



Echoes from the Hill

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni

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SOUTHWESTERN

Echoes

from the hill

BULLDOGS



Echoes

From The Hill

Echoes from the Hill is a student written publication overseen by Associate Professor Joel Kendall, published by the SWOSU University Press and sponsored by the SWOSU Alumni Association and Southwestern Foundation. Contributing student writers and contributing photographers include:

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Enrollment was 1,867 in 1960, and grew to 5,482 by 1971, the university reported. In his tenure, Southwestern built a chemistry, pharmacy and physics building, a new library (now the Al Harris Library), an arts and sciences building, four dormitories, a second cafeteria, a swimming pool and an office addition to the physical education building.

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Echoes

We're Stumped

Sculptor carves new image for Brandy

There's a new "Dog" on campus.

Clayton Coss of Tulsa recently spent three days on the SWOSU campus, home of the Bulldogs, using a chain saw to carve a Bulldog from a dead tree stump. The carving was made possible by Public Service Company of Oklahoma.

"It (the carving) is so beautiful," SWOSU Physical Plant Director Rick Skinner said. "It is like a new sculpture on campus. It is amazing that someone can do this type of work with a chain saw."

The idea for the project came when a tree trimmer suggested that the university check with Coss. The tree was dead and needed to be pulled. But, the tree had a good stature and the trimmer, who had seen Coss' work, envisioned a carving. He cut down the tree but left enough of the stump for a carving.

Skinner then got with Tiffany Lyda, the community affairs manager for PSO, and the two worked on getting the project accomplished.

Visitors to the SWOSU campus can see the carved dog just south of the Al Harris Library.



Clayton Cross carved SWOSU's mascot out of a tree stump. The carving sits south of the Al Harris Library.

Alum/rodeo coach on reality show

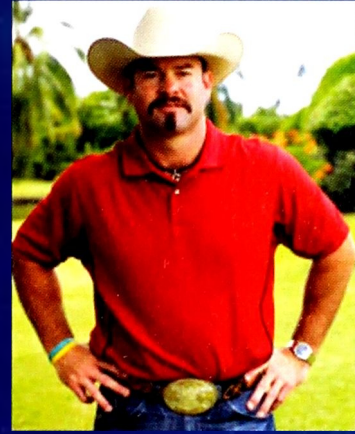
When TV Land's second season of the Class Reunion television program started February 18 for its spring season, area residents saw a familiar face.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Coach Chad Ramirez of Weatherford will be seen in the program this season.

Ramirez and 14 of his 1988 Chandler (AZ) High School classmates spent nearly a month in Hawaii this past summer filming the TV program.

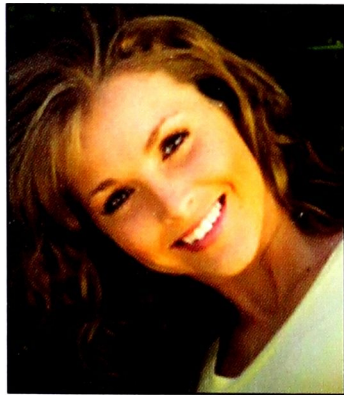
"I had a great time in Hawaii spending time with some of my classmates that I haven't seen in 20 years," Ramirez said. "It is a good program and a good way to reconnect with your old friends."

Ramirez, who has been SWOSU rodeo coach since 2001, and his classmates reunited on the island of Kauai. Ramirez also attended a premiere party in Arizona with his classmates.



Carothers available for presentations

Miss SWOSU Scholarship Pageant officials and the current Miss SWOSU, Kaeli Carothers, are available to provide programs for area clubs and organizations. Debbie Brown, director of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University pageant in Weatherford, said board members are available to present brief educational programs on the pageant system. Carothers, who won her title in October, is available to provide entertainment at club and professional meetings. The Hollis sophomore is majoring in pre-pharmacy at SWOSU, and her platform issue is "A Walk a Day Keeps the Doctor Away."



Kaeli Carothers

Contact Brown at (580) 774-3063 to schedule a program.

SWOSU sponsors YouTube contest

Tyrel Harrelson is the winner of the first SWOSU YouTube video contest held recently at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Harrelson, a SWOSU student from Arnett, won \$150. His video, entitled "My SWOSU", can be seen at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/swosu>.

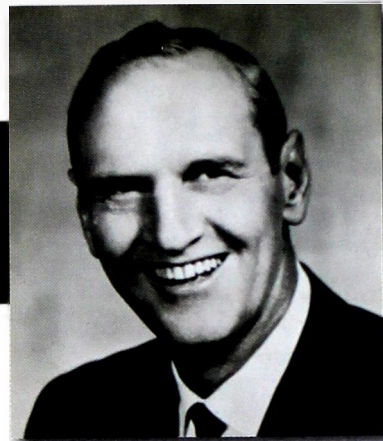
Second place winner of \$100 in the contest was Ashley Rodriguez of Clinton.

Brian Adler, director of public relations & marketing at SWOSU, said students are invited to email him a link to any videos they would like to see on the SWOSU YouTube site. The videos should be related to SWOSU in some way.

Another video contest has been underway. Once the winner is announced, the video can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/user/swosu>.

Al Harris

the man whose life was SWOSU



Albert "Al" Harris, who was president of Southwestern Oklahoma State University during the years of its greatest growth, died Dec. 28, 2008. He was 99.

Those who knew him can testify to his dedication to Southwestern. From the time he showed up on campus as a freshman in 1927 to when he retired as president in 1975, Harris built his life around making Southwestern a better university.

One person who witnessed the works of Harris is Dr.

Jerry Nye, former chair of the Language Arts department. He said Harris made the university grow in many ways.

"Al has more of a legacy than any other Southwestern president because

of his foresight," Nye said. Before Harris, the Southwestern pharmacy program consisted of one floor of the administration building. After Harris built the Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Physics (CPP) Building the program rapidly expanded.

Harris was also extremely proud of the Southwestern band.

"Al wanted to build a better marching band," Nye said, "so he hired a new director and allotted money for several new music scholarships. Before, there were not a lot of scholarships available for music students."

During Harris's presidency, the marching band reached 220 students, a number unheard of before then. The band also traveled much more than they had before the new director.

"Al preferred to stay behind the scenes," Nye said. "He had the ability to assess a person's

character. Once he hired the right person for the job, he would sit back and let them make the right decisions."

As an undergraduate, Harris excelled in academics and sports.

"Al Harris was an athlete, not a scholar," Nye said, "but he valued education."

Harris, a native of Altus, became the first Southwestern alumnus to be named the school's president on July 1, 1960. He retired June 30, 1975.

Enrollment was 1,867 in 1960, and grew to 5,482 by 1971, Nye said. He said the addition of many physical attributes of the campus attracted students.

In his tenure, Southwestern built the chemistry, pharmacy and physics building, a new library (now the Al Harris Library), an arts and sciences building (now Campbell), four dormitories (Oklahoma, Parker, Rogers, and Jefferson), a second cafeteria, a swimming pool and an office addition to the physical education building. An addition almost

**Al Harris
The Scholar**
By attending school in the summers, he completed requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree, and acquired enough hours in various fields of study to qualify for majors in mathematics, science, history, government, and industrial arts.

"Al has left more of a legacy than any other Southwestern president because of his foresight."

-- Jerry Nye

doubled the size of the chemistry, pharmacy and physics building, and the Memorial Student Center and two older dorms were enlarged. The old science building was modernized; the old gymnasium after extensive remodeling became the music building; and the old library was renovated into the art building.

Nye mentioned that Harris would always inspect the buildings himself, to "be sure he was getting his money's worth."

Harris was known for his thriftiness.

"Money and security were very important to Al," Nye said. "He always told faculty members to be glad they had a job."

Harris graduated from Southwestern in 1931 with a bachelor of science degree. He taught at Custer City and was superintendent at Custer

City, Watonga and Clinton, during which time he earned a bachelor of arts degree. He completed his master's in administration and educational psychology from George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., and received his doctor of education degree from Oklahoma State University in 1955.

He was born Dec. 15, 1909 in Altus and died Dec. 28 at St. Anthony Hospital, Oklahoma City. He is survived by a daughter, Ruth Smith and her husband, Mike Smith, of Tulsa, and grandson George Albert Smith of Tulsa. He was preceded in death by his parents, wives Joe de' Bob Dickerson and Sara Lyle (Cordry) VanHorn, and a brother and sister.



Pictured outside the President's home with wife Joe de' Bob.

Al Harris The Athlete



Harris was thrifty even in his college years. Notice that he has no shoes. Harris established records in the 440 and 880 that stood until the 1960s.



Harris played basketball. This picture is from the 1927-28 team. (On the far left is coach Rankin Williams.)

Dr. Jerry Nye said of Harris: "He was an athlete, not a scholar." While in college, Harris played on the basketball, baseball and track teams. He excelled at track, setting several records that lasted for over two decades.



A pleased Al Harris hears the announcement by Sen. Ed Berrong that the Southwestern Library will be named in his honor. Congratulating him are his wife, Joe de' Bob, and their daughter, Ruth.

Naming the Library

Dr. Jerry Nye said that Al Harris worked hard to build a new library on campus.

"He told me to get my English students to the 'library,'" Nye said. "He never pronounced 'library' correctly."

Nye said Harris considered the library his "pet project." After years of funding and construction, the library was completed the same year that Harris retired as president.

Harris was a very composed, dignified man, Nye said, and nothing could shake him – until his retirement

banquet.

After the ceremony was over, Oklahoma State Representative Ed Berrong approached the podium.

"No one knew what was going on. The ceremony was over and the regent wasn't on the program," Nye said.

As the room grew silent, Berrong announced that the Board of Regents had decided to name the Southwestern library after Harris.

"Al just leaned over the table and put his head in his hands," Nye said. "He was overcome by emotion."

