

SOUTHEASTERN

A CENTURY OF BUILDING FUTURES

UPDATE

Spring Commencement held May 10 at Laird Field



Southeastern President Michael Turner congratulates a graduate.



Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham was the commencement speaker.

Spring commencement was held at Southeastern Oklahoma State University on Saturday, May 10, at Paul Laird Field.

The graduating class numbered 435.

This spring's commencement speaker was Southeastern graduate Dr. Amanda J. Cobb-Greetham, who serves as the Administrator of the Division of History and Culture for the Chickasaw Nation.



Dr. Bryon Clark, Dean for the School of Graduate & University Studies, and Dr. Charles Weiner, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, place the hood on the master's degree graduates.



The graduates file into the ceremony at Paul Laird Field.



Massey Lecture features Sonic CEO

J. Clifford Hudson, left, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Sonic Corporation, provided remarks April 25 at the 11th John Massey Family Endowed Lectureship in Business and Public Policy. The event, which attracted higher education and business leaders, students and community members, was held in the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Ballroom.

Three local individuals complete Leadership Oklahoma

Three individuals with Durant and Southeastern Oklahoma State University ties recently graduated from the Leadership Oklahoma Class (XXI).

Among the graduating class were Southeastern President Dr. Michael D. Turner, Oklahoma District Attorney of Oklahoma (19th District) Emily Redman (a SOSU graduate), and Southeastern Vice President for Student Affairs Sharon Robinson.

The primary emphasis of Leadership Oklahoma is its annual educational, issues-oriented 10-month class program. Monthly two-day sessions are held in various communities throughout the state. Each year, approximately 50 Oklahoma leaders who represent a wide geographic base and who have diverse backgrounds and vocations are selected to participate.

Each class is exposed to the many social and environmental complexities of the state in order to stimulate inquiry, analysis and independent development of solutions for the public good. Class members meet and talk with Oklahoma's current leaders and explore the state's opportunities, needs, issues and resources. Based on the interaction and respect developed during the class year, a living network is formed – a network capable of identifying, evaluating and implementing projects of value to

the people of Oklahoma.

In 1986, a group of Oklahoma leaders began a series of discussions based on the belief that positive change cannot happen without effective leadership.

They also shared the conviction that our

leadership must understand the complex differences and relationships driving Oklahoma and search for the common ties that will inspire us to change and grow. Leadership Oklahoma was created to build a statewide leadership development program designed to identify, teach and challenge the leaders of Oklahoma.



Vice President Sharon Robinson, President Michael Turner, and District Attorney Emily Redman recently graduated from Leadership Oklahoma.

Native American Day features John Herrington

Southeastern Oklahoma State University hosted the 6th annual Native American Student Visitation Day April 8.

The event was sponsored by the Native American Outreach Center for Student Success, a branch of the Southeastern Academic Advising and Outreach Center.

Support from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations helped make the event successful.

Six schools participated and 55 students attended the event, which included a browse session with nine vendors from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, and an aviation presentation by George Jacox and Dr. Stan Alluisi of the Southeastern Aviation Department.

Amy Grant (Chickasaw Nation) and Jerrod James (Choctaw Nation) presented information on tribal scholarships and grants.

Chris Wesberry, Native American Academic Counselor and Project Director for NAEIE, said, "Our campus visitors had a great time and our guest speaker, astronaut John Herrington, really made the day special."

Herrington is a native of Wetumka who grew up in Colorado, Wyoming and Texas, where he graduated from Plano High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in applied mathematics from the University of Colorado-



John Herrington speaks to students.

Colorado Springs before receiving his commission in the United States Navy in 1984.

He served three deployments in the Pacific region before being assigned as a test pilot. He was chosen by NASA as an astronaut candidate in 1996 and made his first space flight in 2002 as a mission specialist aboard STS-113.

Herrington is an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation.

Softball team enjoys record run in 2008



Rachel Lynn

Coach Ron Faubion's Savage Storm have just completed the best softball season in Southeastern Oklahoma State University history.

The Lady Storm set a single-season record for wins in a 53-12 campaign and reached the if-necessary game of the South Central Region Tournament before falling one win shy of the National Tournament.

Coach Faubion said, "This was a great season, but it was disappointing in the end because we didn't reach our goal of the National Tournament. We had a great group of young ladies and I really feel bad for our seniors. We have a good nucleus returning and we've added some recruits who should be able to step in and play immediately."

This was a year of firsts for the softball program as the city of Durant hosted the 2008 Lone Star Conference Softball Crossover Tournament and the LSC Postseason Tournament at Durant's Multi-Sports Complex.

Skiatook senior Rachel Lynn headlined the individual honors as she was named first-team NFCA All-America. The center fielder set a Southeastern single-season record with 91 hits, led the team with a .414 batting average, and paced the Lone Star Conference with 48 stolen bases.

Grand Prairie, Texas, senior left fielder Ashley Graham (.332, 11 home runs, team-high 61 runs batted in) was named Southeastern's Most Outstanding Female Athlete.

The top two pitchers, Marge Johnson and Jami McAdoo, return, along with first baseman Benita Sanchez (.400) and shortstop Bailey Mathes (.363, 17 home runs).

Johnson (27-5) set Southeastern and LSC records with 394 strikeouts and led the nation with 12.3 strikeouts per seven innings. McAdoo (24-6) pitched key 1-0 victories over Central Oklahoma to clinch the Lone Star North title and top-seed Angelo State in the region tournament.



Bruce Channel performs at the 2008 Arts Gala, held March 7 at the SOSU Visual & Performing Arts Center. Channel is best known for his early 1960s' hit, "Hey Baby." The Arts Gala benefits student scholarships.

Calendar of Events

June

2 -- Summer classes begin
13 -- Presidential Golf Classic, Chickasaw Pointe Golf Resort

July

25 -- Summer classes end

August

18 -- Fall classes begin

September

12 -- Presidential Partners event, Visual and Performing Arts Center

October

16-17 -- Fall Break
25 -- Homecoming

November

26-28 -- Thanksgiving holiday

December

12 -- Fall semester ends
13 -- Fall Commencement

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Summer hours in effect through Aug. 1

For the second year in a row, Southeastern Oklahoma State University officials are looking to cut energy costs in the summer months by implementing a 10-hour, 4-day work week beginning June 2 and continuing through August 1.

Under the summer schedule, University employees will continue to work 40 hours a week (Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Public office hours will remain from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday-Thursday. University offices will be closed on Fridays.

The University implemented this schedule for the first time last summer.

For the past several years, summer school classes have met on a Monday-Thursday schedule, and that will continue to be the case.

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