro area high school students.

Phase Two established "SWOSU" as a brand name, and "The focus is you" as a tagline. The

tagline enabled SWOSU to be personal to each student that comes to the school.

The best way that the alumni can help complete the mission that Phase Two started is by continuing the premise of the tagline.

Alumni can sponsor students that show interest in the school and show the individual that SWOSU takes an interest in each of its potential

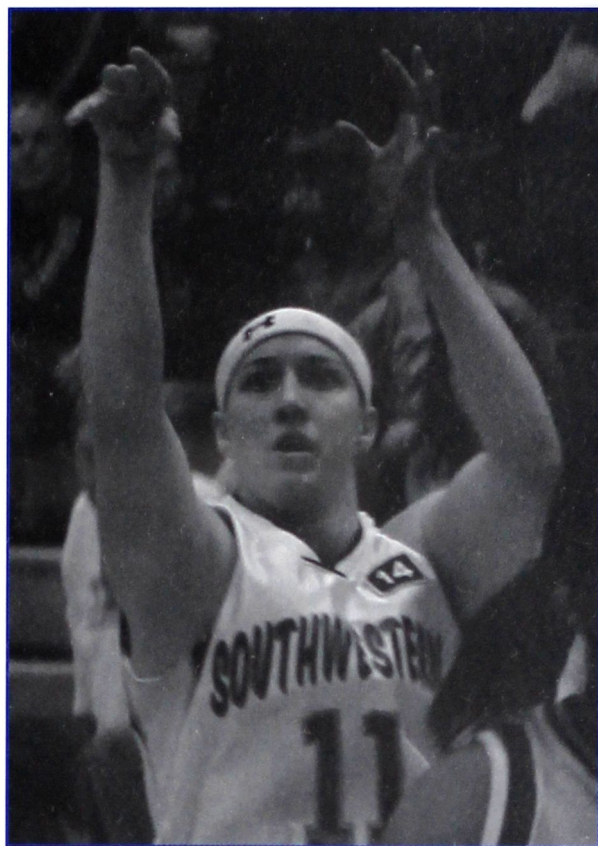
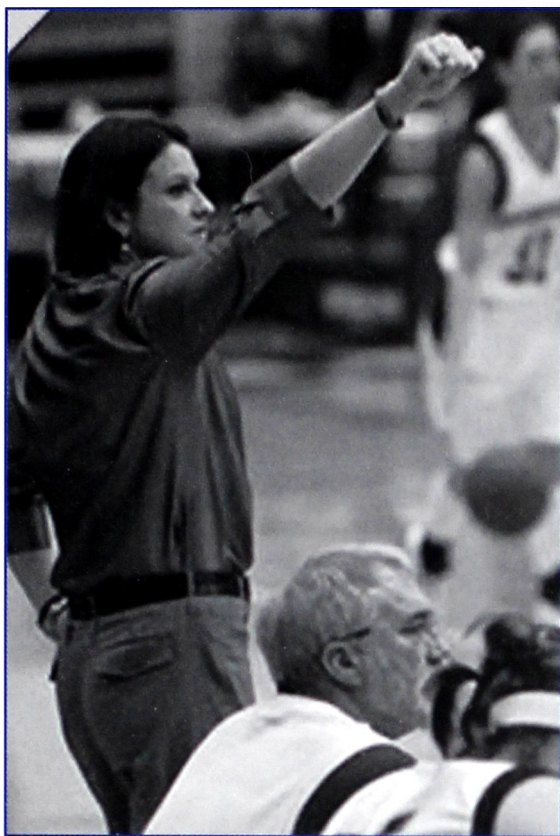
students.

Alumni can also help attract students by giving barbecues, taking potential students to lunch, and showing interest in any student who has questions about SWOSU.

To help in these efforts, contact Brian Adler, director of Public Relations & Marketing, at (580) 774-3063.

by Bryan Klepczek

BULLDOG ATHLETICS



SWOSU coach Shelly Pond and senior Julie Dawson wrapped up Lone Star Conference honors. Pond was named LSC North Division Coach of the Year, while Dawson was chosen as the division's player of the year. Junior Andrea Oldham joined Dawson on the all-conference squad. The women's team won the conference championship.

Pond, Dawson Get Top Honors

SWOSU, winners of the Lone Star Conference North Division Women's Basketball Title, claimed the greater part of the all-conference awards handed out by the league office.

Senior forward Julie Dawson was chosen as the division's Player of the Year while coach Shelly Pond was named by her peers as the LSC North

Coach of the Year.