Martha Dachtler

Calendar of SWOSU Events

April

- 1st History Day
Softball @ East Central OK
- 2nd Native American Parents Night (6pm)
- 3rd New Student Orientation
Baseball vs. Eastern New Mexico (1pm)
- 4th Baseball vs. Eastern New Mexico (1pm)
Softball vs. East Central OK (1pm)
- 5th Western Oklahoma Ballet Theatre - Spring Gala (7:30pm)
- 6th SWOSU Blood Drive
Western Oklahoma Ballet Theatre - Spring Gala (12pm)
- 7th SWOSU Blood Drive
Softball @ Cameron University (2pm)
Dr. Kenneth Hensley, Scientist from Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (7pm)
- 9th-11th SWOSU College Rodeo
- 10th Baseball @ Angelo State TX
Softball vs. Cameron University (1pm)
- 14th Softball vs. Southeastern OK (2pm)
Panorama Event - Fab Four (7:30pm)
- 15th SWOSU Student Research and Scholarly Activity Fair
- 16th SWOSU Palooza 10 (6pm)
Percussion Concert (7pm)
- 17th Baseball vs. Tarleton State TX (1pm)
- 18th Baseball vs. Tarleton State TX (1pm)
Softball @ Southeastern OK (2pm)
SWOSU Blue/White Football Game (2pm)
2nd Annual Centerpoint Energy/SWOSU-PLC BBQ & Barn Dance (5pm)
- 19th Jazz Ensembles Concert (3pm)
- 20th Let's Talk About SWOSU (12pm)
PLC Banquet (6:30pm)
Community Chorus Concert (7pm)
- 21st New Student Orientation
Orchestra Concert (8:15)
- 22nd SGA Inaugural Banquet (6:30pm)
Community/Symphonic Band Concert (7pm)
- 22nd-24th SWOSU Theatre Production "Directions" (7:30 pm)
- 23rd Building on Vision 2020-Expanding Weatherford's Future Planning Session (5:30pm)
- 24th Baseball vs. Cameron University (1pm)
- 25th Baseball @ Cameron University (1pm)
- 27th Pharmacy Annual Honors & Awards Convocation and White Coat Ceremony (2pm)
- 28th Baseball vs. Hillsdale College (2pm)
- 30th Final exams begin

May

- May 6 Final exams end
- May 8 School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony (3:30pm)
Pharmacy Department Hooding Ceremony (7pm)
- May 8 SWOSU Sayre Campus Convocation (7pm)
- May 9 SWOSU Convocation (10am)
- May 24 President's Leadership Class Trip to Washington DC
- May 30 Miss SWOSU at Miss Oklahoma Pageant

June

- 2nd Summer 2009 Classwork Begins
- 2nd-12th Summer Science and Mathematics Academy
- 3rd-30th KESAM Teacher Workshop
- 15th-30th SMART teacher camp
- 19th-20th Heartland Cruise & Car Show
- 21st-24th Choral Camp
- 28th-30th Jazz and Guitar Camp
- 28th-30th Middle School Band Camp
- 29th SWOSU Blood Drive

July

- 1st-2nd Jazz and Guitar Camp
- 1st-10th KESAM Teacher Workshop
- 1st-2nd Middle School Band Camp
- 1st-10th SMART teacher camp
- 12th-17th 54th Annual Band Camp
- 13th-24th ExxonMobile Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp
- 13th-31st KESAM Teacher Workshop
- 31st Summer semester ends

August

- 1st 3rd Annual SWOSU Athletic Scholarship Auction (5pm)
- 17th Faculty Workshop
- 19th Fall 2009 Classwork Begins
- 29th Football @ Emporia State KS

Football

August

- 28th 7 p.m. @ Northwest Oklahoma State

September

- 6th 7 p.m. (MST) @ Eastern New Mexico University
- 13th 6 p.m. Home game vs. Angelo TX State (Parents Day)
- 20th 6 p.m. @ West Texas A&M
- 27th 6 p.m. Home game vs. Tarleton TX State

October

- 4th 6 p.m. @ Southeastern Oklahoma State
- 11th 3:30 p.m. Home game vs. Northeastern OK State
- 18th 2 p.m. Home game vs. University of Central OK
- 25th 6 p.m. @ East Central University

November

- 1st 6 p.m. Home game vs. Oklahoma Panhandle State (Homecoming)
- 8th 2 p.m. @ Texas A&M - Commerce

Rex Ryan

alum named head coach of New York Jets

WEATHERFORD, Okla. — One of Southwestern Oklahoma State University's very own has climbed to the highest point in the football coaching profession. Rex Ryan was recently introduced as the coach of the New York Jets of the National Football League.

Ryan, 46, has had a lengthy and successful career as a coach at both the college and the

professional ranks. Nicknamed "The Mad Scientist" by his players for his aggressive and unpredictable game plans, Ryan spent the past 10 seasons with the Baltimore Ravens most recently as defensive coordinator. His No. 2-ranked unit helped the Ravens reach the AFC championship game against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"It's been a dream of mine to become a head coach in the NFL. Coming here to the New York Jets, where my father once coached and was part of the Super Bowl III staff, is fantastic." Ryan said in an announcement provided by the New York Jets. "I look around at the facilities and the people they have in place and see a first-class organization. I'm just proud to be part of it."

Ryan's coaching roots and history with the Jets franchise began with his father, Buddy Ryan. The elder Ryan, former head coach of the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles and Arizona Cardinals, was on the defensive staff of the New York Jets from 1968-75, serving as the defensive line coach on the 1968 team that won Super Bowl III. Buddy was the architect of the "46" defense as the defensive coordinator of the Chicago Bears, winning Super Bowl XX.

While Ryan's connection with the Jets go back to his days as a youth idolizing Joe Namath and

his famous Super Bowl guarantee, his first formal introduction to the sport began here at SWOSU as a player in 1981.

Rex, along with his twin brother, Rob, was recruited to SWOSU by former Bulldog football head coach Bob Mazie. The SWOSU coach had developed a friendship with their father, Buddy, through a number of years working the Chicago Bears training camp.

Mazie, who is now retired and living near Houston, Texas, said he was introduced to the Ryan twins while playing racquetball with their dad during a brief break in the camp. The two lanky "bean poles" had been serving as ball boys throughout the camp.

"Buddy took me aside and told me that he wanted me to take them to Oklahoma, get them enrolled in school and make football players out of them," Mazie said.

Neither of the Ryan twins was heavily recruited, according to Mazie. They attended Stevenson High School in Prairie View, Ill, which at the time was an affluent suburb near Chicago not known for its football tradition. Both weighed 180 pounds and stood 6-2 inches tall, which even during the early 1980's was considered light for a defensive end.

The move to Oklahoma was not as far-fetched as observers might first think, considering the twins were born in Ardmore, and their father grew up in Frederick. The family did have relatives within a few hours of Weatherford.

"We had some really good teams during that time, and neither kid was



1987 Southwestern Graduate Scores NFL Coaching Position



Photo Courtesy of Al Pereira/NY Jets

afraid to line up against anyone." Mazie said. "They got bounced around quite a bit but always got up and were ready for some more. They were good-natured kids who were certainly free spirits. They were well-liked by their teammates and by the coaching staff."

Former SWOSU athletic director Cecil Perkins remembers Rex very well and remains in contact with him to this day.

"He hit harder than his bones were supposed to," said Perkins in an interview with the New York Times. "They were just great people. Ornerly as heck. If you were to insult their girlfriends, they might just swat you on the nose. I happen to think that's the way it should be done, so I have a lot of respect for them."

Both Rex and Rob quit playing football at SWOSU after the 1982 season. Together they transferred to Oklahoma State University before eventually returning to SWOSU and completing course work for their bachelor's degree in physical education in 1987.

Much of their time was spent in

classes taught by longtime basketball coach George Hauser who remembers the Ryan brothers this way.

"I don't think I ever saw any group of people that were as connected as they were," Hauser said. "I mean tickets, you name it. They could get it for you. They knew just about everybody because of their association with their dad. Bears, Bulls, Cubs tickets if you could get to Chicago, they had your ticket."

Ryan's path after SWOSU was an extensive one first serving as a college coach at Morehead State, New Mexico Highlands and the University of Oklahoma. His first NFL coaching stint was with the Arizona Cardinals

under his father when he oversaw the defensive line in 1994 and linebackers in 1995.

Ryan's unflinching attitude and straight-ahead approach that he carried early on at SWOSU was evident even

when he met a crowded room of New

York City media at his introduction.

"There's only one way I know how to handle a challenge and that's to hit that thing head on, and that's what we're going to do," he said in a Jet-provided transcript. "The message to the rest of the league is, hey, the Jets are coming, and we're going to give you everything we've got, and that's going to be, I think, more than you can handle."

It was the same rugged manner that served him well at SWOSU and something he clearly enjoys as he takes on the next big challenge in his life.

"He hit harder than his bones were supposed to."
-Cecil Perkins

Pharmacy Focus

Sokolosky says gift is a "Thank You"

D.M. Sokolosky of Owasso has given \$25,000 to the Southwestern Oklahoma State University College of Pharmacy in Weatherford.

Sokolosky, a 1955 graduate of SWOSU, is a land developer.

"We are giving to the Southwestern Pharmacy Foundation as a 'thank you' to the school for the education received and the opportunity to establish a retail drug store in Owasso."

The donation is part of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy \$1 million FOCUS campaign, which includes raising money for academic program enrichment, scholarships and the College of Pharmacy's museum.

"We are delighted to witness the growth and progress being made in the College of Pharmacy," Sokolosky said. "We have encouraged several young students to attend SWOSU. We believe pharmacy is the best profession for a youth today, especially for women."

