

Hot Dog Eating Contest Planned for SWOSU Students

10.17.2006

Get ready because the next world-champion hot dog eater could be at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

A hot dog eating contest is planned Wednesday, October 25, in conjunction with homecoming week activities at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. The fun contest is for all SWOSU students, and co-organizer Matt Bartel of Residence Life invites everyone to watch.

The contest for both males and females will begin at 7 p.m. in the courtyard of Rogers and Jefferson Hall on the SWOSU campus. The contest will be patterned after Nathan's national hot dog eating contest that is held July 4 each year on Coney Island in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Registration for the contest is now taking place. SWOSU students can sign up at the front desk of Rogers and Jefferson Hall.

Bartel said contestants can sit or stand during the contest. They will have a plate of hot dogs in front of them, buns included. Participants will have 12 minutes to eat as many hotdogs as they can. After 12 minutes, the person with the most will be awarded a prize. Contestants must keep the hotdogs down for the entire 12 minutes. If they come back up, they are disqualified.

"It is easier to dip the hot dog in water so that it can be swallowed easier," Bartel said in giving a pre-contest helpful hint.

The grand prize will be a \$250 scholarship from the SWOSU Foundation. "We expect this to be an entertaining event and invite everyone to watch," Bartel said.

Bartel said contestants must fill out a liability form before they can participate and organizers of the event will have a nurse on site in case of various needs. This is the first year for the event but it is hoped it will become a traditional event. Bar S Foods has agreed to donate the hot dogs for the contest.

The world record for hot dogs consumed in 12 minutes is 53 $\frac{3}{4}$ by Takeru Kobayashi. The women's record is 37 by Sonya Thomas.

"Who knows....we might have the next world record holder here at SWOSU," Bartel said.