The Artist in Residence

Roger Shimomura has found a home and a calling in Kansas

- Huge gift boosts cancer research
- Food glorious food
First String

A tip-off to our quality: Champions put the team first.
Support KU’s $500 million campaign.

ku first
INVEST IN EXCELLENCE

www.kuendowment.org
Goal Tenders

Thanks to a $15 million gift for cancer research, the KU First fundraising campaign passed its goal of $500 million ahead of schedule. But campaign leaders say there's more work to do.

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Say Cheese

Studio photographer Kathryn Sanders makes good food look fabulous.

BY TOM KING
Dole story captured an era

I enjoyed reading Chris Lazzarino’s account of the Dole dedication [“Call of Duty,” issue No. 5]. It was beautifully written and conveyed a real sense of the feelings of many Americans who lived through the days of World War II and succeeding years.

Bob Dole is an American icon whom all Kansans, regardless of political affiliation, can be proud of. And you’re to be commended for having a writer of Lazzarino’s talent.

George Nettels Jr., e’50
Pittsburgh

Remember WWII sacrifices

Bob Dole was not my most favored politician, but he is a dedicated American. The Americans who made sacrifices as Bob Dole did should never be forgotten.

Another outstanding story.

Jim Allen, e’55
Whitney, Texas

Vigilance abroad

I thought I’d drop you a line, just to let you know that no matter how far away from Lawrence you go in this world (5,550 miles, to be exact, in my case) a Jayhawk can never completely get away from those KSU Wildcats.

I’m a family practice physician in the U.S. Army Reserve. I was called up to active duty in October and am currently serving in Kosovo, in the Balkans.

On my first day, I was given a tour of our small Army hospital, here in the former Yugoslavia. During a tour of the helicopter medevac pilots’ and crew room I received a shock. Much to my dismay, in a window overlooking the airfield, was a frightening sight: a purple KSU window sticker!

I quickly donned my Kevlar helmet, flak jacket and ammo vest. My 9 mm Beretta at the ready, I proceeded to interrogate the airmen. They quickly confessed that the soldier responsible for this propaganda, this defacing of government property (right under the very eyes of 15,000 multinational peacekeeping troops) had probably left country on the very same plane that brought me to this war-torn country! This feral feline enemy combatant had made a daring escape.

So, my advice to unwary travelers out there: Always, I repeat, always, be girded for battle with the wily Wildcat. You never know when, how or where the nemesis of the Jayhawk may lurk—even in the landmine-laced lands of the Balkans.

Col. Charles Allen Holt, c’80
U.S. Army Medical Corps
Kosovo

Editor’s note: We mailed a supply of Jayhawk stickers, which we trust Col. Holt won’t use to deface government property. We also included our wishes that he and all our alumni and friends deployed overseas return home safely.

An activist’s influence

I was sad to see the very brief mention of Professor Benjamin Zimmerman’s passing in issue No. 6. Ben lived an extraordinary life as a human-rights activist in Lawrence and at KU, and is one of the main people responsible for the addition of “sexual orientation” to the Lawrence antidiscrimination ordinance in 1995.

I’d like to share with your readers a Web link to a 2000 cover story article from The Liberty Press that was written about Ben: libertypress.net/archives/ksjuly00.html.

His life continues to inspire me.
Christine Robinson, PhD’03
Bridgewater, Va.

Correction

In issue No. 6, 2003, Kansas Alumni attempted to summarize in a brief Hilltopics news item the outcome of a lawsuit filed by residents of Watkins and Miller scholarship halls against the University and the Bank of America, which oversees a trust established in the 1930s by KU benefactor Elizabeth Watkins.

We erred in describing the events leading to the students’ decision last September to request that the judge dismiss their lawsuit. Our coverage was too brief to tell the story of a complicated lawsuit.

In describing a judge’s ruling, we said funds had been “mishandled.” There was no such finding by the judge. In a legal interpretation of the trust documents, for future years only, the judge directed the University and the Bank of America to spend the annual income from the trust in the year earned, rather than allowing funds to accumulate to pay for necessary repairs or renovation projects, as had been the practice for years.

Student residents of the halls will continue to participate in maintenance and repair decisions, and they will continue to receive information regarding the trust and its income.

The editors of Kansas Alumni regret our lack of proper oversight regarding the story. We apologize to those who took offense.

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is Kansas Alumni magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. E-mail responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kurzalumni@kualumni.org, or Associate Editor Chris Lazzarino, clazz@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity.
On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“Life in Dyche: A Century of Science,” featuring specimens on view for the first time. Natural History Museum, through Feb. 15


Industrial Design Student Exhibition, Art and Design Gallery, Jan. 25-30

Senior Art Department Exhibition, Art and Design Gallery, Feb. 1-6

“Conflicting Memories” Spencer Museum of Art, Feb. 7-April 4

Senior Design Exhibition: Metals, Textiles, Ceramics and Visual Art Education students, Art and Design Gallery, Feb. 8-13

Graduate Student Exhibition, Art and Design Gallery, Feb. 15-27

Faculty Exhibition, Art and Design Gallery, Feb. 29-March 12

University Theatre

FEBRUARY

21-22 “Really Rosie,” by Maurice Sendak and Carole King; directed by Jeanne Klein, KU Theatre for Young People

MARCH

2-6 “Thirst,” by Kevin Mayer, Inge Theatre Series

Lied Center

FEBRUARY

7 Canadian Brass

12 Concerto Readings with the KU Symphony Orchestra

13 Joanne Shenandoah

15 “Joy of Singing,” KU Chamber Choir and other regional choirs

17-18 “CATS”

22 St. Lawrence String Quartet

24 KU Symphonic Band

26 Los Angeles Guitar Quartet

29 KU Wind Ensemble

Lectures

JANUARY


FEBRUARY


The Natural History Museum’s “Life In Dyche” exhibition commemorates the centennial of Dyche Hall, under construction in this 1902 photograph.
Alumni events

JANUARY
25 Berlin: Reception with Chancellor Hemenway
28 Newton Chapter: KU vs. K-State TV watch party
29 London: Reception with Chancellor Hemenway
31 Boston Chapter: KU vs. Iowa State TV watch party

FEBRUARY
2 Nashville Chapter: KU vs. Missouri TV watch party
2 Central Valley Chapter, Fresno, Calif.: KU vs. Missouri TV watch party
2 Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter: KU vs. Missouri TV watch party
7 Boston Chapter: KU vs. Texas Tech TV watch party
7 Atlanta Chapter: Big 12 Night with the Atlanta Hawks
9 Newton Chapter: KU vs. Oklahoma State TV watch party
17 Houston: School of Engineering professional society
21 Boston Chapter: KU vs. Iowa State TV watch party
23 Austin, Texas: KU vs. Texas pregame rally
23 Newton Chapter: KU vs. Texas TV watch party
29 Nashville Chapter: KU vs. Oklahoma TV watch party
29 Newton Chapter: KU vs. Oklahoma TV watch party

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS
6 Kansas City Chapter: Rock Chalk Ball
16 Valley of the Sun Chapter: Southwest Open Golf Tournament

MARCH
7 Boston: Chapter KU vs. Missouri TV watch pary
7 Nashville Chapter: KU vs. Missouri TV watch pary
7 Newton Chapter: KU vs. Missouri TV watch pary
11-14 Dallas: Big 12 Basketball Tournament pregame rallies

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.