Sokolosky, who also graduated from McAlester High School, was active in the Newman Club and Beta Tau Beta while in school at SWOSU. While in Owasso, he has been active

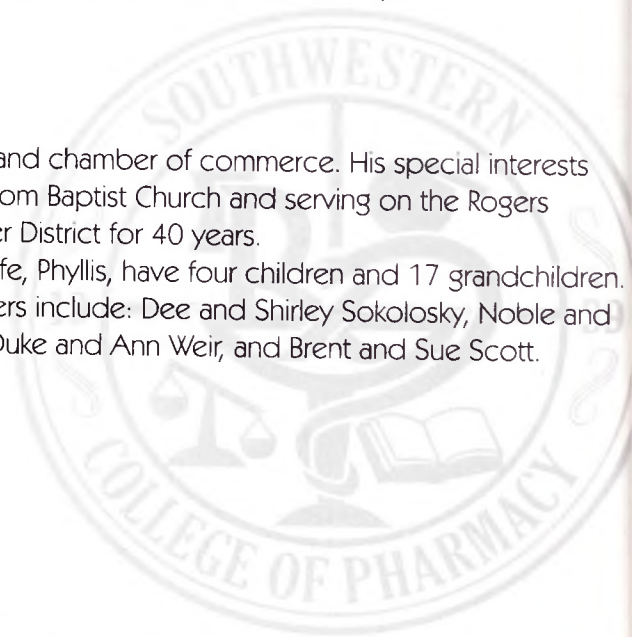


D.M. Sokolosky of Owasso passes a \$25,000 check to SWOSU College of Pharmacy Alumni Development Director Patti Harper.

For information about giving to the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, call Patti Harper at the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Alumni and Development Office at (580) 774-3190 or the SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation at (580) 774-3191.

in the Lions Club and chamber of commerce. His special interests include the Freedom Baptist Church and serving on the Rogers County Rural Water District for 40 years.

He and his wife, Phyllis, have four children and 17 grandchildren. Sons and daughters include: Dee and Shirley Sokolosky, Noble and Mary Sokolosky, Duke and Ann Weir, and Brent and Sue Scott.



The Wright Time

1971 Graduate wins Oklahoma House Seat

Southwestern alumnus Harold Wright won the State House 57 race on Nov. 7 and will now represent Weatherford and the surrounding area.

Wright has a passion for Western Oklahoma and hates to see people moving away.

"Rural Oklahoma is one of this

nation's best kept secrets," Wright said.

He aspires to bring more business and industry to this area.

"One thing I would like to do is bring more economic development to Western Oklahoma," he said. "I want Southwestern students to graduate

and be able to find quality jobs here. I will be very vocal about Southwestern."

He mentioned that one of his goals is to increase the number of people eligible for OHLAP. OHLAP currently is available only to students whose combined household income is less than \$50,000 per year.

"I want to work to keep tuition as low as possible and increase scholarship opportunities," Wright said.

He was very thankful and full of excitement as he spoke about Southwestern.

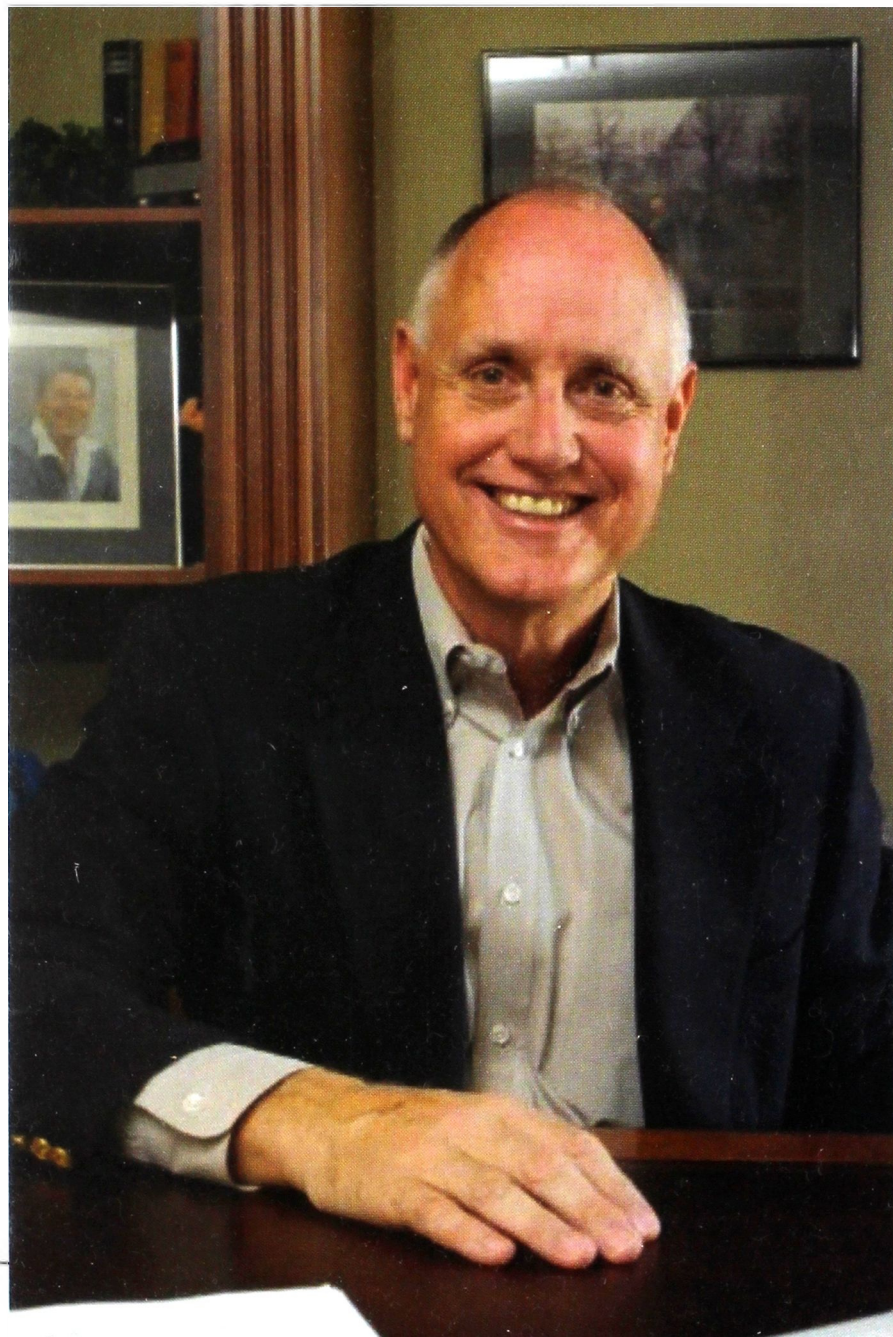
"You would be amazed at just how many people I meet who are good and successful people and graduated from Southwestern," he continued.

Wright has always been very interested in politics going back to his days at Southwestern where he graduated with a minor in Political Science. His political experience includes serving as the mayor of Anadarko during the 1980s.

Though he always wanted to run for office, he waited for an ideal time. In the past his work kept him from running, but now his son helps him at the station.

That combined with the expiration of James Covey's term made this year the year to run.

Wright graduated from Southwestern in 1971 with a BA in Speech. He owns Wright Wradio with stations in Weatherford, Clinton, and Cordell.



Homecoming

Born, Bred & Bleed Bulldog Blue

Bulldogs from near and far graced SWOSU's campus November 1, 2008. Abigail Ntreh of Oklahoma City was crowned Homecoming Queen and elected to serve as her king was Mattson Schmitt of Mountain Grove, MO. Alumni, students and community members enjoyed such events as the Runnin' with the Big Dawgs 5K, the 3rd Annual Dawgfest Car Classic, the favored Homecoming Parade, and a campus day full of reunions and receptions. The days festivities wrapped up with fireworks following a win over the Panhandle Aggies. Go Dawgs! Set your calendars for October 24, Homecoming 2009.



2008



Echoes from Alumni

Who? What? When? Where...

JEFF MILLS began work as the executive director of the Oklahoma State School Boards Association on Oct. 1. Mills has been superintendent of Woodward, El Reno and Leedey. He currently serves as president of the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators and was president of the United Suburban Schools Association. He started his career in Snyder and has worked as a coach and elementary and high school principal. He has a doctorate degree in agriculture education and administration from Oklahoma State University, a master's degree in education from Southwestern, and a bachelor's degree from Northwestern Oklahoma State.

EDDIE PECK was recently named President/Cheif Executive Officer for Washita State Bank in Burns Flat. Peck joined Washita State Bank in November 2007. He has been in the banking industry for more than 12 years. He is a graduate of Elk City High School and earned a bachelor of science degree in finance from Southwestern.

MARK L. DAVIS has joined the medical staff at Shawnee Medical Center Clinic. Davis, a

certified physician assistant, specializes in internal medicine. Davis received his bachelor's of science degree from Southwestern. He is a graduate of Yukon High School. Until 2008, he practiced family medicine in the Shawnee/Tecumseh area.

BRENDA WEST was named as finance director for Lewisville, Texas. West, the city's accounting and audit manager, has worked for Lewisville since 2005 in finance-related

degrees from Texas Tech University. Green and her husband, Robert, have three daughters.

KATHI LITTMANN has joined the California Charter Schools Association as senior vice president of intergovernmental affairs. Littman's responsibilities focus on advancing the charter movement among key education policy stakeholders and ensuring the fair representation of charter schools at

graduate, had previously coached at Perry High School as an assistant. He graduated from Southwestern in 2006.

MELANIE A. CROY was recently chosen as dean of the College of Professional Studies at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas. Croy graduated from Comanche High School and graduated magna cum laude from Southwestern with bachelor degrees in 1977 in psychology and health, physical education and recreation. She also holds a master's degree in exercise science and an Ed.D. degree in educational administration from Oklahoma State University. In 1005, she received a master's degree in therapeutic recreation from Indiana University.

Have good news to share with your fellow Alumni? Email your press release or call for an interview! We'd love to brag on you!

alumni@swosu.edu or
(580) 774-3267

positions. She is a graduate of Southwestern.

CAROL GREEN was named vice president for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at LeTourneau University. Previously, she served as dean of the School of Professional Studies at George Fox University and dean of the Clovis, N.M., campus of Wayland Baptist University. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from Southwestern, and master's and doctorate

the state and national level. Littmann earned a bachelor's degree from Southwestern. She also earned a master's of science in general education and a doctorate in educational leadership from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. She is also a fellow at the Broad Urban Superintendents Academy.

