

# Miss SWOSU Prepares for Miss Oklahoma Pageant

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Miss SWOSU Pinkey Patel (front row second from left) was recently honored at a sendoff party at the home of Midge Gerber. Pageant board members gathered for dinner, and Patel modeled outfits that she will be wearing at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant June 2-9 in Tulsa. Among those on hand were (from left): Midge Gerber, Oklahoma star Ashlynn Karlin and Debbie Brown. Standing from left—Brian Adler, Eithel Simpson, Jo Klingman, Susan Rose, Steve Strickler and Mickey Vogt.

Miss SWOSU Pinkey Patel of Chandler and Oklahoma star Ashlynn Brooke Karlin of Weatherford will represent Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the upcoming Miss Oklahoma Pageant. Patel. The two model their dresses at a recent sendoff party hosted by the Miss SWOSU Pageant board at the home of Midge Gerber. The seven-year-old Karlin is participating in the Oklahoma Star mentoring program, which is designed to expose girls from ages 6-11 to outstanding young women as role models.

Pinkey Patel of Chandler will represent Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, which is June 2-9 in Tulsa.

Patel won the title of Miss SWOSU this past fall on the Weatherford campus. She will be among 44 contestants vying for the Miss Oklahoma title.

The junior majoring in pre-pharmacy will compete in the Sigma group at Miss Oklahoma. For her talent on Thursday evening (June 7), she will perform a cultural dance to "Dola Re Dola." Patel will also compete throughout the week in other competitions including on-stage question on Tuesday night, swimsuit and evening wear on Wednesday evening and interview on Friday afternoon. The finals will be Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Mabee Center in Tulsa. The winner of the pageant advances to the Miss America Pageant.

Patel's platform issue is promoting sexual abstinence.

Also accompanying Patel to this year's pageant will be seven-year-old Ashlynn Brooke Karlin, who is the Oklahoma Star for the Miss SWOSU Pageant. The Oklahoma Star mentoring program is designed to expose girls from ages 6-11 to outstanding young women as role models.

Karlin is the daughter of Mike and Angie Karlin of Weatherford. She just finished the first grade with Sheryl Salisbury as her teacher. In her spare time, Karlin enjoys dancing at Kendi's School of Dance and just completed her fifth year of dancing. She also enjoys softball, riding her bike, playing with her friends and exploring the great outdoors with her family. She attends First Baptist Church in Weatherford.

SWOSU's annual pageant in 2007 will be October 27 on the Weatherford campus.