MARCH
23 Holton: Matt and Paula Taylor, 785-364-3241
26 Mound City: Rick and Janice Wurtz, 913-795-2531

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY
2 Garden City: Rebecca Crotty, 620-271-6112
5 Larned: John C. Adams, 620-285-2053
9 Fort Scott: Gary and Sally Cullor, 620-223-4441
9 Beloit: Michele Heidrick, 785-738-3897
11 Dodge City: Melaney Vogel, 620-225-5667
18 Great Bend: Mary King, 620-793-6168

Freshman star Charles Gordon makes a tumbling catch in the home finale against ISU.
It's 21 degrees and overcast in Lawrence, Kansas. It's 72 and sunny in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Where would you rather golf?

February 16, 2004
Tee time 1 p.m.

Gainey Ranch Golf Club
Scottsdale, AZ

2004 Southwest Golf Open

If you would like an invitation, call us at 800-584-2957 or email kualumni@kualumni.org. Visit our Web site at kualumni.org for more details.
As school field trips go, my eldest daughter’s third-grade outing surely ranks among the coolest. Even now, as a worldly high-school junior, Rachel remembers the April morning in 1996 when she and her fellow 9-year-olds snacked on cookies and punch at Roger Shimomura’s house.

The students didn’t know then that their host was a KU professor and painter whose distinguished career would merit a magazine cover story. From their teacher, Ms. Alice Holtz, they had learned mainly that Shimomura lived in an unusual new house in Lawrence. They knew some people in town thought the house was ugly, because a few had made fun of it in letters to the newspaper and in graffiti that defaced the home itself.

The third-graders took exception to such objections, so, with their teacher’s encouragement, they wrote letters to Shimomura and his wife, Janet Davidson-Hues, g’92, telling them they were sorry people were saying bad things.

Soon an invitation from 1424 Wagon Wheel Rd. arrived at Centennial Elementary School. Shimomura and Davidson-Hues asked Ms. Holtz’s class to come for a visit.

When the 23 students stepped off the yellow school bus and inside the steel-and-cement structure (designed by KU architecture professor Dan Rockhill), they entered a classroom unlike any they’d seen. From the professor and his wife, who is a mixed-media artist, they learned about architecture, art, history—and prejudices past and present.

As the children gawked at the paintings and collectibles arrayed in the airy space that doubles as a studio, they glimpsed the stories Shimomura has told for years in classes and on canvas. As Steven Hill explains in our cover story, Shimomura’s impact, seen in his paintings that hang in the nation’s foremost museums, will linger long after he retires in May from teaching.

Two weeks after the field trip, another letter appeared in the newspaper, decrying the “monstrosity” on Wagon Wheel Road and the haughtiness of “intellectuals” in town who approved of the professor’s home.

Four days later, Ms. Holtz’s third-graders had their say. In their letter to the editor, they wrote that, after visiting the house, they understood its design, including its V-shaped roof. The four students representing the class also reminded readers that, just as the home’s detractors had the right to express their views, Shimomura and Davidson-Hues had the right to express themselves in their home.

“It is a home that suits the people who live in it,” the children concluded.

As an editor—and Rachel Sanner’s mom—I still smile with satisfaction as I read the letter she helped write so long ago. All forlorn editors appreciate the efforts of those rare readers who write letters. But more important, I realize now that my daughter, who can present a thoughtful argument in her messy bedroom or in her American history class, is in part a product of the college town where she has grown up—the kind of town where Shimomura, who admits to culture shock when he moved here 35 years ago, now says he belongs.

This is a place where debate thrives. Sure, feelings get bruised and the slow pace of decisions can set your teeth on edge. But thanks to the University and the proud history of the community that surrounds the Hill, Lawrence preserves a precious tradition: It honors independent thinking, curiosity and creativity. It makes room for divergent views.

It’s a home that suits me just fine.
His writing’s on the wall

Math class never looked so ... well, outdoorsy. On pleasant fall afternoons, graduate teaching assistant Yiannis Zachariou marched his calculus students outside Wescoe Hall. Which isn’t so unusual on Jayhawk Boulevard.

But using the concrete side of a building as a chalkboard? That got his students’ attention, as well as devotion, and even earned the eager educator plaudits from his colleagues in a University Daily Kansan story.

Zachariou, c’98, g’03, hails from Nicosia, Cyprus, and apparently flourishes in the sunshine. And this much is certain: Anyone who can get media coverage for calculus class deserves all the praise chalked up in his honor.

Cat Scat Fever

Mount Oread has its own mountain lion after all.

Debate roiled in Lawrence this fall after several people reportedly spied a cougar prowling West Campus [“Here kitty, kitty, kitty,” Jayhawk Walk, issue No. 6]. Mark Jakubauskas, PhD’94, research assistant professor at the Kansas Applied Remote Sensing Program, even set up a motion-triggered camera that captured an image of what looked like a mountain lion. But skeptics dismissed the eyewitness accounts as unreliable and deemed the photo inconclusive.

Now tell-tale evidence makes it mighty hard to pooh-pooh the sightings: Jakubauskas recently paid a Michigan lab to run a DNA test on “very fresh, very pungent” scat he collected in October on West Campus.

The results are conclusive: It’s cougar caca.

“This is really the first confirmed, documented evidence of a cougar in Kansas in 100 years,” Jakubauskas says. “There was the legend of the cougar, and now the legend has been proven.”

Mooove over Coke


KU reaffirmed its commitment to all three this fall when it installed five vending machines that dispense milk in six splendid flavors.

The change was made after a Watkins Health Center survey showed only 20 percent of students reported drinking milk at most meals. “That’s shocking,” says dietitian Ann Chapman, g’87. “College students need a quart a day.”

So banana, strawberry and chocolate milk join “Better Bites” snacks such as baked chips, sunflower seeds and trail mix, which are now stocked in every snack machine on campus. It’s all part of Chapman’s campaign to provide healthy alternatives to soda and junk food.

But don’t have a cow, man: You can still get cookies. Though with flashy, new-generation plastic pints replacing paper cartons, dunking may prove a tad tricky.
**Good sport**

It’s official: Haven freshman Joe Farbach is KU’s craziest fan.

FARBACH donned a wrestling singlet, crimson-and-blue body paint and fishnet hose to win a craziest fan contest during Homecoming week. In keeping with the theme “Bringing Back the Classics,” the former high school wrestler used his goofy getup to urge the return of KU’s long-defunct varsity wrestling program.

Granted, the fan competition wasn’t exactly world-class. Turns out the Phi Kappa Psi member was the only entrant to actually attend the Wescoe Beach judging.

“I like to say I intimidated everybody so much with my costume that they were afraid to show,” Farbach says. Psyching out the competition—isn’t that what fans are for?
Researchers test a recovery technique that could tap hard-to-reach oil and inject $1 billion into the Kansas economy

Researchers at the Kansas Geological Survey and the School of Engineering’s Tertiary Oil Recovery Project hope that an oil recovery test now underway in central Kansas is a first step toward rejuvenating the state’s slumping oil production.