Dawson, a native of Arnett, led the team in scoring (15.9 ppg), three-pointers made (43), assists (75) and free throw percentage (78.6).

Despite playing her freshman year at Oklahoma State University, Dawson ended her three-year SWOSU career as the school's fourth all-time leading

scorer with 1,385 points.

Pond, who is in her sixth year at SWOSU, has now guided the Bulldogs to identical 16-12 records in each of the last two years.

Joining Dawson on the first-team was teammate Andrea Oldham. Oldham, a junior center from Stigler, was named the division's "Newcomer-of-the-Year."

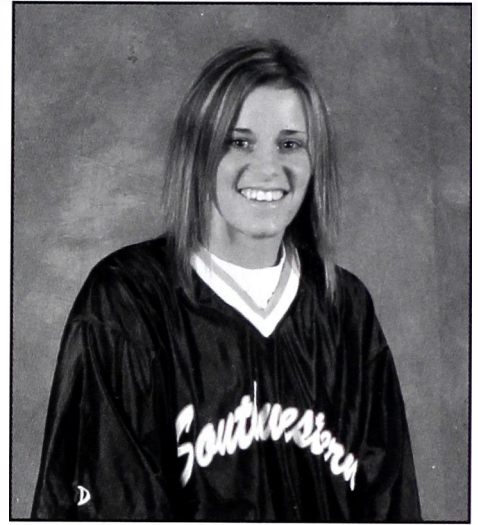
Women's Team Deals with Tragedy

The women's basketball team's run to the conference championship had plenty of heartache. Before the season began, the team lost one of its main players due to a car accident.

Kayla Watson, 21, died in September after a one-car accident on a rural Oklahoma highway over the 2005 Labor Day holiday. After graduating from Tushka High School in 2003, Watson played two years on the SWOSU women's

basketball team as a starter in all 28 games in the 2004-2005 season.

The Lady Bulldogs wore patches on their jerseys with the No. 14 -- Kayla's number. Several fundraisers commemorated Watson while raising money for a Kayla Watson Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fans paid respect all season, also. Rankin Rowdies spirit shirts worn by the fans during home games had a ribbon and No. 14 on the front.



Kayla Watson

Ingram Qualifies for National Meet

Rachel Ingram represented SWOSU at the NCAA Division II National Cross Country Meet in California, on November 19, 2005.

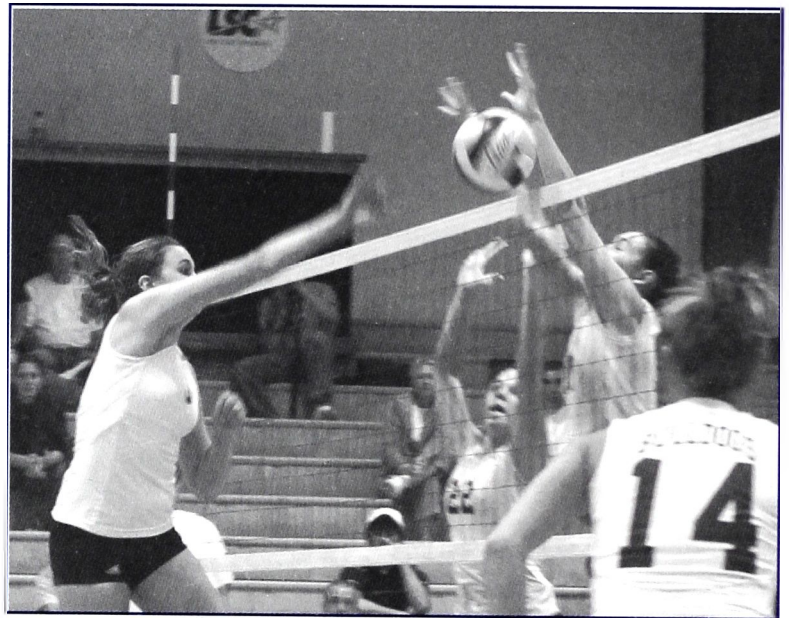
The National meet, which was held in Pomona, California, was a six-kilometer race. Ingram's finishing time was 22 minutes and 52 seconds, which placed her 47th out of 180 women runners.

Ingram qualified for nationals at the Regional Meet in Abilene, Texas. There she placed fourth with a finishing time of 22 minutes and 59 seconds.

Ingram, who won her first collegiate cross country meet this year at the Oklahoma Baptist Bison Invitational and then placed first again the next week at the Oklahoma State University Jamboree, said her goal this season was to get to Nationals.



