The Naturalist
Henry Ritch and his prairie lab

- The Spencer turns 25
- Moral medicine
First String

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ku first
Health Cares

Advances in medical treatment and research are raising difficult moral questions for doctors and patients. KU Medical Center’s Mary Faith Marshall is among the leading ethicists to whom the world is turning for answers.

BY ROSEMARY HOPE

Joys Forever

A true original, KU’s Spencer Museum of Art celebrates 25 years.

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO
Lift the Chorus

Ethnic identifications

Our family always enjoys Kansas Alumni magazine. And we especially enjoyed the recent article “Untold Fortune” [cover story, issue No. 5]. Given the current environment, it is especially important to understand that the strength of our country is the diversity of our citizenry, and that we really are a country of immigrants.

I was taken by Pok Chi Lau’s quote, “We cannot—we should not—try to recognize the ethnic origins of people” [p. 26]. Lau continues by saying that to do so opens the door to hatred.

I agree entirely. However, the last picture in the article is of his newborn son. Yet he mentions that the picture was taken “in his first few hours of being a Chinese/Japanese American.” Perhaps simply “American” would have sufficed.

Steven J. Dillman, c’81
Kansas City, Mo.

Images are not idols

The caption for photograph No. 6 on p. 23 [issue No. 5] identifies “Catholic idols” as being present in the picture. This is incorrect, as idolatry is prohibited by the First Commandment, and Catholics therefore do not worship or possess idols.

“Catholic images” would be the correct designation. Catholics are encouraged to use images in order to stimulate devotion in their souls as they behold them, thus raising their intellects to the contemplation of things divine.

Robert Meyer, c’78
Overland Park

Thanks for the reminder

One of the most enjoyable parts about reading Kansas Alumni is encountering that special moment in any article when some phrase or comment sparks a personal chord from the past.

While reading “In the Abstract” (issue No. 5) I was reminded of an event I painfully remember missing! In the summer of 1976, after my graduation from KU, I was returning from L.A. with friends after attending a wedding. The very long road trip (remember 55 mph speed limits?) was completed in typical collegiate fashion of around-the-clock driving with rotational driving duties. I was completing my “sleeping in the back seat” rotation when my two compadres woke me with their shouts and yells at the end of a Royals game.

George Brett had just stolen home for the game winner! And I missed the sweet excitement of hearing it firsthand on the radio, and instead had to hear secondhand recounts that included “boy, you missed it!” commentary.

And then, there it was again. In the second paragraph from the end of the article, “...you’ve just witnessed the Royals’ first straight steal of home in 25 years.”

No, and I didn’t get to hear the last one, thank you. But, you know, the trip and the people are always worth remembering. And that line in the story brought it all back.

Thank you.

Kevin Pyle, a’76
Halstead

Creepy crawlies

I always read my Kansas Alumni magazine the day I get it.

But today, as I was flipping through issue No. 5, I actually screamed and violently threw your magazine onto the floor.

I did so because of the spiders on p. 61 [“Spiderman’s Web,” Rock Chalk Review], which, after calming down and looking a second time, I realized were only representations and not actual spiders crawling around inside MY issue.

From a true arachnophobe, thank you for my early Halloween “trick.”

Elizabeth J. Scanlon Yohon, c’96
Overland Park

Robinson Gym is correct

On p. 33 [“Click Down Memory Lane,” issue No. 5], the site of the photograph of soldiers (or SATC personnel?) is said to be in front of Marvin Hall. However, no entrance to Marvin Hall resembles the steps and doorway shown.

It is my recollection that the entrance shown is that on the north side of the old Robinson Gym.

The alumni magazine is always very interesting and I am sure that many alumni enjoy it a lot. Please keep the good work going!

David D. Robb, e’43, g’48, PhD’64
Salina

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is Kansas Alumni magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66044-3169. E-mail responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org, or Managing Editor Chris Lazzarino, clazz@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. Our Web site is www.ku-alumni.org
we will
eat pizza for breakfast at the college of our dreams

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First Word

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

Two stories in this issue capture classrooms whose serenity lies not only in the sharing of ideas but also in their tranquil, unusual settings. In our cover story, Steve Hill tells the little-known story of the Fitch Natural History Reservation and the man for whom it is named: Professor Emeritus Henry Fitch, 92, still tends this pristine KUland north of Lawrence and has presided over the decades-long growth in the Kansas Biological Survey’s sites for ecological study. He continues to teach natural sciences students of all ages despite his retirement more than 20 years ago. An internationally revered naturalist, he has conducted much of his research and teaching on this small swatch of Kansas, where he and his wife have made a home, reared three children and seamlessly joined their scholarly and family lives.

Of course, serenity is not confined to the wonders of nature. At the Spencer Museum of Art, we marvel at human expression in painting, sculpture, textiles, prints and numerous other forms. The objects of wonder on the walls are teachers in their own right, although we as students are too often daunted by their presence.

As the museum prepares for its 25th anniversary, Chris Lazzarino chronicles the KU art collection’s early vagabond life and the opening of its stately home. Stewards of the collection through the years explain why the Spencer, despite its small size, remains a true find among university museums, and they explain the collaboration between art historians and curators that has benefited both scholarship and public education.

Most important, they offer the simple yet oft-forgotten tips to true learning from art or any other teacher. Shut out the noise. Stop. Look. Listen.

As metal crunched concrete outside, the room seemed to vibrate, and the Kansas Union audience began to buzz. To be sure, the event for which the crowd had assembled merited fanfare: on-stage in Woodruff Auditorium were 20 faculty members, this year’s winners of the W.T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence. But should the earth move under their feet?

Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, agile ad-libber, quickly dissolved the murmurs into mirth. “Many teachers on this stage have had to teach over noisy distractions on campus,” he said. “They’ll get the chance again today. For those of you who are wondering, that is not a dinosaur emerging from the bowels of the Natural History Museum.”

Amid the laughter, Hemenway properly credited the cacophony to the Union’s umpteenth renovation, and the ceremony, in which each professor shared his or her philosophy of teaching, proceeded.

Their two-minute treatises varied.

Virgin Adams of psychology said he became a teacher to pass along the guidance granted him by his own college mentor. Paul Lim of English likened the allure of a great teacher to the irresistible charm of Auntie Mame. Thomas Pazdernik of toxicology and therapeutics thanked fellow winner and his former professor, Robert Carlson of chemistry. Marjorie Swann of English referred affectionately to the University’s “Surprise Patrol,” which had interrupted her class to present her the $5,000 Kemper prize. She joked that when future students asked her why they should consider teaching, she would have her answer ready: “I’ll say, ‘Who knows? Maybe someday some guys in suits will show up and hand you a check for $3,300—after taxes—and you’ll be able to pay off your VISA bill and drink imported beer for a whole week, and you’ll realize that teaching is pretty sweet.’”

Pretty sweet indeed—even if the guys in suits never show. In the best classrooms, the serenity of learning, the intangible yet invaluable exchange between teacher and student, blocks out the noises of everyday life.

By Jennifer Jackson Sanner

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Exhibitions

“Wrapped Words: Handmade Books from Cuba’s Ediciones Vigia,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 15
“Ansel Adams: Solace and Grandeur in the American Landscape,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 29
Annual Ceramics Club Sale, Art and Design Gallery, Dec. 5

University Theatre

**NOVEMBER**
22-25, Dec. 5-7 “You Can Never Tell,” by George Bernard Shaw

**Murphy Hall events**

**NOVEMBER**
20 Jazz Ensembles II and III

**DECEMBER**
2 Faculty recital: Joyce Castle, mezzo-soprano
11 KU Jazz Combos

Lied Center

**NOVEMBER**
13 Symphonic Wind Ensemble
20 Jazz Ensembles II and III
21-22 University Dance Company
23 Moscow Boys Choir
24 St. Petersburg String Quartet

**DECEMBER**
5 Jazz I
8 Vespers
9 University Band
10-11 Michael Flatley’s “Lord of the Dance”

To honor the theme of “Traditions Anew in 2002,” our grandest grand marshal, coach Don Fambrough, d’48, asked his friend Jacob Hut to represent future Jayhawk generations in the first Saturday-morning Homecoming parade. “They needed ‘something old,’ so here I am,” Fambrough said with a laugh as he and his 10-year-old neighborhood buddy prepared to climb into a convertible for the ride down Jayhawk Boulevard. “And Jacob is going to be the ‘something new.’”

PHOTOGRAPHS BY AARON DELESIE
**Lectures**

**NOVEMBER**
- 17 David McCullough, Dole Institute Presidential Lecture Series, Lied Center
- 21 Robert D. Kaplan, author and international correspondent for The Atlantic, Hall Center for the Humanities Lecture Series, Kansas Union ballroom

**Academic Calendar**

**NOVEMBER**
- 27-Dec. 1 Thanksgiving break

**DECEMBER**
- 12 Last day of fall classes
- 13 Stop day
- 16-20 Final examinations

**Alumni events**

**NOVEMBER**
- 13 San Antonio Chapter: College Fair
- 14 Kansas City: Graduate School Professional Society
- 14 Nashville Chapter: Alumni Happy Hour

**News Clipping**

Although KU lost the Oct. 12 Homecoming game to Colorado, the band and fans mirrored the spirit that players showed on the field. After CU’s 53-29 victory, Buffaloes coach Gary Barnett asked permission to address the KU players. “He just told us we competed and played with heart,” said receiver Marcellus Jones. “I’ve never heard of someone doing that. I was impressed.”

**DECEMBER**
- 5 Kansas City: School of Engineering Professional Society
- 6 Portland Chapter: Happy Hour
- 7 Portland: KU vs. Oregon men’s basketball tour
- 7 Dallas Chapter: KU vs. Oregon TV watch party
- 19 New York Chapter: Thirsty Third Thursday
- 21 Dallas, Washington, D.C., chapters: KU vs. UCLA TV watch party
- 28 Oakland: Men’s basketball at Pete Newell Challenge

**JANUARY**
- 6 Dallas Chapter: KU vs. Iowa State TV watch party
- 25 Dallas, Washington, D.C., chapters: KU vs. Arizona TV watch party

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS**
- 7 Kansas City Chapter: Rock Chalk Ball, Overland Park
- 17 Valley of the Sun Chapter: Southwest Open Golf Tournament

**Student Alumni Assoc.**

**DECEMBER**
- 6 SAA Semi-formal
- 7 Finals Survival Kits
- 16 Tradition Keepers Finals Dinner

**Kansas Honors Program**

**NOVEMBER**
- 12 Topeka: Michael and Marcia Cassidy, 785-234-5098
- 13 Johnson County: Bill and Anne Blessing, 913-327-5454
- 14 Independence: Garen Cox, 620-251-6700, ext. 344
- 18 Emporia: Gary Ace, 620-342-9555

For more information about these and other Association events, call 800-584-2957 or see the Association’s Web site, www.kualumni.org.
Jayhawk Walk

How to get to class on time

It might have been a publicity stunt, but the race car parked in front of the Kansas Union Sept. 9 was every bit real. With a fiery roar worthy of a jet fighter—just ask Athletics Director Al Bohl, who about jumped out of his shoes—driver Casey Mears revved the engine hidden under the Jayhawk hood of his NASCAR Busch Series racer.

A special crimson-and-blue paint scheme, including the Jayhawk up front and smaller birds on the rear quarter panels, was the product of a one-race partnership between KU and the Phillips 66 race team. The Jayhawk Dodge competed strongly for much of the Sept. 28 Busch race at Kansas Speedway, running as high as 137 laps into the 200-lap race. That’s when a competitor bumped Mears into the fourth-turn wall, and he finished 29th.

But the thrill of watching the Jayhawk fly around the Kansas City, Kan., speedway at 180 mph did not depend on a top-10 finish, and it was just as memorable to see Mears peel out on Jayhawk Boulevard en route to Memorial Stadium before the Sept. 21 football game against Bowling Green.

At that moment, as Mears smoked the tires in front of the Union, every Jayhawk shared the same dream: If ever there was a car made to blow past the attendant’s booth ... it carries the No. 66.

Tip No. 11: More eggnog

The perfect Christmas gift for that undergraduate (suddenly back) in your life: an airplane ticket to Grandma’s house.

Or, for those parents who actually told their freshman children which Sun Belt state they’ve moved to, KU offers 10 tips to help families endure the December migration’s inevitable clash of wills.

At No. 8, for instance, is, “Encourage your student to be a considerate guest and not tie up the telephone or computer lines or hog the television,” which follows good ol’ No. 7: “Cultivate a mutual respect across generational lines for different values and needs.” Included in tip No. 6 is, “Try to laugh off the small conflicts.”

Meanwhile, for those families who don’t include “Kumbaya” in their caroling repertoire, there’s the ever-dependable holiday tip No. 9: “Have realistic [our emphasis] expectations about the visit.”

However well-intended, no June Cleaver-inspired advice can ignore the simple truth that college students’ holiday sojourns at Mom and Dad’s house will impinge on new-found freedoms and curtail some wild new spices of life.

Just another price of parenthood.
A KU sophomore was arrested for criminal trespassing this summer after he climbed atop the Douglas County courthouse and rearranged the hands on two of the clock tower’s four faces.

The 22-year-old wowed a closing-time Mass Street crowd by clambering back and forth across the steep peak in a vain attempt to hide from police and firemen. The escapade ended when Bill Bell, d’71, Douglas County’s director of buildings and grounds, was rousted from bed at 3 a.m. to unlock a trap door, allowing police to remove the fiddler from the roof.

“My first thought was, ‘Boy, how did he ever get up there,’” Bell says. Further investigation revealed a dislodged drain pipe, just part of $1,300 in damages caused by the sophomorics. “He’s very, very lucky that thing didn’t collapse. We’re lucky it didn’t end in a fatality.”

Sounds like time was on his side.

Intramural and club-sport athletes are getting the varsity treatment, thanks to a complete renovation of the fields at Shenk Recreational Sports Complex. After three decades of relentless wear and tear, plus some damaging droughts, the eternally choppy sports fields at 23rd and Iowa streets have been regraded, leveled and crowned, with a new brand of hearty grass topping the manicured soil.

The long-dreamed-of upgrade, which will cost between $130,000 and $140,000, was made possible by construction bids on the student recreation complex south of Watkins Student Health Center that came in about $1.8 million less than expected.

But when students return to the fields of their glory in fall 2003, they’ll immediately see that terrific turf isn’t the only change: The goal posts are goners, never to return.

Mary Chappell, director of recreation services, says that by removing (and not replacing) the football bars, KU’s fields will gain added versatility. And she says accepted flag-football rules allow for games played on fields without goals.

Which leaves us with one question: If not in Potter Lake, where does one dispose of goal posts?

“Why didn’t you recruit me when you were at Oklahoma?”

—Southwest Missouri State quarterback Ryan Porter—while flat on his back on the Memorial Stadium turf, writhing in pain, his right knee being examined by team trainers—to KU coach Mark Mangino.

Close to the play when Jayhawk defenders swarmed Porter, Mangino quickly went to check on the fallen opponent; after the game, Porter was still stunned that the opposing head coach came to his side. “He is a class act,” Porter told reporters. “For the rest of my life I will never forget.”

“Wow, we could’ve had a V8”

Worried that students are getting too many veggies and not enough carbonated sugar water in their diets, Coca-Cola representatives ordered KU to remove V8 from convenience store shelves in the Kansas and Burge unions. Coke canned the vegetable juice drink distributed by rival Campbell Soup Co. because its sale violates the $21-million, 10-year contract that in 1997 granted the soft-drink maker a monopoly on campus potables.

At least the stores have still got milk. But we wonder what’s next in the campus food wars: Burger King takes on broccoli?

Tempus fugit-ive

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Fields of their dreams

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Vernon Smith had been hearing for years that he would win a Nobel Prize for his pioneering work using laboratory experiments to study economic theory. So when a caller from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in October asked how it felt to win the 2002 Nobel Prize in economics, Smith, g'51, had a ready answer. “I said I felt greatly relieved, that my friends have been predicting this for about 20 years, and I was glad they were finally right.”

Smith, who will split the $1 million prize with economist Daniel Kahneman, is the first KU graduate named a Nobel laureate.

Known as the “founding father of experimental economics,” he was the first to apply laboratory experimentation to a discipline once considered the realm of abstract theory. His 1962 paper, “An Experimental Study of Market Behavior,” a radical departure from conventional economic thought at the time, is today considered the landmark study on experimental economics.

Smith’s experiments, first conducted in 1956 with his students at Purdue University as subjects, showed that economic theories could be tested under controlled conditions. He expected to prove that markets were inefficient; instead he found that even with few participants, markets quickly attain competitive balance.

Initially the experiments were intended not as research, but as a tool to teach students how markets work. “It took several years to fully comprehend that what I was learning from the subjects of my experiments I couldn’t learn from reading the literature on economic theory,” he says. “That was so unbelievably exciting.”

Mohamed El-Hodiri, professor of economics and Russian & East European studies, says the economics prize recognizes lifetime achievement.

“That’s why I’m very happy Vernon got this, because his life work is very impressive.” He lauds Smith for tackling issues that apply both to individuals and broad markets. “That is unique, and that is the Kansas in him. We care about both the individual and the group and
don’t give up on either one.”

The Wichita native grew up on a Kansas farm during the Great Depression. His mother, a devotee of socialist Eugene Debs, was an activist and a social reformer who taught him ”that it ought to be possible to make things better.”

His father, a tool-and-die maker, gave him an appreciation for science and engineering and instilled a curiosity about how things work.

While completing an undergraduate degree in engineering at the California Institute of Technology, he was intrigued by a course in economics. Seeing it as the ideal marriage between his interest in social science and his background in mathematics and engineering, he decided to pursue graduate studies in the field. The decision to do so at KU was, well, economical.

“My parents were not well off, so it didn’t make sense to ask them to keep supporting me,” Smith says. “I needed to come to the University of Kansas where the tuition was low.”

He soon discovered KU was a good place to study economics, particularly because of Professor Richard Howey.

“I can say that Dick is the person from whom I learned what scholarship is really all about—in terms of getting the details right. No one taught me that more thoroughly. He was a model; you saw this guy in operation and it was inspiring.”

While at KU, he began to question accepted wisdom about economics—particularly the idea that economic theories could never be tested, because real markets are too big and unwieldy to study in action or re-create in the lab.

“One thing I’ve always had, which I got from my dad, is an intense curiosity about how things work, whether it’s a machine or a physical system. The more I studied economics, the more I realized I wasn’t getting that—the understanding from the inside of how markets work.”

So he created his own experimental market—in the form of an auction—to get an inside-out look at market mechanisms.

Now Smith uses what he’s learned to help test new markets before they’re launched. This so-called wind-tunnel testing, singled out by the Nobel committee, allows researchers to identify potential flaws in market structure. He helped New Zealand privatize its electricity industry in 1991, and did similar work in the mid-1990s in Australia. In the United States, his public policy positions have included a call for privatizing public lands owned by the federal government.

Smith will use his prize money to help fund George Mason University’s Interdisciplinary Center for Economic Science, where he’s a research scholar. He moved there from the University of Arizona with the aid of a $3-million pledge from the Koch Foundation in 1997. He is also a GMU professor of economics and law and a fellow at the Mercatus Center. He has been affiliated with the Cato Institute since 1983.

Support group

Hawk Link honored for retention effort that helps minority students feel at home

A leading education consulting firm has honored Hawk Link, the retention program administered by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, as one of three outstanding such programs in the nation.

Noel-Levitz, a division of Sallie Mae, honored the KU program with its Retention Excellence Award in July. Also singled out were retention...
programs at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., and Columbia College in Chicago.

“These recognized programs demonstrate that schools can truly have an impact on the success of their students,” said Lana Low, senior executive for Noel-Levitz. “From freshman community programs to tutoring and mentoring initiatives, the three award-winning institutions have found creative, meaningful ways to support students at times when young people are most vulnerable.”