On Dec. 4, the researchers began a multi-year project that will pump liquid carbon dioxide from a nearby ethanol plant into oil producing rocks in a Russell County oil field. The process, known as carbon dioxide flooding, has been used in other states to flush out oil that would otherwise be unreachable. The Russell County test is designed to find out whether the technique works in Kansas.

If it does work, statewide use of the process could inject $1 billion or more into the Kansas economy.

“Kansas oil production has been declining for the last 40 years,” says Alan Byrnes, research geologist-petrophysicist at the Kansas Geological Survey. “CO2 could potentially increase oil production by hundreds of millions of barrels and billions of dollars. It could make a significant difference to jobs in Kansas.”

The technique pumps liquid carbon dioxide 3,000 feet underground into nooks and crannies known to hold oil. The liquid forces oil out of these hard-to-reach spaces and into nearby wells, where it can then be pumped to the surface.

The Russell County location, known as the Hall-Gurney field, was chosen as a test site because it is the largest field on the Lansing/Kansas City formation, a type of limestone formation that occurs widely throughout Kansas. Researchers spent three years studying subsurface rock samples and computer models from the field to determine that the site would make a testing ground.
that is fairly representative of Kansas geology. “Basically, proving it here proves it for a lot of locations,” Byrnes says.

The 10-acre patch seven miles southeast of Russell has produced more than 150 million barrels of oil since its discovery in 1931. But in the past decade, production has dropped by half. In 2001 the Hall-Gurney field produced only 500,000 barrels.

The test will need to recover far smaller quantities of oil than that for engineers and scientists to consider it a success. “For carbon dioxide to be economically successful at this location, it will have to produce an additional 20,000 barrels of oil over the next four years,” says Paul Willhite, Ross H. Forney distinguished professor of chemical and petroleum engineering, co-director of the Tertiary Oil Recovery Project and co-manager of the Russell County test. “If you can prove this works in central Kansas, it could work in lots of other areas around the state.”

The carbon dioxide for this project comes from the recently constructed U.S. Energy Partners ethanol plant near Russell. CO2 is a byproduct of ethanol production and has been identified as a possible contributor to global warming. Since about half of the CO2 used in the test is expected to remain underground, there may be an added environmental benefit as well: Carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere can instead be disposed of underground.

About one truckload of liquid CO2 will be injected into the ground daily for six months. After that, alternate injections of CO2 and water will continue for four years. Results will not be immediate. “We will know if the project is successful in approximately a year and a half to two years,” Byrnes says.

While the Russell ethanol plant can provide all the CO2 needed for the test, researchers say larger quantities of carbon dioxide would be needed to use the technique statewide. One option under consideration calls for a pipeline to transport “geologic” sources of carbon dioxide from underground fields in New Mexico and Colorado to Kansas. Kinder Morgan CO2 Co., a partner in the Russell project, operates such fields. The success of the test could also create a market for CO2 waste for project partner U.S. Energy Partners and other ethanol plants in Kansas.

Forecast cloudy

Tax proposal, life-science earmark could benefit higher ed, but administrative cuts loom

Calling on Kansans to pursue an ambitious new goal for the state, “that a decade from now our schools are the best in the nation,” Gov. Kathleen Sebelius used her Jan. 12 State of the State address to propose a three-year, $304 million tax increase for education.

The plan—outlined in documents distributed to the press but only alluded to in the speech—includes $15.9 million in new money for higher education. But it also asks for $12 million in administrative cuts, largely from information technology budgets.

Those cuts would help fund a 3 percent pay raise for KU and other state employees, the largest raise in three years.

In a statement, Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway praised the additional funding, but said administrators have “lots of questions” about the proposed administrative cuts. “While we would receive some new funding
**Governor’s Proposals**

**for Higher Education:**
- $8.9 million for faculty salary increases promised by 1999 Legislature
- $5 million for a 1% increase in block grant funding for state universities
- $1 million increase in state’s comprehensive loan program for needy students
- $1 million increase for vocational/technical schools and colleges
- 3 percent salary raise for state employees

**for Revenue Increases:**
- Sales tax: rises from 5.5 percent to 5.7
- Income tax: 5 percent surcharge on existing brackets
- Property tax: rises from 20 mills to 22 mills

under the proposal, I must point out that we would also lose some funding,” Hemenway said. “We are concerned that these cuts may fall disproportionately on universities, and may hamper our ability to serve the state effectively.”

For a third straight year the University would receive no funding to cover increases in fixed employer costs, such as health care and mandated salary raises. Other state agencies do receive this funding.

KU lost $18.8 million through budget cuts and cost increases last year. Unfunded increases cost the University $3.7 million this year.

“The proposed block grant increase doesn’t begin to address this disparity,” the chancellor said. “Failing to fund these mandated increases would result in yet another cut to university budgets statewide.”

Increases in sales, income and property taxes would fund the “Education First” plan, which Sebelius, g’80, called “a first step” toward her goal of making Kansas schools the country’s best.

“But let us take that first step, together, this year,” Sebelius said. “If we do anything less, we will fail the generations of Kansas leaders who came before us, and we will fail those who will inherit the responsibilities of leadership from us.”

A proposal by Kansas legislators to create a “virtual benefit district” also offers a potential ray of sunshine in a budget forecast that is otherwise cloudy.

The Kansas Economic Growth Act could provide a significant boost to university bioscience research. The “bold package” promised by Lansing Rep. Kenny Wilk would earmark a portion of state taxes paid by biotech and medical research businesses in Kansas for bioscience research at KU and Kansas State University. The virtual benefit district could provide a much needed windfall for higher education; early estimates value the package at around $260 million over 10 years.

Wilk is pitching the plan as an attempt to add a “fourth leg” to the Kansas economy.

“We think of agriculture, aviation and gas and oil as the three legs of the stool,” he said in a Dec. 31 article in the Lawrence Journal-World. “We want to create a fourth leg.”

The proposal was to be among the first presented to lawmakers when the Legislature convened Jan. 13, as Kansas Alumni went to press. In 2004, lawmakers will confront a number of tough issues, including a court ruling that questions the constitutionality of the state’s school financing, a state economy that continues to struggle and a revenue picture that is improving but still tight.

Sebelius’ Education First plan would incrementally raise the current 5.3 percent state sales tax to 5.7 percent by 2007, impose a 5 percent surcharge on existing income tax brackets in 2005, and increase property tax by two mills over four years, beginning in 2006. The package would raise an estimated $158.6 million the first year, and more in subsequent years.

For higher education, the tax package would provide $8.9 million in new funding that would allow the Legislature to make good on its 1999 promise to fund four years of faculty salary increases. Another $5.5 million would fund a 1 percent increase in base funding for the Regents universities.

The Kansas Board of Regents requested a 6 percent hike in basic funding, which would add about $7.9 million to KU’s budget.

“Last year’s budget was an attempt to stop the bleeding. This year, we’re beginning to move back to where we want to be in terms of higher education funding,” said Reggie Robinson, c’80, 1’87, president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents. “We are pleased Gov. Sebelius recognizes the vital role education plays in the overall success of the state of Kansas—that a quality higher education system is the greatest single asset for aiding in economic growth and improving the quality of life for all Kansans.

