

## SSC Foundation Golf Tournament a Success



The SSC Educational Foundation Golf Tournament was held Oct. 9, at the Jimmie Austin Municipal Golf Course. The benefit tournament, hosted by U.S. Rep. Dan Boren, State Sen. Harry Coates and State Rep. Ryan Kiesel, raised approximately \$16,000 for the college's Foundation. The money will be used to support scholarship programs and special projects of the Foundation.

## Update: SSC Baseball



Seminole State College Head Baseball Coach Eric Myers is on extended medical leave to receive treatment for cancer.

In an effort to provide some financial support for the expenses related to Myers' illness and treatment, the SSC Baseball Alumni Association will host a fall golf tournament on Friday, Nov. 10, 2006, with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. The proceeds will be donated to Coach Myers.

The event will be a two-man scramble. Entry fees are \$100 per person and include both cart and green fees. For more information about the tournament, contact Trojan Baseball Alumni Association member Kevin Riggs at (405) 382-3365.

A special fund has been established to provide some financial assistance to the Myers family. Donations can be made to the "Eric Myers Special Account" at Security State Bank, P.O. Box 1627, Seminole, OK 74818-1627 -- Attention: Karen Barnhart. Donations are not tax deductible. The account will assist the family with medical bills and living expenses; however, there are no restrictions on the use of the funds.

## Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

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# SEMINOLE *State* COLLEGE COLLEGIAN

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## SSC Hosts Call Center Ribbon-cutting



**"Seminole is on the rebound from some tough times. This opening shows a bright future."**

-- Dr. Jim Utterback,  
SSC President

**"It's a real honor for me that Seminole State College named the facility after me."**

-- Dan Boren,  
U.S. Congressman

**"It's great to be a part of a community revitalization."**

-- Jessy Crowder,  
AmeriContact CEO

(photos continue on page 3)



# Seminole State College Instructor Helps with AIDS Relief Effort in African Nations

Reprinted with permission from the *SEMINOLE PRODUCER*, written by Talina Turner

Exotic foods, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and the people of Africa were only a part of the enjoyment for a Seminole State College director.



Parthena Latchaw, the Medical Laboratory Technology Program Director, traveled to Ethiopia and Tanzania in Africa over the past year as part of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

PEPFAR is a five year 15 billion dollar commitment of the United States focusing on the 15 countries in the world with the highest incidence of AIDS and the highest rate of poverty. Twelve of the 15 countries are in Africa.

Latchaw belongs to the American Society for Clinical Pathology and trains medical laboratory technicians at SSC.

The ASCP contacted her last April and asked her if she wanted to go to Tanzania to teach Chemistry.

"I didn't hesitate," Latchaw said.

She has been to Tanzania three times and once to Ethiopia.

Latchaw said a team is sent over to assess the needs in the labs that test for HIV and AIDS for quality and accuracy.

"We then send people over, like me, to teach," Latchaw said.

She said the team's goal is to increase the capacity and reliability for testing for AIDS.

Latchaw and the team of teachers train a national team in the country they visit. The

national team then trains laboratorians throughout the region.

Chemistry analyzers, hematology analyzers, which detect anemia and infections to monitor the blood picture, and CD-4 machines, that count virus infected cells are the machines the teams are trained on.

Latchaw said they train the team on all the machines for quality control, how to get specimens, how to transport the specimens safely and monitor the specimens.

On the first trip to Tanzania, Latchaw and her team trained the national team for two weeks, then left.

The next trip, many from the same group appeared for the training again.

Latchaw said this time, they trained the team the first week and then had them teach it back the second week it what she called a "teach-back" method.

Before the training began, they would go over the PowerPoint presentations to overcome any language barrier that might exist.

Latchaw said they provided them



with training materials, such as laptops and projectors. But there were electricity problems. She said there were brown outs or no electricity for days.

But this didn't stop the trainees.

"I was just amazed," she said. "They never missed a beat."

The teach-back method has been successful. Latchaw said they are now using Tanzania as a model for the rest of the countries.

Teams from various non-governmental groups, called Partners, have a goal to stamp out AIDS, malaria, TB, and even Polio.

"AIDS are just compacting it because people can't get medication for that," Latchaw said.

They help to find a plan for the money from PEPFAR to get where it needs to go, give ideas to make the flow of supplies better, and get supplies to the people who need it.

