

# SWOSU Rodeo Selected CPR Rodeo of the Year

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University's annual rodeo held April 7-9 was recently selected as the Central Plains Regional Rodeo of the Year for 2010-11. The rodeo was held at the newly-renovated B.O.P. Ram Rodeo Grounds at Don Mitchell Arena in Weatherford's Rader Park.

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The rodeo was held April 7-9 at the newly-renovated B.O.P. Ram Rodeo Grounds at Don Mitchell Arena in Weatherford's Rader Park. Nearly 600 contestants participated in the SWOSU Rodeo.

SWOSU Rodeo Coach Mike Visnieski said he heard numerous comments from contestants and spectators about the nice and functional facilities at the arena.

"This award recognizes the effort that has been put into this facility," SWOSU President Randy Beutler said. "We appreciate the Weatherford citizens' support of this rodeo that has historically had a huge economic impact in the area."

Among the improvements made at the arena were: new restrooms and concession stands on both sides of the arena; renovated press box; new chair back seats with an awning over the seating area; new signage; new pavilion outside the arena; and handicap parking.

The improvements to the rodeo facility are also expected to benefit upcoming events. Visnieski is already planning a high school rodeo this fall in Weatherford.

The project was a joint effort between the "Yes Weatherford" campaign, SWOSU, the Villines family and assistance from Custer County.