“While the budget increases were not as much as the Regents had requested, the overall higher education budget provides a good starting point for this year’s debate. However, even if the governor’s budget recommendations are fully funded, the total new dollars for higher education will represent less than half of what was cut from the (2003) budget.”

GOV. SEBELIUS
Parental guidance

NIH grant links KU with three universities in child development study

We all know neglect is bad for children. What child development experts need to understand better is how to prevent neglect in the families at the highest risk.

That is the aim of an ambitious five-year study that unites scientists at the Schiefelbusch Institute for Life Span Studies with child development researchers at three other prominent universities.

An $8.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health will fund the research project, which follows 400 single-teenage mothers in four cities from pregnancy until their children are 3 years old. KU researchers at the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Center and the Juniper Gardens Children’s Project in Kansas City will study 100 single mothers in Kansas City, Kan. The centers are two of 12 research centers affiliated with the Life Span Institute.

Similar projects will be conducted by the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind.; Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.; and the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

“We know that child neglect harms children, families, communities and societies,” says Steven Warren, c’74, g’75, PhD’77, director of the Life Span Institute. “But we need to know more about which approaches and what kinds of support will measurably prevent child neglect in high-risk families as well as enhance overall child development.”

The Kansas City mothers will be divided into two groups. Both groups will get services and support, but one group will get additional help through a comprehensive training program that teaches parenting skills.

Warren will direct the Kansas City site study with Judith Carta, PhD’83, Life Span senior scientist. Their research has shown how critical early interaction between a parent and child is to the child’s cognitive development.

Visitor

Res to Riches

Poet, fiction writer and filmmaker Sherman Alexie performed as part of the Hall Center’s Humanities Lecture Series.

WHEN: Oct. 29
WHERE: Lied Center

BACKGROUND: A Spokane/Coeur d’Alene Indian, Alexie grew up on a reservation in Wellpinit, Wash., and lives now in Seattle. His work realistically portrays the lives of contemporary Native Americans. He wrote and produced the film Smoke Signals, which was adapted from his 1993 short story collection, The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven. Internationally recognized as the first feature film produced, written and directed by Native Americans, Smoke Signals won the Audience Award and the Filmmakers Trophy at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival.

ANECDOTE: Humorously characterizing himself as a “commie pinko liberal pacifist,” Alexie said he once declined an offer from the Democratic party to run against Washington Sen. Slade Gorton. “They figured, ‘Hey, we’re gonna lose, let’s turn it into performance art.’”


“I’d like to be the love child of Richard Pryor and Emily Dickinson: After death a formal feeling comes. And it hurts.”
**ADMINISTRATION**

**Veteran deans step down to resume teaching**

Leaders at two of KU’s most successful and popular professional schools—pharmacy’s Jack Fincham and journalism’s Jimmy Gentry—have both resigned their deanships, effective at the end of the school year, to return to full-time teaching and research.

With 10 years of service completed at the end of his tenure, Fincham is one of the Hill’s veteran deans. He led the School of Pharmacy from a five- to a six-year program, with a doctor of pharmacy (the so-called “PharmD”) now the entry-level degree for KU graduates. The school recently ranked third in the country in funding from the National Institutes of Health.

“Jack has much to be proud of,” says Provost David Shulenburger.

Fincham’s research specialties are patient compliance, drug use in elderly patients and smoking cessation therapies.

In his seven years at KU, Gentry, in Shulenburger’s words, “led a remarkable change of direction in the journalism school.” Gentry’s changes are all about the now-popular notion of “convergence,” or training future journalists in all aspects of mass media. The school had traditionally prided itself on rigorous education and experience in specialized fields, such as newspapers, magazines or advertising. A professional trade magazine in 2001 cited KU as “the model for innovative curriculum revision,” and in 2002 the school was named KU’s “best large teaching unit” by the Center for Teaching Excellence.

Also leaving his post is Robert E. Barnhill, c’61, since 1997 the vice provost for research and president of the KU Center for Research, who is in the midst of a year-long assignment as dean in residence at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. Associate Vice Provost James Roberts is his interim replacement.

When he returns to KU, Barnhill will be a professor of mathematics and of electrical engineering and computer science, as well as a senior scholar for the Center for Research.

National searches are underway to replace all three leaders.

—Chris Lazzarino

**ATHLETICS**

**Wilt Chamberlain estate funds scholarships, clinic**

Athletes, first-generation college students and Special Olympians will benefit from a $650,000 gift from basketball great Wilt Chamberlain.

The bequest, announced at halftime of the 2003-'04 home basketball opener, establishes four endowed funds in the name of Chamberlain, who died in 1999. The $100,000 Wilt Chamberlain Opportunity Scholarship Fund will primarily help first-generation students from challenged social or economic backgrounds. A $300,000 endowment will support a scholarship for one men’s basketball student-athlete. A separate $100,000 fund will support women’s athletics, with one scholarship alternating annually between women’s basketball and volleyball. Finally, a $150,000 fund will help support the existing basketball clinic for Special Olympians conducted annually by KU Athletics.

Chamberlain, ’59 returned to campus in 1998 to see his his jersey retired in Allen Field House. The visit, Chamber-
$5.25 MILLION IN GRANTS from the U.S. Department of Education will fund a pair of studies at the Beach Center on Disability. A five-year $3.75 million grant will let the center examine the effects of public policy on families who have children with developmental and emotional-behavioral disabilities. A five-year $1.5 million grant will support research at the Beach Center and the Center on Developmental Disabilities that examines how promoting self-determination in teenagers with disabilities affects their transition to independent adulthood. Both grants were awarded by the Education Department’s National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

KU ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION PROVIDED A RECORD $85.1 MILLION in support of students, faculty, projects and programs in fiscal 2003. That was up 27 percent from the previous record $68.9 million in 2002. Scholarships totaling $10.2 million went to 5,200 students, $27.2 million supported campus construction projects, and $17 million supported faculty and staff. In addition, donors gave $64.8 million, the second-highest total ever. Since it was funded in 1891, KU Endowment has contributed $1.02 billion in support of the University.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL began construction on a $72-million heart, lung and vascular hospital Oct. 29 at the 39th Street complex in Kansas City, Kan. The groundbreaking comes three years after the hospital announced plans to revitalize its heart program. “We made a promise then to provide the facilities needed to develop the best comprehensive heart, lung and vascular program in the region,” hospital President and CEO Irene Cumming said. “Today we honor that promise.”

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS Janet Murguia, c'82, j'82, l'85, will leave the University in February to become executive director of the nation’s leading Hispanic advocacy group, National Council of La Raza. She has served on the Washington-based group’s board of directors since 2002.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING ALUMNI placed first and third in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers annual student design contest. First-place winner Richard Pass, c’03, and third-place winner Sean Murphy, c’03, accepted their awards at AIChE’s November annual meeting in San Francisco. In the past 20 years, KU students have won more honors in the competition than any other school in America.