The obstacles the African countries face are the scarceness and unreliability of medical supplies, tuberculosis, malaria, and AIDS on top of the poverty levels.

Latchaw said a medical technician might only make \$60 a month.

She described the conditions in a laboratory. They use old, washed out penicillin bottles to store blood samples in.

"They make do with what they have, and they shouldn't have to," she said. "They are about where we were in the 1950s."

"They have knowledge...but no experience to go with it."

"The average age over there is 17 because of AIDS," she said.

The life expectancy is 43.

Grandparents may be raising the children because practically an entire generation has been affected by AIDS.

One big city government hospital Latchaw described had 46 women and newborns in a one room maternity ward, with 14 beds, and one nurse.

However, the particular hospital was so proud of their generator they showed it to Latchaw. They were also proud of the source of fresh water they had.

"Fresh water is just not there," Latchaw said about the region. One of the few sources of fresh water was bottled water.

"I commend everybody that's trying to keep this going," Latchaw said.

Latchaw said her favorite so far was Ethiopia.

"You never see anyone without a smile on their face," she said. "They just seemed so grateful for what they were getting."

She was able to connect with the people easily and it was a beautiful country, she said.

Latchaw is leaving Oct. 27 for her first trip to Kenya and won't return until Nov. 11.

When asked about a language barrier, Latchaw said there wasn't any for the most part.

"They speak beautiful English," she said. The people usually speak Swahili to each other in the eastern Africa countries. In Ethiopia, they speak Ahmaric.

Latchaw has picked up some Swahili.

"They're really good about helping pick up phrases," she said. The people she was with would say a phrase several times throughout the day to help her pick it up in the right context.

Latchaw stayed within 50 miles of Mt. Kilimanjaro on the last trip to Tanzania.

One story Latchaw has to tell is about the lack of freedoms with the government.

She said there isn't room for opposition or descent.

Latchaw had to ask permission to take pictures and wasn't allowed to take pictures of anything official.

One man she was with in Ethiopia, named Gonfa Anya, was given the opportunity to study at Howard University in Washington D.C.

Latchaw said a few days before he left, he jokingly asked "What shall I ask President Bush for when I see him?"

A woman with a Ph.D. in Immunology whispered in Anya's ear.

Later, he told Latchaw she asked if he could give them their freedom.

Latchaw said she about cried when she heard this.

"Our freedom is so much more than we can imagine from inside of our own borders," Latchaw said in a letter to Senator Inhofe.

"This has totally changed my outlook on life," Latchaw said about her trips to Africa. "This has opened up a whole new energizing career for me."

She has been in the field since 1964, and is looking forward to working with the people in Africa for as long as she can.

"I've just fallen in love with the work and with the people," Latchaw said.

She said she is only a piece of a much larger picture.

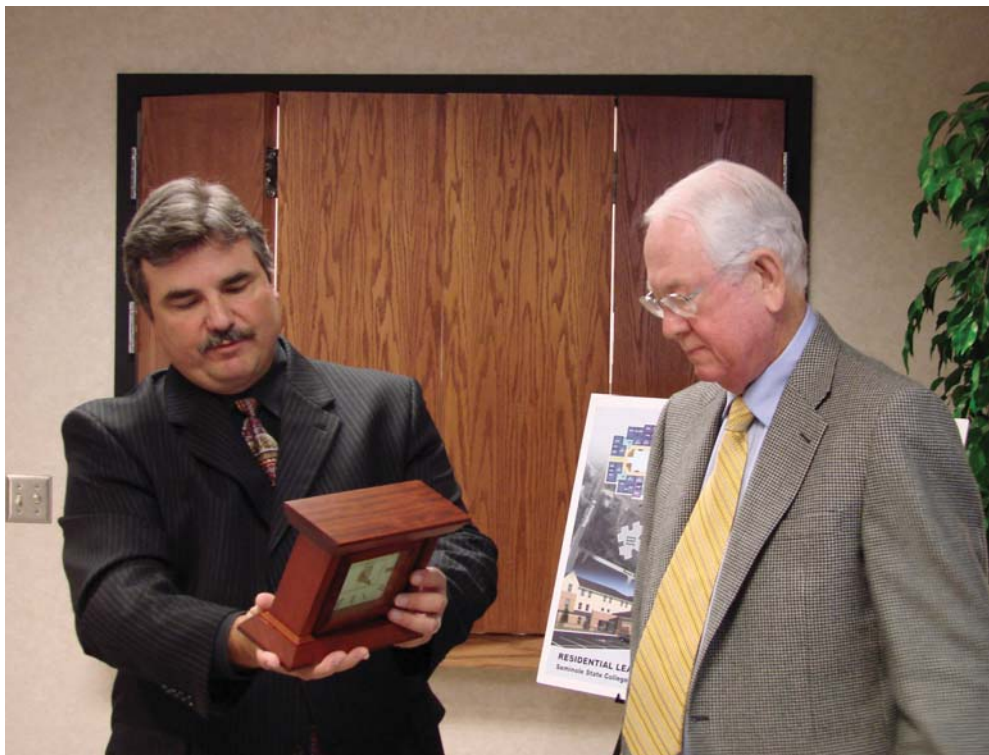
"We are a small piece of that," she said. "I'm just doing one of those small jobs."

