

Wheeler Finishes in Top 10 of Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant and Brown Wins Award

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Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen Ashley Nicole Wheeler of Altus (Navajo) made the Top 10 at this past weekend's Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant held in conjunction with Miss Oklahoma Pageant activities in Tulsa, and a co-director of the Miss SWOSU Pageant was named state director of the year.

Wheeler, 16, who will be a junior at Navajo High School, was a first-time entrant into the Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant. She was one of two rookies who advanced to the Top 10 of the pageant and won a \$300 Top 10 Semifinalist Award. Wheeler was the winner of SWOSU's first-ever Miss Outstanding Teen Pageant, which was held for 13- to 17-year old girls in late 2008.

Debbie Brown, co-director of the Miss SWOSU Pageant, also won an award at the festivities when she was named Miss Oklahoma Pageant 2009 Director of the Year. Brown is in her second year as a co-director of the Miss SWOSU Pageant. Brown was presented with the award by Miss Oklahoma Pageant Executive Director Kay Alexander.

Two SWOSU students competed in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant. Kaeli Jo Carothers of Hollis competed as Miss SWOSU and Sarah Simpson of Elk City competed as Miss Elk City. Both won \$350 nonfinalist scholarships. Simpson won the Congeniality Award and a \$400 scholarship at the pageant. Simpson also won a \$1,000 SWOSU scholarship.

SWOSU's annual Miss and teen pageants in 2009 will be November 14 on the Weatherford campus. For more information, contact Brown at 580.774.3063 or co-director Rebecca Manney at 580.774.3782.