THREE NURSING ALUMNI won Heart of Healthcare awards in Kansas City this fall. Registered Nurses Beth Clark, n’95, g’95; Britny Sutulovich, n’00; and Jenny West, n’92; were honored for their contributions to their patients, communities and profession.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS Janet Murguia, c’82, j’82, l’85, will leave the University in February to become executive director of the nation’s leading Hispanic advocacy group, National Council of La Raza. She has served on the Washington-based group’s board of directors since 2002.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING ALUMNI placed first and third in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers annual student design contest. First-place winner Richard Pass, c’03, and third-place winner Sean Murphy, c’03, accepted their awards at AIChE’s November annual meeting in San Francisco. In the past 20 years, KU students have won more honors in the competition than any other school in America.

THREE NURSING ALUMNI won Heart of Healthcare awards in Kansas City this fall. Registered Nurses Beth Clark, n’95, g’95; Britny Sutulovich, n’00; and Jenny West, n’92; were honored for their contributions to their patients, communities and profession.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS Janet Murguia, c’82, j’82, l’85, will leave the University in February to become executive director of the nation’s leading Hispanic advocacy group, National Council of La Raza. She has served on the Washington-based group’s board of directors since 2002.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING ALUMNI placed first and third in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers annual student design contest. First-place winner Richard Pass, c’03, and third-place winner Sean Murphy, c’03, accepted their awards at AIChE’s November annual meeting in San Francisco. In the past 20 years, KU students have won more honors in the competition than any other school in America.

THREE NURSING ALUMNI won Heart of Healthcare awards in Kansas City this fall. Registered Nurses Beth Clark, n’95, g’95; Britny Sutulovich, n’00; and Jenny West, n’92; were honored for their contributions to their patients, communities and profession.

THIS WEEK IN KU HISTORY (www.kuhistory.com) marked its first anniversary by upgrading its Web site in December. New features include a time line and a section that organizes key historical events by topic. The site is a project of the KU Memorial Unions.
After No. 6 Kansas out-slugged No. 3 Michigan State, 81-74, at Allen Field House Nov. 25, coach Bill Self praised his team’s gritty performance. “They played like I wanted them to play,” he said. “They played tough.”

Led by Wayne Simien’s career-high 28 points, the Jayhawks went toe-to-toe (and elbow-to-elbow) with the famously physical Big-10 team. “I think it’s close to the toughest I’ve seen us play,” Simien said. “When everyone has no fear, it’s amazing what we can do.”

The high-profile early season test gave fans a first good look at Jayhawk basketball Bill Self-style. For those wondering how long it would take for players to adapt to a new system, the hard-fought win seemed to offer resounding reassurance: no time at all. And those looking for a motto to hang on Self’s first KU team had one: No Fear.

The grind-it-out game—against the highest-ranked opponent ever to appear in Allen Field House in November—also gave the coach his first look at how his players respond in tough circumstances.

“We won a muddy game tonight,” Self said. “I think that is a big step toward getting our guys to buy in even more than they already have.” Both teams looked more determined than polished; floor burns and hustle plays dominated. Sticking to the new system amid such chaos created confidence, Self suggested. “I hope this gives us credibility with our players that what we do works.”

In an early season shadowed by the tumultuous changing of the guard that was last April, the topic of “buy in” was on the minds of many. Given Simien’s scoring ability and his emotional response to Roy Williams’ departure, the big man from Leavenworth seemed a key figure. How would the Kansas kid who grew up wanting to play for Williams adapt to a new coach? After dealing with a painful shoulder injury last season, how would he cope with setbacks this year?

Bothered by a groin injury and hampered by what Self described as the team’s inability to get him the ball in the post, Simien struggled, at times, to make an impact offensively. In each of the two December losses, 64-58 to No. 21 Stanford and 75-61 at Nevada, KU’s main post threat scored only 10 points. In the 85-66 win at Texas Christian, he took four shots and never got
to the foul line, finishing with six points. In the 78-46 win over Binghamton, he shot only twice in first half, once from behind the three-point arc, and finished with just seven points. "For Wayne Simien to get only two shots in one half, that’s ridiculous," Self said. "We’ve got to do a better job in that area, but we have to knock down some shots for that to happen.”

Outside shooting is key to Self’s high-low offense, which looks to open the lane by forcing defenders to guard the perimeter. "Coach will yell at you if you’re open and you don’t shoot," says backup point guard Jeff Hawkins. Accordingly, the Jayhawks have been freer from three: In the first nine games, KU hit 49 of 186 shots from beyond the arc (26.3 percent). The 20.6 attempts per game compares with 14.3 per game last year, when the team shot 33.5 percent from long range.

That approach varied against Villanova. Pounding the ball inside to Simien and freshman David Padgett, KU took only 11 threes. Simien responded with his second-biggest game of the season, scoring 23 points on 15 shots and nine free throws, as KU withstood a late rally to outlast the Wildcats, 86-79.

"Coach has been emphasizing since the last game, ’Get him the ball inside,’” point guard Aaron Miles said. "Wayne is one of the best big men in the country. We’ve got to get him the ball.” In fact, Self quantified it for his guards. “Coach said Wayne has to shoot the ball at least 14 times every game,” Hawkins said. "We know what we have to do.”

Easy enough, perhaps, against an opponent like Villanova. Other than the 7-foot Chris Charles, who played only 7 minutes, the Wildcats started no one over 6-7. But KU also scored inside against Colorado’s tough 7-footer, David Harrison. Simien led all scorers with 21 points on seven-of-16 shooting from the field and seven of eight from the line as KU won, 77-62.

In January, with a sparkling 9-2 record, a brief fling with No. 1 and a conference-opening road win in the bag, buy in no longer seems an issue. The inside attack reinvigorated and the perimeter shooting improved (45.5 percent against Villanova and 33.3 percent at Colorado were the best back-to-back three-point efforts of the season), KU appears ready to make a run at a third consecutive Big 12 title. Self wants the already good defense (opponents shot 37.9 from the field and 32.4 from three) to get better, especially on the perimeter and against dribble penetration.

If it does, Jayhawk fans might have a new motto for the bandwagon bumper: Fear This. —Steven Hill
They may wear different uniforms, but they are still... ALUMNI

DREW GOODEN
Orlando Magic

KIRK HINRICH
Chicago Bulls

PAUL PIERCE
Boston Celtics

WATCH YOUR FAVORITE ALUMNI LIVE EVERY WEEK WITH NBA LEAGUE PASS!

NBA LEAGUE PASS lets you watch up to 40 NBA games every week all season long. Call your local cable or satellite provider to order NBA LEAGUE PASS today and catch all of the action for only $99 or three payments of $33.

$99 LOWEST PRICE OF THE SEASON!

DIRECTV® and the Cycle Davis Design logo are registered trademarks of DIRECTV Inc., a unit of Hughes Electronics Corp. Significant restrictions apply to DISH Network hardware and programming availability, and for all offers. ©2004 EchoStar Satellite Corporation. All rights reserved. "IN DEMAND" is a service mark of IN DEMAND LLC. NBA, the NBA logo and team identifications are the exclusive intellectual property of NBA Properties, Inc. and the respective member teams. ©2004 NBA Properties, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
continued from page 17

So we know where the coach gets his drive and, well, focus.