"How do you eat an elephant? Just one toenail at a time."





# SSC Regents Hold October Meeting



**Dr. Jim Utterback presents Derrill Cody, immediate past chairman of the SSC Board of Regents, with an appreciation gift during the Oct. board meeting.**

At their October meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2006, the Seminole State College Board of Regents honored their immediate past chairman, Derrill Cody, and accepted an external audit. They also approved a design for a new softball complex and wellness center, as well as accepted an academic plan and ratified the issuance of student housing revenue bonds.

At the beginning of the meeting, a special presentation was made to former Regent Derrill Cody, whose seven-year term on the board ended this summer.

SSC President Dr. Jim Utterback praised Cody for providing great leadership during his tenure as a regent.

"You've been the voice of reason - and always a great help. You were able to be supportive, but, also make sure that we did things the right way," said Utterback.

Cody commented that his service as an SSC Regent has been his most enjoyable undertaking.

"It's amazing the accomplishments we have seen on this campus during my seven years on the board. This college

has an extremely competent and efficient staff and faculty — and Dr. Utterback is an outstanding leader," said Cody. "There is not a school this size, anywhere in this country, that has a better president."

He continued, "Everyone succeeds in good times, but we had some of the worst budget cuts in history and got through them with his leadership. I can't say enough good about the job he's done here."

Cody also complimented his fellow regents.

"Everyone on this board is smart; they got along; and they had one target: to see the college do well. I've also been impressed with the tangible support this community gives this college," Cody said.

Under the first item of business, the regents accepted an annual external audit for the college. Representatives from Cole & Reed of Oklahoma City conducted the audit and were present at the meeting to present their findings to the board. SSC received a clean or unquali-

fied audit. The report will be presented to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education later in the month.

Under the next item of business, the board approved a final design for the college's new softball complex and wellness center from Meyer Architecture Plus. The softball project is part of the construction being funded through the 2005 Higher Education Bond Issue.

During the third item of business, the board approved entering into a contract with Oscar J. Boldt Construction for the new parking lot project. The parking lot project was separated from the housing project during the bonding process. The action taken by the board gives the contract to the firm selected for the rest of the housing project.

Next, the regents approved entering into an agreement with the Seminole State College Education Foundation to share resources and personnel. The agreement is an update of the one enacted in 1997. The agreement will now be presented to the SSC Foundation at the end of October for their approval.

On the Consent Agenda, the regents approved the college's 2006 Academic Plan, an annual report submitted to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. They also agreed to ratify actions taken on the issuance of the student housing revenue bonds. The bond issuance was increased from \$9 million to \$9.5 million to cover rising construction costs. The second action was a routine authorization for individuals to execute construction fund requisition requests. The third action was to authorize BancFirst to invest student housing revenue bond cash held in trust accounts. Regent Roger Nansel, who serves as president of the Seminole BancFirst, abstained from the vote due to the potential conflict of interest.

Finally, the board ratified the prior purchase of \$16,480 for 10 smart boards and \$18,000 to purchase a Web site software subscription for the federal GEAR UP grant.

The next SSC Board of Regents meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 14, 2006.

