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News

23 October, 2019

SWOSU Names 2019-20 Cecil Perkins Scholar



(Photo

1) Southwestern Oklahoma State University 2019-20 Cecil Perkins Scholar Chris Braggs, Jr., (center) of Oklahoma City is congratulated by (from left) SWOSU Associate Athletic Director Todd Helton, SWOSU Men's Basketball Coach Terry Evans, and Courtney Walker and Morgan Walker, both granddaughters of the late Cecil Perkins and Patti Perkins. Both Walkers are current SWOSU students. (Photo 2) Patricia L. "Patti" Perkins, wife of the late Cecil Perkins.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) student Chris Braggs, Jr., of Oklahoma City has been named the 2019-20 academic year Cecil Perkins Scholar by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., in Weatherford.

The endowed scholarship was established in honor of the late Cecil Perkins (SWOSU Class of 1960), a Roosevelt (OK) native who led the SWOSU athletic programs for over a quarter century. During his tenure as SWOSU's athletic director, his dedicated focus on student-athletes inspired the Bulldogs to win 12 national championships.

Cecil and his wife, SWOSU emeritus faculty Patricia L. "Patti" Perkins (who began instruction at SWOSU during Fall Semester 1985 and retired Summer Semester 2016), were happily married for 29 years. Cecil died in 2013, but his legend and legacy continue to live both on the SWOSU Hilltop and in the lives of hundreds of students, colleagues and friends that he touched during his life.

Patti Perkins is an alumnus of SWOSU's fellow Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO) institution, Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NWOSU) in Alva, having earned undergraduate and master's degrees from NWOSU in 1974 and 1976, respectively. She currently resides in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

"The name of Cecil Perkins brings to mind the importance of fair play, positive attitude, and hard work," said SWOSU President Dr. Randy Beutler. "SWOSU is honored to partner with Patti Perkins, Chad Walker, and so many friends and family of Cecil to continue to pay tribute to our longtime athletic director's legacy of excellence here on the Hilltop!"

Braggs is a junior studying exercise science at SWOSU, where he is a member of the men's basketball team.

The Cecil Perkins Scholarship Fund is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. The SWOSU Foundation was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy, award scholarships and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards over \$25 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, please visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

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