Hawk Link was formed in 1998 to offer tutoring, mentoring, academic advising and social events for first-year students of color, ensuring that they succeed in the classroom and feel part of the university community.

“Students used to tell us that it’s difficult when you come back for your sophomore year and the people you started with are not there,” says Robert Page, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. “There needed to be a program that made sure that when they came back, their friends came back.”

Enrollment figures released in September suggest that Hawk Link and other campus retention programs are working: Minority enrollment rose a record 12 percent this fall. The big jump is partially explained by minority enrollment decreases in recent years, according to Page. (“We’re just getting back to where we were a couple of years ago,” he says.) But more encouraging is KU’s retention rate for first-year students of color (80 percent), which now nearly equals the university-wide rate of 81 percent.

Page credits improved collaboration with the Freshman-Sophomore Advising Office, the Office of Admissions and Scholarships, the Office of Student Financial Aid and other programs on campus for boosting retention numbers. That increase, he says, is more valuable than any national award.

“For a lot of students the problem isn’t just academics or money,” Page says. “It’s just about making a connection.”

After two years of sometimes contentious negotiations, the Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition and KU have agreed on a new contract for the University’s 900 graduate teaching assistants.

The agreement, reached in July and ratified unanimously by GTAC voters in August, calls for the University to boost the pool for graduate teaching salaries by $1 million annually for three years, from $10 million to $13 million. It also sets for the first time a minimum salary for GTAs. Those with half-time appointments will earn at least $8,000 the first year, $9,000 the second and $10,000 the third.

“What we’re happy about is that the salary structure is much better than it has ever been,” says Robert Vodicka, a graduate teaching assistant in Humanities and Western Civilization and chief GTAC negotiator. “It at least puts us in the ballpark with KU’s peers.”

According to Vodicka, 53 percent of GTAs made less than $10,000 last academic year for half-time appointments (or the pro-rated equivalent for those teaching less than half-time). “By the final year of this contract, everyone will make at least $10,000 or the pro-rated equivalent,” he says. “We see that as a big victory for us.”

In December, prospects for an agreement seemed dim as both sides agreed to declare an impasse and enter mediation after failing to bridge their differences on minimum salaries. GTAC efforts to hand out fliers in
New York’s Bravest

Richard Picciotto, the highest-ranking firefighter to survive the World Trade Center disaster, spoke and signed copies of his book as part of the Student Lecture Series sponsored by Student Union Activities and the Student Senate.

WHEN: Oct. 1
WHERE: The Lied Center

BACKGROUND: Picciotto, a battalion chief who commands seven New York City Fire Department companies, was helping evacuate the north tower of the World Trade Center when it collapsed Sept. 11, 2001. His account of that day, Last Man Down: A Firefighter’s Story, was published in May.

ANECDOTE: Picciotto supervised the evacuation of the Trade Center during the 1993 terrorist bombing. “I knew right away it was no accident,” he said of his reaction to early news reports on Sept. 11. “I remembered 1993; I knew they were trying to bring the buildings down.”

QUOTE: “I have some definite ideas about what I don’t want to see happen to the site,” Picciotto said of his thoughts on how best to commemorate Ground Zero. “I do not want to see another target built. I was there in ’93. I was there on 9/11. If we build them back they’re going to be attacked, and I don’t want to see that happen.”
EDWARDS CAMPUS

Edwards breaks ground on 10-year building boom

True to the Latin origin of campus, KU’s Edwards Campus for nearly a decade has remained largely an oasis of green. Amid the sea of steel and glass in suburban Kansas City, the grounds at 12600 Quivira Rd. in Overland Park have been home to only one structure since the campus opened in 1993.

Now the grounds will give way to growth. Braced against a stiff fall wind Oct. 14, KU and Kansas City leaders turned shovels of dirt where a second building will stand, signal that what Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway called “the vision of a vibrant university in the heart of Johnson County” will soon take even larger shape.

Thanks to revenue bonds and private gifts to the KUEndowment Association, the campus will begin the first phase of a 10-year growth plan. Since January 1993, enrollment at the suburban campus has grown 80 percent and academic programs have increased from eight to 22. Robert Clark, vice chancellor for the Edwards Campus, estimates enrollment will reach 4,000 students by the time the second building is finished in 2004.

The economic impact of such growth cannot be understated, Clark said at the ceremony. Nor can the effect on Edwards Campus students, “who choose to throw another ball in the air to juggle work, family and school for the three years it usually takes to complete a master’s degree.” The average Edwards Campus student in 31 years old, married with children and working full time.

The $17.8 million structure will feature 18 classrooms and lecture halls, 30 faculty offices, 15 staff offices, three computer labs and a 240-seat auditorium.

The most recent gift to the project is $3 million from the Victor and Helen Regnier Charitable Foundation of Leawood. Their gift adds to the $5 million commitment made in 2001 by the Hall Family Foundation.

The late Victor Regnier for years was a leading developer. “Dad’s idea of a recreational weekend was to drive the backroads of Johnson County looking at tracts of land,” his son Bob Regnier recalled. “He believed in the stabilizing influence of home ownership in a community. ... My parents shared an enduring respect for the value of education.”

The Regnier family and the Hall Family Foundations are but the latest contributors who have helped heighten KU’s Kansas City presence. The University first brought its programs to Kansas City in 1975, when it set up shop in a former elementary school at 9900 Mission Rd. In the early 1990s, Clay Blair III, b’65, EdD’69, a local developer who would become chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, donated 36 acres for a suburban campus and named it for the late Roy Edwards, b’42, and his wife, Joan Darby Edwards, ’42, long-time alumni supporters of KU.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Update

A $2 million pledge will allow the department of aerospace engineering to upgrade its Lawrence airport complex and buy a new test flight aircraft.

Half of the pledge from Walter, e’48, g’50, and Jayne Garrison of Rose Tree, Pa., will help renovate, furnish and equip the upper floor of the department’s hangar; remodel the building’s facade; and add a test flight aircraft. Two test aircraft are currently housed in the facility, which also includes a classroom, offices, and machine and electrical shops.

Half will create an endowed fund to maintain the complex, the only research facility of its kind in the upper Great Plains and one of fewer than 10 at universities nationwide. Aerospace engineering students and researchers use the facility to design, build and test flight equipment.

“My education in the aerospace department at KU enabled me to gain successes I never dreamed possible,” said Garrison, retired chair, president and CEO of CDI Corp., an engineering technology and outsourcing company in Philadelphia.

The economic impact of such growth cannot be understated, Clark said at the ceremony. Nor can the effect on Edwards Campus students, “who choose to throw another ball in the air to juggle work, family and school for the three years it usually takes to complete a master’s degree.” The average Edwards Campus student in 31 years old, married with children and working full time.

The $17.8 million structure will feature 18 classrooms and lecture halls, 30 faculty offices, 15 staff offices, three computer labs and a 240-seat auditorium.

The most recent gift to the project is $3 million from the Victor and Helen Regnier Charitable Foundation of Leawood. Their gift adds to the $5 million commitment made in 2001 by the Hall Family Foundation.

The late Victor Regnier for years was a leading developer. “Dad’s idea of a recreational weekend was to drive the backroads of Johnson County looking at tracts of land,” his son Bob Regnier recalled. “He believed in the stabilizing influence of home ownership in a community. ... My parents shared an enduring respect for the value of education.”

The Regnier family and the Hall Family Foundations are but the latest contributors who have helped heighten KU’s Kansas City presence. The University first brought its programs to Kansas City in 1975, when it set up shop in a former elementary school at 9900 Mission Rd. In the early 1990s, Clay Blair III, b’65, EdD’69, a local developer who would become chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, donated 36 acres for a suburban campus and named it for the late Roy Edwards, b’42, and his wife, Joan Darby Edwards, ’42, long-time alumni supporters of KU.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner
**Milestones, money and other matters**

- **A $1.2 MILLION CUT** in the state’s funding to KU announced by Gov. Bill Graves in August forced the University to lay off 13 employees and eliminate 38 open positions. The latest cutbacks add to the 22 employees and 32 vacancies eliminated in June. All cuts are nonteaching positions on the Lawrence campus. So far this year, KU’s budget has been reduced 4 percent.

- **A $10.1 MILLION GRANT** awarded to Robert P. Hanzlik, professor of medicinal chemistry at KU, will allow scientists from the state’s three major universities to develop a statewide network for protein research. The five-year grant from the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence at the National Institutes of Health will support six research projects and two laboratories in proteomics, the study of cellular proteins. The project also teams senior faculty from KU, Kansas State University and Wichita State University with promising younger faculty members.

- **KIPLINGER’S PERSONAL FINANCE MAGAZINE** in its November issue includes Lawrence in an article about retirees flocking to college towns. “Coming Full Circle” counts KU’s arts and cultural programs and facilities, its continuing education classes and its sports teams among the draws that make Lawrence “an oasis on the prairie.”

- **FRANK J. BECKER, e’58,** was named chairman of the board at the Endowment Association’s annual meeting Oct. 18. Becker, board member since 1983, replaces Dolph C. Simons, Jr., j’51, who resigned after eight years as chairman. Simons will remain a member of the board, which he joined in 1977.

- **ENROLLMENT INCREASED** at the highest rate in 16 years this fall, reaching 28,849, up 659 from last year. Kansas students number 19,493—more than at any university or college in the state. “The top students in Kansas in particular understand the value of a KU education,” says Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett, senior vice provost. “Almost a third of our Kansas freshmen scored 27 or higher on the ACT. That is the best rate in the state and more than double the percentage of students nationally who take the ACT who score in that top bracket.”

- **KU ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION** gave a record $68.9 million in support of University students, faculty, projects and programs in fiscal 2002. That represents a 6 percent increase over 2001 and brings to $931.1 million the total support provided by Endowment since its founding in 1891.

- **K. MICHAEL WELCH, VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH** at KU Medical Center, will become president of Finch University of Health Sciences/The Chicago Medical School in November. Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway says he regrets the loss of “an able and articulate spokesman for KU” and “a key figure in the recent growth of research and KUMC.”

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Students protest as cutbacks close anthropology museum**

Hoping to rally support for keeping public exhibition space open at the Museum of Anthropology, students staged a demonstration outside Spooner Hall during the campuswide Open House in October.

Students passed out fliers and waved signs that read, “Don’t close our classroom.” About 200 people signed a petition asking administrators to reconsider the decision to cut five staff positions and close the public exhibition space. The move, part of a round of budget cuts announced by the University in July, is expected to save between $150,000 and $200,000 annually.

The museum’s collection will remain available to researchers. But museum studies students said that closing the public exhibitions will leave them hard-pressed to fulfill internships required to complete their degrees. They hope to raise public awareness of the role the museum plays in student education.

“The chancellor has said that students come first,” said Mary Adair, g’77, g’81, PhD’84, interim director of the museum. “I believe this was a decision made that’s counter to this principle.”
Sports

Gym rats, head basketball coach Roy Williams calls them. Coaches’ kids.

Iowa boys who played high school ball for their fathers, senior standouts Nick Collison and Kirk Hinrich are the type of young men whom Williams credits with restoring his faith in recruiting.

“I just think those kids understand everything so much more,” Williams says of players who, like Collison and Hinrich, grew up playing for a coach who also sits across from them at the dinner table. “They’ve been in the gym a long time and they never mind going in and spending more time there. They understand the importance of how the team is doing, and that’s what we’ve always been about around here.”

The pair who once shared their home state’s highest hoops honor, reigning as co-winners of Iowa’s Mr. Basketball in their final high school season, hope to share one more title at the end of their final college season: NCAA national champion.

“It’s definitely a goal,” says Collison, who has seen his team’s tournament showing improve every year since he arrived at KU. Now he knows there’s really only one way to keep that streak alive: Get to the final game, and win it.

“It was a good experience to get there last year,” he says of the Jayhawks’ 97-88 loss to Maryland in March. “Even though we came up short, that’s motivation to get back and do better. We’ve got as good a shot as anybody, but we have to wipe the slate clean and work hard all year.”

Hinrich says he’s “hungrier than ever” to win it all. “Whenever you get that close to your goal and fall short, it’s tough,” he says. “I think we’re all putting higher expectations on ourselves this year.”

The road to New Orleans, site of the 2003 Final Four, promises to be long but entertaining. With many preseason polls alternating Kansas and Arizona as number 1 and 2, a Jan. 25 matchup between the two teams in Allen Field House should be a barnburner. Back-to-back December games against UCLA at home and California on the road, plus a preseason NIT lineup that features potential matchups against North Carolina, Stanford and Florida, promise first-rate action as well.

If KU is to earn Williams his first NCAA title...
in 15 seasons as head coach, Collison and Hinrich will need to have exactly the kind of season the national hoops pundits expect of them. Both are listed on the preseason All-American rosters and the top-50 watch list for the Wooden Award.

“A guy named Gooden, who’s playing in the NBA right now, got a lot of shots last year, and somebody’s got to come in and get those,” Williams says. “Some of those scoring opportunities are going to go more to Nick and Kirk. I don’t think it will bother them; my guess is that they’ll like it.”

Replacing Drew Gooden is just one of the challenges facing this team. The departure of four-year starter Jeff Boschee creates a need for outside shooting to open the lane for KU’s big men. Hinrich, who led the team in three-point accuracy last year at 47.8 percent, will likely contribute in that area. So will sophomore guard Keith Langford, who worked to improve his outside shot over the summer.

The loss of key reserves Jeff Carey and Brett Ballard points to perhaps the biggest question mark of all: How deep will the bench go?

“We have five guys who have proven that they can do it at this level,” Williams says of Langford and fellow sophomores Wayne Simien and Aaron Miles, who will join Collison and Hinrich in the starting lineup. “It’s going to be a big challenge for us as a staff and for those other kids to find somebody else who can step up and be successful.”

Williams will look for help to junior forward Bryant Nash, impressive in early-season workouts, and Jeff Hawkins, who had a productive redshirt season. Newcomers Moulaye Niang and Jeff Graves could also provide some much needed backup minutes inside.

“I think that will be the key to our team: to see how well we can find that sixth and seventh and eighth guys you need in college basketball. ... You cannot win at this level with just five guys.”

Even when two of them are preseason All-Americans.

—Steven Hill

“Some of [Drew Gooden’s] scoring opportunities are going to go more to Nick and Kirk. I don’t think it will bother them; my guess is that they’ll like it.”

But after the third or fourth on-air description of his fabulous touchdown, the freshman did something he had not done all day.

He tripped.

And laughed. And thrust his hands to face and giggled and said, “Oh my goodness.” When pressed to explain how he did so well on his first kick return since high school, especially after fumbling the ball, Heaggans came clean: “I was scared. I wanted to run.”

It was a boys-to-men moment worth remembering.

Unfortunately, the boyish, can-do moments that stirred Jayhawk pride were too often missing, replaced by immature efforts that finally collapsed into embarrassment: 30-0, after the first quarter, against Kansas State? A last-second loss to downtrodden Baylor, losers of 29 consecutive conference games, after KU led by eight with two minutes left? Allowing Colorado’s Chris Brown to rush for 309 yards, and giving up at least 100 yards to an opposing rusher in eight of the first 10 games? Watching Missouri players tear down the goalposts?

With Southwest Missouri State Bears in his rear-view mirror, freshman Greg Heaggans returned the first kick of his collegiate career for a 100-yard touchdown Sept. 14.
posts after the Tigers’ 36-12 victory? A kicking unit that at times seemed unable to convert a point-after touchdown?

After KU’s 64-0 loss to Kansas State, first-year coach Mark Mangino dropped his upbeat tone: “It’s indefensible,” he said. “There’s nothing I can say to defend that type of play. I mean, we just flat got whipped, got outplayed and deserved what we got.”

But even soaked and weary KU fans found hope after the Nov. 2 game in Memorial Stadium. Said one bone-chilled Jayhawk seeking refuge in a Lawrence tavern filled with purple-clad revelers: “KU football needed this game. We needed to know where rock bottom was. Today we found it.”

In years past, bad games (especially against K-State and Mizzou) made the KU faithful furious or just plain dejected. But lopsided losses of 2002 have not extinguished hope. Not for fans who pay attention. The simple fact is, competing well in the brutal Big 12 is impossible for a team whose depth chart reaches new depths every week.

“All of the linebackers,” senior co-captain Greg Cole noted, “are backed up by true freshmen.” And that was after just three games.

Running back Reggie Duncan, the returning starter, was off the team by Nov. 5, having rushed for a total of 72 yards; tight end David Hurst had become a starting guard; true freshman Nick Reid, a quarterback last year for Derby High, was made a safety during preseason and switched to linebacker a few days before the Iowa State game, at which point he became a starting outside linebacker; linebacker Banks Floodman, one of the best defenders, was lost for the season in the first game, and receiver Harrison Hill, expected to be the leader on offense, left with chronic dehydration before the opener.

Zach Dyer, the starting quarterback, replaced by fifth-year senior Jonas Weatherbie, who had made four pass attempts in his first three seasons, and was himself replaced during the Kansas State game by freshman Brian Luke.

Even the offensive line coach, Ken Conaster, quit after two games, and KU’s leading tackler against Kansas State was Kevin Kane. When a true freshman is replaced by fifth-year senior Jonas Weatherbie, who had made four pass attempts in his first three seasons, and was himself replaced during the Kansas State game by freshman Brian Luke.

Mangino chose to focus on what is to come.

“We have taken these kids and put them on the field to compete in the Big 12, when last year at this time they were playing for their high-school team, getting ready for the Homecoming dance,” Mangino said. “There is so much progress in our program. Our kids are getting better as players. The attitude is light-years ahead from the day I [arrived] last December. Our kids give better effort than they ever have.”

The losses, Mangino acknowledges, “are a burden to everybody.” But the effort, the youth, the talent, the hope? Those are the faces of football future.

—Chris Lazzarino

**Updates**

Freshman guard Erica Hallman, one of coach Marian Washington’s top recruits, injured a knee during practice. She is expected to miss one month. Rejoining Washington is assistant Tim Eatman, considered one of the country’s top recruiters. Eatman had been head coach at Illinois-Chicago for four seasons; in his two seasons here, KU won the Big 12 in 1997 and advanced to the Sweet 16 in 1998. ...The long-dreamed-of softball stadium surged toward reality Nov. 4 with the announcement that Cheryl Womack, d’75, a Kansas City trucking and insurance executive, had pledged $2 million toward its construction. Her gift is part of the KU First fundraising campaign. ... Freshman soccer forward Caroline Smith set the single-season goal-scoring record with 11, despite missing the final five matches of the regular season with a knee injury. Another new star is also a freshman forward named Smith: Jessica, who scored seven goals in the final eight matches. Both earned Big 12 Player of the Week honors, as did sophomore goalkeeper Meghan Miller. ... The Jayhawk volleyball team scored an impressive victory Nov. 2, topping No. 24 Texas in three games.
Sports Calendar

■ Men’s basketball

NOVEMBER
19 Holy Cross (Preseason NIT)
22 UNC Greensboro or Wagner (Preseason NIT)
27-29 at Preseason NIT, New York

DECEMBER
4 Central Missouri State
7 vs. Oregon, at Portland
11 at Tulsa
14 Emporia State
21 UCLA
28 vs. California, at Oakland

JANUARY
2 UNC-Asheville
4 vs. UMKC, at Kansas City
6 at Iowa State
11 Nebraska
15 Wyoming
18 Kansas State
22 at Colorado
25 Arizona
27 Texas

FEBRUARY
1 at Nebraska
3 Missouri
8 at Kansas State
11 at Baylor
16 Iowa State
19 Colorado
23 at Oklahoma
26 Texas A&M

MARCH
1 Oklahoma State
3 at Texas Tech
9 at Missouri
13-16 at Big 12 Tournament, Dallas

■ Women’s basketball

NOVEMBER
24 Texas-El Paso
27 at Cal State-Fullerton
30 at San Diego

DECEMBER
6 Jayhawk Classic, vs. Texas Southern; also Western Illinois, Western Michigan
7 Jayhawk Classic
11 at Wichita State
14 Creighton
21 at UMKC
28 IUPUI
30 Hampton

JANUARY
4 vs. Georgia State, at Kansas City
8 Kansas State
11 at Iowa State
15 at Oklahoma State
18 Colorado
22 Oklahoma
25 at Texas A&M
29 Nebraska

FEBRUARY
1 Texas Tech
5 at Colorado
8 at Texas
15 Missouri
19 at Nebraska
22 Baylor
26 at Kansas State

MARCH
1 at Missouri
5 Iowa State
11-15 at Big 12 Tournament, Dallas

■ Volleyball

NOVEMBER
20 at Nebraska
23 Missouri
27 at Kansas State
30 Colorado

■ Indoor track & field

DECEMBER
13-14 at K-State All Comers Meet

JANUARY
10-11 at KSU Invitational
24 KU/KSU/MU Triangular

FEBRUARY
1 Jayhawk Invitational
7-8 at Illini Track Invitational
14 at John McDonnell Invitational, Fayetteville, Ark.
15 at Tyson Invitational, Fayetteville, Ark.
28-MARCH 1 at Big 12 Indoor, Lincoln, Neb.