Mangino unfortunately had reason a few hours later to mirror his mother’s shocked expression when he faced the media after KU’s 56-26 loss to North Carolina State. “We didn’t get anything done,” Mangino said after witnessing his defense surrender 653 yards to an offense led by the second-leading passer in NCAA history, Philip Rivers. “We did not play well on defense at all.”

Yet few negatives will stick to Kansas after the humbling loss in Orlando’s venerable Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium. In Mangino’s second season, his Jayhawks won six games, a prediction that seemed foolish when Lawrence Journal-World sports editor Chuck Woodling offered it in print Aug. 21—for which, Woodling says, The Sporting News publicly labeled Woodling “a homer,” a deep insult to newspaper sportswriters.

To guess even that the Jayhawks might have a chance in the last game of the regular season to play themselves into a bowl game would have seemed a stretch. But after beating Baylor, 28-21, to run their record to 5-2, the Jayhawks weathered the toughest stretch of their season by maintaining their compose while losing four straight—at Kansas State, Texas A&M and Oklahoma State, and at home to Nebraska.

Senior quarterback Bill Whittemore was lost to injury at KSU. He was replaced by true freshman Adam Barmann, who threw for 294 yards and four touchdowns in his first game, at A&M, described by Mangino as “one of the most gutty performances in the recent history of Kansas football.”

As exciting as Barmann proved to be, the Jayhawk faithful rooted for Whittemore to make it back for the last home game of his career, Nov. 22 against Iowa State. He did not disappoint, and racked up 306 yards of total offense, including two rushing touchdowns and one through the air.

The 36-7 victory made KU “bowl eligible” at 6-6. Though no invitation had yet been offered, fans knew the skinny, having tangerines (or similar citrus fruits) onto the Memorial Stadium track, where they were savored by jubilant players. “We’re going home!” Tony Stubbs, a junior safety from Lake Worth, Fla., shouted as he hugged senior running back Harold McClendon, of Jacksonville. “We’re going back to Florida!”

In the locker room moments later, Whittemore was asked whether he had feared this final home game would not happen for him. He nodded, and seemed eager to shed just for a moment his cloaked persona and reach out to fans and teammates who embraced him in two quick years at KU.

“I love these guys, I love these fans, I love this stadium. I sure would have missed it if it didn’t work out like this, but thankfully it did. I love it here, and hopefully, they like me.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Cornerback Remuise Johnson (8), of Boynton Beach, Fla., found little joy in his return to Florida, as the Wolfpack racked up 653 yards against the KU defense.

Women’s basketball on Jan. 10 upset Missouri, 55-52, in Columbia. The win improved the young Jayhawks to 8-5 and ended a seven-game losing streak to the Tigers. As of the Mizzou game, sophomore forward Crystal Kemp led KU scorers with 13.8 points per game. Coach Marian Washington on Nov. 16 was chosen for induction to the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn. ...

Soccer and volleyball teams both made their first NCAA tournament appearances. Led by sophomore sensation Caroline Smith, a semifinalist for her sport’s biggest individual honor, the Hermann Award, the 16th-ranked soccer team finished 18-6-1, ending its first NCAA appearance with a 1-0 loss to UCLA. Junior goalkeeper Meghan Miller finished her remarkable season with a goals-against average of 0.75. The volleyball team swept Long Beach State, 3-0, in its first NCAA match, then lost to Pepperdine, 3-1, ending its season 22-11. Senior Sarah Rome ended her career as KU’s all-time career kills leader with 1,306, and sophomore Josi Lima was named first-team All Big 12 for the second time. ... Football center Joe Vaughn, a junior transfer, was named the Big 12’s Offensive Newcomer of the Year. ... The Orlando police liaison for KU football’s trip to the Tangerine Bowl wrote the Lawrence Journal-World with praise for the Jayhawks: “They stand head and shoulders above many of the other college football programs around the country,” wrote Lt. William H. Wood.
1. "Ren-ai #2," 1977, acrylic, 48 x 48"
As a graduate student at Syracuse University in 1969, painter Roger Shimomura discovered a previously unknown film by Andy Warhol. A continuous five-minute shot of a man’s naked back as he gazed out a window, “Back” caused a sensation when Shimomura unveiled it, along with an interview with the Pop Art icon that he’d recorded at Warhol’s Factory loft, during a multimedia presentation discussing his own work in the context of Pop Art.

Even without the Warhol bombshell, the lecture was an attention-getter: Shimomura plugged in so many electronic devices—voice distorting microphones, reel-to-reel tape players, a Super 8 movie projector—that he blew a fuse, plunging the entire art building into blackness. But the invocation of Warhol, then near the peak of his influence as a cultural icon, transformed an academic exercise into a cultural event. A local TV station even asked to air the film and interview.

Just one catch: The 29-year-old painter had made the whole thing up. Shimomura filmed “Back” himself, to parody and pay homage to the Pop Art master. And the Factory interview, buzzing with party chatter, clinking cocktail glasses and background music by the Velvet Underground? Faked, with the help of a 45 rpm record from one of Warhol’s books.

The Seattle-born artist has since attracted a following in the international art world with bold, bright paintings influenced stylistically by two decidedly unpretentious art forms: American comic books and Japanese woodblock prints. He has shown his work in more than 100 solo exhibitions and scores of group shows. Some of the nation’s most respected museums have collected his paintings and prints, including the National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C., the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City and, in April, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. Microsoft and other major corporate collectors own his work. Private and government funders in the United States and abroad have supported his career: Among Shimomura’s many awards are four National Endowment for the Arts fellowships and a McKnight fellowship. He was the first artist to receive a Japan Foundation grant, the first to receive the Kansas Arts Commission Artist Fellowship in Painting and, in 1994, the first School of Fine Arts faculty member to be named a University Distinguished Professor. As
he prepares to retire from teaching this spring, the honors keep coming: In November, he was one of 10 painters and sculptors nationwide to win a prestigious Joan Mitchell Foundation Award.

The Warhol prank is illustrative, because many of the tactics he used then mark his work still. Honoring Pop Art even as he made fun of it, Shimomura reclaimed a mass-produced throwaway (a flimsy vinyl phonograph record) to perpetrate a high art hoax. Irreverent, iconoclastic, juxtaposing high culture and low to produce something fresh and surprising, his statement seemed at once subtle and in-your-face. Delivered straight-faced, it displayed a sense of humor so dry it undoubtedly left many viewers off-balance and wondering what, exactly, they were meant to feel.

The tactics he would favor over the next 35 years might have been in place, but Shimomura still had not found his true subject, the central concern that would guide him for the rest of his career. That discovery would come a year later, on a farm outside Lawrence.

Shimomura’s earliest memories are of barbed wire.

In 1942, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Shimomura family joined more than 100,000 people of Japanese descent, two-thirds of them American citizens, who were imprisoned in concentration camps across the American West. With his parents and extended family, Shimomura went first to Puyallup, Wash., and then to Idaho’s Camp Minidoka, a newly constructed barracks compound ringed with barbed wire, machine guns and guard towers. He was 3 years old.

The internment experience would eventually become the central focus of Shimomura’s art. Four major painting series and most of his performance pieces address the incarceration. But when he first arrived at KU, hired by then-chairman of the art department Peter Thompson, he had other concerns. Chief among them, for someone who’d spent most of his life on the coasts, was the cultural and racial homogeneity of the Midwest.