MATT BOLZ was recently promoted to high school girls basketball coach at Covington-Douglas. Bolz, a Covington-Douglas

MARK BINGHAM was chosen to coach the Agra High School baseball program. He had previously served as an assistant at Hydro-Eakly and Geary. The Bearcats compete in District B-3. Bingham graduated with a bachelor's degree in sports management from Southwestern.

Coldwell Banker Twin Rivers Real Estate in Yukon has added STEPHANIE JOSEY as a home marketing specialist. Josey holds a



Dionne Liebl was one of 75 educators nation-wide to receive \$25,000 Milken Educator Award. She received the award at the Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference in Los Angeles. Liebl is the lead teacher in the Freshman Academy at Putnam City West High School in Oklahoma City. Liebl was selected through a nationwide process to recognize outstanding educators. Liebl received her degree from Southwestern in 1994.

JAMES H. RUDKINS has been named president of BancFirst's Hobart and Lone Wolf banks. Rudkins has been with BancFirst and its predecessors since 1995, and has most recently served as executive vice president, supervising all areas of the lending department. Rudkins, a Hobart native, has 13 years of banking and financial services experience. He is a graduate of Southwestern with bachelors degrees in math and computer science.

degree in interior design from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. She previously was self-employed in interior design and home staging, real estate sales consulting, and worked in interior design and decorating for Mathis Brothers Furniture.

DANIELLE FELTS was chosen as the first Community Relations Manager for the City of Weatherford, Texas. The community relations manager position was created to improve communication with the community and to develop programs and services to reach out to

Weatherford's citizens and businesses. Felts earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication arts from Southwestern. Previously, Felts worked for Weatherford Independent School District, CVA Advertising & Marketing and Bass Enterprises.

PHILANTHROPY PAYS *make a gift that gives back*

Invest in a charitable gift annuity and receive a lifetime income while making a gift to Southwestern.

Contact Nicole Boyles at the SWOSU Foundation at 580.774.3706 or email nicole.boyles@swosu.edu for additional information.

Age	Rate
65	5.3%
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%
90	9.5%

Cocannouer takes over football team

Southwestern was able to lure away one of the most prominent and successful coaches in the Oklahoma high school ranks to take the controls of the Bulldog football program for 2009 and beyond.

Dan Cocannouer, who has spent the previous eight seasons as head coach at Edmond Santa Fe School, was formally announced as SWOSU's new head football coach on Saturday.

Cocannouer, 52, compiled a 70-26 record (.729 winning percentage) at the Edmond school where he led the Wolves to the Class 6A finals in 2003 and semifinal appearances in 2001 and 2004. This past season the Wolves finished with a 9-3 record and advanced to the state quarterfinals.

He becomes the 21st head coach in 103 years of Bulldog football and replaces Ryan Held who

resigned after four seasons after compiling a 16-28 record.

All total, Cocannouer has coached more than 30 years on the football field, including the last 24 as a head coach. He is widely respected in high school coaching circles and is a past president of the Oklahoma Football Coaches Association. He had previously led high school programs at John Marshall, Chandler, Alva and Pauls Valley and was an assistant at a number of others.

SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Thurman said Cocannouer was the overwhelming choice by a university committee that screened more than 60 applicants.

"We are very excited to hire a coach with Dan's background of success. He is a SWOSU graduate and the right person to get our alumni, community and supporters excited again about Bulldog football.

Obviously, his vast knowledge of the state of Oklahoma coupled with his extensive networks of coaching contacts will pay long-term dividends to our program and its recruitment," Thurman said. "I was most impressed with his leadership, his commitment to his players -- on and off the field -- his integrity and his long history of building character in young men. He is a great fit for our university in terms of where we want to go with our football program."

Cocannouer played at SWOSU after earning all-state honors as a running back at Tuttle High School. He played four seasons under legendary coach Otis Delaporte where the Bulldogs won two conference titles in 1974 and 1977. Cocannouer was a senior leader on a Bulldog team that won a school record 11 games and finished as the NAIA National Runner-up in 1977.

"This is a great opportunity for

Pond resigns as women's coach

Shelly Pond has announced her intentions to resign her position as women's basketball coach at Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the conclusion of this season.

Pond's 15-year association with the program as both a player, assistant and later as head coach is the second longest of any women's coach in the Lone Star Conference.

Pond, 38, who is a mother of two children, cited the demands associated with college coaching and her desire to take a more active role in the activities of her family as the primary factor in her decision.

She along with her husband, Doug, have two children, a son, Brooks, 13, and a daughter, Bailee, 8.

"I felt, at this point, it was time to enjoy what being a Mom is all about," Pond said. "My kids are getting older. I no longer want to miss any more of their games or activities. Basketball has defined me for such a long period in my life that I felt I needed to step away. It's something that I've wrestled with for quite some time, but I feel it is the right one. I'm totally at peace with it."

Pond will also relinquish her instructor duties in SWOSU's Department of Parks and Recreation



me, and I am both humbled and excited. It has always been a long-term goal of mine to become a college football coach at a program such as SWOSU," Cocannouer said. "This is where I got my start more than 30 years ago, and it always has been a special place to me."

Cocannouer, who has been the target of a number of college coaching searches in the past, said finally deciding to make the move was one of the hardest decisions he has ever made.

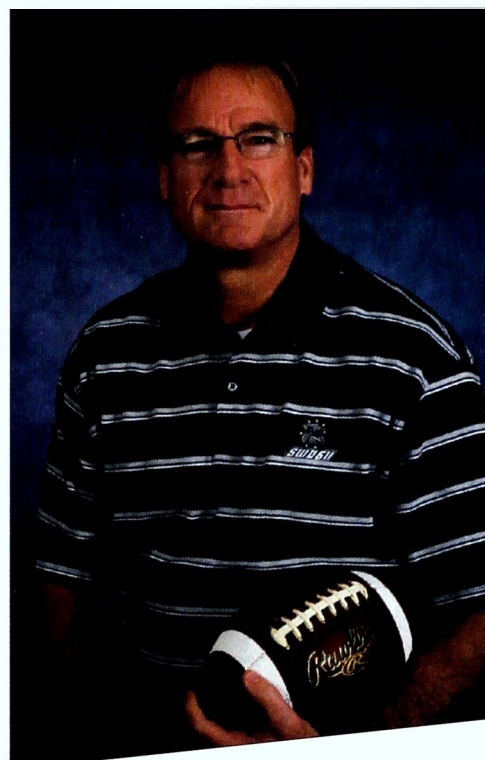
"I have a lot of love for my association with Edmond Santa Fe High School. This decision was made through a lot of tears and heavy emotion by both me and my wife," Cocannouer said. "I feel so strongly about the kids, the administration and the coaching staff that has supported so much over the last eight years here. All have played such a vital role in making Santa Fe football a success."

Cocannouer said he became convinced the time was now right after his visit to the SWOSU campus and meeting with university officials.

"Seeing what is in place and learning more about their commitment to fielding a quality football program, it only confirmed what I had felt about the direction SWOSU is going," he said. "We are going to become a program where high school football players from the state of Oklahoma want to attend our school and be a part of something special."

Cocannouer inherits a SWOSU team that finished 3-8 overall in 2008. The Bulldogs will welcome back nine starters on offense, including record-setting senior quarterback Steve Day who played previously for Cocannouer at Santa Fe High School. The defense returns six starters and finished as the third best unit in the Lone Star Conference behind NCAA Division II playoff participants West Texas A&M and Abilene Christian.

His wife, Jeri Lyn, is the director of elementary education at Guthrie Public Schools and the couple has two daughters, Janie and Josie.



"This is where I got my start more than 30 years ago and it always had been a special place to me"

and join with her husband in running Pond Agency, an insurance company that services much of Western Oklahoma.

Todd Thurman, SWOSU director of athletics, said "Both the University and I appreciate what Shelly has done for our basketball program. She has been a loyal, hard-working ambassador for this school for many years. We are supportive of her decision and wish her and her family all the best in their future endeavors."

Thurman said he expects most of the players on the current roster will remain with the program and feels confident that any players signed in the early recruiting period will honor

their commitments. SWOSU has eight players on its current roster that have eligibility for next season.

"Our women's basketball program is in great shape and promises to be even better," Thurman said. "We have young talented student-athletes who continue to represent the characteristics of what being a part of SWOSU is all about. I'm certain that with our history of championships and the legacy of our women's basketball program, this job will attract a number of well-qualified applicants who will lead us to even more success."

Pond had a number of

accomplishments at SWOSU since she took over in 2000 after the retirement of longtime coach John Loftin. Her 2005-2006 team won the Lone Star Conference North Division title with a thrilling-overtime victory over Texas A&M-Commerce in the season finale. SWOSU teams made four trips to the Lone Star Conference Tournament under Pond, including pulling off one of the most stunning upsets in tournament history. SWOSU upset top-seeded and South Division Champion Angelo State on the Rambelles home court in 2003 by a 70-55 score.

