

Black Kettle Bust Unveiled at SWOSU

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Black Kettle Hall at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford will have a new addition soon.

The residence hall, which was renamed in 2014 after Cheyenne Peace Chief Black Kettle, will have an area featuring a bust, sculpted by LaQuincey Reed of Moore.

The bust was recently unveiled in SWOSU President Randy Beutler's office, which is home for the artwork until an area is established in Black Kettle Hall.

Reed, who has worked on projects for the Stafford Museum in Weatherford, said it took about 6 weeks to finish the Black Kettle piece, which he created by looking at the very few pictures that he could find of the late peace chief.

Dr. Henrietta Mann, former president of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal College, was very impressed with the bust. The hair and eyes caught her attention. Black Kettle was known as a man of peace.

"You can tell the strength of the mind by the length of the hair," Mann said. "And the eyes seem to indicate Chief Black Kettle is looking down the road."

Beutler said Black Kettle had significant influence in the history of Oklahoma and continues to have meaning to the Native American tribes of western Oklahoma.