MARCH
8 at Iowa State Invitational
15 at NCAA Indoor, Fayetteville, Ark.

■ Swimming & diving

NOVEMBER
21-24 at North Carolina Invitational

DECEMBER
7 Texas A&M

JANUARY
18 vs. Nebraska and Louisville, at Lincoln, Neb.
25 Colorado State and Minnesota

FEBRUARY
1 at Arkansas
8 Iowa State
20-22 at Big 12 Championships, Austin, Texas
In the rolling hills that hem the Kaw River Valley like a ruffled border on a patchwork quilt, eastern hardwood forest bumps up against the tallgrass prairie of the plains. Biologists call this unique transition zone between different plant communities an ecotone. Since 1950, Henry Fitch has called it home.

Fitch, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology, lives and works on the 590-acre Fitch Natural History Reservation. Once part of former Kansas Gov. Charles Robinson’s farm, the land was set aside in 1947 as the University’s first site for field work in biology. The late E. Raymond Hall, c’24, director of the Natural History Museum and head of the zoology department, had seen the research and teaching value of a similar site at the University of California, where he taught before returning to his alma mater. Hall recruited one of his star graduate students at Berkeley to set up the KU reserve, and in 1948 Fitch joined the faculty, teaching the Hill’s first ecology course in a decade. Two years later, when the University completed a house on the reservation, Fitch moved in with his wife, Virginia, and their two children. He’s been there ever since.

Now 92, Henry Fitch has seen the corn fields and cow pastures change to grassland and forest. Where cornstalks stood half a century ago, 40-foot cottonwoods tower now. He and his students have documented the changes, helping write the book on ecological succession—a topic that, strictly speaking, lies outside his area of specialization. He is best known for his work in herpetology: His 50-year study of the 18 snake species found on the reservation, summed up in his 1999 book, A Kansas Snake Community: Composition and Changes Over 50 Years, is universally hailed as the longest study of vertebrates ever conducted. “If you stop and think about it,” says Joe Collins, herpetologist emeritus, “he has probably the longest running field project of any scientist in history.”

In addition to the changes he witnessed in the reservation’s flora and fauna, Fitch has also seen
KU’s facilities for biology field research—the University of Kansas Field Station and Ecological Reserves administered by the Kansas Biological Survey—triple in acreage. For a decade, Fitch’s plot (called the KU Natural History Reservation until 1986, when it was formally renamed for him) was the University’s sole ecological field site. The 1956 addition of the adjacent Rockefeller Experimental Tract started a steady expansion; the most recent acquisition, 116 acres of prairie and woods near Lecompton, was donated in 1999 by E. Raymond Hall’s son, Hubert, c’49, and his wife, Kathleen McBride Hall, d’49. Now eight tracts scattered across three Douglas County locations give students and faculty members nearly 1,900 acres of fields, forests, wetlands, ponds, streams and lakes to use as research laboratories and living ecology classrooms.

Fitch’s own work shows just how varied the research and teaching opportunities at these sites can be—and seemingly renders all discussion of “specialization” irrelevant. His publications number nearly 200 and range well beyond snakes to iguanas and skinks; horned owls and yellow-bill cuckoos; ground squirrels and kangaroo rats; rabbits, opossum, raccoons and skunks; ant-eating frogs and foster-parenting sparrows. He became an authority on spiders after becoming intrigued by the eight-legged specimens that turned up frequently in the stomachs of skinks, eventually discovering a spider species, *Philcus muralicolae*, that has been seen nowhere else. A paper on summer tanagers co-authored with Virginia used data she gathered while pregnant with their third child: “She was spending a lot of time lying on her bed, and the tanager nest was right outside the window, very convenient for taking notes,” Fitch recalls.

Such an approach to science harks back, says one prominent biologist, “to the great explorer-naturalists of the 19th century,” including Darwin himself. Fitch has long been regarded as a pioneer by fellow scientists: a consummate field biologist whose innovative tools and techniques are still widely used, a distinguished researcher whose decades-long studies set a standard for long-term research as yet unsurpassed, a true gentleman whose openness and generosity helped set the collegial tone that some say distinguishes herpetology from more cutthroat fields.

Although he conducted some of his pioneering field work abroad—notably in Central America—most of Fitch’s distinguished research can be traced to the limestone-studded hills north of Lawrence, to the border between prairie and woods and the little patch of Kansas upland that he calls “this square mile.”

On a windy, unseasonably hot October day, with a stiff south wind soughing in the trees, the dozen or so visitors to the Fitch Reservation—undergraduates in Assistant Professor Stan Loeb’s environmental studies class, Field Ecology 460—seem thankful for the breeze. Dressed in a T-shirt, battered khakis and a baseball cap, Fitch scrambles headlong up steep creek banks and charges down barely discernible paths that spiderweb the dense brush. With a gnarled branch that doubles as a walking stick and a snake wand, he knocks aside any stray branch that blocks his path. The students hustle to keep up.

Though he’s remarkably fit for his age, hip and back ailments have slowed him in the past year. This fall he set out fewer of the wire snake traps that he invented—and that are now standard equipment for herpetologists around the world. Live traps must be checked daily.
Now he relies more on corrugated metal shelters that he can check less frequently, but which still hold the promise of discovery.

“He’d wear those shelters out checking them if he could,” says his daughter, Alice Fitch Echelle, c’70. “Every time he does it’s like a new experience: It’s like opening a gift when he turns one over and finds something under it.”

Echelle’s earliest memories involve following her parents in the field as they checked traps. From the beginning, science was a family affair: Henry took Virginia on collecting excursions when they were courting, and together they reviewed proofs for his articles—even on their wedding night. Virginia recorded field data and typed his papers; the children helped gather specimens and police the reservation.

Now a research assistant in the zoology department at Oklahoma State University, Alice and her husband, biology professor Tony Echelle, work together as a research team, much as her parents did. Older brother, John, c’66, teaches ecology at Florida Gulf Coast University; younger brother, Chester, ’76, lives near his parents on his own “mini-reservation.” Echelle says her father’s passion for nature inspired all three.

“This affinity for finding gifts under every rock might have something to do with the when of his birth—Christmas Day, 1909. More likely it’s the where: Shortly after Fitch was born, his family moved from the East Coast to the foothills of the Siskiyou Mountains in Oregon’s Rogue River Valley.

“I ranged far and wide over the wild country,” he recalled in an oral history compiled by the family in 1998. “We were rather isolated, at least half a mile to the nearest house. My early life was rather solitary, and I early developed an interest in animals.”

Snakes were a particular pleasure: Fitch recalls picking up bull snakes as long as he was, and handling them even after his hands bled from the bites.

“It was quite a feeling of power for a 5-year-old,” he says, laughing heartily at his own mischief. “I’m sure that was part of the attraction.”

That interest in snakes would earn him some minor trouble when he started his career as a biologist.

Having completed his PhD under the tutelage of Hall and the eminent zoologist Joseph Grinnell, Fitch in 1938 joined the Bureau of Biological Survey (later the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) as a field biologist in the San Joaquin Experimental Range near Yosemite National Park. There he worked with the U.S. Forestry Service on a rodent control project. When he began studying rattlesnakes as rodent predators, a Forestry

“TO UNDERSTAND HENRY’S IMPACT, YOU HAVE TO REALIZE JUST HOW UNPOPULAR SNAKES WERE AS RESEARCH ORGANISMS NOT TOO LONG AGO. REPTILES GOT VERY LITTLE ATTENTION, SNAKES LEAST OF ALL.”
Service supervisor objected, and he was ordered to stop. “After that, I rarely brought live snakes to headquarters,” Fitch says. “But whenever I caught one in the field, I would process it there, ‘bootlegging’ this part of my research.”

For Loeb’s class, the official reason for their visit is to observe what happens to plant life when nature is left to run its course, without interference, for half a century. But as Fitch leads them here and there, citing the Latin genus and species of every green thing he encounters (even those that stump Loeb) there’s a feeling of preamble.

The real fun starts when the serpents come out.

A litter of wriggling rat snakes, a feisty northern water snake, a red-sided garter. Students crowd eagerly around a table Fitch has set up under a shade tree near the house to see what he’ll pull out of a jar next.

Fitch is an active, engaging listener. Pose a question—about the type of trees that have replaced prairie grass on his reservation, say—and he listens patiently, head cocked bird-like as he ponders. Frequently he’ll give a little chuckle before he answers, especially with the one question he gets more than any: “Have you ever been bitten?”

Copperheads have nipped him several times, most recently four years ago during the Biological Survey’s fall field day, the annual event that showcases the reserves to students and the University community. (“Quite embarrassing,” Fitch laughs.) His most serious bites came in the San Joaquin. Twice rattlesnakes struck while he was trying to release them. He changed his release technique, but never let go of snakes as a research subject.

When he lifts the lid on an old aquarium and fishes out a big timber rattler, the students step back to give him room. Way back. He warns them to keep their distance. The “bootlegging” long ago went mainstream, but there lingers in Fitch’s delight at taking up snakes a hint of forbidden fun, a flouting of our cultural fear of the serpent—a fear ingrained so deeply, whether by genetics or myth, that it runs all the way back to the Garden.

He lowers the rattler to the ground, deftly manipulating it with a long, L-shaped rod. As he tries to coax a strike with a gentle nudge from his boot, you can see in Henry Fitch’s face the joy and purpose of the 5-year-old who found his life’s calling.

To understand Henry’s impact, you have to realize just how unpopular snakes were as research organisms not too long ago,” says Richard Shine, professor of evolutionary biology at the University of Sydney and Australia’s leading snake expert. “Reptiles got very little attention, snakes least of all. So it was important that someone actually went out and conducted studies, and published them in reputable journals.”

That work inspired a whole generation of herpetologists, Shine included. “Natural history was decidedly out of fashion, and Henry not only published on the animals many of us were interested in but had thought almost impossible to study—he focused on their day-to-day lives and revealed a wealth of fascinating insights. In the process, he developed some simple but effective field techniques that have since been adopted very widely.”

Checking one of his many snake shelters (top right), Fitch finds a prize: A red-sided garter snake. In his 52 years on the reservation, he has captured and documented more than 32,000 snakes.
Just as the trap that he invented and used to log more than 32,000 snake captures is the field standard, so are many of his procedures for recording data after specimens are caught, says Harry Greene, a Cornell University professor of ecology and evolutionary biology. As a high school student in Warrensburg, Mo., Greene wrote to Fitch after reading of his work on lizards. Fitch wrote back, and Greene later spent two summers working with him at the Natural History Museum. Now writing Tracks and Shadows: Field Biology As Art, a collection of essays on his life as a field biologist, Greene says that Fitch is for him the link between the 19th and 21st centuries, the originator of not only the trade’s tools but its techniques.

“When he was a grad student, we were in the flush of post-Charles Darwin, post-Alfred Russel Wallace—the great explorer-naturalists of the 19th century,” Greene says. “He’s one of the pioneer
have Fitch’s techniques survived as the standard, so has his attitude.

“The personalities and approaches of the pioneers within any field of human endeavor have a long-lasting impact on the ways that people behave within that field,” Shine says. Fitch’s passion, modesty and generosity serve as models. “Snake ecology remains a remarkably friendly field today and is not wracked by the petty academic disputes so evident in many disciplines,” Shine says. “Part of the credit for that situation belongs to Henry Fitch.”

Indeed, Fitch is beloved inside and outside the field. Last summer Joe Collins hosted a group of Texas graduate students on their way to a herpetology convention. “One of the things they wanted to do was meet Henry Fitch,” he says. “It’s like if you’re a basketball player and come to Lawrence you visit the grave of James Naismith.” Due to the breadth of his work, it’s not only snake lovers who make a pilgrimage to the reservation. “I suspect a lot more people come through Lawrence to meet Henry—they just don’t stay at my house.”

Says Greene, “He’s revered. I’ve never heard anyone say a bad word about him, never heard him accused of exploiting grad students or taking advantage of people professionally.” Tributes range from colleagues naming a tropical lizard (Anolis fitchi) for him, to the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists establishing the Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology. (Awarded annually since 1997 for outstanding field work, it is one of only two named awards the field’s oldest society gives to professionals.) But two years ago, at a national ASIH meeting in Baja, Calif., Greene witnessed a more spontaneous outpouring of what he calls “the extreme respect and affection” with which colleagues regard Fitch. “The usual convention is that someone introduces a speaker, the person gives a 15-minute talk, everyone applauds and it’s on to the next speaker. When Henry’s turn came, he got a standing ovation before he even started his talk. I’ve never seen that happen.”

After 52 years on the reserve, he knows every one of its 590 acres by heart. He has guarded it from deer poachers and firebugs and hellraisers, has dealt with an irate cattleman, who, unhappy at the loss of free grazing, turned his cows out on the land anyway.
He has watched the plant and animal life change in a transformation that looks dramatic when viewed whole, but which seen in real time was so gradual he hardly noticed. Change continues even now. “Sometimes,” he says, “I stop and try to imagine what it looked like when I first saw it.”

Through it all Fitch has been a caretaker, not a gatekeeper. “Sometimes when people have a real link to a place, they become protective,” says Suzanne Collins, a photographer who took many of the photos in *A Kansas Snake Community*. “While he’s protective of the land, he hasn’t isolated the place from others. He’s not territorial; he’s very welcoming.”

Indeed, 22 years after he reached mandatory retirement age, the yellow school buses and KU vans bearing students still turn in at his gate. Since 1996, the Henry S. Fitch Nature Trail, planned with daughter Alice, has welcomed visitors to “this square mile.” It’s the only KU field site open to the public.

He has long since won over his neighbors, who’ve increased with suburban sprawl. Whispered rumors that he was importing venomous snakes and turning the reservation into a breeding ground for pests long ago faded to lore, echoed on a nearby signpost marking Snake Farm Road. Now they call when rattlers turn up on their lawns. More and more, those snakes are alive when he arrives—another sign of changing attitudes.

He still makes his rounds, if a little more slowly than he’d like. In an age when global satellites can pinpoint a man’s earthly position within yards, the place-names Fitch invented to tie his data to the land (House Walnut, Willow Woods, Picnic Field) seem fairytale-like, charted like the key to an enchanted wood on a map hand-drawn by Alice and taped to the kitchen door. He has outlasted many of those landmarks: The grand elms that once shaded the hillslopes have long since succumbed to Dutch elm disease; they weakened, fell and finally rotted to dust. Henry Fitch has endured.

And adapted. As the transformation from prairie to forest drove out many species, Fitch expanded his research to other KU field sites. He now seeks timber rattlers on more open areas to the north. In May, a snake he caught and marked in 1978 was recaptured, snaring the record for the oldest free-living rattlesnake ever recorded. “It had shed its skin and added a rattle as many as 50 times,” he says appreciatively, delighted to get the record. “It’s quite a lucky one that survives that long in the wild.”

In recent years, Fitch has also taken steps to preserve his data, working with Associate Director Dean Kettle and others at the Biological Survey to map his landmarks, ensuring that others can build on his work in the future. (See sidebar, p.25.)

Continuing Fitch’s work is a given, says Ed Martinko, director of the Kansas Biological Survey. How to go about it is more difficult. “Henry is a multifaceted individual who has a lot of experience in a lot of areas. Compensating for that is not likely to happen with just one person or even a few.” Universities now look to flashier, grant-attracting areas such as genetic or molecular biology when adding new researchers. Funding cycles and pressure to publish still create a climate in which a 3-year-study is considered long-term. The distractions of daily life have grown more clamorous, not less.

“It comes down to whether or not people are willing to dedicate that much time and that much of themselves to their profession,” says Collins, “It’s a different world we live in today; maybe there’s no reward system in place for doing what Henry has done.”

Fitch says it has been reward enough to inspire students’ interest in ecology and conservation. “When I was in school I knew what I liked, but I had no idea how to go about making a career of it. It has been mainly through luck that I have fallen into this position.” He’s been pleased to see KU’s sites for ecological study expand, and takes pride in the fact that he “may have had a role in it.” And he seems determined to keep adding to a database—and a career—that have redefined long-term.

As mandatory retirement loomed two decades ago, Fitch fully expected to leave the land that bears his name. But his bosses asked him to stay on. “They offered to let me continue living here as long as it was to the benefit of the University,” he says. He has tried to make it so.
Mary Faith Marshall, professor of medicine and bioethics, discovered her second career 12 years ago. Working as a critical-care nurse at the University of Virginia, she found herself charged with the treatment of an accident victim, a Jehovah’s Witness, who had lost both of his arms yet refused blood transfusions.

Within hours, a judge, the hospital and the patient’s father were entangled over the life-threatening decision. Also on the case was John Fletcher, the first bioethicist at the National Institutes of Health, who had just arrived at the University of Virginia to direct its Center for Bioethics.

The patient’s will prevailed; the nurse caught in the middle of the captivating case returned to school to study applied ethics, and is now in demand from Boston to Budapest for her expertise in medical-research ethics. Marshall’s transition from ICU nurse to bioethics was smooth—“Everyone comes to ethics from another field,” she says—and perhaps predestined.

A native of Charlottesville, Va., Marshall recalls that her mother grew up down the street from Carrie Buck’s family, of the 1927 Buck vs. Bell U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld sterilization of the “feeble-minded.” Marshall’s father is an Episcopal priest, her brother an attorney. Medicine, religion and law are common backgrounds for bioethicists.

Marshall recently chaired the National Human Research Protections Advisory Committee, formed two years ago in response to the 1999 death of Jesse Gelsinger, a relatively healthy 18-year-old man who was a research subject in a gene therapy study at the University of Pennsylvania. The case “put the nation in a crisis of losing public trust,” Marshall says.

Federal regulators revealed that the director of the study and the university hospital had large financial interests in a biotechnology company that would profit if the study were a success. In addition, the consent form signed by Gelsinger did not mention that animals given the same treatment had died.

Informed consent and research performed on vulnerable subjects—children, prisoners and the decisionally impaired—are hot issues confronting the bioethics community, Marshall says.

How does a research institution avoid a Jesse Gelsinger tragedy? Currently, the burden falls to institutional review boards, internal groups established by every institution that conducts biomedical research. But that model is changing, Marshall says, as responsibility and accountability for protecting research subjects broaden throughout every institution.

Locally, Marshall helped develop the Integrity in Research Project of the Midwest Bioethics Center. The project serves as the research ethics component of the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute and encompasses 31 institutional review boards—the largest such consortium in the country, she says. (KU and KU Medical Center are two of the eight “stakeholder institutions” in the life-sciences research movement in Kansas City.)