Dr. Lamar Crall

SWOSU Foundation, The Beginning

About 1976 Dr. Egerton, the Dean of the School of Business, and the late Billy D. Johnson, an accounting instructor and I could see a need for a foundation for financial support for the University We looked to the School of Pharmacy Foundation for advice. The late Dr. Ed Christensen administrator of the School of Pharmacy Foundation graciously shared with us his knowledge and the Pharmacy Foundation bylaws. This gave us a starting point. We began putting together a tax exempt corporation, bylaws, starting capital and a

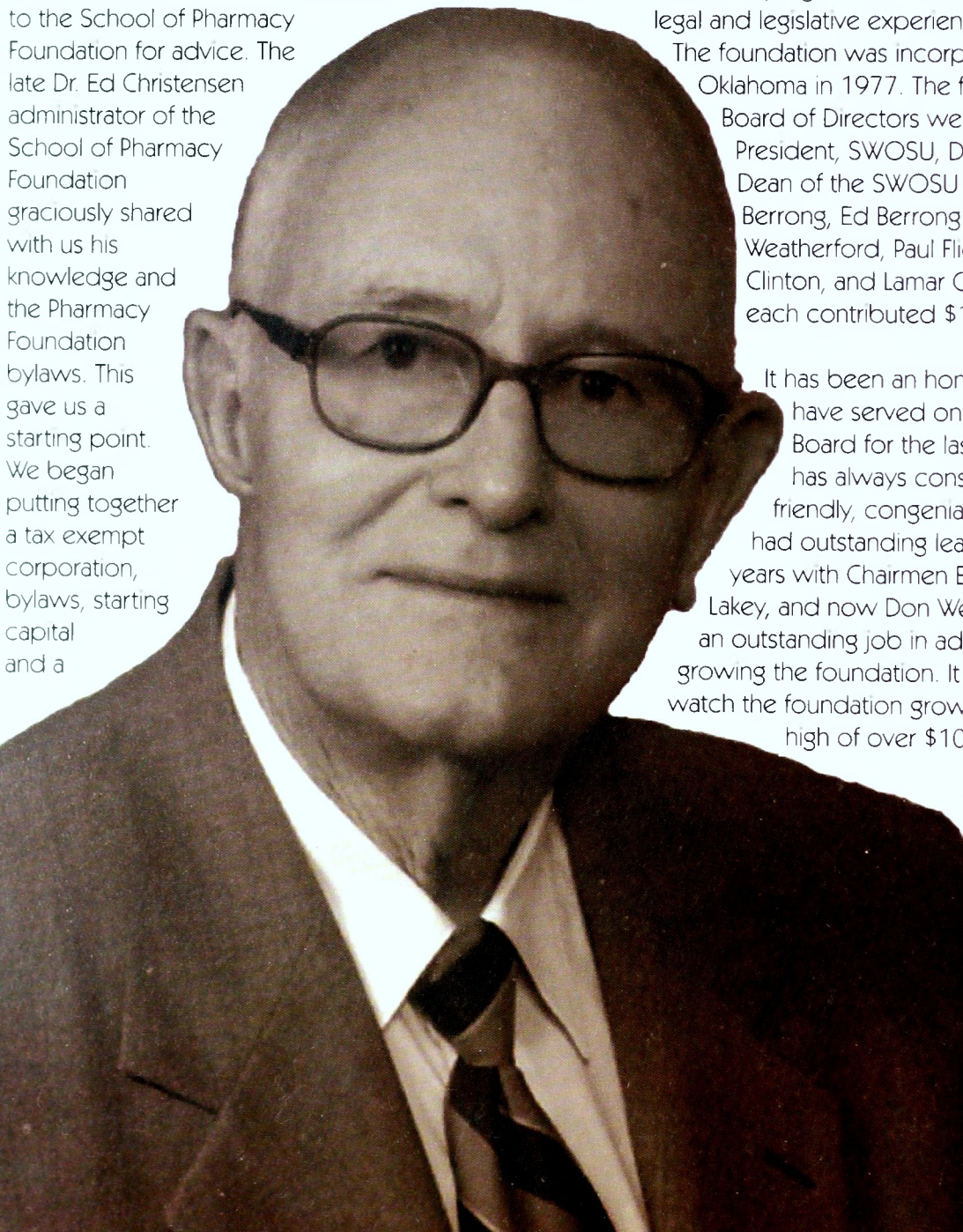
board of directors. Dr. Christensen and others advised us on how to establish a 501 c3 charitable nonprofit corporation. Weatherford attorney Dale Jarvis did most of the early legal work. The late Ed Berrong, with his vast legal and legislative experience fine tuned the bylaws.

The foundation was incorporated in the State of Oklahoma in 1977. The five original founders and first Board of Directors were: Dr. Leonard Campbell, President, SWOSU, Dr. W. W. Ward, Retired Dean of the SWOSU School of Business, Ed Berrong, Ed Berrong Insurance and Real Estate, Weatherford, Paul Flick, Owner, Blunk's Studio, Clinton, and Lamar Crall, SWOSU Faculty. We each contributed \$100 to start the foundation.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served on the SWOSU Foundation Board for the last 31 years. The board has always consisted of knowledgeable, friendly, congenial individuals. We have had outstanding leadership throughout the years with Chairmen Ed Berrong, Eddie Tom Lakey, and now Don Weeks. Jim Waites has done an outstanding job in administrating, guiding, and growing the foundation. It has been interesting to watch the foundation grow from the original \$500 to high of over \$10,000,000 in 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lamar Crall, March 5, 2009

Dr. Lamar Crall recently resigned from the SWOSU Foundation Board of Trustees. Crall is a charter member and his services have been greatly appreciated.



Preserving Your Legacy of Values

Establish a Charitable Remainder Trust

to benefit you and SWOSU

What is a charitable remainder trust?

A charitable remainder trust is a tax-advantaged philanthropic strategy. It allows you to direct your wealth in ways that reflect your charitable values and beliefs, while also providing you with a payment stream during your lifetime.

What are the benefits of a charitable remainder trust?

A charitable remainder trust to benefit Southwestern can assist you in increasing your income, reducing your taxes, unlocking appreciated investments and eliminating your investment worries.

How do I start a charitable remainder trust that will benefit SWOSU?

You create a charitable remainder trust by irrevocably transferring money, securities or other assets to a trust that will then pay you an income for life or for a period of years. If you wish, the trust also can pay an income to another beneficiary of your choice. At the death of the surviving beneficiary, the remaining principal in the trust goes to SWOSU.

What tax benefits will I receive with my charitable remainder trust?

- When you fund the trust, you immediately obtain the benefit of a sizable income tax charitable deduction. This is equal to the present value of the remainder interest ultimately payable to Southwestern, based on Internal Revenue Service tables of life expectancy factors. The older the beneficiary, the greater the charitable deduction.
- You can fund your charitable remainder trust with cash, securities or other property. **Highly appreciated assets that generate low current income are an ideal funding medium.** While you'd be reluctant to sell such assets directly because of the tax you would pay on the gain, you can transfer them to the trust without incurring the capital gains tax. The trust could sell the assets without incurring any tax and then reinvest the proceeds in order to secure a higher current income yield.
- You can transfer your appreciated securities to a charitable remainder trust. In return for your gift, you could realize an income two to four times greater than the current dividend from the typical growth stock.

Can I tailor my charitable remainder trust?

Yes, you can design your trust to fit your own special needs. Just follow these three easy steps:

1. Decide how much you'd like to put into the trust.
 2. Determine the income you'd like to receive from the donated assets. The rate of income return you select must be at least five percent. Usually, the rate selected is five percent to seven percent. The best rate for you will depend upon the number of beneficiaries you select and their ages.
 3. Decide which type of charitable remainder trust will work best for you.
- Charitable remainder trusts come in five variations. Your professional advisors decide the method that will work best for you.

Example of how a charitable remainder trust works

Sara, aged 75, owns several stocks with a market value of \$100,000, but they pay dividends of only \$2,000 a year, or 2 percent of market value. She decides to transfer these securities to a charitable remainder annuity trust that will pay her \$7,000 a year, increasing her gross income by \$5,000.

If Elizabeth sold her stocks instead, she would pay an enormous tax on her capital gain. Their cost basis is \$30,000, compared to the current market value of \$100,000, resulting in a gain of \$70,000. At a federal capital gains tax rate of 15 percent, the tax would be \$10,500. This would leave her with only \$89,500 to reinvest, so she would have to find stocks that pay a dividend of more than 8 percent to receive the same \$7,000 her trust can pay her.

For more information on this and other planned giving opportunities, contact:

Nicole Boyles
Director of Gifts and Planned Giving
580.774.3706
nicole.boyles@swosu.edu

Shirley Ann Haines

Shirley Ann Nowka Haines died July 30, 2008. Haines graduated from Hinton High School in May, 1951. She graduated cum laude from Southwestern in 1969 with a Bachelor's degree in education. She earned her master's degree in 1972. Ms. Haines began her teaching career at the Lookeba-Sickles School. She taught for 24 years in Maple, Edmond, Wellston, and Shawnee, as well as in Elgin, IL. Her dedication and expertise were recognized when the Edmond Public School administration selected her to develop an Individualized Reading Lab for 600 middle school students at Sequoyah Middle School. She also organized the first Oklahoma Reading Council in Edmond schools and served as its president from 1974-1976. Haines retired from teaching in 1993 from the Shawnee schools. Even in retirement, Ms. Haines was an active educator, volunteering in a local literacy program and being a member of the Oklahoma Retired Teachers Association.

Richard Lousch

Richard Wayne Lousch, 74, known to many as "Dutch", of Tulsa, passed away on December 22, 2008. He graduated from Fort Hays State College, Hays, KS with a Bachelors Degree in Physical Education and received a Masters Degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State. He was in the teaching and coaching profession for over 45 years and was inducted into the Oklahoma Track Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He coached track at Tulsa Central High School, Daniel Webster High School and Jenks High School.

Joseph J. Schwemin

A memorial service was held, Tuesday, July 15, 2008, for Joseph J. Schwemin, 85. Joe was born August 14, 1922, in Blackwell. He served in the Marine Corps during World War II. Joe attended the pharmacy program at Southwestern. In 1955, Joe and his father bought Vern Rexall Drug in Tulsa and operated it in partnership until his father passed away in 1963. Joe is known widely in the U.S. for the many contributions he made to Pharmacy. He was President of the Oklahoma Pharmaceutical Association and became Executive Secretary of the pharmacy board. He chaired the board on Controlled Dangerous Substances and was on the board of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics. The Oklahoma Pharmacy Heritage Foundation board inducted Joe into the Oklahoma Pharmacy Hall of Fame. He is listed in Who's Who in America. Joe's retirement years were spent with his wife, Louise and his family, reading, and listening to music.