“People said such incredibly insensitive things to him,” says Thompson, professor of art. “He treated it with a certain amount of humor, but I don’t think he found it funny.”

“There were so few Asian-Americans when I came here,” Shimomura recalls. “People kept saying, ‘What are you?’”

His first year in Lawrence, he went into a department store to buy a coat for his wife. A sales clerk invited him to apply for store credit, but at the credit counter a manager told him, “We don’t give credit to Indians.” When he explained that he was Japanese-American, not Native-American, the man insisted: “You got any proof you ain’t?”

A short while later, Shimomura attended an estate auction in Douglas County. A local farmer asked where he was from. Seattle, he replied. Where are your parents from, the farmer asked. The conversation was one he’d had many times in Lawrence. Knowing what the farmer wanted, he explained his ancestry: His parents were of Japanese
descent, but both were Nisei, second-generation Japanese-Americans born in the United States.

Undeterred by news that Shimomura was a third-generation Japanese-American (Sansei), the farmer said, “Do you do pictures of them gee-shie girls wearing them ka-monas?”

“Yes,” a fed-up Shimomura said, “I do.”

In fact, Shimomura’s early paintings display little evidence of his heritage. In one, Japanese Zero fighter planes flew menacingly above the Kansas River, which formed the outline of a Jayhawk. His first painting at KU, “Chicken on the Plaza,” depicted a hen strutting through the posh Kansas City shopping district, an area Shimomura had found dismayingly “frou-frou.” Another painting, “Coke Freak,” showed Jesus in front of a Coca-Cola machine, the brand glowing like a halo above his head.

His first campus exhibition, with fellow faculty member and West Coast native Mike Ott, responded directly to the culture shock he felt. Among other “snotty lash-outs” was a painting of a tornado destroying Fraser Hall. “Neither of us thought we were going to be here long,” Shimomura says.

But the conversation with the farmer inspired him. “I thought, ‘Why not paint geishas?’ I got to thinking about it and everything fell into place.” He was then completing work for a show in Seattle that would feature “Coke Freak” and a portrait of spaceman Buck Rogers. “I thought, ‘Yeah, that fits, because it’s all part of the same comic imagery.’” At a campus bookstore he bought a coloring book that featured Japanese woodblock images and set out to make his “Oriental Masterpiece.”

Shimomura intended the painting as a sarcastic retort to the farmer and all like him who expected him to paint Japanese because he looked Japanese. He shipped eight paintings to Seattle. “Oriental Masterpiece” caused the biggest stir.

“It looked like all the other paintings to me,” he says. “Instead of Buck Rogers or Jesus Christ, it happened to feature a
geisha and a Japanese demon. I saw it as just as superficial as those other appropriated images. Everyone else made the ethnic connection, but it felt foreign to me. It was like a postcard from my grandmother’s album; it wasn’t part of my culture. That’s how separate I was from all that.”

Pressed by Kansans to explain who he was, he began for the first time to seriously examine his identity. “Oriental Masterpiece,” the one-off retort, became “Oriental Masterpiece #1,” the first in a 10-painting series. Dealers began calling, offering shows. His pictures were selling. “I felt for the first time like I was doing work that maybe only I could do,” he says. He began to see how his own experience, how contentious issues of racism and personal identity, might fuel his creativity. He began to see how the annoyances and hurts encountered day to day might be transformed into art.

“That conversation with the farmer was really pivotal,” Shimomura says. “It sounds almost melodramatic, almost too perfect, but it was true: That Kansas farmer brought me out.”

Shimomura and his family were imprisoned at Minidoka from 1942 to 1944. They celebrated birthdays and Christmases behind the wire. Once a young friend from Seattle visited, and Roger was taken to the camp’s perimeter to visit with the boy through the fence. The image would later be captured in “Memories of Childhood,” a lithograph series exploring his first 10 memories of life. All were set in the camps.

As he began to make art that reflected his heritage, the subject of internment inevitably arose. After the “Oriental Masterpieces,” he focused his creative energies on the internment for the first time, portraying its effect on Japanese-Americans with his “Minidoka Series.”

Roger’s grandmother, Toku Shimomura, began keeping a diary when she came to America in 1912. During her last years, Roger gave her a diary every Christmas. When she passed away, in 1968, the diaries came to him. Among them were accounts of their time in the camps. He brought these back to Kansas, had them translated into English and set out to tell his family’s story.

Painted between 1980 and 1983 in the ukiyo-e style of decorative Japanese woodblock prints, the large paintings in the “Diary Series” treat the camp experience as subtext. Barbed wire appears in the background, a subtle but troubling reminder of the painting’s true subject.

“The strategy of the work was to have it appear like one thing, but to really be about something else,” Shimomura says. “I was learning at the time that when you put these kinds of issues in people’s faces, they turn away. You have to have some sort of strategy to get them to look at it. To make beautiful canvases, but make them about something extremely unpleasant—I liked that juxtaposition.”

All 25 paintings sold, but the last to go were the five that contained barbed wire. Some people hinted that they’d buy the works if he’d paint out the wire. None of the collectors asked for the diary entries that accompanied each painting at the exhibition, prompting Shimomura to conclude they’d missed the point. For a while, at least.

“It sort of puts a smile on my face to know that I implanted in their living room this thing that sooner or later was bound to surface,” he says. “And then they have the additional experience of having to struggle with trying to ignore the truth about something.”

In 1997, Shimomura returned to his grandmother’s writings to paint a second diary series. Unlike the first, the paintings in “American Diary”—funded as part of the reparations paid to Japanese-Americans by the U.S. government in 1990—were intended to teach.

Shimomura designed them to straightforwardly illustrate Toku’s entries. Supported by a grant from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, the series traveled the country for four years. Shimomura traveled with it, attending all 12 openings and speaking to museum-goers about his internment experience. He also helped develop public school
curricula to accompany the exhibition. It’s an unusual role for an artist, Shimomura says. “An artist usually puts up the work, walks away and just listens to the responses.” Peter Thompson, himself a painter, agrees. “It takes a lot of extra energy to explain the work after you’ve made it, to make sure you get it out and share it. A lot of artists stay in a hole. Roger does share; he’s put a tremendous amount of energy into that.”

Over the years, he has lectured at hundreds of galleries and schools across the country, keeping the internment issue alive even as many critics and younger artists have deemed it out-of-fashion.

“I see a lot of Asian-American artists in California and New York, and none are dealing with these issues because they are so, quote unquote, passé,” he says. “So there’s a part of me that feels responsible: ‘Okay, I’ll do it. I’ll be that stick in the eye.’ But it’s very uncool in the Asian-American art scene to do what I do.”

Shimomura has always surrounded himself with beautiful things. As a boy, he relied on his drawing ability to attain what was otherwise out of reach. When his parents refused to buy cowboy boots, fearing they’d harm his feet, he got out the Sears catalog and drew them from every possible angle. He collected comic books, which influenced both the flat-colored, boldly outlined style of his paintings and his adult “addiction” to collecting. His Lawrence home—itself a work of art designed by KU architecture professor Dan Rockhill—brims with his collections of carnival chalkware dolls, Asian salt and pepper shaker figurines, buttons, miniature shoes and Halloween masks.