The Integrity in Research Project covers its territory by conducting grand rounds and presentations before the internal review boards and speaking to the lay public. “To do public policy well,” Marshall says, “you need an educated public.”

Most people encounter medical ethics as patients, not as research subjects. This is the realm of clinical ethics, another area for which Marshall’s advice is sought.

Last year, The New York Times asked Marshall’s opinion on DNA dragnets, crime investigations in which members of a certain group—such as workers in a clinic where a patient has been raped—are asked to provide DNA samples for comparison with crime evidence. Asking physicians to collect DNA for a large database breaches doctor-patient relationships, which are built on privacy and mutual trust, she said in the article.

“We need to be careful of the roles we put all clinicians in,” Marshall says. Turning over information to the police is not health care.

A similar breach occurred in a South Carolina case in which Marshall testified. In 1989, health-care workers at a Charleston hospital were asked by police to collect urine samples from certain pregnant women to screen for drug use. Women who tested positive for cocaine use were arrested—some of them shackled to their hospital beds, others taken shortly before or after giving birth, often still in their hospital gowns and bleeding from childbirth.

INFORMED CONSENT AND RESEARCH PERFORMED ON VULNERABLE SUBJECTS—CHILDREN, PRISONERS AND THE DECISIONALLY IMPAIRED—are hot issues confronting the bioethics community.

State and national medical and nursing societies opposed the policy on the grounds that it was racist—most of the women were poor and black—and that it had nothing to do with the health of women or children.

In the case, Ferguson et al. vs. City of Charleston et al., the U.S. Supreme Court decided last year in favor of the patients.

“The legacy of Tuskegee is alive and well in the United States,” Marshall says, referring to the 40-year Tuskegee Syphilis Study by the U.S. Public Health Service that withheld proper treatment to a group of syphilitic poor black men in the name of research. “We have a long history of marginalizing people who are vulnerable. We must be careful that the fiduciary relationship between doctor and patient stays intact. You can’t deliver health care without trust.”

—Hope, j’84, c’85, is medical development writer for the Endowment Association at KU Medical Center.
Joys Forever

Twenty-five years after it opened, the Spencer Museum continues to honor its mission to share and secure KU’s things of beauty

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO
When Marilyn Stokstad’s textbook Art History caught the attention of CBS’ “Sunday Morning” in 1996, producers from the usually thoughtful program came calling for an interview. First question: “Why should it seem a little bit odd that this comes out of Kansas?”

For Stokstad, just as irritating was this follow-up: Define art.

“I can’t, I truly can’t,” she snapped. “No. That’s too hard a question. ... Art is everywhere, you know?”

Including museums—even in Kansas. So on the occasion of the Spencer Museum of Art’s 25th anniversary, we’ll tweak the annoying query: If “define art” is inconsequential and argumentative, perhaps “define art museums” would be appropriate.

Charles Eldredge, the Spencer Museum’s first director, former director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American Art and now KU’s Hall Family Foundation distinguished professor of art history, says that while modern art museums can be restaurants or even singles bars, they also retain their duty to beauty.

“I think of [an art museum] as a place to educate the eye and the mind through the preservation and presentation of visual history,” Eldredge says. “In some respects it’s a temple, in some respects it’s a theatre, in some respects it’s a playground, in some respects it’s an emporium. ... But I think, at base, it is a storehouse, it is a place for safe storage and conservation of our cultural heritage.”

Former Chancellor Franklin Murphy, c’36, one of the University’s enduring champions of art and art history, said at the building’s September 1977 dedication, “This museum and its works of art will surely entrap the unwary student with time on his hands, stimulating first curiosity and then appreciation. One might call this learning by revelation, rather than by indoctrination.”

Seymour Slive, then director of Harvard’s Fogg Art Museum, toured the Spencer during its January 1978 grand opening, when the galleries were opened to the public, and declared, “I would be less than honest if I didn’t tell you I’m green with envy.”

As plaudits rolled along, benefactor Helen Foresman Spencer finally answered with, “Well, what did you expect, a tacky old tabernacle?”

Her gift of $4.5 million was the largest the University had then received, and construction of the massive home to the University’s art collection, the department of art history and the art and architecture library was one of Mount Oread’s most significant building projects. But over a quarter-century, the imposing elegance that initially awed us has softened, and the early heart thumps—this place is actually ours?—have mellowed into subtle, revelatory magic.

As Murphy predicted, the Spencer Museum and its broad collection of art across the centuries continue to entrap the unwary and stimulate curiosity. But it also has become comfortable sanctuary from the frantic and the mundane, maturing into a palace of familiar galleries where surprises still lurk.

Presuming, of course, you step inside. Which sometimes presumes too much.

“We get really large numbers of undergraduates and very large numbers of people who went to KU who say, ‘Oh yeah, I went by that building every day. I never went in,’” says Spencer director Andrea Norris. “Part of our role here, with our younger visitors, is to get them into the museum and get them to understand that this is a place where they can learn and be entertained.” Stokstad, who recently retired from the faculty as Judith Harris Murphy distinguished professor of art history, says, “One of my big concerns through my whole life has been to get people into the museum. That’s the first breakthrough.”

The quest has been joined by faculty from across campus. Norris estimates that three or four dozen faculty members in fields far from art and art history regularly use original works of art in their teaching, and the “University in the Art Museum” program for campuswide art appreciation is a model copied by museums across the country.

Barb Woods, d’68, p’75, g’97, clinical assistant professor of pharmacy, uses art in the Spencer’s galleries to teach her students about human communication and interaction; Carl Kurt, professor of civil, environmental and architectural engineering, sends every undergraduate student he teaches to the Spencer.

“Most of the students who had my classes for the very first time had never been in an art museum,” Kurt says. “It takes time and energy, we’re all so damn busy, and there is absolutely zero moti-
vation in the technical fields for this type of assignment. But as engineers, we have to make a tremendous amount of judgment calls. My philosophy is that the arts, theatre, those types of things, are what help build the basis for making these judgment calls.”

Stokstad, in her delightfully direct way, in 1996 swayed her CBS interviewer by confronting him full force with the power, rather than the definition, of art. The creation and appreciation of art is “almost a religious experience,” for which she offered the example of Vincent van Gogh, who tried desperately “to find himself, and save his soul, through his painting.” And, she noted, “he’s certainly not unique.”

But she was not arguing for the importance of her book. In fact, Stokstad downplayed any art book, as compared with the thrill of seeing an original.

“I am convinced,” she said, “that if you get students in front of a real work of art, not a slide, not an image on a TV screen, not even an image in a book, that there is something—and don’t ask me to define it—that there is something that grabs them.

“There is a reality to the work of art. It is not just a theory of beauty.”

Are you a left or right?
After 25 years of visits to the Spencer Museum, we fall into habits that reflect art’s personal and unique resonance. Some visitors will tour all of the galleries on every visit, dutifully beginning with the Central Court and its neighboring galleries of Asian, early Renaissance and medieval art. Others, myself included, head straight for the elevator.

Arriving at the fourth floor and exiting the elevator, the chronological path dictates a right turn, down the long gallery of 17th- and 18th-century European art. This also is the most direct route to the Kress Gallery and its exciting new exhibitions. (The fourth floor also contains three other spaces for temporary installations.) After the Kress come galleries for 18th- and 19th-century art from Europe and the United States, followed finally by the gallery of 20th-century works.

I have adored the Spencer since it opened, and I have always been a right. Visiting yet again while preparing to write this piece, I stepped off the elevator and suddenly stopped short. Amid the masterpieces, inspiration.

Not right. Left.
My eyes moved before my feet. I briefly considered whether it might even be against the rules. Left? Really? Is anybody watching?

My silent rebellion made the galleries new to me. Rather than encountering the exuberance of modern and regional art after touring centuries of more traditional painting and sculpture, I went to them first. My reward, I am ashamed to admit, was Grant Wood’s “Near Sundown,” which I had never before noticed, let alone appreciated.

So I have a new path. And eventually, I resolve, I will stop ignoring Asia and the early European works.

I discuss these things with Andrea
Norris, the Spencer Museum’s director since 1988. I tell her that despite my limited art education, I always thought the Spencer offers a broad collection with samples for far-ranging tastes. Only a rich and diverse museum can continue to surprise after 25 years, I suggest, and she smiles happily and replies, “You saying it is better than me saying it.”

Better, Elizabeth Broun can say it. Broun, c’68, g’69, PhD’76, succeeded Eldredge in 1988 as director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum (as it is now known), a job she still holds. After receiving her undergraduate and graduate education on Mount Oread, she remained at the Spencer Museum as curator of prints and drawings until 1983, when she joined Eldredge in Washington, D.C., as chief curator.

“The Spencer ranks among the top 10 university museums in every way,” Broun says, “and in many categories, such as range and depth of collections, it would be in the top five.”

And she says the tradition of cooperation between the Spencer and University faculty is equaled nowhere else: “Because of this, it has the most stellar record of educating students across the humanities to appreciate and know the arts, and the best record of training students for careers in the arts.

“There is something special in the water, or rather in the spirit of cooperation, that transcends what is done elsewhere. KU leveraged its assets better than any program I know.”

A few days before the Spencer’s 1977 dedication, Eldredge sat at his typewriter and banged out a joyful missive to former Chancellor Murphy: “Can you believe it? We are home at last!”

Home had always been a long way away. For 60 years, since Sallie Casey Thayer first donated 5,000 art objects and 600 books in 1917, the University’s restless art collection had been, at various times, unprofessionally supervised, inappropriately housed or stashed far from public view. When the campus library moved from Spooner Hall to Watson Library, the art collection moved in; the Spooner-Thayer Museum opened in March 1926, and the Thayer

Museum expansion planned

With a $1.5 million KU First pledge from Dusty, f’60, and Kathy Haughey Loo, c’61, of Colorado Springs, Colo., the Spencer Museum has a good start on dreams of expansion. But there is still $19 million more to go.

Of 21,000 objects in the University’s collection, about 700 are on view in the Spencer Museum’s galleries. Director Andrea Norris said the expansion would create space to show contemporary objects that don’t fit well in current gallery spaces, and it would also allow the museum to display more Kansas and regional art. “I think we have 2,000 or 3,000 regional and Kansas works, and we have a corner where we display about six,” Norris says.

The expansion would likely be toward the north, in the space between the museum and the Memorial Stadium parking lot. It doesn’t look like much room, Norris notes, but when filled with a four- or five-story building, it would be huge. The expansion would also relieve growing pains for the department of art history and the art and architecture library, which Professor Marilyn Stokstad describes as “one of the great art libraries in the United States.”

“What we would love,” Stokstad says, “is to have an angel come by and give us another wing. We could do wonders, just wonders. We have so much that we could show, so much more that we could do, if we had the space.”

—C.L.
More than just a pretty picture

Professor Marilyn Stokstad calls it “the museum shuffle,” and she loathes it. “It's that pace people develop, slowly wandering along like they're on one of those moving sidewalks, reading labels rather than looking at the pictures.”

The museum shuffle prevents adult visitors from appreciating the grandeur and reality of magnificent art; worse, it ruins the experience for children. First-time visitors must not be led to believe that art is boring, Stokstad says, and the museum shuffle is just that. She compares it to forcing overwhelming, unintelligible Wagner on a novice opera-goer:

“Better ‘Carmen’ first,” she says. “We have a lot of things that will spark the imagination, but you have to take time to do that. You can't just stroll through.”

Director Andrea Norris suggests art can be better appreciated if visitors understand label numbers. The first two digits (for items acquired in 2000 or later, four) represent the year each piece was acquired; the rest is an annual lot number. Pieces labeled “28” are from Sallie Casey Thayer's core donation.

Pieces labeled 1948 through the 1950s were acquired by founding directors John Maxon and Edward Maser, and likely represent enthusiasms (shared by Chancellor Franklin Murphy) for Renaissance and baroque European art (Dante Gabriel Rossetti's “La Pia de Tolomei” being a perfect example). Stokstad, director from 1961 to '67, is renowned for her work in medieval art; Charles Eldredge, director until 1982, is acclaimed for expertise in American art.

Norris, director since 1988, says that with advice from her curators, she hopes to be known for acquisitions in diverse fields such as prints, works by women, and contemporary and Asian art.

Norris also suggests some basic art education for new visitors: Each piece, by definition, is an original. To answer an oft-repeated query: No, the Spencer does not have “a ‘Mona Lisa.'”

“It sounds absolutely ridiculous,” Norris says. “But people who haven't studied art, who haven’t been to museums, do not understand that these are unique objects made, say, in the 15th century, for churches in Italy, and are now in Lawrence, Kansas, for people to get a vision of the imagination and values of people from another culture and another time.”

—C.L.
décor of the kitchen,” Eldredge says. “It was, with great ceremony, installed in the specially designed towel rack, and of course it was part of the still life of that kitchen.”

The laughs don’t last as Eldredge recalls what came next: “Not long after the opening had concluded, I walked into the kitchen to find a volunteer ripping off the last sheet. “Happily, she never knew. We managed to keep her out of the kitchen thereafter.”

For Carl Kurt, any argument that his Spencer Museum assignments are a waste of engineering students’ time was dashed by a one-page paper. Kurt and his wife had visited an exhibition of 100 photographs of black women, and he saw it as a useful lesson in communication for engineering graphics students.

He asked that each student focus on one particular photograph: for composition, for who the person was, for what that person did. No matter the reason, students were to write a one-page paper defending their selection.

Justify, Kurt asked, and in so doing, one young man did the impossible.

CBS: “One word that is inextricably linked to art is beauty.”
Stokstad: “Yes.”
CBS: “Do you agree?”
Stokstad: “Oh yes, I think so. But don’t ask me to define beauty, either.”
Don’t be lazy, Professor Stokstad scolds. We must do the work ourselves. We must make and create our own definitions. Justify!

So who’s game? Anyone who wants to tackle the assignment, may I suggest a sack lunch in Marvin Grove, followed by a tour of the Spencer?

You go right, I’ll go left, and we can meet in the middle.

No matter the direction, we’ll be fine. Art is everywhere.
Especially here.
Chalk Ball, Kansas City’s annual black-tie event to celebrate the nation’s largest community of Jayhawks, will take a decidedly disco turn. Christened “Jayhawk Fever,” and heralded by a ‘Hawk sporting a John Travolta-inspired pompadour and flashy white suit, the ball also features a sparkling new venue: the new Overland Park Convention Center & Sheraton Hotel at 6000 College Blvd.

After seven years of selling out downtown Kansas City ballrooms, the Association and its Greater Kansas City alumni chapter were eager to move to the new larger space on the Kansas side of the state line. Invitations for the event will be mailed in late November; organizers hope to increase attendance to 1,500, a dramatic increase from previous balls, which could accommodate no more than 1,000 Jayhawks.

“We are thrilled to expand the Rock Chalk Ball and include even more alumni and friends in this great reunion for an important cause,” says Casey Housley, c’92, l’96, Leawood, who with his wife, Jenny Lynch Housley, c’93, co-chairs the event with Dennis, c’81, l’84, and Cindy Campbell Reynolds, j’82, also of Leawood.

The beneficiary of the ball is recruitment and retention of National Merit Scholars at KU. Since the ball began in 1996, alumni and friends have raised nearly $800,000 to attract these talented young scholars to the Hill. Their efforts have...
Kansas City area volunteers are eager to include more Jayhawks in the annual ball, which benefits recruitment and retention of National Merit Scholars at KU. The new convention center at 6000 College Blvd. features a ballroom that can easily accommodate 1,500 guests and a reception and auction area that will allow plenty of breathing room for revelers.

Twenty-five of these students are supported by Rock Chalk Scholarships. In addition to the money raised by the ball over the years, these scholarships are supported by a $670,000 gift in 1998 from the Alumni Association to the scholarship endowment. The Association made the contribution as part of the renewal of its Jayhawk bankcard program with INTRUST of Wichita.

As in past years, silent and live auctions at the ball will help increase the proceeds for scholarships. In addition, the event will include a cocktail reception, performances by the Marching Jayhawks and the KU Spirit Squad, and an elegant dinner followed by dancing.

Dancing, along with surprise entertainment, will be a highlight of the evening, according to the Housleys and the Reynolds. In keeping with the Jayhawk Fever theme, the four chose Disco Dick, whose band has become known in the Kansas City area for transporting partygoers back to the days of disco—while also including a variety of selections for all generations.

“One of the best things about the ball in past years has been the reunion atmosphere and the KU nostalgia and affection shared by alumni,” says Cindy Reynolds. “We hope our lighthearted theme and the fun entertainment will infuse the evening with even more spirit and excitement.”

For more information about the Rock Chalk Ball, or to receive an invitation, contact Association staff liaison Kelly Kidwell, c’01, at 800-584-2957, or visit the Association’s Web site, www.kualumni.org.

Local Jayhawks make good

When KU comes to call in communities across Kansas and the nation, local Jayhawks see to all the details and help ensure successful events. Since 1987 the Alumni Association has thanked these local ambassadors by honoring them with the Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award for sustained volunteer service.

The 2002 winners are Michael and Marcia Nelson Cassidy, Topeka; Charles and Martha Jane Mueller Gentry, Fort Scott; David Rankin, Phillipsburg; Bill and Donna Rogers Roe, Atchison; Martin Tice, McPherson; Larry Tenopir, Topeka; and Jim and Joyce McKoon Trower, Salina.

The award is named for Clodfelter, b’41, who worked for the University for 47 years, 42 of them at the Alumni Association. Clodfelter, known to countless Jayhawks nationwide, retired in 1986 and still lives in Lawrence.

Many of this year’s winners are stalwarts of the Kansas Honors Program (KHP), which since 1971 has recognized the top 10 percent of high school seniors.
Association

in Kansas. Alumni help coordinate events throughout the academic year to honor students in all 105 counties. These alumni work with Association staff member Carolyn Mingle Barnes, c’81, who directs the KHP.

Life members Michael, c’61, d’62, and Marcia Cassidy, d’62, have been KHP volunteers for 16 years and are members of the Williams Educational Fund for KU Athletics. Michael and Marcia work in their Topeka office of orthodontia.

Charles, d’72, l’75, and Martha Gentry, c’75, d’76, were co-chairs for the Bourbon County KHP for 23 years and are life members of the Association. Charles is a board member for the School of Allied Health. Martha is a teacher in Fort Scott.

David Rankin, p’63, is a 23-year KHP volunteer in his community and helps recruit talented students to KU. A Jayhawk Society and life member, Rankin currently serves on the Association’s national Board of Directors. He owns Rankin Drug, a Phillipsburg pharmacy. Life members Bill, d’67, g’78, and Donna Rogers Roe, g’76, were Atchinson County KHP coordinators for 18 years. The Roes were longtime teachers in the Atchison school district.

Martin Tice, d’66, has organized the McPherson KHP since 1974, the first

Open House Highlights

KU’s second Open House attracted 22,000 visitors with creative events including a “whack the cat” piñata competition and the “Tastes and Sounds of Lawrence,” which featured local cuisine and music. The annual fall day on the Hill highlights University excellence and gives Kansas youths like Simone Harrison (far right), a chance to experience KU.
year the program honored students in Marion County. Tice, a Jayhawk Society and life member, works as the business manager for the Marion school district.

Larry Tenopir, d’72, g’78, l’82, is past president and board member for the Topeka Jayhawk Club. A life member, he also serves as a volunteer for KU Theatre Alumni reunion activities. He is a partner in the law firm of Tenopir and Huerter.

Jim, b’77, and Joyce Trower, h’76, have served as KHP coordinators in Salina for more than 18 years. They are members of the Saline County Jayhawk Club, and have hosted numerous KU student recruitment events. Jim is the president and CEO of Woods & Durham, and Joyce supervises the child development department of the Salina Regional Health Center. The Trowers are Jayhawk Society members.