Al Terrill

Former state Sen. Al Terrill of Lawton died Aug. 21, 2008. He was 71. Terrill, who represented Lawton in the state Senate for 22 years, had been battling cancer. He was elected to the state Senate in 1964 and served through 1986. A former schoolteacher and coach, Terrill was the Senate's majority floor leader from 1969 through 1972. In 1972, he ran unsuccessfully as a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate. Terrill later was the chairman of the state Senate's Rules Committee and Policy Committee. He became a lobbyist after he left the Senate. He attended Abilene Christian University in Texas, and received a bachelor's degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Rooster Jones

Billy Raymond "Rooster" Jones was born on Sept. 13, 1929. He was left on the doorsteps of Vera Holding in Tipton, Okla., and adopted by Raymond "Doc" and Bessie (Wilhite) Jones of Hess, Oklahoma. He passed away on April 19, 2008, at the Clinton Veterans Center at the age of 78.

Jones went to college at Southwestern where he played baseball and led all Bulldogs in hitting and was in the top 10 of all small college players. He also received his bachelor's and master's degrees at Southwestern. He went on to play semi-pro baseball in 1949-1950 and professional baseball for the Giants and Dodgers farm clubs.

Rooster was a long-time resident of Altus, Okla., where he owned and operated the Park Lane Nursing Home. He was a long-time basketball and baseball coach at Arapaho, Arnett, Hollis, Duke and Tipton High Schools. His basketball teams compiled a record of 200-73; his baseball teams' record was 195-102. His Duke team went 100-8 and twice reached the state tournament. In 1995, he was selected to coach the AA American Legion Team at Altus and in that same year he was also inducted into the Jackson County Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Altus and the Altus Bass Association. His hobbies included fishing, gardening, and spending time with this wife, children and grandkids.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Sue, who passed away in 2004. He is survived by five children, Michale Marcy and her husband Keith of Clinton; Nancy Richardson of Edmond; Trina Duncan of Burns Flat; Mike Weber of Oklahoma City; Mark Weber and wife Jennifer of Tulsa; six grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; former wife Madonna Propps; numerous other relatives and many friends.

We Remember

Friends, Classmates, Companions

Name	City, State
Frans, Alyce Collen Christensen	Thomas, OK
Rymer, Ronald Paul	Canton, OK
Stafford, Faye Laverene (Shoemaker)	Oklahoma City, Ok
Ziegenfuss, Steven Michael	Canute, OK
Fullerton, Lt. Col. Loren Volney	Albany, GA
Odell, Lyndon "Bud"	Newport, WA
Belding, Earlene Hinz	Hobart, OK
Yount, Alma Beatrice "Amy" Martin	Purcell, OK
McKelvey, Geneva	Hobart, OK
Castonguay, Larry Don	Palm Springs, CA
Austin, Dr. David Childers	Amarillo, TX
Granger, Dr. Donald Clark "Doc"	Gracemont, OK
Chestnut, Jo Anne Lowry	Arnett, OK
James, Barbara Kay Dill	Granite, OK
Sloan, Bobby Dean	Mountain View, OK

Alma Yount

Alma Beatrice "Amy" Yount, 105, passed away Thursday, January 22, 2009 in Purcell, Oklahoma. Mrs. Yount attended grade school at Deer Creek, where she later also taught, and finished her education at Bridgeport. She received a temporary teaching certificate from Southwestern State College in Weatherford in 1924. While attending college she belonged to a painting club and played basketball for Southwestern.

Her first teaching position was at Red Rock School, 11 miles south of Calumet. She taught at Deer Creek, west of Bridgeport from 1925-1927, and in a 3-room school east of Geary in 1928-29. Mrs. Yount taught at the West Grade and Sunset Elementary Schools in Anadarko starting in 1943. She received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma College for Women in Chickasha in

1952.

After teaching for over 30 years in Caddo County, she retired in 1969. Her husband was manager of the cotton gin in Bridgeport when he was appointed Deputy Sheriff in 1936, and they moved to Anadarko. The couple had one daughter, Sandy, who graduated from Anadarko High School in 1959.

Mrs. Yount joined the Anadarko Methodist Church during the 1940s. She was a charter member of the WSCS and sang in the church choir for many years. During World War II she was a USO volunteer for several years. She was a member of the Iris Flower Club and the Sorosis Club. She joined the Eastern Star in 1926, and received her 75 year membership pin.

After her retirement Mrs. Yount traveled to Europe, Hawaii, Colorado, Florida, Arkansas, Missouri, and made several other short trips. Mrs. Yount volunteered at the Anadarko Hospital

Auxiliary and had received service pins in honor of her hours there. She helped with the Oklahoma Blood Drive and also gave blood until she was around 100 years old.

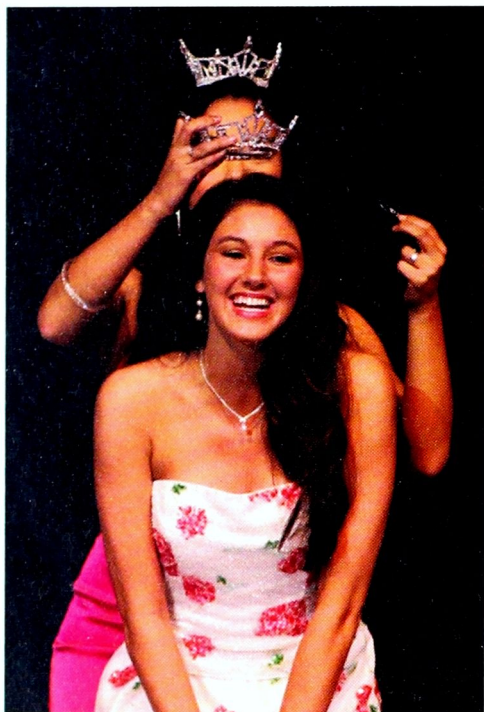
She is survived by her daughter, Sandy and husband Jim Adams, of Wanette; her granddaughter, Leigh Ann and husband Paul Hackett of Lexington; 3 great grandchildren, Adam Hackett and Sarah Hackett, both students at USAO in Chickasha, and Paula and Phillip Hannah of Noble; great great granddaughter, Lexi Hannah of Noble; her nephew L.R. and Barbara Martin of Columbus, Ohio; her neices Elberta and Paul Simpson of Missouri, Wilma and Merle Cails of Bolivar, Missouri, Veda Mae Tucker, Mabel Beck and Beth Golden, all of Oklahoma City; her God son, Matt Hamilton of Purcell, and loving friend and care-giver, Linda Love of Anadarko.

Miss Southwestern

Teen pageant added to 2008 festivities

PICTURE LEFT: Ashley Wheeler of Altus won the first-ever title of Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen. Wheeler advances to the Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant next summer. Other finalists were Tangle Gamble, Leedey; second runnerup Allie Ayers, Snyder; first runnerup Aubrey Crowder, Weatherford; and Corianne Fairchild, Leedey.

PICTURE RIGHT: (from left) Second runnerup Rebecca Witt of Tipton, Miss Oklahoma Kelsey Cartwright, Miss SWOSU Kaeli Carothers, first runnerup Whitney Sexton of Apache, and Miss SWOSU 2008 Bobbi Poff.



Kaeli Carothers of Hollis is the new Miss SWOSU and Ashley Wheeler of Altus (Navajo) won the first-ever title of Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen at the October pageant.

Carothers will now represent SWOSU at next summer's Miss Oklahoma Pageant, while Wheeler advances to the Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant, which is held the same week at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant in Tulsa.

Carothers won the title and a \$2,300 scholarship. Carothers is a sophomore majoring in pharmacy. Whitney Sexton of Apache finished as first runnerup. Sexton won a \$1,300 scholarship. She also won the swimsuit competition and \$50 scholarship.

Finishing second runnerup was

senior Rebecca Witt of Tipton who won a \$900 scholarship. She also won the talent competition with her dramatic monologue and the Peer Respect and Leadership Award. Witt won a \$100 scholarship for winning the talent and a \$25 gift certificate for the leadership award.

Tori Nichols of Oklahoma City won the Crowd Pleaser Award, which was a \$25 gift certificate. Ashley Slemph of Gracemont won the "Most Tickets Sold" Award and a \$50 gift certificate and she also won a \$50 scholarship for selling the most scholarship patrons.

All non-finalists each won \$250 SWOSU scholarships.

For winning the Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen title, Wheeler won a \$500 scholarship to SWOSU and

various gifts and certificates from area businesses. She also won the talent award and a \$50 gift certificate.

Aubrey Crowder of Weatherford finished as first runnerup. She won a \$200 scholarship to SWOSU and various gifts and certificates. Allie Ayers of Snyder finished as second runnerup and winner of the Crowd Pleaser Award. She won a \$150 scholarship to SWOSU and a \$25 gift certificate.

Corianne Fairchild of Leedey won the "Most Tickets Sold" Award and a \$50 gift certificate and she also won a \$50 certificate for selling the most scholarship patrons.

All non-finalists in the teen pageant each won \$100 SWOSU scholarships.

SWOSU Signs Agreement with Fifth University

Southwestern has now signed five agreements of academic exchange with various countries with the latest being in Taipei, Taiwan.

SWOSU and Taipei Municipal University of Education recently finalized the agreement, which was signed by SWOSU President John Hays and TMUE President Tien-Yu Lin.

TMUE is a comprehensive, accredited state university with a student body of 4,500. Located in downtown Taipei, the capital city of Taiwan,

Dr. Radwan Al-Jarrah, dean of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences, helped finalize the

agreement between the two universities. Al-Jarrah has also led SWOSU agreements with universities in South Korea, Costa Rica and Jordan (two universities).

The agreements will provide opportunities for both students and faculty at SWOSU. The international exchanges are part of SWOSU's strategic plan that by 2010, SWOSU students will be better prepared

to live in an increasingly global, diverse, and technological society.

Two students from Dong-A University in South Korea just arrived on the SWOSU campus to begin the 2009 spring semester.



Art professor asks for photos and ideas

Southwestern Art Assistant Professor E.K. Jeong is asking western Oklahoma residents to share photos and ideas for a public art project.

