



Homecoming!

Alumni, friends, and students of Southeastern Oklahoma State University enjoyed a variety of activities Oct. 17-22 as part of the 2022 Homecoming Celebration.

Student activities were held throughout the week, and the Whang Bang Alumni Golf Tournament kicked things off on a beautiful fall Friday morning at Chickasaw Pointe, while the Distinguished Awards banquet was held that night in the Visual & Performing Arts Center. Stacy Shepherd, Executive Officer of Member Services at Choctaw Nation, received the Distinguished Alumna Award, while the Semple Family was honored with the Benefactor Award.

Later Friday night, a pep rally was held on campus ahead of Saturday's homecoming football game against Oklahoma Baptist.

In addition to the game, numerous reunions and Tailgate Alley activities were held as a large number of SE alumni returned to campus.

The Savage Storm capped off the weekend with a 62-14 thumping of OBU.



Tailgate Alley was a popular place for alumni to hang out Saturday prior to the football game.



Madison Hunt of Lone Grove and MeKenzie Cruz of Tulsa were named Homecoming Royalty.



SE president Thomas Newsom congratulates Distinguished Alumna Stacy Shepherd and Benefactor Award recipients Janie Semple Umstead, Robin Semple, and Frank Semple.



A pep rally was held Friday night.

Supercomputing thrives at Southeastern

The age of supercomputing is thriving at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Supercomputing uses multiple computers in concert to process code or analyze data, giving it “super” powers to solve problems with huge information processing needs. Distributing the workload along with a fast network and abundant storage dramatically decreases the time required to perform tasks. In addition, some tasks are so complex, processing cannot be performed on one machine and can only be accomplished when spread across a network of machines.

Programming for supercomputers, High Performance Computing (HPC), requires specialized instruction and access to supercomputers. Examples of areas of study with large data processing needs include weather, physics, DNA processing, and manufacturing.

Thanks to the decade-long efforts of SE mathematics professor Dr. Karl Frinkle and SE computer sciences professor Mike Morris (now retired), the University is now the proud owner of a state-of-the-art supercomputer, which is the equivalent of approximately 1,000 desktop computers.

Students will directly benefit from the new technology.

“First and foremost, we will continue to offer high performance computing courses for our students, which is an important area of study for CS (computer science) majors and also for applied Math majors,” Frinkle said. “These courses teach the most common approach to high performance computing – compiling code to run across multiple machines, and this approach is available to anyone on campus who wishes to utilize the resources available.” In addition to computer science and mathematics majors, students in Behavioral Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science, Social Science, and Business may benefit from the system.

A six-year-long research project in the Math Department is already utilizing the resources available on the new supercomputer, and at any given time at least one set of code is running on the supercomputer related to math-oriented research projects. Due to the increasing prevalence of HPC, there exist resources for those who are unfamiliar with the HPC environment. Programs, such as Open OnDemand (<https://openondemand.org/>), an NSF-funded open-source portal, give users a web interface to run code. A long-term objective is facilitating research of non-coding faculty through as many methods as possible.

Morris said the supercomputer will be of benefit to students now and later.

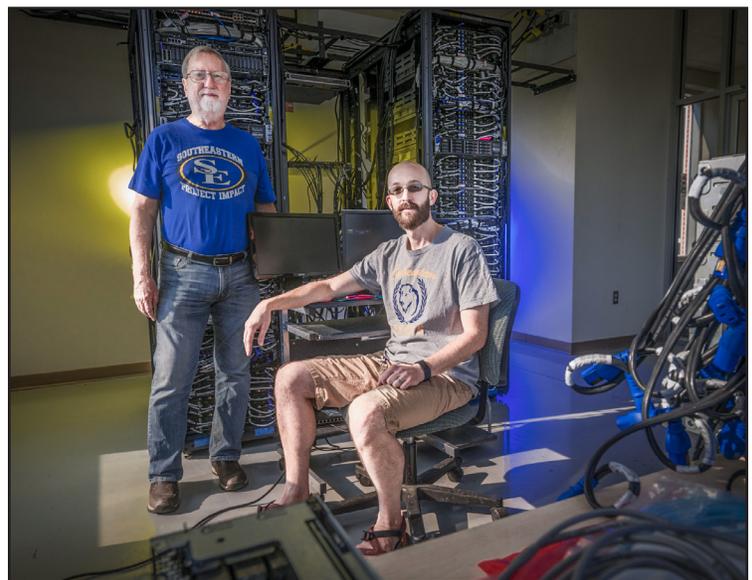
“If they go to work for a large organization, chances are the employer will own, lease time on one, or at least have access to a supercomputer,” Morris said. “Knowing what it

is and what it’s capable of doesn’t hurt them, no matter what their position. And knowing how to run programs on it is a big plus for many jobs, and our students learn that. And a few (students) actually learn how to create programs. The fact that a supercomputer has many processors (computers) in its network makes it need “parallel programming,” which has similarities to regular programming, but requires a higher level of expertise, which our students receive.”