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See additional items at www.kualumni.org
1941

Robert, d’41, c’46, and Dorothy May Pine, c’42, celebrated their 60th anniversary last summer. They live in Boulder, Colo., where he’s a retired naval aviator and she’s retired from a career in real estate.

1948

Warren Beck, b’48, a retired CPA, lives in Leawood.

John, c’48, and Jeanne Chambers Bills, f’50, make their home in Pensacola, Fla. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in September. A gazebo at Allen County Hospital in Iola was recently dedicated in memory of Jeanne’s father, A.R. Chambers, m’23.

Thomas Gregg, c’48, makes his home in Topeka with his wife, Ann. He’s a retired salesman.

Quentin Wheatley, c’48, PhD’54, is a senior research chemist with DuPont in Lewiston, N.Y.

MARRIED

Charlotte Thayer, c’48, g’49, and Wallace Good, g’50, EdD’70, May 4. They live in Kansas City.

1949

Bill, e’49, and Evelyn Hoffman Hamilton, f’49, celebrated their 50th anniversary last summer. They live in Pocono Summit, Pa.

Richard Hitt, b’49, was named Senior Volunteer of 2002 by the Volunteer Center of Johnson County. He lives in Olathe.

James Thornton, c’49, makes his home in Independence, where he’s retired.

1950

Bette Jo Jones Roberts, c’50, recently was inducted into the Garden City High School Hall of Fame. She continues to make her home in Garden City.

1953

June Hartell Garcia, b’53, does substitute teaching in Merrifield, Va.

Barbara Joyce, c’53, PhD’66, is retired in Fort Collins, Colo.

Georgia Tipton Kidwell, d’53, retired last spring after teaching elementary school for 18 years. She lives in Hurst, Texas.

James MacCormack, e’53, makes his home in Lenexa.

1956

Michael Getto, ’56, recently received a distinguished alumni award from Michigan State University’s School of Hospitality Business. He’s director of franchising sales for Suburban Lodges/Guesthouse International in Boulder, Colo.

1957

George Gardner, c’57, is senior minister at College Hill United Methodist Church in Wichita.

1958

John Dealy, e’58, dean of engineering at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, recently took a trip around the world.

1959

Thomas Brady, c’59, m’63, received a distinguished service award earlier this year from the American Urological Association. He practices urology in Reno, Nev.

R.M. Hildenbrand, c’59, is a fellow in the National Society of Professional Engineers. He lives in Tupelo, Miss.

1960

Robert Allison, e’60, recently was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame. He’s chairman of Adarko Petroleum in Houston.

Bill Smith, d’60, a retired minister, lives in Ocean Shores, Wash., with Patricia Goering Smith, c’67. She’s a city planner for Ocean Shores.

1961


1962

Kay Wright Kotowski, d’62, owns Kay’s Collectible Dolls in San Marcos, Texas.

1963

Richard Norfleet, e’63, a retired manufacturing engineer, makes his home in Palo Alto, Calif.

Jack Thomas, d’63, lives in Bogue, where he’s a retired teacher.

1964

Daphne Donnell Bitters, c’64, directs development at DeLaSalle Education Center in Kansas City.

Janet Skinner Breithaupt, f’64, g’66, is an adjunct professor at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park.

Charles, c’64, and Betsy Wilson Marvin, c’64, g’95, were in Riga, Latvia, last summer on a Fulbright Teaching Grant. They both teach law at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Anne Larigan Walters, d’64, recently became general manager of Carlson Wagonlit Travel in Lawrence.

Fred Wilson, PhD’64, directs Angelo State University’s prefreshman engineering program. He lives in San Angelo, Texas.

1965

Jon Alexiou, c’65, g’68, directs community college initiatives for the Chauncey Group in Miami.

Michael Bennett, f’65, is vice presi-
dent of marketing and business development at Tracy Design Communications and Bazillion Pictures in Kansas City.

**Ashley Elbl,** d’65, g’68, teaches chemistry at O’Hara High School in Kansas City.

**Mary Barber Hamm,** d’65, g’86, is Midwest reading specialist for Scott Foresman Publishing. She lives in Topeka.

**Mary Kennedy Henderson,** d’65, coordinates the international baccalaureate program at Newark Memorial High in Newark, Calif. She lives in Castro Valley.

**Charles Pomeroy,** j’65, g’71, is program director for KTWU-TV in Topeka.

**David Richwine,** c’65, directs development at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. He lives in Burke, Va.

**James Tschechtelin,** c’65, retired last summer as president of Baltimore City Community College. He lives in Millersville, Md.

**Margo Van Antwerp Woodruff,** d’65, teaches art in the Franklin Special School District in Franklin, Tenn.

**1966**

**Gary Hanson,** c’66, manages research and development for Framatone ANP in Lynchburg, Va.

**Gary Hunter,** b’66, l’69, recently became interim director of athletics at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho.

**Phyllis Fry Kelly,** d’66, g’68, EdD’79, joined the Kansas Adult Care Executives Association earlier this year as executive director. She lives in Topeka.

**Robert Spahn,** g’66, is retired in Webster, N.Y.

**MARRIED**

**John Roper,** c’66, g’81, and **Valerie Vandenberg,** c’66, April 20. They live in Lawrence.

**1967**

**Joan Gilpin Golden,** b’67, is campaign chair elect of the board of directors for the Friends of the Lied Center of Kansas. She’s senior vice president of development at USBank in Lawrence, where she and her husband, **Webster**, c’66, make their home. He’s a partner in the law firm of Stevens & Brand.

**Richard Martin,** c’67, works for General Motors in Pontiac, Mich. He lives in Fenton.

**David Sagerser,** c’67, is chief of special projects for NASA’s Glenn Research Center in Cleveland.

**Connie Jones Welsh,** d’67, g’89, lives in Elgin, Ill., where she’s superintendent of schools.

**1968**

**Danforth Austin,** j’68, is vice chairman of Ottaway Newspapers in Campbell Hall, N.Y. He lives in Short Hills, N.J.

**Deanell Reece Tacha,** c’68, recently
Franchiser’s expertise brews Starbucks growth

It seems Jack Rodgers has been trying to call it quits for years. And why not? The last time Rodgers, b’53, attempted to retire, he ended up helping a little coffee company called Starbucks become an icon of American business culture.

“I was in the right place at the right time,” says the modest 71-year-old resident of Mercer Island, Wash.

Arriving at KU on a football scholarship in 1949, Rodgers also played basketball under Phog Allen, and Rodgers says it was Allen’s guiding influence that made the greatest impression on the young point guard.

“He talked about matters other than basketball in the locker room. He was a great guy. A great leader and a great mentor. He taught us a lot about life.”

Shortly after graduating, Rodgers took a sales job with IBM, and became Boston district manager in 1960. About that time, another legend intervened to alter the course of his career.

“Ray Kroc came to the bridge club that my mother and father belonged to and told them that he was going to open a hamburger chain called McDonald’s. He wanted them all to quit their jobs and become franchisees.”

While that notion didn’t immediately catch on, most of the bridge club members did end up owning at least one of the soon-to-be famous burger franchises, and a year later Kroc called Rodgers to see if he might be interested as well. He was, and the decision launched what was to become a successful second career in the franchising industry.

Rodgers left IBM in 1974 and settled in Seattle to concentrate on his franchise investments, which by then included McDonald’s, Benihana, Red Robin and Casa Lupita restaurants, and The Athlete’s Foot shoe stores, throughout the Northwest. By 1987, he thought he was ready to retire; but then he was approached by the young coffee-chain owner, Howard Schultz.

Impressed with Schultz’s enthusiasm and determination, Rodgers agreed to help out as a part-time consultant. As the two became close friends, the part-time role turned into senior vice president of new business development and a seat on Starbucks’ board of directors. During his tenure, Rodgers helped Starbucks grow from a handful of stores in the Seattle area to a caffeine-fueled empire of 5,000 worldwide shops. Then he really did retire in 1997. Sort of.

When Schultz bought the NBA’s Seattle SuperSonics, he once again called on Rodgers to join him. So now Rodgers sits on the team’s board of directors, watching his Sonics hoop it up at Key Arena.

When will it end?

“I still don’t know if I’m retired,” laughs Rodgers. “They don’t pay me anymore, but I still keep my voice mail at Starbucks.”

They just can’t let him go.

—Blankenship, c’00, is a Seattle free-lance writer.
Larry Leonard, d’70, l’74, practices law with Leonard & Neel in Tulsa, Okla. He recently became a member of the board of regents at Tulsa Community College.

Herbert Mosher, g’70, vice president of development for Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Care Services, lives in Gallup, N.M.

Larry Spikes, c’70, practices law with Spikes Ruane in Wichita, where he and Valerie Fladeland Spikes, d’71, g’74, make their home. She owns Trios Inc.

Jeff VanCoevern, b’70, is controller of Smurfit-Stone Container in Rogers, Ark. He lives in Bella Vista.

Camilla Vinz Wilson, c’70, h’70, g’78, PhD’92, chairs the physical therapy department at Wichita State University.

1971

Mary Cleveland Bollinger, c’71, teaches French at Marple Newtown Senior High School in Newtown Square, Pa. She lives in Berwyn.

Lynn Bretz, c’71, directs University Relations at KU. She lives in Lawrence.

Marcia Bush Haskin, d’71, g’81, owns MBH Consulting, a grant-writing and evaluation firm in Independence, Mo.

Kathy Kirk, d’71, practices law in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Dale Laurance, g’71, PhD’73, is president and chief executive of Occidental Petroleum in Los Angeles. He lives in Pacific Palisades.

Todd Smith, b’71, recently became vice president of the Association of Trial Lawyers. He is a partner in the Chicago law firm of Power Rogers & Smith.

Mary Ann Torrence, c’71, l’74, is assistant revisor of statutes for the state of Kansas. She lives in Topeka.

Robert Wolf, b’71, lives in Naperville, Ill., and is financial manager for Rhodia in Blue Island.
Class Notes

1972

Stanley Clyne, d’72, sells real estate for Coldwell Banker Stuckey & Associates in Wichita.

Elaine Goldsmith Corder, d’72, g’01, teaches at Spring Hill High School in Spring Hill. She lives in Olathe.

David Richards, l’72, practices law with Greig & Richards in Clovis, N.M.

David Silverberg, c’72, m’76, has a private oncology practice in Omaha, Neb.

1973

Brian Bracco, j’73, is vice president of Hearst-Argyle Television in Kansas City.

Roger Martin, g’73, a columnist and writer at KU’s Center for Research, recently won an award in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s Specific Media Relations Program competition. Roger lives in Lawrence.

Susan Goldberg Sarachek, s’73, directs Adoption Advocates in Kansas City.

Lynda Scoville, g’73, teaches in Tucson, Ariz. She lives in Oro Valley.

1974

William Alsop, c’74, m’77, recently was inducted into the Garden City High School Hall of Fame. He practices internal medicine in Salina.

Michael Aurbach, c’74, j’76, g’79, g’81, has been elected president of the College Art Association. He lives in Nashville, Tenn.

James Barnes, f’74, g’75, recently conducted the Central Band of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force in the Japanese premiere of his 4th Symphony at Yuo-Port Concert Hall in Tokyo. He is a professor of music and dance at KU.

James Guthrie, c’74, g’77, g’01, is a senior engineer at Black & Veatch in Kansas City.

James Hemsworth, b’74, directs business development at C.F. Jordan in Dallas.

Pamela Troup Horne, c’74, g’82, recently became director of admissions and assistant to the provost for enrollment management at Michigan State University in East Lansing. She lives in Ann Arbor.

Leslie McClain-Ruelle, d’74, PhD’86, was named Wisconsin Teacher of the Year recently by the University of Wisconsin’s Student Education Association. She’s associate dean of education at the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point.

Pamela Elliott Pendergast, f’74, is an export administrator with JRH Biosciences in Lenexa.

Then Again

The music faculty of 1903 comprised five professors, while today’s department of music and dance boasts more than 60. Hats off to Fine Arts!

(pictured from left) C.E. Hubach, Jean Bowersock, Charles Sanford Skilton, Harriet Greissinger and Carl A. Preyer.
Darry Sands, l’74, practices law with Dicus Davis Sands & Collins in Kansas City.

Allen Worob, g’74, is CEO of Woroco International in Rochester, N.Y.

1975

Douglas Ballou, j’75, is vice president of integrated marketing services at Callahan Creek in Lawrence. He lives in Weatherby Lake, Mo.

Linda Boxberger, c’75, g’81, wrote On the Edge of Empire: Hadhramawt, Emigration and the Indian Ocean, 1880s-1930s, which was published earlier this year by State University of New York Press. She lives in Austin, Texas.

Michael Loose, e’75, commands the Naval Facilities Engineering Command-Atlantic Division in Norfolk, Va.

John Morse, l’75, is senior vice president and general counsel at LodgeWorks in Wichita.

Ronald Schneider, c’75, commutes from Lawrence to Topeka, where he practices law.

Franklin Stucky, ’75, is CEO of Coldwell Banker Stucky & Assoc. in Wichita. He lives in Newton.

1976

Patrick Cobb, c’76, g’80, works as a systems analyst for Computer Science Corp. He lives in Arlington, Va.

Nathaniel Davis, l’76, is a parole administrator for the state of California.

Profile

BY MEGAN MACIEJOWSKI

Lively loyalty defines Hazlett’s football tenure

A girl’s got to have her routines. In 34 years as secretary to KU’s head football coach, Marge Albright Hazlett certainly had hers. She spent fall Saturdays cheering on the Jayhawks with her longtime office cohort, Carole Hadl, who sat by her side, explaining the intricacies of the game. Hazlett honored weekend wins by making her signature “Victory” coffee cakes on Monday mornings. And when she got a new boss—as she did 10 times—she had a routine for that, too. She would sadly say goodbye to the boss she had grown to love, pledge her loyalty to the next one and lay down the non-negotiables.

“I would tell them the first day they were hired, ‘I get my hair done on Wednesdays,’” Hazlett laughs. “I’m just a pushy broad. I never hesitated to give my opinion about anything, and, for the most part, they appreciated it.”

Hazlett’s plucky personality enabled her to charm even the most formidable of her bosses and achieve something that eluded all of them: longevity. Now, four decades into a career that has given her “someplace to wear my clothes” and so much more, Hazlett, ’54, has stepped down from the position that she defined. But she hasn’t stepped away from KU football completely; she continues to work part-time in the office. The move actually encapsulates her tenure quite nicely—she has never been afraid of change, but she has never left, either. She has managed to adapt to a succession of wildly different, powerful personalities without compromising her own extraordinary self.

The feat is not lost on her former bosses. Glen Mason, who coached the Jayhawks from 1988-’96, admits that he was initially wary of Hazlett. He worried that the KU lifer would have a tough time being loyal to him after having worked for so many coaches.

“What I found was that Marge was a professional deluxe,” Mason says. “She also became one of my best friends, which is unique in that type of setting. I still turn to her for advice.”

Indeed, Hazlett’s hallmark has been her ability to serve unconditionally.

“I always prided myself on being loyal to whoever was there,” she says. “I was always ready to help the next one no matter how much I liked the previous one.”

While Hazlett claims that she has never understood football, she has picked up the game’s greater lessons.

“Until someone just mentioned it to me, I never knew I had sat through 24 losing seasons,” Hazlett says. “I never thought of it as a losing season. There was so much more to it than winning and losing. Every day was another opportunity to win. You just kept going.”

And so she does.

—Maciejowskis, j’98, is a former Kansas Alumni staff writer. She now lives in her hometown of Columbus, Ohio.
Class Notes

He lives in Sacramento.

Joseph Perry, l’76, practices law with Perry & Trent in Bonner Springs. He lives in Linwood.

Timothy Sands, b’76, is senior counsel for El Paso Corp. He lives in Houston.

1977

David Chard, c’77, works for Crisis Consultants Group Worldwide in Bainbridge, Wash. He lives in Hansville.

Timothy Dowling, c’77, practices law with Gary, Thomasson, Hall & Marks in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Bruce Mallonee, c’77, l’80, practices law with Rudman & Winchell in Bangor, Maine.

Dorothy Devor McCrossen, g’77, g’92, is retired in Overland Park. She worked at Ottawa University.

Deborah Reid Mountsier, d’77, lives in Des Moines, Iowa. She’s an audiologist at Heartland Area Education Agency in Johnston.

David Mullett, j’77, is a senior vice president and commercial closings operations manager for Houston Title in Houston.

Dale Seuferling, j’77, recently became president of the KU Endowment Association. He lives in Lawrence.

John Works, c’77, is president and CEO of Emerging Markets Finance International in Denver.

1978

William Bleish, b’78, works as a client executive for IBM in Leawood.

Lindy Eakin, b’78, g’80, g’88, PhD’97, is president elect of the Friends of the Lied Center of Kansas. She’s associate provost for support services at KU.

Gregory Fankhauser, b’78, directs strategic alliances for Kennedy & Coe in Topeka.

Kenton Hodges, c’78, is field director at Southwest Indian Foundation in Gallup, N.M.

Mark Lewis, b’78, practices law in Gardner.

Wendell Moore, c’78, g’81, directs safety, health and environment at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He lives in Bowie, Md.

Gerald Seib, j’78, recently became Washington bureau chief of the Wall Street Journal. He and his wife, Barbara Rosewicz, j’78, live in Washington, D.C., where she’s a Wall Street Journal reporter.

David Stoner, c’78, is vice president of operations for Viewcast Corp in Dallas.

1979

Beverly Kennedy Bradshaw, c’79, is senior vice president of human resources at Trammell Crow. She lives in Dallas.

Diane Schemmel Goostree, c’79,
works for SkinMedica as senior vice president for corporate development in Carlsbad, Calif. She lives in San Diego.

Mike Parent, j’79, directs media services for Chicago Creative Partnership. He lives in Naperville, Ill.

1980

James Corbett, b’80, is chair and CEO of Microtherapeutics in Irvine, Calif.

Charles Kallmeyer, e’80, is an engineering advisor for Occidental Petroleum in Houston.

Richard Linville, j’80, g’82, lives in Mission Hills and is president and CEO of Empire Candle in Kansas City.

William McCarthy, c’80, is executive director of the Southwest Indian Foundation in Gallup, N.M.

Reginald Robinson, c’80, l’87, recently became president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents. He lives in Lawrence.

1981

Terry Jett, h’81, is regional director at Providence Health in Kansas City.

Rick Kastner, j’81, works as general counsel and vice president at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City.

1982

Greg Baker, c’82, b’83, is senior vice president and head of lending at Security Bank of Southwest Missouri in Cassville. He lives in Branson.

Mary Ann Clift, g’82, recently became biomedical editor and writing coach for the Mayo Clinic’s Section of Scientific Publications. She lives in Cave Creek, Ariz.

Karen Schlueter Dutcher, j’82, l’85, practices law with Ice Miller Donadio & Ryan in Indianapolis.

Ladd Wheeler, e’82, is a captain and aviator in the U.S. Navy. He lives in Chesapeake, Va.

1983

Laura Behrndt Hughes, j’83, is president of Life Advisers. She lives in St. Louis.

David Robinett, c’83, is president of AdBlaster.com in Overland Park.

Melissa McIntyre Wolcott, j’83, works as a contractor at Reynolds & Reynolds in Dayton, Ohio, where she and her husband, Steve, c’86, g’91, live with their children, Christopher, 11; Zachary, 7; Mackenzie, 2; and Nicholas, 1.

MARRIED

Gregory Everage, c’83, to Laura Gorman, March 10. They live in Santa Monica, Calif., and he’s general manager of Stargate Digital.

