

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE COLLEGIAN

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TRIBAL FEST

BICE VISITS CAMPUS

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FOUNDATION GOLF

The Educational Foundation golf tournament is a fundraising success. [Page 6](#)

Submitting to The Collegian

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Stay up-to-date with all campus news by visiting sscok.edu/media. You can also view our collection of archives, which includes past issues of *The Collegian*.



NEVER MISS A GAME OF **SSC SPORTS**

Students and employees can attend every SSC athletic event for free with a campus ID. View sports schedules at sscathletics.com.

MOBILE PETTING ZOO MAKES STOP AT SSC



The Little Bitty Acres Mobile Petting Zoo brought a wide variety of animals to Seminole State College on Sept. 18. Students and employees interacted with the animals in the courtyard outside of the E.T. Dunlap Student Union. The event was hosted by SSC Student Activities.



SSC Adjunct Professor of Earth Sciences Kevin Blackwood and his daughters, Ember and Everly, play with baby goats at the event.

CONGRESSWOMAN BICE SPEAKS WITH LEADERSHIP STUDENTS



U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Bice visited Seminole State College on Sept. 3. She spoke with President's Leadership Class students about her political journey and her day-to-day responsibilities in Washington D.C. Students also had the opportunity to ask Congresswoman Bice questions at the close of her presentation.



Following her presentation to leadership students, Congresswoman Bice toured the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex and learned about the facility's economic impact on the community. Congresswoman Bice (left) and SSC Baseball Head Coach Mack Chambers (right) posed for a photo in front of Lloyd Simmons Field.

STUDENTS COMPETE IN CONSTITUTION DAY GAME SHOW



Seminole State College hosted a Constitution Day celebration on Sept. 17 in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center Lecture Hall. Social Sciences Division Chair and Professor of Government Jeffrey Christian served as the host of Constitution Jeopardy, where students answered questions related to the country's founding document.



SSC Student Government Association Sponsor and Recruitment Specialist Maddy Potter (left) and SGA member Aubree Wilkins of Earlsboro (right) helped students register to vote at the event.



Following the Jeopardy competition, Christiansen (far right) presented the three winners with prizes. Pictured (left to right): Rae Factor of Wewoka, Angelina Sims of Shawnee and Troy Edwards of Davenport.

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE TO TAKE CENTER AT TRIBAL FEST



Native American hoop dancer Eric Hernandez will be the featured performer at Seminole State College's Tribal Fest on Oct. 9.

Seminole State College will celebrate Native American culture and heritage during its annual Tribal Fest on Wednesday, Oct. 9. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the SSC campus and will feature a variety of activities, performances and local tribal resources.

The day will begin with a Browsing Fair from 9 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. at Cook's Commons, where attendees can explore booths from local tribal organizations. Activities will include a special dance

performance by SSC alumnus Asa Samuels, who was named Mr. Indigenous OU in 2023. Beading demonstrations will also be showcased, and local Tribal Princesses will meet and greet attendees. The SSC Belles women's basketball team will also be on-site, signing autographs. Of the 16 players on the Belles' roster, 10 are Native American, representing the Absentee Shawnee, Apache, Arapaho, Cheyenne, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Comanche, Creek, Delaware, Kiowa,



TRIBAL FEST

OCT 9
2024

SCHEDULE

9 AM Welcome and Blessing
9:05 AM Browsing Fair (Cook's Commons)

Throughout the morning enjoy: dancing, drumming, demonstrations, Fry Bread Express, roasted corn from Great Western, autographs from the SSC Belles, art projects, door prizes and resources.

12 PM Eric Hernandez Hoop Dance Performance and the Announcement of Short Film Contest Winners
(Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Center)

1 PM Conclusion of Tribal Fest

Tribal Fest is provided by SSS/STEM SSS, Talent Search, Upward Bound and NASNTI.

Rosebud Sioux, Sac and Fox, Seminole and Wichita tribes.

Visitors can enjoy food from the Fry Bread Express Food Truck throughout the morning.

At noon, attendees are invited to the Jeff Johnston Auditorium for a special performance by Native American hoop dancer Eric Hernandez. Hernandez, a member of the Lumbee Tribe, is known for his dynamic performances and previously served as the lead character and

dancer in Cirque du Soleil's "TOTEM," which toured in over 17 countries. His work showcases the art of hoop dancing while promoting cultural understanding and breaking stereotypes.

This event is free and open to the public. The event is sponsored by several federal grant programs on SSC's campus, including Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions, Talent Search, Upward Bound and Student Support Services/SSS STEM.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ASKING FOR HELP

Dr. Bill Knowles

Vice President for
Academic and Student Affairs



We know how you're feeling. So don't be afraid to ask for help.

College is a time of considerable growth, both academically and personally. It is also a time when you are often expected to be independent and figure things out on your own. While this self-reliance is important, it's equally crucial to understand that asking for help is not a sign of weakness but rather a sign of strength.

Why is asking for help important?

- **Overcoming barriers:** Asking for help can provide you with the resources and support you need to overcome challenges.

- **Building relationships:** Reaching out to others can help you form stronger connections.

- **Improving your knowledge:** Getting support can deepen your understanding of the information. Research has revealed students seeking help from sources such as advisors, instructors, and classmates often receive better grades than students who do not ask for help (Zerbib, 2024).

- **Reducing stress:** Talking to someone can help lessen feelings of anxiety.