Rachel Ingram



Kassandra Gurtner slams the ball into a defender.

Volleyball Finishes First Season

SWOSU ended its first-ever intercollegiate volleyball season last fall. The Bulldogs, under the direction of coach Bo Pagliasotti, finished 5-27 and 1-10 in the Lone Star Conference North.

SWOSU gave a commendable showing in its first year pushing much more experienced teams to the limit before bowing in the end.

"People have noticed our scrappiness and the way we compete for each point," Pagliasotti said.

Sonic Donates to Baseball Team

Tommy Sims (center), representing the M.D. Jirous (Sonic) Foundation, recently contributed \$3,000 to the SWOSU baseball program. The gift was made to the SWOSU Foundation in Weatherford. Accepting were (left) SWOSU baseball coach Charles Teasley and (right) Rouben Tourian, athletic development officer for the SWOSU Foundation.



Football schedule announced

Date	Opponent and Game Information
Saturday, Sept 2	at Texas A&M-Kingsville Kingsville, TX 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept 9	Midwestern State Milam Stadium 6 p.m.
Saturday, Sept 16	at Oklahoma Panhandle State Godwell, OK 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept 23	at Abilene Christian Abilene, TX TBA
Saturday, Sept 30	Tarleton State Milam Stadium 6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct 7	Missouri-Rolla Milam Stadium 1 p.m.
Saturday, Oct 14	at Southeastern Oklahoma Durant, OK TBA
Saturday, Oct 21	Northeastern State Milam Stadium 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct 28	Central Oklahoma Milam Stadium Homecoming Game 6 p.m.
Saturday, Nov 4	at East Central Ada, OK TBA
Saturday, Nov 11	at Texas A&M-Commerce Commerce, TX TBA

Cooks Named to Team

SWOSU's Lonnie Cooks was recognized as one of the top men's basketball players in the Lone Star Conference with his first-team selection to the North division squad.

Cooks, a 5-10 senior guard from Fort Worth, Texas, led the Bulldog's second-half charge in which they closed the regular-season winning six of their last nine games. SWOSU finished the year with a 9-18 overall mark and advanced to its third-straight LSC Tournament appearance with a 6-6 North division record.

Cooks led the team in scoring (15.2 ppg), assists (4.2 apg) and steals (1.8) while directing the Bulldogs offense and defense. He led the team in scoring nine times, including twice topping out at 25 points.

Earning honorable mention honors were senior forward Jon Gunn and junior guard Reggie Gunn.

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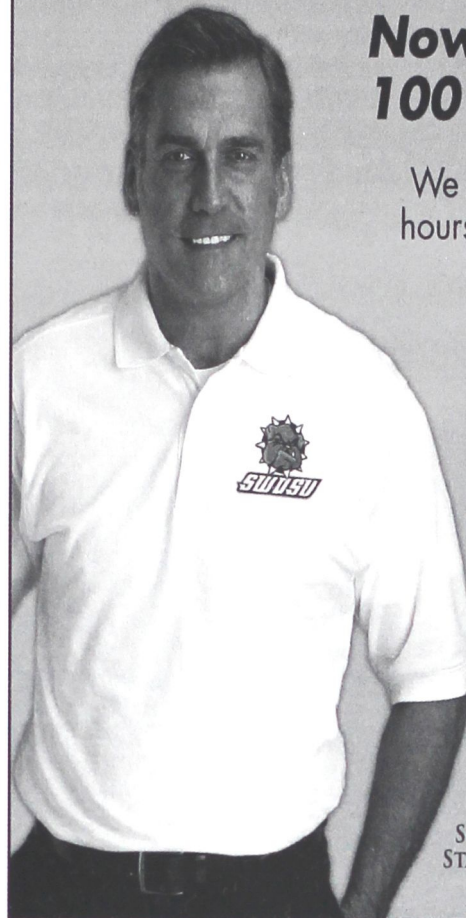
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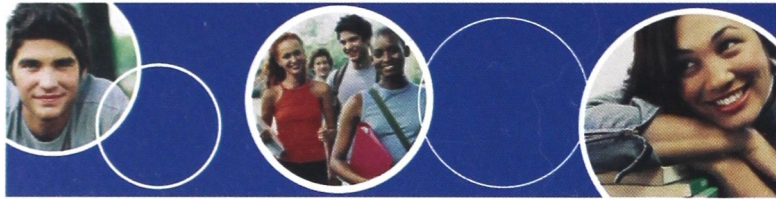
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