BORN TO:

Richard Sall, a’83, a’84, and Sandra, daughter, Lauryn, March 12 in Denver, where she joins a sister, Ashleigh, 9. Richard is a senior residential designer for Matthews & Associates in Englewood.
For rebel artist, even the price makes a statement

At the end of each semester, the School of Fine Arts faces an awkward quandary: What to do with the dozens, sometimes hundreds, of paintings produced by student artists as part of their class work? As a rule, those not claimed are regretfully consigned to the refuse heap. These periodic ejections have long nettled Wayne Propst—outlaw artist, raconteur, poet and builder—and for the past few years he has carted many of the used canvases to his north Lawrence farm for “further work.” Propst, c’71, a Lawrence legend who was a regular at William Burroughs’ famous Thursday dinner parties, seeing an opportunity to continue his gleeful, life-long subversion of the art world, designed a “Painting Machine” to recycle the canvases on a near-industrial scale. The fruits of his labors—a genre self-described as “Pathetic Art”—are displayed in an irregular series of shows at the Bourgeois Pig, the bohemian Lawrence coffeehouse and martini bar.

“I’m grateful for the art mainstream,” he says, “because without it I wouldn’t have anything to rebel against.”

Propst’s Machine passes each canvas beneath a series of nozzles, each of which discharges paint of a different color. By altering the nozzle arrangement and the position of the canvases, he produces a striking variety of effects, which in every case preserves most of the original work beneath the new paint.

The portable Machine made its public debut at an early-morning demonstration and sale at the Art and Design Building last spring, when Propst ran two dozen canvases through it before a fascinated crowd of faculty, students and art mavens. In place of a conventional artist’s signature, each was boldly stenciled with the name of Propst’s company, PRO-PROP, INC., and the price: $29.95. Those first paintings, now known as the Grid Series, sold out on the spot. He followed that with the Plaid Series, which sold out in two days when hung at the Bourgeois Pig.

Plaid Series canvases were $28.95; Propst intends to drop the price of the paintings with each show until the final series, when he will pay buyers $2 to take the paintings. There will likely be no shortage of customers. Indeed, owners of the Pig purchased one of the first Machine paintings—a freakishly unusual occurrence—and proudly display it in the bar’s bathroom, which has been forever ceded to Propst as his personal gallery space.

Artist Wayne Propst always makes a statement—even when nobody knows what he’s saying.

A bathroom gallery is entirely in keeping with Propst’s artistic vision, which has in the past included a 30-foot-tall wire-mesh cage filled with discarded shoes. He is cheerfully clear-sighted about the student paintings that provide grist for his mill. “Some of them are pretty good,” he says. “And, of course, some of them are gruesomely bad.”

—Quinn is a Lawrence writer.
at Barkley Evergreen & Partners in Kansas City.

**Rick Morris,** b'85, lives in Evanston, Ill., where he's an assistant dean of speech at Northwestern University.

**David Wiley,** c'85, is a principal firmware engineer at Emulex in Longmont, Colo.

**BORN TO:**
- **Jay Craig,** b'85, g'87, and Shawn, daughter, Halle Mae, July 10 in Danville, Calif., where she joins a brother, Garrett, 2. Jay is senior vice president of development and acquisitions at SNK Development in San Francisco.

**1986**

**Scott Deeter,** c’86, is president and CEO at Ventria Bioscience. He lives in Fort Collins, Colo.

**Richard Ferraro,** g'86, PhD'89, lives in Grand Forks, where he’s a professor of psychology at the University of North Dakota.

**Paige Protzmann Lanz,** j’86, works as a senior manager for OneNeck IT Services. She lives in Leawood.

**David O’Brien,** j’86, covers sports for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution in Atlanta.

**BORN TO:**
- **Erin Waugh Faust,** c’86, j’87, and Charles, daughter, Lindsey Grace, April 15 in Dallas, where she joins a sister, Darby, 3. Erin is a market intelligence strategist for IBM.

**BORN TO:**
- **John,** c’86, g’95, and **Stephanie Campbell Mahvi,** g’93, daughter, Elizabeth, April 19 in Folsom, Calif., where she joins a brother, Paul, 3. John and Stephanie both work at Intel.

**1987**

**Bradley Danahy,** j’87, g’02, is a consultant for Glaxo Smith Kline Pharmaceuticals. He lives in Shawnee Mission.

**Mark Ferguson,** c’87, b’87, l’90, lives in Overland Park, where he’s a partner in the law firm of Lathrop & Gage.

**Johnny Herod,** p’87, recently was promoted to market specialist for Dillon’s Pharmacies. He lives in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

**Tommy James,** b’87, and his wife, Christine, celebrated their first anniversary Sept. 1. They live in Sandpoint, Idaho, where Tommy is a senior manager of retail planning for Coldwater Creek.

**Laurian Casson Lytle,** g’87, PhD’93, is a stock analyst for Principal Financial Group in Des Moines, Iowa.

**JuliAnn Mazachek,** g’87, PhD’94, serves as president of the Washburn University Endowment Association. She lives in Topeka.

**Carl Saxon,** b’87, recently was promoted to chief financial officer of Square One Advertising and Southwest Media Group in Dallas, where he and his wife, Laurie, live with their son, Parker, 5.

**1988**

**Scott, j’88, g’99, and Susan Briner Patterson,** c’88, celebrated their first anniversary last spring. He’s a communications consultant for J.P. Morgan, and she owns Well Being Yoga.

**Carol Kindred Rivas,** c’88, is an executive professional representative for Merck & Co. She lives in Oakland, N.J.

**BORN TO:**
- **Arlen Sheldon,** c’88, and **Angela Meyer,** m’93, daughter, Aria Anna, Feb. 6 in Derby. Arlen works for Cessna, and Angela practices medicine at the Veteran’s Administration Hospital in Wichita.

**1989**

**Anna Davalos,** j’89, lives in Alexandria, Va., where she’s a free-lance TV news producer.
Mark Miller, p’89, manages a Kmart pharmacy in Isabella, Mo.

MARRIED
Robert Farha, c’89, to Rebecca Cleavinger, May 15 in Lawrence, where they make their home.
Beryl Heath, c’89, to Robert Peters, June 15. Their home is in Overland Park.

BORN TO:
Timothy McNary, j’89, and Maria, daughter, Mary Jane, June 21 in Glenview, Ill., where she joins two brothers, Patrick, 4, and Colin, 2. Tim manages marketing for Spencer Stuart.
Melinda Eisenhour Parks, b’89, and Michael, daughter, McKenzie Kay, March 11 in Lenexa. Melinda is a finance manager with Sprint.

1990
Lisa Capps, g’90, PhD’92, teaches anthropology at the College of DuPage. She lives in Wheaton, Ill.
Gene King, j’90, g’02, manages marketing and communications at Black & Veatch. He lives in Overland Park.
Carrie Booe Mandigo, d’90, n’91, and her husband, James, m’93, make their home in Lawrence with their son, Joseph, 3.
Daniel Redler, c’90, is customer marketing manager for Coca-Cola. He and his wife, Dara, live in Atlanta, with Alec, 6; Jansen, 4; and Mason, 1.

MARRIED
Darren Orme, b’90, m’99, to Marna Miller, April 13 in Prairie Village. He’s a radiology resident at the KU Medical Center, and she’s a child-life specialist at Children’s Mercy Hospital.

BORN TO:
Mary Mechem, c’90, and Allen Fields, ’91, daughter, Maren Elisa, March 5 in Wake Forest, N.C., where she joins a sister, Allene, 2. Mary manages reimbursement and planning for the Yale University medical school, and Allen directs regulatory and technical services for Quintiles.
Elizabeth White Roth, f’90, and Steven, son, Quinlan O’Connell, March 19. Elizabeth is a principal at Thrive Creative, and they live in Riverside, Ill.

1991
Todd Daniels, b’91, is vice president of finance with DCI in Lenexa, and Susan Taylor Daniels, b’91, supervises retail cash accounting for Sprint. They live in Overland Park with their children, Taylor, 7; Ryan, 3; and Alex, who’ll be 1 Dec. 18.
William Fox, p’91, works as a staff pharmacist at Kmart. He lives in Clay Center.
Debra Green, c’91, is a major account executive for the Lexington Herald-Leader in Lexington, Ky.

Matt Lomshek, d’91, co-owns Sun Promotions in Lawrence, where he and Susan Thomas Lomshek, d’88, make their home. She teaches third grade at Schwegler School.

BORN TO:
Mark, j’91, and Susan Shaffer Fagan, j’92, daughter, Erin Joy, May 14 in Lawrence, where Mark is a reporter and Susan is a copy editor at the Lawrence Journal-World.
Brian, c’91, m’96, and Julia Mayden Holmes, b’92, daughter, April 1 in Abilene, where she joins a sister, Anna Rose, 3.

1992
Vicki Childers, h’92, directs the health information management systems department at Lawrence Memorial Hospital.
Ian Coleman, g’92, recently became
an associate professor of theory and composition in the music department at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

**Margaret Poague,** f'92, is a self-employed artist with Natural Surroundings in Fairway.

**BORN TO:**

**Teresa Lynch Hanna,** j’92, and Christopher, son, Ian Hamilton, May 24 in Lawrence, where Christopher owns The BleuJacket restaurant.

**Rose Cooper Kopecky,** b’92, and Christopher, daughter, Samantha Kathleen, June 15 in Olathe. Rose is a senior finance manager for Sprint.

**Mark Luce,** c’92, g’99, and his wife, **Jennifer Copeland,** c’00, son, Miles Copeland Luce, April 16 in Kansas City, where Mark teaches high-school English and journalism at Barstow School.

**Angela Casey Shaw,** c’92, and **Gregory,** ’96, daughter, McKenna, June 18 in Gardner, where Greg manages Blazers Restaurant. Angela is an obstetrics and gynecology resident at the KU Medical Center.

**1993**
- **William Delich,** c’93, directs quality control for Se-Kan Asphalt in Gas. He and Jennifer Macha Delich, h’96, live in

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**Profile**

**Father’s day is every day for ageless attorney**

At a point in life when most white-haired men dote on grandchildren, 73-year-old attorney Gene Balloun focuses his life and love on 3-year-old Hannah.

“Isn’t she a beautiful child?” Balloun says, proudly offering for inspection one of the many family photographs in his Overland Park office. “She’s incredible.”

A seemingly improbable journey through the joys and tribulations of foster care launched Balloun, b’51, l’54, a partner at Shook, Hardy & Bacon, into a tireless role as advocate for foster parents and children. He also has championed First Amendment causes, representing Olathe students in their successful 1995 fight to have a banned book returned to their school library.

For his service, Balloun recently received the prestigious Pro Bono Award at the American Bar Association’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Also lining his shelves are certificates representing similar honors from the Kansas and Johnson County bar associations and the American Library Association.

After winning the Olathe case, Balloun and his firm used the $200,000 in legal fees awarded by a federal judge (and paid for the school district’s insurance company) to fund an essay contest encouraging high-school students to explore the topic of banned books; Balloun notes news coverage that praised the contest as a fine idea, despite the fact that it came from lawyers.

“Lawyers do not have as high a public image as we would like to have, or deserve,” he says. “There are hundreds of thousands of lawyers out there who are doing pro bono work on a daily basis. They are unsung heroes.”

So are many foster parents.

When Balloun and his wife began their new marriage 15 years ago, a friend suggested they consider becoming foster parents. Their lives and home have since been filled with children.

Their first foster child, a 14-month-old boy, arrived Nov. 20, 1987. David is now their 16-year-old son—“Here’s a picture,” Dad says happily—and their 29th foster child, Hannah, is now officially David’s baby sister.

“Gene is certainly a role model,” says friend and former co-worker David Waxse, c’67, now a federal judge in Kansas City, Kan. “He doesn’t act 73 when he’s around his children.”

Proud of his honors but wary of the praise, Balloun notes that he’s only doing what gives him great joy. “Pro bono work is satisfying,” he says, “and practicing law is just plain fun.”

As a partner at the 50th-largest litigation firm in the country, Balloun says he is serious about encouraging colleagues to make time for pro bono work.

“Particularly in the representation of children. They are our least-powerful members of society.”
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Iola with their children, Cassandra, 4,
and Calvin, 1.

Bill Leibengood, j’93, recently was
promoted to vice president at Barkley
Evergreen & Partners in Kansas City. He
and Stephanie Leahy Leibengood, b’93,
live in Olathe, where she owns
Innovative Business Consulting.

Leland Page, c’93, manages accounts
for Sturges and Word Communications
Design in Kansas City.

Denise Scott, c’93, is area coordinator
for the University of South Florida in
Tampa.

MARRIED

James Holt, c’93, to Adriana Deyurka,
April 29 in Olathe. They live in New
York City, where he’s a finance lawyer
with Freshfields Bruckhaus & Deringer.

Susan Hotz, c’93, m’97, to Michael
Shiekh, May 4 in Dallas, where she’s a
fellow in neuromuscular diseases and

he’s chief resident in psychiatry at the
Southwestern University Medical School.

BORN TO:

Brent, e’93, and Laura Dillon
Engelland, e’93, daughter, Hayley
Evelyn, July 4 in Hutchinson, where she
joins a brother, Dillon, 4, and a sister,
Hannah, 2.

William, c’93, and Shannon Hewitt
Fowle, c’95, son, Tyler William, July 9 in
Lawrence, where he joins a sister,
Morgan, 5.

Sean, c’93, and Alison Gilley Kentch,
’94, son, Logan Patrick, March 29 in
Waipahu, Hawaii, where he joins a sister,
Madison, 3. Sean serves as lieutenant
commander in the U.S. Navy.

Michelle Hepler Pacha, d’93, and Jeff,
e’94, son, Brady Michael, March 9 in
Wichita, where he joins two brothers, Jay
and Kyle. Michelle directs Basic
Beginnings Preschool, and Jeff is a
finance business partner at Cessna Aircraft.

**Virginia Klemme Treadwell**, c’93, and Brian, daughter, Allie Kate, June 13 in Brady, Texas, where she joins a brother, Jamie, 2. Ginger is county attorney for McCulloch County.

1994

**Stephanie Emert**, b’94, manages payroll for Ferrellgas in Liberty, Mo. She lives in Roeland Park.

**Karen Hallouer**, p’94, works as a pharmacist at Menorah Medical Center in Overland Park.

**Jeffrey Mayo**, j’94, is a senior contracts manager for VoiceStream Wireless in Bellevue, Wash.

**Lou Montulli**, 94, lives in Truckee, Calif., where he is a free-lance Internet and Web designer.

**Christopher Souders**, b’94, g’99, works as a financial analyst for IBM in White Plains, N.Y. He lives in New York City.


BORN TO:

**David, g’94, and Sonia Makhdom Diedel**, b’95, daughter, Zara Elizabeth, June 20 in Olathe, where she joins a brother, Ethan, 3.

**David, j’94, and Sara Stutz Johnston**, d’96, daughter, Sydney Anne, July 24 in Lawrence, where David coordinates marketing for the Kansas Union. Sara is a physical therapist at Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital in Topeka.

**Jennifer Robken Mehmedovic**, c’94, g’99, and Vanja, son, Aleksa Pasan, July 30 in Lawrence, where Jennifer is assistant to the vice chancellor of information services at KU.

**Stephen, c’94, and Rebecca Duffy Nichols**, c’97, son, Benjamin James, May 6 in Olathe.

1995

**Susan Jackman Breck**, PhD’95, is an assistant professor at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. She lives in Glen Carbon.

**Stephen Clark**, m’95, practices medicine with Kansas Imaging Consultants in Wichita.

**Jennifer Crow**, c’95, is a voice systems administrator at NCs Pearson. She lives in Phoenix.


**Ryan Horn**, c’95, b’96, and **Jennifer Davenport**, c’97, m’01, May 4 in Kansas City. They live in Miami, where she’s a pediatric resident at Miami Children’s Hospital.

MARRIED

**Ryan Horn**, c’95, b’96, and **Jennifer Davenport**, c’97, m’01, May 4 in Kansas City. They live in Miami, where she’s a pediatric resident at Miami Children’s Hospital.

BORN TO:

**Laura Vogel Brink**, l’95, and John, daughter, Allyson Marie, June 26 in St. Louis.

**Angelia Gere Fursman**, p’95, and Terry, daughter, Carly Anne, June 20 in Baldwin City, where she joins two brothers, Luke, 7, and Nathan, 2, and a sister, Lily, 4. Angelia is assistant pharmacy manager at Wal-Mart in Lawrence.

**Jennifer Ford Reedy**, c’95, and **Christopher**, c’96, daughter, Eliza Marie, June 14 in Minneapolis, Minn., where Jennifer is an associate with McKinsey and Co. and Christopher is an associate partner with White Pine Consulting Group.

1996

**Christine Couey Bowen**, j’96, manages advertising sales marketing for Penton Media in Loveland, Colo. She lives in Fort Collins.

**Casondra Reiter Campbell**, s’96, supervises human resources for Quebecor World in Dallas. She and her husband, Christopher, live in Keller with their children, Victoria, 9; Mitchell, 6; and Andrew, 1.

**Sara Peckham Johnston**, c’96, m’00, practices medicine at Smoky Hill Family Practice Center in Salina. She recently was one of 20 family practice residents honored by the American Academy of Family Physicians.
Christopher Leopold, c’96, practices law with Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City. He lives in Hoxie.

MARRIED
Colby Brown, b’96, g’97, and Jessica Crook, b’98, May 18. They live in Prairie Village, and he’s an assurance and advisory manager for Deloitte & Touche in Leawood.

Tonia Owens, b’96, and Jason Whitener, c’96, May 11. They live in Lawrence and both work as research attorneys in Topeka.

BORN TO:
David, f’96, and Christine Echelmeyer Bischof, ’97, son, Nathaniel Dawson, June 19 in St. Louis, where David is art director at Kupper Parker Communications and Christine is a pharmacist at Schnucks.

Holly Bennett Horner, c’96, and Peder, c’98, m’02, daughter, Hannah Renae, Feb. 25 in Kansas City, where Peder is an internal medicine intern at the KU Medical Center.

Erika Markley Richardson, d’96, and Benjamin, daughter, Olivia Faye, May 14 in Great Bend, where Erika teaches high-school chemistry.

1997
Rebekah Hall, j’97, is associate editor of Waste Age magazine in Atlanta.

Aimee Owen Smith, e’97, is a process engineer for Intel in Colorado Springs, Colo., where she and her husband, James, c’97, make their home. He’s a teacher at Aspen Valley High School.

MARRIED
Kristen Coler, c’97, and Jared Challacombe, c’98, May 25. They live in Gilbert, Ariz.

Erin Curtis, j’97, and Andrew Dierks, c’99, June 22. They live in Chicago.

Jo Anne Horton, j’97, and Saul Marsh, e’98, April 20. Their home is in Wichita.

James Jacob, c’97, m’02, and Stephanie Tweito, j’01, June 1 in Hutchinson. He studies medicine at the KU School of Medicine, and she’s editor of Primedia Business Magazines and Media in Overland Park.

Nicole Mercer, c’97, g’99, and Aaron Bolton, j’99, July 6 in KU’s Danforth Chapel. They live in St. Louis, where Nicole studies medicine at Washington University.

BORN TO:
Joseph, c’97, and Jennifer Peterson Hickey, h’99, son, Jackson Joseph, May 14 in Ithaca, N.Y.

Kent Waldron, p’97, and Heather, son, Aidan Michael, Aug. 7 in Johnson, where Kent is a partner in Waldron’s Pharmacy.

1998
Nathaniel Bukaty, j’98, is a sports announcer for Entercom Radio in Westwood.
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*The consolidation loan interest rate is calculated by taking the weighted average of the rates on the federal loans you are consolidating, rounded up to the nearest one-eighth percent. Nelnet reserves the right to modify or terminate the interest rate reduction programs at its discretion without prior notice. Terms described above are in effect as of July 1, 2002. Nelnet is a service mark of Nelnet, Inc. All rights reserved.
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**William Nicks,** b’98, works as an accountant with Baird Kurtz & Dobson in Kansas City.