The project—a large format tapestry representing western Oklahoma communities—will have a design theme of “Beauty and Pride of Western Oklahoma.”

Jeong said the design will be used for the creation of the tapestry that will travel to various public places in western Oklahoma. Jeong is also recruiting volunteers for a focus group, which is for citizens who would like to have input in the design process as well as be involved in the tapestry making process. She welcomes citizens from various backgrounds.

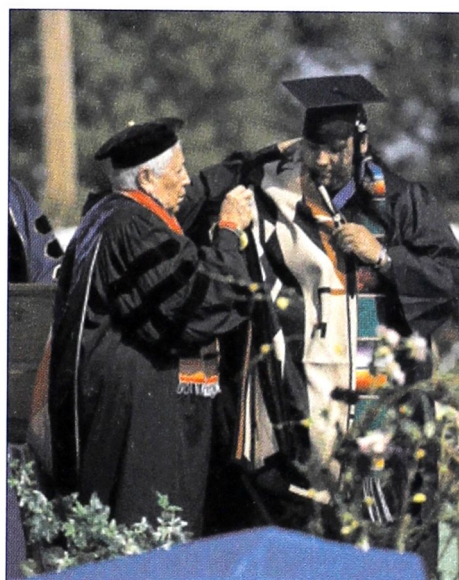
Later meeting times and dates will be announced after the first meeting, and those times and locations can be flexible to accommodate area residents.

In May, the design drafts will be exhibited and a public forum will be held.

The project is made possible by the generous support from the Elizabeth Firestone-Graham Foundation. If local groups, businesses or individuals would like to make contributions or to be part of the focus group, contact Jeong at (580) 774-3035 or ek.jeong@swosu.edu.

Tribal college holds first convocation

John Haumpo receives a stole, Pendleton blanket, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College medallion and framed diploma from Dr. Henrietta Mann, president of



the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College during Convocation held August 30 in Colony, site of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' Labor Day festivities. The Convocation was the first-ever for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal

College, which is housed at Southwestern. Thirteen graduates comprised the first class of graduates.

Gone With the Wind



The Southwestern Oklahoma State University's President Leadership Classes have officially endorsed and plans to work with Pickens Plan as an energy policy leadership project for the classes.

The PLC is a four-year leadership program for top students at SWOSU in Weatherford. The program was founded in 2006 by SWOSU President John Hays and is primarily supported by private donations.

The Pickens Plan is considered a bridge to the future — a blueprint to reduce foreign oil dependence by harnessing domestic energy alternatives, and give the United States time to develop new energy technologies.

The classes have determined

that besides the Pickens Plan formulating a viable energy policy for the U.S., this direction will also have a dramatic, positive impact on western Oklahoma due to its emphasis on wind energy and use of compressed natural gas (CNG).

Weatherford is home to a major wind energy farm that was established by Florida Power and Light in 2005 and produces up to 147 megawatts of electricity for American Electric Power/Public Service of Oklahoma. The city is also home to Chesapeake Energy's field office which is a major natural gas exploration company and leader in the drive to use CNG for transportation.

"This is one of the most important decisions this country is

going to face in the history of the United States of America," said Justin Simpson, SWOSU freshman from Antlers. "It is going to affect every single person."

According to Randy Beutler, director of the SWOSU program, the PLC classes have been divided up into several committees that will analyze all aspects of the plan and its effect on Oklahoma and future generations. The students will also be contacting elected officials in regards to the plan and speaking to civic groups around the area.

"The plan is sure to catalyze our nation's progress toward becoming more self-sustained and energy efficient," said Allen Deak of Mustang, who is a sophomore member of the PLC. "I'm excited to

PLC Program Endorses Pickens Plan

see the implications this will have on our environment and economy, and I'm privileged to be involved with these new developments in our country."

Another PLC member, junior Sarah Sullins King of Granite, said "We believe it is imperative that our country develop a logical, energy policy for our future economic well-

being. A part of that policy should include wind power and automotive and fleet use of CNG."

Any organizations or clubs that are interested in having

members of the PLC speak should contact Beutler at 580-774-7193 or randy.beutler@swosu.edu.

Each year 15 of SWOSU's top entering freshmen are selected to be PLC Scholars. Each scholar is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and receives four years of leadership training that fosters both intellectual and personal growth. Beutler said the PLC develops leaders who will have a profound understanding of leadership and its responsible application within organizations, communities and their state.

T. Boone Pickens visits with members of the President's Leadership Class.



"The plan is sure to catalyze our nation's progress toward becoming more self-sustained and energy efficient" -Allen Deak

CURE

SWOSU Alumnus Continues Mission

You might recall an Echoes article a few years back about a young man doing incredible work across the globe. Derek Johnson came by to visit with me during his last trip state-side and we had a chance to catch up on his work with CURE International. The last time we spoke, Derek had been appointed the Executive Director of a new CURE hospital being built in Egypt. Since then, the Egypt hospital has been tied up in international red tape. Although he is still very involved with the process, Derek has taken a new assignment as the Executive Director of CURE's hospital in

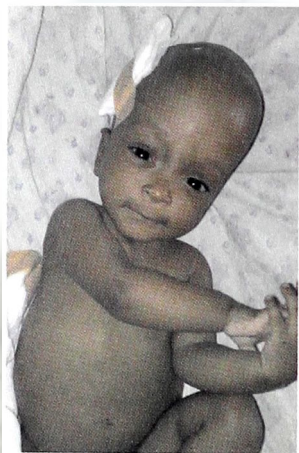
Uganda.

The '98 grad sat across from my desk, eyes shining bright as he explained how the Uganda hospital is so much different and special from the other CURE hospitals. How many of us, I wonder, feel the same kind of pride for our jobs, knowing that what we're doing really does make a difference? Most CURE hospitals specialize in pediatric orthopedics, but Uganda is different. Derek shared with me stories of little ones in need of pediatric neurosurgery and of the prevalence of hydrocephalus in the

region. More information about Uganda and other CURE hospitals around the world is available at www.helpcurennow.org

As for Derek Johnson, he has no plans of branching out. "Egypt and its children are still very much on my heart, but towards the end of 2006, I was not being 100% utilized and requested my current assignment. I joined CURE to be around staff and the children. So I am very happy with this decision." CURE is very lucky to have such a capable and compassionate team member. No doubt, Derek will continue to see that these children are well taken care of.

-Brandi Gateley, Assist. VP of IA



CURE International; Uganda Quick Facts

Established: 2000

Specialty: Neurosurgery

Number of Doctors: 6

Number of Nurses: 33

Number of Beds: 30

Patients seen annually: 7,000

Number of operations annually: 900

Weatherford - Rudie Janzen has born witness to the great events of Oklahoma history. At aged 101, Janzen is as old as the state itself. He holds in his memory tales of a racially divided Washita County, the conversation of seasoned Civil War veterans, and the rare experience of besting in debate the legendary Carl Albert.

Janzen, now of Bartlesville, was in Weatherford recently, accompanying personal historical artifacts donated to the Heartland Museum. At a reception in his honor at the Museum, he told his life's story.

Born in Kansas in 1907, Janzen and his family moved first to Nowata in Northeast Oklahoma, then to Washita County in 1920. They were Mennonite wheat farmers, German-speaking. "Low German at home, and High German at Church," said Janzen.

He went to school in nearby Colony, to which he walked every morning. These were days not long after the removal of the Indian reservations, and the parceling of Indian lands. Colony was a town strictly divided.

"Cobb Creek was the line through town. The white settlers lived on the North side of the creek, the Indian Agency lay on the south. I could see the creek from the window of our schoolhouse. We'd swim there at recess. Of course," Janzen added with a chuckle, "we had no swimsuits!"

Janzen told of his talks with John Seeger, when Janzen was a boy and Seeger a very old man.

"It was he who established the Indian Agency in Colony. He loved to tell stories, and I loved to hear them. My favorites were of the Civil War," said Janzen.

Seeger was a Union soldier stationed in Ft. Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, where rang the war's

first shots. Trapped in a Southern city in a small, isolated fort,

"He said they had one cannon, which they aimed at the Confederate base across the street, the only weak point in their defense. They held off the rebels for three months. Later he was with Sherman in his march to the sea."

In 1923, Janzen moved to Weatherford, where he attended High School. At the beginning of his studies, he spoke only German.

"My English was awful. I spent

said 'Rudie, I want to hire you, but the daughter of the president of the school board wants the job!'"

To those struggling in today's economy, so reminiscent of Janzen's youth, he gives this advice,

"Tell them: you've got to be the best. I got a job because I convinced people that I was the very best."

Janzen was hired as a teacher, first at Watonga, then Hinton. In 1940, under the gathering clouds of the Second World War, the federal



hours each night at home practicing. Within a year, I was proficient enough to join the debating team."

In 1929, while attending what was later to become Southwestern Oklahoma Sate University, Janzen, now on the University debating team, won the state championship, beating the University of Oklahoma and it's team captain, Carl Albert.

After graduating from college in 1930, Janzen tried to find a job as a teacher. This was in the height of the Great Depression.

"Jobs were scarce in those days. There was an opening at Sayre I thought I'd get, but the principal

government organized the armed forces school to train and educate the new army. The first teacher hired was Rudie Janzen.

After the war, Janzen spent his remaining working years in the Systems and Procedure section of Phillips Petroleum Company. He retired to Bartlesville.

This sampling of the remarkable, long and continuing life of Rudie Janzen can be fleshed out at the upcoming exhibit of Janzen's artifacts at the Heartland Museum in Weatherford.

History 101; The Rudy Janzen Story

Chancellor, Regents aim to make college affordable

Determined to keep higher education within reach of Oklahoma's working families, Oklahoma higher education Chancellor Glen D. Johnson explained the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's FY 2010 legislative budget request – that would provide for a freeze of tuition and mandatory fees – at a

Cunningham of Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Dr. Larry Devane of Redlands Community College and Dr. John Feaver of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma informed legislators and area residents of the initiative during the first stop on Johnson's legislative tour across the state.