## Seminole State College 2006-2007 Basketball Schedule

Womens Head Coach: Rita Story-Schell, Assistant: Kenneth Cooper

Men's Head Coach: Tom Mills, Assistant: Rashad Sullivan

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Women	Men
Thurs.	Nov. 2	Oklahoma Christian JV	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Sat.	Nov. 4	Cowley County	Seminole	2:00	4:00
Tues.	Nov. 7	Rose	Seminole	6:00	----
Tues.	Nov. 7	Southeastern Oklahoma	Seminole	----	8:00
Sat.	Nov. 11	Cowley County	Arkansas City, KS	5:00	7:00
Thurs.	Nov. 16	Connors	Warner	6:00	8:00
Sat.	Nov. 18	Frank Phillips	Seminole	1:00	----
Sat.	Nov. 18	Cedar Valley	Seminole	----	3:00
Mon.	Nov. 20	Northeastern Oklahoma A&M	Seminole	6:00	8:00
		<b>Nov. 24-25 Collin County Tournament</b>	<b>Plano, TX</b>		
		<b>Fri. Grayson</b>		<b>12:00</b>	
		<b>Sat. Collin County</b>		<b>2:00</b>	
Tues.	Nov. 28	Carl Albert	Poteau	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Nov. 30	Collin County	Seminole	6:00	----
Thurs.	Nov. 30	St. Gregory's JV	Seminole	----	8:00
Wed.	Dec. 6	Univ. of Arkansas Ft. Smith	Ft. Smith, AR	6:00	8:00
Sun.	Dec. 10	Eastern Oklahoma	Wilburton	2:00	4:00
Sat.	Dec. 16	Cedar Valley	Lancaster, TX	----	3:00
		<b>Jan. 4-6 West Plains Classic</b>	<b>West Plains, MO</b>		<b>TBA</b>
Mon.	Jan. 8	Connors	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Jan. 11	Northeastern Oklahoma A&M	Miami	6:00	8:00
Tues.	Jan. 16	Carl Albert	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Jan. 18	Rose	Midwest City	6:00	----
Mon.	Jan. 22	Eastern Oklahoma	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Jan. 25	Univ. of Arkansas Ft. Smith	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Sat.	Jan. 27	Frank Phillips	Borger, TX	4:00	----
Mon.	Jan. 29	Northern Oklahoma - Enid*	Enid	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Feb. 1	Western Oklahoma*	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Mon.	Feb. 5	Redlands*	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Feb. 8	Northern Oklahoma - Tonkawa*	Tonkawa	6:00	8:00
Mon.	Feb. 12	Murray*	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Feb. 15	Northern Oklahoma - Enid*	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Mon.	Feb. 19	Western Oklahoma*	Altus	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Feb. 22	Redlands*	El Reno	6:00	8:00
Mon.	Feb. 26	Northern Oklahoma - Tonkawa*	Seminole	6:00	8:00
Thurs.	Mar. 1	Murray*	Tishomingo	6:00	8:00
		<i>March 8-11, 2007 NJCAA Region II Tournament</i>	<i>Shawnee</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>TBA</i>
		<i>March 20 - 24, 2007 NJCAA National Tournaments:</i>			
		<i>Men: Hutchinson, KS</i>			
		<i>Women: Salina, KS</i>			

\*Bi-State Western Division Conference Game

**Gate Admission: \$4 - Adults, \$2 - Students**



# PTK Holds Fall Induction, Safety Fair



SSC's Alpha Theta Nu chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society inducted 39 new members this fall.



The Seminole State College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa hosted a Safety Fair Saturday, Oct. 14, in front of Tanner Hall on the SSC campus.

Area police, fire, ambulance and sheriff's office personnel were in attendance. There was a "Spider-Man" moon bounce for the kids, coloring contests, face painting, finger-printing and a cake-walk.

"This was a great event for the whole family," said PTK co-adviser and SSC social sciences instructor, Marta Osby. "It was an informative and exciting day! I'm really proud of our students and all of their hard work."

# Area Celebrates Foundation's New Facility



Dr. Jim Utterback, Karrie Utterback, Andrea Boren and U.S. Rep. Dan Boren pause for a picture after the ribbon-cutting.



Dr. Utterback introduces U.S. Rep. Boren during his remarks at the building dedication.



Approximately 150 citizens, community leaders and SSC personnel attended the official ribbon-cutting of the Dan Boren Business Development Center. Currently, the center is home to the AmeriContact call center. Once the call center is fully operational, it will employ 500 individuals from the surrounding area.



Numerous SSC faculty and staff attended the Oct. 23 celebration to show their support of the college's economic development efforts.