**Iris Rosenthal,** c’98, directs youth leadership for the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. She lives in Boynton Beach, Fla.

**MARRIED**

**Theron Chaulk,** n’98, and **Melanie Studebaker,** n’99, Dec. 12 in Fiji. He’s a staff sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, and she’s a critical-care clinical resource nurse at Olathe Medical Center. They live in Overland Park.

**Jeffrey Heffley,** b’98, and **April Hernandez,** f’02, May 25. They live in Lewisville, Texas.

**Evan Murray,** c’98, to **Stephie Burrows,** June 8. He’s a validation engineer for Pharmacia in Kalamazoo, Mich., and she’s a physician.

**BORN TO:**


**1999**

**Troy Boehm,** b’99, recently was promoted to account manager at State Street in Kansas City. He lives in Olathe.

**Jeffrey Dieckhaus,** b’99, is a medical sales representative for Alcon Laboratories in Overland Park.

**James Leiker,** PhD’99, is author of *Racial Borders: Black Soldiers Along the Rio Grande,* published by Texas A&M University Press. He lives in Lenexa and is a professor of history at Johnson County Community College.

**Amy Schmidt,** c’99, is assistant coordinator at Hunterdon Medical Center. She lives in Whitehouse Station, N.J.

**MARRIED**

**Jennifer Mueller,** g’99, to **Patrick Alderdice,** Aug. 10 in Lawrence, where she directs student programs for the Kansas Alumni Association. He’s president of Pennington and Co.

**John Peckham,** c’99, and **Jennifer Sargent,** j’01, June 8 in Ames, Iowa. Their home is in Lenexa.

**2000**

**Janet Gordon,** g’00, is a senior financial analyst at Everest Communications in Kansas City. She and her husband, Chris, live in Lee’s Summit, Mo., with their daughter, Sydney, 4, and 1-year-old twin sons, Brandon and Nicholas.

**Michael Henry,** c’00, has been promoted to director of global sales for SBC Communications in Westchester, Ill. He lives in Elmhurst.

**Phillip Thatcher,** g’00, directs quality for DIT-MCO International in Kansas City. He lives in Independence, Mo.

**BORN TO:**

**Matthew,** c’00, and **Sara Tucker Webb,** c’00, son, Isaiah Matthew, July 29 in Birmingham, Ala.
Then Again

Long before the era of CD burning and downloading tunes off the Internet, scholarship hall friends relaxed with 45 rpm vinyl and caught up on their knitting.

2001

Kristi Gafford, g’01, is vice president of strategy and operations at Mid American Health in Kansas City. She lives in Parkville, Mo.

Mark James, b’01, works for Higher Adventure Guide Service. He lives in Lawrence.

Shannon Novak, f’01, teaches dance at Starstruck Performing Arts Center in Shawnee Mission.

Ross Wuetherich, f’01, does graphic design for On Your Mark in Overland Park.

MARRIED

Jill Miller, n’01, and Arden Hill, ’02, June 8 in Oahu, Hawaii. They live in Topeka, where she’s a nurse at Stormont-Vail Regional Medical Center. Arden studies for a doctorate in pharmacy at KU.

Katherine Sackman, c’01, to Chad Welter, Dec. 22. They live in Overland Park, and Katherine studies for a master’s in health policy and management at KU Medical Center.

Jennifer Scheuer, c’01, and Todd Kornblit, c’01, May 18. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

2002

Shannon Bowling, b’02, coordinates benefits for Sprint. She lives in Overland Park.

Jordan Cochran, c’02, j’02, manages business development projects for VML in Kansas City. He lives in Lawrence.

Shaun Friesen, f’02, works as a graphic designer for Breakthrough Design and Marketing in Kansas City.

Jason George, g’02, is a strength coach for Fordham University. He lives in New York City.

Alison Henry, c’02, works as a mental health worker discharge planner for Centennial Peaks Hospital in Louisville, Colo.

Matthew Johnson, d’02, directs operations for Challenger Sports in Lenexa, where he and Alison Matter Johnson, ’03, live with their daughter, Kamryn, 1.

Brian Mall, b’02, lives in Kansas City, where he’s a staff accountant for BKD.

John McKay, s’02, recently became a clinician with Lutheran Family Services in Fort Collins, Colo.

Allison McLain, s’02, a social worker for SRS in Atchison, lives in Gladstone, Mo.

Sarah Miley, c’02, works for First National Bank in Overland Park.

Oubon Phongsavath, e’02, is a civil engineer with Delich Roth & Goodwillie in Kansas City.

MARRIED

Christi Balderston, j’02, to Daniel Bartlett, June 8 in Shawnee. She works for EVCO in Emporia, where he studies secondary education at Emporia State University.

Katherine Clark, j’02, and Michael Pierson, ’02, May 25 in KU’s Danforth Chapel. They live in Lawrence, where he’s a material handler at Amarr Garage Doors.

Jomella Watson, g’02, to Eric Thompson, July 27 in Arkansas City. Their home is in Lenexa.

Barbara Wilson, g’02, to Corey Kephart, June 22 in Kansas City.

BORN TO:

Harsohena Ahluwalia, g’02, and Jasjit, daughter, Jaitisiri, June 6 in Mission Hills, where she joins a brother, Ikbal, 2. Harsohena is a research assistant professor at KU Medical Center, where Jasjit chairs the department of preventive medicine.

Heather Corl, n’02, and David, son, Tyler Andrew, March 24 in Salia, where Heather is a nurse at the Salina Regional Health Center.
In Memory

The Early Years

Edith Hibbs Davis, c’27, 96, Aug. 2 in Raymore, Mo. She lived in Larned and is survived by a son, Glen, c’54; three daughters; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Guthrie Edwards, d’29, 94, Sept. 5 in Halstead. She lived in Newton and is survived by her husband, Preston, e’29; a son, Ed Cooper, e’61; and two daughters, Gloria Cooper Johnson, c’58, and Susan Hamilton, d’64, g’67.

Bruce Livingston, ’29, 93, June 22 in Kingman, where he had owned Livingston Mortuary and Furniture Store. A son, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive.

Mildred Gordon Marsh, c’24, Aug. 5 in Danville, Calif., where she was a retired teacher. A son and a grandson survive.

Paul Parker, c’29, l’31, 93, July 12 in Bartlesville, Okla., where he was retired vice president and director of Phillips Petroleum. He is survived by his wife, Elsie, assoc.; a daughter, Nancy Parker Brittain, c’59; a son; three grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

John Wall, b’28, l’31, 95, June 21 in Mequon, Wis. He lived in Sedan, where he was an attorney. He is survived by his wife, Beth, a daughter and three grandchildren.

1930s

Charles Allen, ’33, 91, Dec. 7 in Lodi, where he was retired from a career with General Mills. He is survived by his wife, Hazel; a daughter; a son; and a brother, George, b’35, l’38.

Margaret Harryman Baugh, ’36, 87, June 12 in Denver. A daughter, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive.

Virginia Wilber Torrance Bolin, ’31, Aug. 11 in Kansas City. She is survived by a daughter, Kenya Torrance Donohue, d’57; a stepson, William Bolin, c’50; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Ruby Britting, b’38, 85, June 20 in Wichita, where he was a retired CPA. He is survived by his wife, Clodine, assoc.; a son, Dean, c’65; a daughter; a stepson, Gary Gibson, b’60; a brother; seven grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Elma Seidelman Campbell, d’37, 85, July 31 in Shawnee Mission. Surviving are a daughter, Janice Campbell White, d’64; a son; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Elizabeth Schwartz Carroll, f’35, 89, Aug. 19 in Manhattan, where she was a staff artist at the Manhattan Public Library. She is survived by a son; five daughters; a brother; two sisters, Alice Schwartz Mattil, f’41, g’53, and Ethel Mary Schwartz Fallon Bram, f’45; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Helen Davis, c’32, 91, July 6 in Lawrence. She lived in Kansas City and had been an office administrator. Two brothers survive, one of whom is Lester, c’52.

Ella Brown Epp, d’31, 95, Aug. 28 in El Dorado. She taught school in Augusta for 35 years and is survived by a daughter, a grandson and a great-grandson.

Louise Jarboe Everley, c’35, 88, July 31 in Lawrence, where she was a co-founder of Everley Roofing and Heating. Survivors include two sons, one of whom is Phillip, b’63; a daughter, B.J. Everley Eichhorn, b’59; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

James Fisher, c’32, c’34, m’36, 93, July 3 in Colorado Springs. He was a founding partner in the Wichita Clinic and is survived by three sons, one of whom is Thomas, l’75; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Grace Glanville, b’32, 92, June 15 in Kansas City. Five nieces and a nephew survive.

Alice Sutton Grant, c’30, 93, May 6 in Houston. Surviving are two sons, a daughter, six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

George Hurd, c’32, 91, May 7 in Springtown, Pa., where he was retired from Bethlehem Steel. He is survived by his wife, Priscilla, a daughter, a son and a granddaughter.

Bernard Joyce, c’39, m’44, 85, July 6 in Topeka, where he practiced medicine. He is survived by two daughters, Marsha Joyce Driskill, d’67, and Heather Joyce Vrabac, c’70; a sister; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Helen Webb Matthews, ’30, 96, June 26 in Kansas City. Surviving are three sons, Dean, e’56, William, e’58, l’61, and Jon, b’65; 13 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Stacy Nation, d’33, 90, May 2 in Lincoln, Neb. She lived in Lawrence and played piano at KU’s Gold Medal Club luncheons for many years. She is survived by two daughters, Sheila Nation Brown, d’58, g’70, PhD’75, and Rosemary Nation King, d’73; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Alice “Wally” Wallace Patterson, c’35, m’38, 88, April 20 in Hutchinson. She is survived by her husband, Harold, c’35, m’38; five sons, four of whom are Michael, c’65, m’69, Laird, c’63, Thomas, c’71, and Bruce, c’68, m’73; a sister, Olga Wallace Smith, a’32; and 11 grandchildren.

Alexander D. Peebles, l’36, 91, Aug. 9 in Hermitage, Mo. He practiced law for 66 years and founded the firm of Quinn, Peebles, Beard and Cardarella in Kansas City. Survivors include his wife, Oivene, three sons and a daughter, two stepsons and one stepdaughter, nine grandchildren, three stepgrandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

David Prager, c’39, l’42, 83, June 30 in Topeka, where he was retired chief justice of the Kansas Supreme Court. He is
survived by his wife, Dorothy Schroeter Prager, c’42; a son, David, c’76, l’78; a daughter, Diane, f’74; and a grand-daughter.

Morris Thompson, c’38, 86, Aug. 25. He lived in Rocky Mount, N.C., and was retired president of the Kirksville (Mo.) College of Osteopathic Medicine. Seven children are among survivors.

Robert Uplinger, ‘34, July 27 in Syracuse, N.Y., where he founded R.J. Uplinger Inc., a distributor of power transmission equipment. He also had been president of Lions Clubs International. He is survived by his wife, Martha, a daughter, a son, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a step-great-grandchild.

John Way, c’34, m’40, 92, March 31 in Redmond, Wash., where he practiced medicine for many years. Three daughters, two sons and two grandchildren survive.

Rae Stoland Weatherby, c’34, 89, Aug. 8 in Holden. She is survived by four daughters; a son; a brother, Robert Stoland, c’46; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Lillian Gentry Wesley, c’37, March 4 in Washington, D.C., where she managed the U.S. Department of the Army’s personnel testing programs. She is survived by her husband, Edwin, a son and two grandsons.

Marcella Sterling Williams, c’31, 93, July 21 in Lakeland, Fla. She is survived by her husband, Cleo, c’35; two sons, one of whom is Richard, b’66; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1940s

Margaret Scott Baker, n’44, 83, Aug. 19 in Yorktown, Va. She lived in Wamego and had been a nurse and a social worker. Surviving are her husband, Robert, two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Vern Birney, ‘48, 80, May 30 in Bucklin, where he was a retired farmer and rancher. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn; a son, Joe, c’89; a daughter, Jonelle, j’91; and three grandchildren.

Donald Blair, b’43, 80, March 6 in Lawrence. He is survived by his wife, Alice; a son, Jeff, d’74; and a daughter, Karen, c’76, g’82.

Fred Coulson, c’46, 81, July 16 in Sun City West, Ariz. He is survived by his wife, Mary Schnitzler Coulson, c’46; three sons, two of whom are Richard, b’76, and Philip, b’71; and seven grandchildren.

Joan Larson Dain, ‘49, 75, May 25 in Montrose, Colo. She is survived by her husband, Art; a son; a sister, Kathleen Larson Raney, c’50; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Donna Shahan Drehmer, n’47, 76, July 24 in Dodge City, where she was a nurse. Surviving are a son; a daughter; two brothers, one of whom is Robert Shahan, b’61; and five grandchildren.

Donice Schwein Evans, c’44, 80, July 25 in Wichita. She is survived by a son; two daughters; a brother, Mack Schwein, g’67; five grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Pershing Frederick, p’40, 83, July 19 in Colby, where he owned Frederick Pharmacy. He is survived by his wife, Kay, a son, a brother, two sisters, two stepbrothers and a step-sister.

Norman Gale, m’40, 88, June 13 in San Diego, where he was retired chief of medicine at Sharp Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Linda, a daughter, a son, a brother, a sister and six grandchildren.

Marion DeVault George, c’47, 75, m’50, May 25 in Elm Grove, Wis., where she practiced medicine. She is survived by four sons; a daughter, Konstance, c’84; a brother; and several grandchildren.

George Haessler, l’49, 79, July 15 in Lincoln, Neb. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, three sons, a brother, a sister, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Max Haight, c’40, m’44, Aug. 19 in Kansas City, where he practiced medicine. Surviving are his wife, Elsie Lowell Haight, d’40; a daughter, Jean Haight Anderson, d’67; a son, John Jr., c’69, m’73; and two grandsons.

Simon Hershorn, c’44, m’46, 80, Aug. 10 in Wichita, where he chaired the radiology department at Wesley Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Arlene, two sons, a sister and three grandchildren.

Janet Holloway, m’49, 84, June 28 in Winter Haven, Fla. She was an anesthesiologist at Hutzel & Harper Hospital in Detroit before retiring and is survived by a nephew.

Melvin Huxtable Jr., e’48, 78, July 23 in Lawrence, where he owned Huxtable & Associates. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Gayle, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Kathryn, c’81; a stepson; a brother; two grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Howard Lincoln, g’41, 84, June 12 in Minnetonka, Minn., where he was a retired scientist with Pillsbury. Surviving are his wife, Peggy, a son, a daughter, a sister and a grandson.

Ivo Malan, g’49, PhD’56, in Hamilton, N.Y. He was a professor emeritus of romance languages and literature at Colgate College. A brother survives.

Bolivar Marquez, c’46, e’48, May 1 in Panama City, Panama, where he was an engineer and a cattleman. Among survivors are two sons, one of whom is Bolivar, j’78; and three daughters, two of whom are Rosina Marquez Halpen, b’83, and Emma Marquez Zarak, b’85.

Mavis Williams Menninger, c’48, 80, July 6 in Topeka. She is survived by her husband, Robert, c’48; a son; two daughters; three sisters; and 10 grandchildren.

Condra Miller, b’42, 88, Sept. 3 in Overland Park, where he was a teacher and an accountant. Survivors include a daughter, Ann Miller Krug, d’68; and a granddaughter.

Joy Miller, c’44, 79, May 8 in Concord, Calif. She had been women’s editor for the Associated Press. A brother survives.
In Memory

Rosemary Alderman Nagle, c'48, 77, July 15 in Overland Park. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is John, e'79, g'86; two daughters, one of whom is Nancy Nagle Bolts, f'76; and 10 grandchildren.

Benjamin “Frank” Palmer, '49, 79, July 5 in Hurst, Texas. He had worked for Boeing in Wichita and is survived by his wife, Eleanor, two sons, a daughter, a stepson, two stepdaughters, three sisters, two grandchildren and five stepgrandchildren.

O’Ruth Sisk Petterson, m’44, 82, July 6 in Wichita, where she was an obstetrician. She is survived by three sons, two of whom are Michael, c’73, and Dennis, c’71, m’74; a daughter; four sisters, one of whom is Nell Sisk McLain, c’81; eight grandchildren; and five stepgrandchildren.

Weir Pierson, m’44, 85, July 14 in McPherson, where he was a surgeon. Surviving are his wife, Loretta, assoc.; a son, Tad, c’74; four daughters, two of whom are Judith Pierson Talbott, c’62, and Merrily, c’64; a sister; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Ralph Preston, m’44, 82, June 12 in Topeka, where he practiced medicine. Surviving are a daughter and a son, R. Steven, h’78.

Kenneth Pringle, c’47, l’50, 78, Aug. 1 in Wichita, where he helped found Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; two sons, Douglas, c’76, and Bruce, b’78; a daughter, Lynne, j’81; two sisters, Helen Pringle Parzybok, c’43, and Mary Pringle Morozzo, c’43; and nine grandchildren.

Mary Lu Hill Roberts, c’47, 77, July 7 in Lawrence, where she directed food services for the Lawrence public schools. She is survived by two sisters, one of whom is Winifred Hill Gallup, f’41.

Martha Tyson Twiehaus, ’43, Jan. 12 in Sun City Center, Fla.


Maurice Updegrove, e’44, 79, June 21 in Hutchinson, where he was a retired mechanical engineer. He is survived by his wife, June, four sons, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1950s

Sara “Sallie” Wyman Barnum, d’58, 65, May 20 in Salina, where she was a social worker. She is survived by her husband, Dean, e’56; a son; a daughter; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Thor Bogren Jr., c’57, 67, Sept. 27 in Columbus, Ind., where he was a retired pastor. Surviving are his wife, Shirley, a son, a daughter, two brothers and a sister.

Robert Butzberger, c’59, May 26 in West Palm Beach, Fla., where he was a retired physical therapist. He is survived by his wife, Carol, a daughter, two sons, a sister and three grandchildren.

Charles Church, c’51, 75, June 23 in Lenexa, where he was retired from the banking business. He is survived by his wife, Judith, a son, a stepdaughter, a stepson and a granddaughter.

Barbara Wilson Creighton, c’59, 64, May 28 in Aurora, Colo. She lived in Atwood and is survived by her husband, Robert, c’56, l’60; two sons, John, c’88, b’88, and Alexander, l’89; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Jerry Street Cudney, c’55, 67, June 14 in Kansas City, where she was an accountant. Surviving are her husband, Robert; two sons; a daughter, Karen Cudney Schoenhofer, p’87; and eight grandchildren.

Robert Drumm, p’51, 76, Aug. 25 in Topeka, where he had owned Jayhawk Pharmacy before retiring in 1989. He was a member of the 1948 Orange Bowl team. Surviving are Donna, his wife of 49 years; two daughters, Cristie Koehn, ’78, and Terri Drumm Cox, n’81; a sister, Vera Drumm Kiewit, assoc.; and two grandchildren.

Patricia Ellis, c’59, 63, June 16 in Santa Rosa, Calif., where she was a blood-bank and laboratory examiner.

Edward “Bud” Frizzell, ’51, May 29 in Hutchinson, where he was former president of Great American Life Insurance. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Varner Frizzell, c’47; two sons, Trip, b’76, l’80, g’80, and Jeffrey, c’79; a sister, Beverly Frizzell Blackwell, c’46; and five grandchildren.

Emmett Green, e’50, May 31 in Joplin, Mo., where he was vice president of Allgeier, Martin & Associates. Survivors include a son, Lyle, c’80; and a daughter.

Clifford Hardy, e’57, 70, July 8 in Denton, where he was a professor of teacher education and administration at North Texas State University. He is survived by his wife, Linda, a son, two daughters, a sister and five grandchildren.