Remember, asking for help is a sign of intelligence, not weakness.

Campus Resources

Advising

405-382-9797
advising@sscok.edu

Financial Aid

405-382-9247
finaid@sscok.edu

Online Degree Office

405-382-9577
online@sscok.edu

Veteran and Military Services

405-382-9510
s.foster@sscok.edu

Help Center

helpcenter@sscok.edu

SSC LEADERSHIP STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN TEAMBUILDING EXERCISES



The Seminole State College President's Leadership Class visited the University of Oklahoma's Boathouse and Challenge Course at Arcadia Lake on Sept. 12. Students worked together in a variety of teambuilding exercises, rope climbing and ziplining.



PLC freshmen Zane Cooper of McCurtain takes in the view high above the ground on the Challenge Course.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION HOSTS GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Seminole State College Educational Foundation hosted its 28th Annual Golf Tournament at the Jimmie Austin Golf Course in Seminole on Sept. 13. This year's event raised nearly \$38,000 for student scholarships and campus capital projects. A total of 116 players, comprising 29 teams, took to the links to show their support for the College.



Seminole City Manager Steve Saxon tees off during the Foundation's golf fundraiser.



SSC Educational Foundation Vice Chair Rhonda McKee (left) and SSC Regent Teresa Burnett (right) prepared and served food as participants made their way along the course.

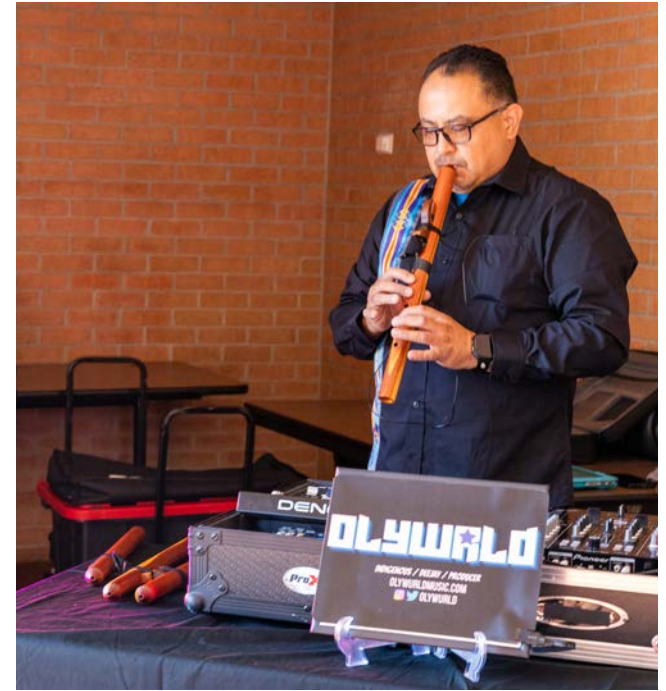


Pictured (left to right): Blayne Norman, Assistant District Attorney for Hughes County; Chris Hauger, Assistant District Attorney for Seminole County; Ryan Pitts, SSC Regent and Holdenville and We-woka Municipal Judge; and Matt Peters, Asher and Maud Municipal Judge, take a break from their round of golf to take a photo.

PRESENTERS SPEAK ON NATIVE LANGUAGE AT SSC'S AI SYMPOSIUM



The Seminole State College Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institution's (NASNTI) federal grant program hosted "The Methods of AI in Preserving and Revitalizing Native American Languages" symposium on Sept. 26. Deidre Holmberg (pictured) delivered the event's keynote with a presentation on generative AI and education. Holmberg is the Principal Tech Education Strategist at Amazon Web Services.



Native American flutist and DJ Oliver Pruitt, who performs under the moniker Olywurd, played for attendees prior to the start of the event.



Cherokee Nation Chief Information Officer Paula Starr led a breakout session on "AI Strategy in Tribal Government."



Renita DiStefano, the founder and CEO of Second Derivative, discussed AI's role in safeguarding intellectual property in her session titled "The Importance of Data Sovereignty and Data Governance."



Sean Muir, the founder of iStory, spoke about engaging youth with media during his presentation "Preserving Language with Indigenous Content: Graphic Novels and Motion Comics."

LEADERSHIP STUDENTS TOUR CAPITOL DOME



Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class toured the Oklahoma State Capitol Dome on Sept. 19. During the tour, students met with State Senator Grant Green (District 28) and heard from representatives of the Oklahoma Academy and the Oklahoma State Election Board.



PLC students also got to take in the view of the Oklahoma City skyline from the balcony atop the Capitol Dome. Pictured (left to right): Hanlon Gottschalk of Prague, Hunter Gibson of Cashion, Bradley Ruby of Oklahoma City, Ethan Rich of Prague, Zoe Trenchard of Lewisville, Texas, Audra Provaznik of Prague and Addison Pringle of Shawnee.

SEMINOLE LIONS CLUB SPONSORS SOCCER SIGN



The Seminole Lions Club sponsored an entrance sign for the SSC soccer field. lions Club members and representatives from the soccer team posed for a photo. Pictured (left to right): Ernie Willis, Tonya Ricks, Fred Bunyan, Assistant Coach Caitlyn Bidant, Neil Craig, Lions Club President Amy Bagwell, Les Walker, Ashley Perez, Head Coach Dan Hill, Yiselle Bernal, Dale Donabo, Athletic Director Leslie Sewell and Chuck Chadick.

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