The funds would cover increases

our state will need to increase its investment in higher education in order to keep higher education within reach of Oklahoma's working families," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. "Our 'Putting Families First' initiative provides our institutions the funding they need to operate and provides students and their families with significant financial relief to allow them to focus on their education."

Johnson also announced the remainder of the State Regents' FY 2010 legislative agenda.

The State Regents are asking for \$4.9 million from the Legislature to annualize the debt service for the \$100 million bond authorized during the 2008 legislative session for the state's match to the endowed chairs program.

Student aid funding will also be a focus for the State Regents in the upcoming legislative session because more financial assistance reduces barriers that prevent students from attending college. The Academic Scholars Program for high-performing students is requesting an additional \$400,000 next year.

The State Regents will also seek \$50,000 to fully fund the Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship program. Expenditures for the past two years have exceeded the \$800,000 appropriation the program receives. Carryover funds have been used to fund the excess, but those funds will be depleted by the end of FY 2009.

The State Regents also seek to increase funding for the concurrent enrollment program, which allows high school juniors and seniors to take credit-earning college courses.



November 10 luncheon held on the campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

The "Putting Families First" initiative requests \$80.4 million in new state appropriations for operational needs of the institutions so that tuition and mandatory fees can be frozen at the current level for the 2009-10 academic year.

Johnson, State Regent Jimmy Harrel and institution presidents Dr. John Hays of SWOSU, Dr. Janet

in operational fixed costs and other institutional priorities at Oklahoma's public colleges and universities and allow them to continue to provide quality instruction, vital student services and a sufficient number of sections and course offerings to shorten the time needed to complete a degree.

"Our system has done a good job of keeping the cost of education as low as possible, but it is becoming very clear that

The State Regents propose to increase funding for the program by \$625,000. Additionally, the State Regents are requesting an additional \$100,000 for cooperative alliance fee waivers. The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education has agreed to fund \$400,000 annually for waivers. In the past, the State Regents' portion of the waivers has been paid from one-time carryover funds from other waiver programs that are now depleted and no longer available for future waivers.

The State Regents will seek \$200,000 for the state's ReachHigher program. The funds will be used to enhance ReachHigher scholarships and tuition waivers. In order for the program to be even more successful, an increase in financial aid to adult students is needed.

The final component of the legislative agenda is a request for nearly \$200,000 for the Office of Accountability. The office administers two state programs: the Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program and the Oklahoma School Performance Review Program.

The total request for new FY 2010 funds is \$36,874,880.

This is the second year Johnson has embarked on a statewide tour promoting the State Regents' legislative agenda.



Left: State Regent Jimmy Harrel aided Chancellor Glen D. Jonson in presenting the legislative budget request to the state of Oklahoma.

"Our system has done a good job of keeping the cost of education as low as possible" -Chancellor Glen D. Johnson

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Hall of Fame

Athletes Honored for Bulldog Careers

Five new members were inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame recently.

The SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 1962 and honors those individuals who, by outstanding achievement in athletics or service to the college's sports teams, have made lasting contributions to the cause of sports at the school.

Inductees include:

W.E. Jackson was a star pitching for Southwestern during an unprecedented run of success for the Bulldogs baseball team under legendary Coach Rankin Williams during the 1950s. Jackson, a hard throwing left hander from Burns Flat, carried the Bulldogs to four conference titles from 1952-1955. Jackson never lost a collegiate start while racking up more than 25 wins in his career. Jackson was a member of the honor roll each semester SWOSU and graduated Magna Cum Laude. Jackson then served in the United States Army following his graduation where he was stationed in Germany. He then went on to teach business in a number of high schools in and around Nebraska.

Jerry Jobe won over 500 games as a basketball coach in a highly successful career that spanned more than 26 years first at Chickasha High School, then SWOSU before concluding at Oklahoma Christian University. His best team was the 1966 squad that finished the year as state champions after

beating rival Phillips and Oklahoma Baptist to qualify for the NAIA Area Tournament. On the basketball court, Jobe guided the Bulldogs to a 198-108 record in his 11 years, including winning 20 or more games four times.

John Wichert was one of the most dominant defensive linemen ever to put on a Bulldog football uniform. A 1989 graduate of Weatherford High School, Wichert repeated as an NAIA All-American becoming only the second SWOSU player to do so since Tom Bergman was a back-to-back selection in 1974-75. All total Wichert ended up with 341 career tackles, the most ever by a SWOSU defensive lineman. He had 35 tackles behind the line of scrimmage and finished with 25 career sacks.

Cory Smith put together a remarkable career as a collegiate golfer at Southwestern Oklahoma State University under longtime coach Cecil Perkins. Smith earned NAIA All-American honors in 1995, 1996 and 1997, finishing 14th, 15th and 8th in consecutive national tournaments. His bid for a fourth All-American honor was denied in 1998 when he placed one-stroke out of the required Top 15. The Smith-led golf teams had three consecutive top five finishes at the NAIA Tournament, including a pair of third place efforts in 1996 and 1997. Smith graduated in 1998 with a degree in finance. He went on to play professionally on the satellite

tour and was a member of the NGA Hooters Tour and Golden Bear Tour while living in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

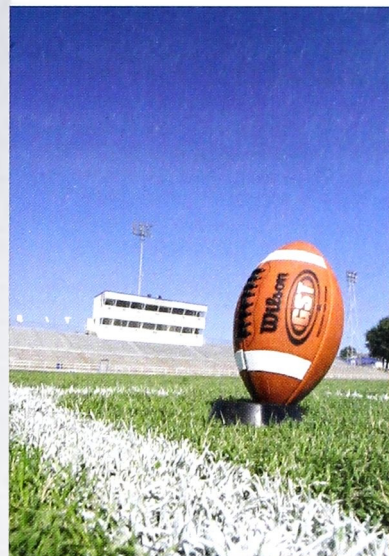
For more than 31 years Chuck Edwards was the "Voice of the Bulldogs" covering and broadcasting Southwestern sports teams to a large and loyal following. Edwards called more than 3,600 football, basketball, baseball, softball and rodeo events in his sports broadcasting career that spanned a total of 45 years and counting. He called SWOSU play-by-play action in 15 states across America from Washington to Tennessee and all parts in between. Edwards was on the air to call many of SWOSU's greatest success stories including its five women's NAIA national championship games, two football NAIA championship contests, and college national finals rodeo title runs.

Edwards was the first Oklahoman to receive the prestigious Lone Star Conference Broadcaster of the Year award in 2003. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in March of 2008.

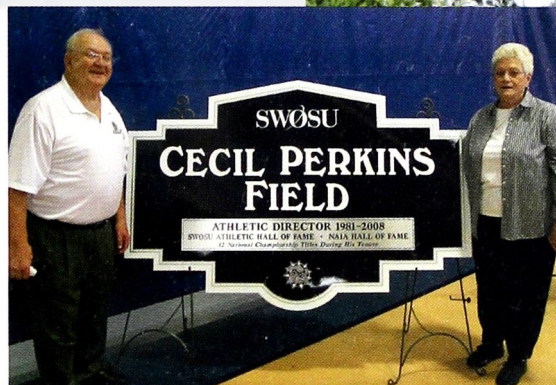
Chuck and his wife, Charlene, have a son, John, who works in New Mexico as an information systems coordinator for Ruidoso Public School System, and a daughter, Charla, who works for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.



Barry Switzer was on campus in October to campaign for Perry Adams in the race for the state representative. Prior to his "stump speech" he visited with the Bulldogs before practice.



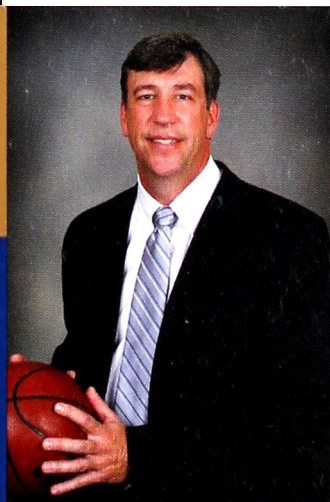
Southwestern Oklahoma State University renamed the practice field south of Milam Stadium after long-time SWOSU Athletic Director Cecil Perkins (left), who left that post in 2008. The university surprised Perkins by unveiling the pictured sign at a ceremony during Parent's Day activities. Former SWOSU President and current Regional University System of Oklahoma Regent Joe Anna Hibler (right) of Weatherford made the presentation. Perkins served as athletic director at SWOSU from 1981-2008.



When area residents attend basketball games this season at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, they will notice a new floor at Rankin Williams Fieldhouse. The floor, designed by SWOSU Graphic Artist and alumnus Kyle Wright, features a huge Bulldog in the middle as well as the new court name, Kelli Litsch Court.

Todd Thurman will step down as the SWOSU Men's Basketball Coach. Thurman has been acting in a double roll since he replaced Cecil Perkins as Athletic Director in August of 2008. Thurman said that the physical and mental tolls of acting as both head basketball coach and A.D. were getting tougher and tougher. He believes that he will have a great impact on the future success of SWOSU's athletic programs by having his undivided focus on the A.D. position.

Todd Thurman
SWOSU
Athletic Director
August 1, 2008



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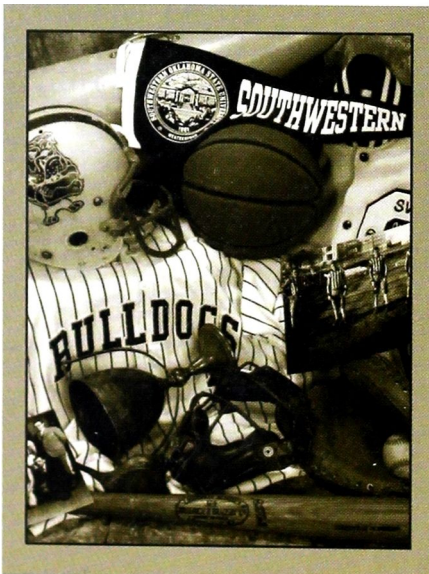
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