Frinkle agreed, saying, “Once strictly the realm of large computer science departments and government facilities, HPC is mainstream. Engineering firms, medical research companies, and a wide variety of other organizations rely on supercomputers. To remain competitive and relevant in the global marketplace, it is imperative that students are familiar with supercomputing environments. In the newly established “Southeastern Center for Supercomputing, (SC2)” students will learn not only how to program for supercomputers, but how to build and maintain them. Managing supercomputers is a highly technical and an in-demand profession and will only increase for the foreseeable future.”

For Southeastern, the path to the supercomputing world began more than a decade ago when Frinkle and Morris attended conferences and workshops to learn to build and use a miniature supercomputer.

The two professors’ continued involvement and connections at the state level led to Southeastern receiving various grants and equipment that made the supercomputer a reality at the University this year.



Mike Morris and Dr. Karl Frinkle with the Supercomputer.

Gala time!

Three Native American artists inducted into Hall of Fame



Taking part in the induction ceremony were Southeastern president Thomas Newsom, Poteet Victory, Robert Keating, Caitlin Brown(granddaughter of Kelly Haney), Damaris Haney (daughter of Kelly Haney),Margaret Roach Wheeler, Sarah Semple Brown, Jane Semple Umsted, and Frank Semple.



Three renowned artists were inducted into the Native American Artists Hall of Fame at the Spirit of the Hawk Gala on Oct. 14.

This was the inaugural fundraising gala and Hall of Fame induction for the Semple Family Museum of Native American Art at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Poteet Victory, Margaret Wheeler, and the late Enoch Kelly Haney were the inductees.

In addition to the gala, a meet the artists event was held at the Semple Family Museum, located at 430 Montgomery, on Oct. 13.

The museum, which opened last fall, was funded by a gift from the Semple Family.

SE Flight Team places third in regional competition

Southeastern Oklahoma State University hosted the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's (NIFA) Region IV SAFECON Oct. 16-20.

The SE Flight Team finished third in the SAFECON Championship, trailing only LeTourneau University and Oklahoma State University. The first and second place teams receive automatic bids to the national competition in May in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

However, Southeastern is not out of the running – the SE Flight Team will learn if its strong third place finish is enough for an invitation to the nationals by the end of the year.

Southeastern also finished second in flying events and third in ground events. A number of SE team members earned top 10 finishes to bolster the overall team effort.

"I am very proud of our team's progress, as we showed great improvement over last year," said Kyle Thomas, Chief Flight Instructor and Flight Operations Manager at the SE Aviation Sciences Institute. "We were only 19 points behind the second place team. And the weather was beautiful and it was a great week of competition."



Calendar of Events

November

3 – Musical Arts Series, Jake Fridkis (flute), Fine Arts Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

4 -- Top 10 Freshman Recognition ceremony, Glen D. Johnson Student Union auditorium, 3 p.m.

5 – Football vs. Ouachita Baptist, here, 2 p.m.

21-27 -- Thanksgiving holiday

December

12 -- Candlelighting, Montgomery Auditorium

16 – Fall Commencement, Master’s degrees, Bloomer Sullivan Arena

17 -- Fall Commencement, Bachelor’s degrees, Bloomer Sullivan Arena

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SE hosts RUSO meeting

Southeastern proudly hosted the October meeting of the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents on Oct. 7. Sen. Roger Thompson was a special guest.

SE graduate Tiffany Miera receives \$25,000 Milken Educator Award

Tiffany Miera, a 2022 graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University, has received a \$25,000 national Milken Educator Award as the sole Colorado recipient of the honor this 2022-23 season. She earned a master’s in educational leadership with a principal certification at Southeastern.



Miera is a fifth-grade math teacher at Needham Elementary School in Durango, Colorado. She was caught completely by surprise when Milken Educator Awards Founder Lowell Milken, joined by Colorado Department of Education Associate Commissioner of Educator Talent Dr. Colleen O’Neil, presented her with the prestigious honor at a recent school assembly.

The event was part of the Milken Family Foundation’s 2022-23 coast-to-coast tour surprising outstanding educators with the Milken Educator Award and its accompanying unrestricted \$25,000 cash prize. Miera is among up to 40 educators who will be presented with the Award during this school year.

She previously taught special education and is determined to provide appropriate access points to learning for all students, focused on grade-level proficiency.

Miera is a Durango native with strong community ties -- she was once a Needham student herself and has spent her entire career in education at the school.