

Martinez Wins Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest at SWOSU

11.04.2014

Talk about challenging! SWOSU student Gabby Martinez of Piedmont recently won an underwater pumpkin carving contest.

Tis the season for pumpkins and carving contests but a person might be hard pressed to find a unique contest like the one Southwestern Oklahoma State University's SCUBA Club did on November 2.

The club hosted an underwater pumpkin-carving contest at Lake Elmer-Thomas in Comanche County.

Each of the five participating divers were certified and paid a fee which a portion was returned to the winner. Upon assembling their tanks and gear, the group was given one hour to submerge and carve the pumpkin, with the only work done on land being the removal of the tops of the pumpkins.

The contestants were judged by their creativity, complexity and cleanliness. The winner was Gabby Martinez of Piedmont.

Among the designs chosen were cats, an owl, a jack-o-lantern with a scar and an underwater scene complete with divers, sharks, and an octopus. Along with the five competitors, two safety divers/photographers were also on the scene.

The SWOSU SCUBA Club is open to anyone who is interested in SCUBA, certified or not, and all are welcome, including faculty and alumni/friends.

The club's next event is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, from 4-7 p.m. at the SWOSU pool. Faculty sponsor Paul Hummel said this is an opportunity for anyone who has ever been curious about SCUBA but has never had the chance to try. For more information, contact Hummel at paul.hummel@swosu.edu or Club President Maurice Masterson at mastersonm@student.swosu.edu.