



# ‘Super Saturday’ draws a crowd

An estimated 500 junior high and high school students and parents attended “Super Saturday” activities at Southeastern Oklahoma State University on February 23.

This year’s activities included the Oklahoma Science Olympiad, Vocal Music auditions, Theatre auditions, choral competition, Honors scholarship competition, and President’s Leadership Class scholarship competition.

“In terms of attendance, this is one of the biggest events we have on campus all year,” said Southeastern president Sean Burrage, who spent the day welcoming groups and visiting one-on-one with students and parents. “This is a great way for us to showcase what the University has to offer. And the event seems to grow and expand every year.”

Also, an Academic Department Fair was held in the Glen D. Johnson Student Union. During this time, faculty members were available to visit with prospective students.

In addition, the Southeastern Office of Admissions and Recruitment offered campus tours for visitors.

Students from as far away as Virginia and Amarillo, Texas, participated in the activities.



The Oklahoma Science Olympiad featured a number of events.



Southeastern president Sean Burrage welcomed the students to campus.



The Academic Fair allowed prospective students to visit with Southeastern faculty members.

*500 prospective students, parents participate in variety of campus events*

# Baseball park to be named in honor of Metheny

Southeastern athletics has announced that The Ballpark in Durant, the long-time home of the Savage Storm baseball program, will be renamed Mike Metheny Field in honor of SE Hall of Famer and NCAA Division II All-Time wins leader Mike Metheny.

A dedication ceremony is scheduled for April 6.

“My family and I are honored and humbled at the thought of having the Southeastern baseball field carry the Metheny name,” Metheny said. “We truly enjoyed my 47 years here as player and coach and have a deep emotional attachment to that piece of ground on the Southeastern campus. I would like to thank President Sean Burrage, Athletic Director Keith Baxter, and all those who had a part in this decision. I would also like to thank my former players and my coach, mentor and friend Dr. Don “Doc” Parham, who helped put Southeastern Oklahoma baseball on the college baseball map.”

Zach Crabtree, who succeeded Metheny as baseball coach, added his endorsement.

“What a fitting way to honor Coach Metheny’s career and all the accomplishments of his 37 teams here at Southeastern,” Crabtree said. “Coach Metheny set the standard high here at Southeastern. Not only does he have the most wins in NCAA DII history, but he is also one of the very few Oklahoma college baseball coaches to lead their program to a National Championship. By naming our field Mike Metheny Field, it is a way to forever honor Coach Metheny for all he has done for his players, the game of baseball, and our University.”

Athletic director Keith Baxter said the honor is well deserved.

“What a great way to honor one of Southeastern’s most decorated coaches, the Legend,” Baxter said. “Naming the field after coach Metheny is just the right thing to do — it’s not only a tribute to him, but also his family and the hundreds of players that gave Southeastern Baseball such a rich tradition.”

Metheny becomes the third former Southeastern coach to have a venue on campus named in his honor, joining Bloomer Sullivan (gymnasium and arena) and Paul Laird (football field).

He had his #1 jersey retired on Nov. 11, 2017, joining his predecessor Don Parham (#5) and major leaguer Brett But-

ler (#2) in receiving that honor.

Metheny retired from coaching following his 37th season at the helm (2017) and left the game as the Division II leader in all-time victories.

He finished his storied career with 1,324 career victories, 679 losses and three ties to push his career winning percentage to .660, averaging just more than 35 wins per season.

Southeastern collected a 9-1 win over Harding in the series opener on March 31, 2017, to secure Metheny the NCAA Division II record-setting 1,315th victory.

Metheny is ranked among the top 20 on the all-time wins list regardless of division, climbing to 19th on the list just behind Larry Cochell, who has 1,331 after finishing his career in 2005 as the head coach at the University of Oklahoma.

If that list is narrowed to coaches who have picked up all of their victories at one school, Metheny would rank eighth behind Rod De-deaux who spent 44 seasons at the University of Southern California.

His connection with Southeastern has spanned more than 40 years from his beginnings as a player, through being a graduate assistant, an assistant coach and ultimately taking over as the head coach in 1981.

Metheny guided the Southeastern baseball program through its successful transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II, and in just the second season at the D-II level, he led his squad to the NCAA Division II World Series in Montgomery, Alabama. On June 3, 2000, Southeastern earned its first National Championship.

That title earned him the 2000 National Coach of the Year honor at the American Baseball Coaches Convention.

While a member of the NAIA, his teams made seven trips to the NAIA World Series and earned three runner-up finishes.

Metheny’s teams claimed 15 conference championships and he earned conference coach of the year honors nine times and regional coach of the year seven times.

In January of 1999, Metheny was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame at the American Baseball Coaches Convention in Atlanta, Ga.

He was inducted into the Southeastern Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010.



*The Ballpark in Durant will be named in honor of coach Metheny in a ceremony on April 6.*

## New aviation director on board

The Aviation Sciences Institute at Southeastern Oklahoma State University has a new director.



**Capt. Lloyd Sauls**, who has 44 years of extensive aviation experience, was recently named to the position. As director, he will oversee all aspects of the aviation program, including academic programs and flight operations.