Dan James, d’58, g’67, 66, July 15 in Lawrence, where he was retired principal at Central Junior High School. He is survived by his wife, Kay; two sons, one of whom is Brian, c’89; two stepdaughters; a brother; two sisters, one of whom is Ernestine James Muzzy, s’75; and six grandchildren.

Bob Long, e’50, 79, July 25 in Pratt. He owned B&H Electric in Cunningham and is survived by two sons, one of whom is Scott, b’84; a daughter; a grandson; and a stepgrandson.

Alfred Moore, d’50, 74, Aug. 16 in Chico, Calif., where he was a retired teacher and administrator. He is survived by his wife, Melba; a son; two daughters; a sister, Constance Moore Nininger, c’51; two brothers, one of whom is Kenneth, c’53; and four grandchildren.

Ronald Simmons, c’52, 71, Aug. 12 in La Plata, Md., where he was an internationally recognized authority on solid propellants. He is survived by his wife, Carol; a son; two daughters; two stepdaughters, Tracy Back, h’81, and Kerri Bowman, b’84; a brother; and 11 grandchildren.

James Stoner, f’52, July 22 in Coarsegold, Calif., where he was a retired college bookstore manager. He is survived by his wife, Anne Southwick Stoner, f’54; a son; and a daughter.

James Weimer, b’51, June 30 in Dallas, where he was a retired partner in Price Waterhouse. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann Marsh Weimer, d’53; a daughter, Ann Weimer Hannah, d’80;
a son; a brother; and three grandchildren.

1960s

Linda Fisher Boone, c'69, PhD'74, 54, Aug. 13 in Garden City. She chaired the biology department at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is survived by her husband, Louis, a'71, and a son.

Marsha Carver Dalton, d'65, 58, Aug. 11 in Denver. Two sons, two sisters, a brother and two grandchildren survive.

John Jeffrey, e'60, PhD'64, 63, Jan. 13 in Louisville, Ky., where he was retired from DuPont. He is survived by his wife, Linda, two sons, two daughters, a stepson, four stepdaughters and three grandchildren.

Richard King, b'66, 57, Aug. 18 in Houston. He lived in DeSoto and was a banker. Surviving are his wife, Judith, a son, Brian, c'98; a daughter; a sister, Julia King Muller, d'63; and three grandchildren.

Benjamin Langel, b'62, l'64, 61, June 7 in Wichita, where he was a retired attorney. He is survived by his wife, Sondra Hays Langel, d'63, a son, Everett, c'92; a daughter, Julia, g'02; his father; and a sister.

Nancy Bengel Lynott, c'68, May 21 in Shrewsbury, N.J. She is survived by her husband, Michael, g'72, g'76; a daughter; and a son.

Marilyn Hunt Scharine, g'64, July 9 in Salt Lake City, where she was a teacher. She is survived by her husband, Richard, g'64, PhD'73; a son; and a daughter.

1970s

Janet Bishop Baxter, '71, July 16 in Bethany Beach, Del., where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, William, g'71; a son; two daughters; two sisters; and five grandchildren.

John Holmes, c'74, m'77, 55, June 21 in Shawnee, where he practiced medicine. He is survived by his wife, Christie; a daughter; a son, Peter; student; his mother; a sister; and two brothers, Robert, c'79, and Richard, f'77.

Annabelle Bowers Pence, g'71, 75, July 28 in Ottawa, where she was for-mer registrar at Ottawa University. She is survived by her husband, Bob, b'53; four sons; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

Bruce Robinson, '75, 49, June 30 in Roeland Park, where he worked in real estate. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; two sons; his parents, Arthur, c'42, m'44, and Betty Hess Robinson, c'43; a brother, Arthur, c'75; and two sisters, Betsy Robinson VanderVelde, s'73, s'74, and Jane Robinson Leach, d'80.

George Tiffany, c'72, 53, Sept. 1. He was a landscape nurseryman in Topeka and is survived by his wife, Laura, d'71; a son, Michael, student; a daughter; two brothers; and two sisters.

Leslie Walker, c'76, 48, July 27 in Hays, where she was a medical technologist. Her mother and a sister survive.

1980s

Eric Lienhard, '88, 37, Aug. 2 in Oskaloosa. He is survived by his parents, William, b'52, and Jeanine Lienhard; and three sisters, two of whom are Julie Lienhard Kivisto, c'78, and Betsy Lienhard Scott, c'84.

Maryellen Murphy Risley, '85, 48, July 6 in Lawrence. She lived in Olathe and was a teacher. Surviving are three daughters; her father and stepmother; four brothers; two sisters; two stepbrothers, Britt Bray, b'79, and Edward Bray, b'82, e'82; and five stepsisters, three of whom are Mary Bray Cordill, b'77, Emily Bray Perry, c'85, and Cara Bray Rantner, c'02.

Phyllis Siefler, g'89, 60, Aug. 2 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence and had directed communications for the KU School of Business. Surviving are her husband, Scott Nesbitt; two sons, Brandt, c'95, and Kurt, f'00; two sisters, one of whom is Barbara Siefler Neff, g'84; and a brother.

1990s

Scott Noll, c'91, 34, Aug. 30 in a traffic accident north of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., that also killed his wife, Laurali, and their children, Ashley and Brandon. He lived in Vista, Calif., and worked for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Survivors include his parents; a sister, Janet, c'95; and two brothers.

2000s

Nathaniel Buckley, j'00, 25, Aug. 7 in the crash of a U.S. Air Force training mission near San Juan, Puerto Rico. He was a first lieutenant stationed at Hurlburt Field, Fla. His father is among survivors. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association to perpetually fund an annual scholarship award for an Air Force ROTC cadet.

Brant Henderson, '00, 26, Aug. 26 in Lawrence, where he was a free-lance graphic designer. He is survived by his parents, Larry, p'73, and Charlene Henderson; a brother, Trent, d'02; and his grandfather.

The University Community

Nancy Fort Dahl, c'56, PhD'62, 70, Aug. 8 in Lawrence, where she was a professor of physiology and cell biology. Surviving are her husband, Dennis, c'56, m'61, PhD'63; a son; and a daughter, Kathleen Dahl Nuckolls, c'94, g'98, g'01.

Diane Hill, s'73, June 20 in Atchison, where she was a nun, a teacher and a social worker. She had been a field instructor in the School of Social Welfare. Two brothers survive.

Lois Pangle Kruger, 86, Dec. 18 in Austin, Texas. She had been a professor of social work and is survived by a daughter, a son, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Michael Maher, 73, July 22 in Lawrence, where he had taught biology at KU. Two sons and a daughter survive.

Frank Starkey, g'72, 63, Sept. 14 in Lawrence, where he was retired assistant vice chancellor. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by a brother and three sisters.

Howard Stettler, 83, Aug. 8 in Dallas. He taught accounting at KU from 1947 to 1984 and wrote two textbooks. Since retirement he had been active in the Endacott Society. He is survived by two daughters, Sandra Stettler, c'74, g'78, g'80, and Dianne Stettler Lemmon, d'84; a son; a brother; and three grandchildren.
Jasjit Ahluwalia wants to help low-income black smokers gain equal access to cessation treatments.

Quittin’ time

Often-overlooked black smokers can kick their habits with the help of antidepressants, KUMC study shows

Low-income blacks smoke at a higher rate than the general population and, although they try to quit the habit in higher numbers than white smokers, their success rate is 34 percent lower.

Now research by a KU Medical Center professor shows that antidepressant medications can help a too-often-overlooked group of low-income Americans take the critical, difficult steps toward better health.

Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, professor and chair of preventive medicine, led a clinical trial studying how Zyban, an antidepressant that has become a popular component in anti-smoking programs, might also help low-income minorities quit the unhealthy cigarette habit.

For the study, Ahluwalia and his KUMC colleagues recruited 600 low-income, black Kansas Citians, with an average age of 44 and average cigarette consumption of 17 a day.

Half of the group was given Zyban; the other half received a placebo. All study participants took part in “motivational interviewing,” a counseling technique, led by black counselors.

After seven weeks, 36 percent of study participants on Zyban reported total cessation, defined as “having smoked no cigarettes—not even a puff—for the previous seven days.” For those in the placebo group, 19 percent quit the habit after seven weeks.

After six months, the rates of quitting the habit were 21 and 13.7 percent.

Previous studies of antidepressants in smoking cessation had focused almost exclusively on whites with middle and upper incomes. In conjunction with national smoking-cessation guidelines issued two years ago, it is hoped the information generated by the KU study will help convince insurance plans and Medicaid programs to cover the $160 cost of seven weeks of Zyban treatment for low-income smokers.

“Every smoker who wants to quit smoking should be offered the opportunity to use a smoking cessation method,” Ahluwalia says. “This opportunity should be pursued by their physicians, and black smokers should be included. This study shows that urban, African-American smokers are interested in quitting, want to quit and can quit.”

In an editorial that accompanied Ahluwalia’s study publication in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Neal Benowitz of the...
University of California at San Francisco cited the importance of conducting cessation trials within minority groups. Among other differences, black smokers, on average, smoke fewer cigarettes a day than do white smokers, but the nicotine tends to stay in their bodies longer because it is metabolized more slowly.

Culturally sensitive counseling and informational materials also helped the participants, Benowitz concluded. “Eventually, race or ethnicity may be considered unimportant as new knowledge becomes available about how genetic and environmental factors influence response to treatment,” Benowitz wrote in his editorial. “Until then, for complex behavioral disorders such as tobacco addiction, which require both pharmacologic and behavioral therapies, clinical trials focused on minority groups are critical.”

Ahluwalia’s study was funded by a grant from the National Cancer Institute. Glaxo Smith Kline provided medications for the study, but did not play a role in design or conduct of the study or interpretation and analysis of data.

—Chris Lazzarino

OREAD READER

Quacks & Quirks

Two books—a scholarly history and a catalog of curiosities—delve into Kansas oddities

As snake oil pitches go, John Brinkley’s would seem an unlikely one on which to build an empire.

Operating from his in-home hospital in Milford, Brinkley promised to restore sexual vigor (and cure two dozen other maladies) by implanting goat gonads in men and women. Purported side effects included disappearing wrinkles and “development of the bust.” Expectant mothers, he claimed, could determine their children’s gender by choosing between male or female glands. He even corralled his goats (the most virile animals in the world, in the good doctor’s estimation) behind his house, where patients could judge for themselves the relative randiness of each unwitting donor, like diners perusing the lobster tank at a seafood restaurant.

Despite the absurdity of these claims, Brinkley was wildly popular with rural, working-class Midwesterners. So too were the other charlatans profiled in Eric S. Juhnke’s Quacks & Crusaders: The Fabulous Careers of John Brinkley, Norman Baker & Harry Hoxsey. For Juhnke, PhD’00, the central question is, Why?

During the Depression, at the height of his popularity, Brinkley’s annual income topped $1 million. He owned a mansion, a yacht and a custom-built airplane. He also owned his own radio station, KFKB, and his broadcasts drew mountains of fan mail. When Kansas authorities yanked his medical license, he sought revenge by twice running for governor. In 1930 he nearly won.

Assistant professor of history at Briar Cliff University, Juhnke sketches brief biographies of Brinkley and his contemporaries before turning his attention to their followers. He persuasively argues that Brinkley, with his goat gland cure-all, and Baker and Hoxsey, with their herbal treatments for cancer, were not simply con men fleecing country rubes. They were that and more.

Brinkley, for example, used his radio shows to prescribe tonics for patients he diagnosed by examining nothing more than their letters describing symptoms. (The coded prescriptions, good only at

Great estates

R

enowned designer Chuck Fischer, f’77, a painter of private commissions for some of the world’s finest homes, pays small-scale homage to grand-scale architecture with his new pop-up book, Great American Houses and Gardens (Universe Publishing, $39.95). Double-page spreads fold out to create elaborate 3-D replicas of Monticello, Mount Vernon, Vizcaya and other monumental mansions. Fischer’s period drawings, with contemporary photos and text written by curators of these architectural treasures (all wonderfully preserved and open to the public), make for artful, inventive, pop-up pleasure.

—Steven Hill
pharmacies controlled by Brinkley, generated $14,000 a week in kickbacks.) He also used his unlimited air time to deliver sermons and lectures that attacked his enemies (the American Medical Association, the Kansas Board of Medical Examiners and the Kansas City Star, among others) and galvanized supporters. Swooping from the sky for campaign rallies wearing a white linen suit, diamonds and (a stroke of marketing genius?) a dashing goatee, he was a precursor of both televangelists and the modern political campaigner.

“If the doctor was indeed a fluke and his treatments were worthless ... how can we explain his long-standing popularity and success?” Juhnke asks. The answer is that the speeches of Brinkley, Baker and Hoxsey, more than their phony cures, were good for what ailed folks. Echoing themes championed by Populists earlier in the century, they affirmed the simple values that many rural Midwesterners felt were under attack. Though surely quacks, to many country people they were also crusaders.

“There’s Charlotte Smith, of Emporia, who owns so many cookie jars she had to buy them their own house. There’s Jane Koger, of Matfield Green, who started the world’s first all-woman cattle ranch because “women are better for cattle.” There’s Leroy Wilson, of Luray, who retired from farming and took up painting. His basement. Over and over and over for 12 years straight.

Lawrence figures prominently in Grout’s magical mystery tour; it’s the only city to rate its own chapter. (The rest of the book is organized into six geographical regions.) And while much of her take on the town and the state is lighthearted, her overall theme is genuinely heartfelt. Kansas Curiosities sets out to debunk myths and quell “nasty rumors” that Kansas is flat, ugly, backward or, in the words of Spy magazine, “the most boringest state in the union.”

“Obviously whoever wrote that, besides being functionally illiterate, had never been here,” Grout retorts. Every page of her irreverent catalog of the state’s charms and charmers seems to ring with the same unspoken refrain: You ain’t seen nothing yet.—Steven Hill

Heavenly glimpses of Milky Way past

Astronomers analyze metals to show galaxy’s evolution

The research that Bruce Twarog and his wife, Barbara Anthony-Twarog, conduct can best be described as taking a cosmic census. The couple, both professors of physics and astronomy, methodically comb the Milky Way galaxy as they try to classify the age, location and chemical content of stars, gas, and the large collection of hundreds or even thousands of stars known as star clusters.

“When we put all of that information together, hopefully we can figure out the past history of the entire system,” Bruce Twarog says.

The couple recently made a breakthrough by identifying the star cluster NGC 6253 as the most metal-rich star cluster in our galaxy. By “metals” the scientists are referring collectively to all of the elements—other than hydrogen and helium—that are present in the atmosphere of a star.

The metals are quite rare, since hydro-
gen and helium usually make up more than 98 percent of the mass of the stars. The stars in star cluster NGC 6253, a moderately old cluster that was formed some 3 billion years ago, had a metal content of about 5 percent, they concluded.

Tracking the abundance of metal-rich stars not only gives the astronomers a chance to see what the Milky Way currently looks like, but it also gives them insights into the galaxy’s appearance at the time the stars formed.

For the most part, the oldest stars tend to have a very low metal content. They were formed out of gas at a time when the Milky Way galaxy was purely hydrogen and helium. However, as the stars evolved, they created metals in their core through nuclear fusion. When these stars died and exploded, they ejected the metals back into the galactic gas. The stars that formed in the aftermath from this existing gas had a higher metal content.

“These elements are made by stars’ lives and deaths, so tracking the amount of metal abundance as a function of time and space in the galaxy is one of our techniques for studying the evolution of the galaxy,” says Anthony-Twarog.

To conduct this research, the astronomers brought back dozens of images of the star cluster taken at the National Science Foundation’s Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory in Chile. The General Research Fund from KU and the department of physics and astronomy supported these visits and purchased the special filters the astronomers required.

Back in Lawrence, they ran the images through elaborate software designed by the National Observatories. Enlisting the help of their undergraduate research student, Nathan De Lee, c’02, the researchers endured the time-intensive task of determining the metal content of the hundreds of stars in that cluster. Bruce Twarog delivered the results of the study earlier this month at the meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Albuquerque, N.M.

The entire process has taken about three years, but Anthony-Twarog said they purposely took their time to make sure they were as accurate as possible. Their work is far from over. They will continue sampling other clusters, in all corners of the galaxy, for metal content.

An interesting offshoot of this research is that it may lead to the discovery of additional planets.

“It is connected, although that wasn’t our motivation,” Anthony-Twarog says. “It has become apparent in the last few years—for reasons we don’t really understand—that the stars people are finding planets around tend to have more metals than the sun. So one of the strategies people are using to find more planets is to look at stars that are more enhanced in metal content. That’s been pretty successful, though we don’t know why.”

Anthony-Twarog says this connection between metal-rich stars and the possibility of additional planets has provided several other research opportunities. Still, she says, gaining a better understanding of the Milky Way was thrilling in and of itself.

“The Milky Way is a big place; our picture of it has been painted with a broad brush,” she says. “There are big gaps in our understanding of how the galaxy formed, and they will only be filled in when we understand more of the details about its appearance.”

—Ranjit Arab, j’93, is a science and news writer for the Office of University Relations.

**Speed demon**

The ongoing need for speed in Internet and other fiber-optic communications got a boost of power, thanks to research recently patented by Ron Hui, associate professor of electrical engineering.

Hui and his KU colleagues developed a semiconductor/laser device that helps generate high-frequency transmission. The device could be used for transmitting over the Internet or any other fiber-optic system, Hui says.

Although the device is intended to be a practical improvement for existing systems as well as future upgrades, Hui fears its immediate application will be limited because of the current economic uncertainties in the Internet industry and with the project’s industrial partner, Nortel Networks.

“The results were quite impressive,” he says, “so we decided to write a patent application.”

Hui is continuing his collaboration with industry and the National Science Foundation to create better high-speed fiber-optic systems.

“The importance of working with industry,” says Victor Frost, director of the KU Information and Telecommunication Technology Center, “is to solve practical research problems that are relevant to advancing the state of the art.”

—Chris Lazzarino
Having already discovered the ninth planet, graduate student Clyde Tombaugh (center) was already a star, sought out for photos by campus leaders such as men’s adviser Henry Werner, g’28, and Professor Olin Templin, d’1884, c’1886, g’1889. Below is an enhanced image of Tombaugh’s distant trophy.

Pluto lost its discoverer and most ardent defender with the death of astronomer Clyde Tombaugh in 1997. Now the icy, distant planet needs Tombaugh more than ever.

Tombaugh, c’36, g’39, was 24 years old when he discovered Pluto on Feb. 18, 1930, while working at the Lowell Observatory near Flagstaff, Ariz. “I knew instantly I had a planet,” Tombaugh once said. “It was a tremendous thrill.”

As more discoveries rolled in, though, the thrill wore thin for other astronomers, some of whom waged terse arguments over the past decade that Pluto was undeserving of its planetary status. The National Research Council came to Pluto’s defense in July, advising Congress and NASA that exploration of Pluto should be the space agency’s top priority in solar-system exploration.

But October brought yet another salvo in the anti-Pluto crusade: announcement of the discovery of “Quaoar,” an orbiting object half the size of Pluto and, in relative space terms, somewhat of a neighbor. Its discovery appears to strengthen arguments that Pluto is just one of many nonplanetary objects in the distant Kuiper Belt.

“Quaoar definitely hurts the case for Pluto being a planet,” one of its discoverers, Cal Tech’s Michael E. Brown, told The New York Times. “If Pluto were discovered today, no one would even consider calling it a planet, because it’s clearly a Kuiper Belt object.”

Without Tombaugh around to deflect criticism, little Pluto has had few advocates, and the as-yet unfunded mission to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt could be in jeopardy.

Then again, it’s not certain he would have even bothered with the arguments.

“It’s not worth making such a fuss over,” Patricia Edson Tombaugh, c’39, said on the occasion of her husband’s 90th birthday celebration in 1996. “Pluto has all the requirements, and it will be a planet forever.”

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