“The Southeastern aviation program is one of the premier programs of its kind in the nation,” said Southeastern president Sean Burrage. “We are fortunate to have someone with the experience and leadership skills of Capt. Sauls to guide our program, which continues to grow.”

Sauls holds bachelor degrees in Behavioral Science and Basic Science from the United States Air Force Academy. He spent 36 years (1980-2016) with Delta Airlines as an international captain and served as chief pilot for the DFW base in the early 2000s. For the past year, he served as a flight instructor for Southwest Airlines.

Sauls is a graduate of Durant High School.

Other experience includes time as a pilot instructor at the United States Air Force and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Southeastern’s aviation program has earned a reputation for excellence, while attracting students from all across the nation.

Since the program’s inception in 1966, Southeastern has placed professional pilots throughout the world. Degrees are offered in aviation-professional pilot, aviation management, and a master’s in aerospace administration and logistics.

Program locations include Durant, Rose State College, and Tinker Air Force Base.



## Alumni sponsoring Daughters of Justice concert March 30

**Daughters of Justice** – an Americana musical group with local ties – will be performing in Durant on Saturday, March 30.

The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Visual & Performing Arts Center at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Tickets are \$40 and all proceeds will benefit the Southeastern Alumni Association Scholarship programs. Tickets are available online at: <http://www.se.edu/alumni/>

Sisters Jocelyn, Leah and Marna Taylor are the Daughters of Justice and are based in Nashville. They were born in Texas, but grew up in Oklahoma.

Their parents, Judge Joe Taylor and Margaret Taylor, are both proud alumni of Southeastern.



## Curriculum Contest set for March 28 at SE

Southeastern Oklahoma State University will host the 106th Oklahoma Inter-High School Curriculum Meet on Thursday, March 28.

Students from area high schools will be competing in a number of academic contests, including mathematics, science, history, literature, art, and music.

Dr. James Britton serves as coordinator of the event.

## Marketing office earns recognition for work

Two individuals from the Southeastern Oklahoma State University marketing office -- Creative Marketing Specialist David Campbell and student worker Spencer Patton -- recently received recognition from the The Collegiate Advertising Awards program.

Campbell’s entry -- “SE Rodeo Patch Program Fundraising Mailer” -- earned a gold award.

Patton earned a bronze award in the special video production category for his entry “SE Live High School Day”.

The Collegiate Advertising Awards is an elite national program created to honor today’s most talented marketing professionals for outstanding excellence in all forms of advertising, marketing and promotion specific to higher education products and services.



## Financial aid, recruiting offices travel to schools

Representatives from the offices of financial aid and admissions and recruitment services and faculty members have worked together recently, presenting programs to prospective students and their parents.

On February 21, Southeastern participated in Bilingual Night at Sherman High School, with 60 parents/students in attendance.

The University presented similar programs at Madill (Jan. 28) and Marietta (Feb. 18).

At the events, Southeastern provided information about financial aid, scholarships, and admission requirements.

## Update Calendar

### March

- 18-24 Spring Break  
28 106th Oklahoma Inter-High School Curriculum Meet  
30 An Evening with Daughters of Justice (Alumni Association), Visual & Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.

### April

- 6 Dedication ceremony to name The Ballpark in Durant in honor of Mike Metheny  
12 Albert Brigrance Endowed Lectureship and Project Teach present speaker Todd Whitaker, Montgomery Auditorium  
12-13 Aviation Fish Fry & Reunion  
19 Holiday  
27 Presidential Partners banquet, VPAC, 6:30 p.m.  
29 John Massey School of Business Awards Banquet, Ballroom, 5:30 p.m.  
30 Tri-County Honors, 5:30 p.m.

### May

- 11 Commencement, Bloomer Sullivan Arena, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### June

- 14 Presidential Golf Classic

#### Update Editor

**Alan Burton**

**Special Assistant to the President -  
Director of  
University Communications**

#### Photography

**Dan Hoke**

**Assistant Director of  
University Communications**

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## Free Tax assistance

*Students in the accounting department at Southeastern Oklahoma State University are working with the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) sponsored by AARP Tax-Aide program in Durant to assist in tax preparation. Three full-time student interns and accounting professor Dr. Rhonda Richards, pictured here with Caleb Lankford, a senior accounting major from Gunter, Texas, are assisting citizens at the Donald W. Reynolds Library in Durant (1515 W. Main) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through April 11, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free tax assistance is provided to low-to moderate-income taxpayers who are 50 years of age and older – some exceptions may apply.*

## Homecoming set for October 25-26

Mark your calendars now! Southeastern Oklahoma State University will celebrate its 2019 Homecoming on the weekend of October 25-26. Included will be all of the traditional events, including the parade, alumni golf tournament, alumni association awards banquet, various reunions, and the football game between Henderson State and Southeastern on Saturday afternoon.

In other alumni news, the Gold & Blue Scholarship and Auction Gala has been moved from the spring to the fall this year -- Saturday, November 9. The Gala, sponsored by the alumni association, raises money for student scholarships.

Prior to that -- Daughters of Justice – an Americana musical group with local ties – will be performing in Durant on Saturday, March 30.

The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Visual & Performing Arts Center at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Tickets are \$40 and all proceeds will benefit the Southeastern Alumni Association Scholarship programs.