Not all of these items are beautiful. World War II comics, postcards and shooting targets depicting Japanese soldiers as bucktoothed savages, “Slap-a-Jap” carnival prizes and “Jap” hunting licenses also line his shelves. These items are easier to find than ever. Instead of frequenting estate sales, he
simply logs on to eBay, where these “contemptible collectibles,” as art critic Lucy Lippard calls them, turn up with disheartening frequency.

Seeking out reminders of racism might seem like rubbing salt in a wound. For Shimomura, it’s fuel for the creative fire. Lippard, who has followed his visual and performance art for two decades, likens these items to “the mammy cookie jars, cast-iron jockeys and watermelon-eating pickaninnies that have enraged (and fascinated) African-Americans” for a century. “The evil, yellow, bucktoothed ‘Jap’ who survived World War II comics and political cartoons provides disturbing raw material for Shimomura’s art,” she writes. “There is something particularly cruel about these images in a world where realistic representations of Asian-Americans in popular and media culture are so few and far between.” Shimomura uses them in his art to “excoriate their makers and lovers.”

But if these eBay finds provide a seemingly endless supply of material, so too does life. During the Iran hostage crisis, Shimomura was jogging near home one day when a pickup truck slowed. The driver flipped him off and shouted, “That’s for your ayatollah, you Chinaman.” The incident, one of 30 depicted in his latest series, “Stereotypes and Admonitions,” would be laughable if not for the underlying viciousness. All of the paintings in the exhibition, which opened in November at the Jan Weiner Gallery in Kansas City and moves this spring to Seattle’s Greg Kucera Gallery, are inspired by similar episodes—half of which the artist experienced himself. Some stories are recent; others seem newly relevant in light of the post-9/11 treatment of Arab-Americans. Absurd, barely believable examples of ignorance, they leave the viewer off-balance, uncertain how to respond. As Lippard writes in her introduction to the exhibition catalog, “Humor masks rage, but it’s not meant to make us laugh.” The images are comic; the ideas behind them corrosively, brutally racist. But it’s the humor—along with the striking color and composition of these richly beautiful paintings—that disarms, allowing the viewer to linger long enough for the underlying ugliness to settle in. It’s
angry. Pointed. Hard to describe.

“I don’t know what the word is for that kind of humor: It’s scathing,” Peter Thompson says. “He sees something like that and makes a funny painting, but I’m not sure at what level and how quickly it stops being funny for him.”

Says Shimomura, “It’s rewarding to me that you can’t just say it. Because I don’t know what it is either. All I know is that it’s a strategy to get people to accept it. When they laugh they become vulnerable. Then it’s sort of like tasting something: It’s in their mouth at that point; even if they spit it out they can still taste it.”

That Shimomura has carved out a space for himself in the art world from Lawrence is a testament to his talent, his savvy and his energy, says sculptor Michael Aurbach, c’74, j’76, g’79, f’81. “He’s succeeded in showing on both coasts, and that’s not easy for someone who lives in the Midwest. People think New York is the only place serious work is being done.” Aurbach, professor of art at Vanderbilt University and current president of the College Art Association, experienced this provincialism firsthand when he invited Shimomura to deliver the keynote address at the 2003 CAA convention in New York City. Aurbach says he was criticized for not picking a big-time New York artist. But Shimomura’s address—he talked about the events that influenced his work without showing a single painting of his own—wowed audience members. They responded with a standing ovation.

Shimomura’s “found art” pieces hint at the tradeoff living in the Midwest has presented. A collection of addresses torn from envelopes showcases misspellings of his last name that pass through his mailbox. A collage of photographs called “People I’ve Been Mistaken For” echoes the racist sentiment he experienced as a young soldier in the U.S. Army, where his buddies called him “Pop-Up” because he resembled the targets they all shot at on the rifle range: “Yellow all same.”

Like the internment, these indignities have helped make Shimomura the artist he is.

“There is no doubt my career would have been different in California or New York,” he says. “I think that I would be working out of anger, continuously, if I were in another locale in the Midwest. I have failed over all these years to develop an affinity for the Midwest, but I love Lawrence. It has the right balance of conservative views I can react against and liberal views that encourage me to continue. Ultimately, the positive outweighs the negative.”

One of the most public examples occurred in 1996, when his home was vandalized: “Paint it or I will,” was scrawled on a bare concrete wall.

“He had anticipated some negative reaction, because he knew it was an unusual design,” says his friend Sue Lorenz, interim associate director of the Honors Program. “But I think the graffiti was going a little further than he thought it would.”

The community rallied around him. An elementary school class wrote letters of support. KU students sent checks (all returned) to fund the cleanup. A high-ranking KU administrator offered to help scrub the wall.

That “heartwarming” response allowed him to remain positive while feeding creatively off the negative. The house was built. The schoolchildren got a tour, complete with cookies and punch. The paintings kept coming.

“That’s a balance,” Shimomura says, “I give Lawrence credit for.”

A local TV station even aired a report on the vandalism and the aftermath. This time there was no catch. No gotcha. No need to come clean.

Some things you can’t make up.
The big event in the School of Nursing’s glassy atrium completed, Forrest Hoglund, chairman of the campaign called KU First, joined his sister and brother-in-law for dinner in a cozy Italian restaurant near the KU Medical Center’s Kansas City campus. They uncorked a nice bottle of wine. Toasts ensued.

A small celebration was in order, and not because the Texas energy entrepreneur had recently been interviewed by Lesley Stahl on “60 Minutes” in support of an Arctic pipeline he is proposing to deliver natural gas through Canada.

No, the buzz around the table was all about a huge gift that had just thrust “KU First: Invest in Excellence,” the KU Endowment Association’s fundraising campaign, past its goal of $500 million more than a year ahead of schedule.

And it did so in life-saving fashion, with $15 million pledged by the Kansas Masonic Foundation to benefit the Kansas Cancer Institute, a research center at KU Medical Center.

The remarkable gift, one of the three largest in KU history, put KU First over its stated goal with a treasure chest of $501.7 million. As balloons cascaded from the nursing atrium’s heights, Hoglund, e’56, assured the gathering at the Nov. 20 announcement that he and the Endowment Association weren’t done.

They had pledged at KU First’s gala launch—four days before Sept. 11, 2001—to conduct the $500 million campaign through the end of 2004; with more than a year of that timeline remaining as of Nov. 20, Hoglund was not about to let anyone rest.

“Here’s another number: $600 million,” Hoglund said, grinning broadly. “That’s my personal goal. It’s not official. But I think we can make it.”

William Jewell, professor of surgery and director of the Kansas Cancer Institute, rubbed at teary eyes when he

KANSAS MASONIC FOUNDATION BOARD PLEDGES $15 MILLION FOR CANCER RESEARCH

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO
was asked to help KU accept the Masons’ gift, reminding everyone that behind the money and fanfare, there is the matter of curing cancer.

The $15 million gift—which includes an earlier gift of $500,000 that will establish a professorship, named for Jewell, to help attract the institute’s next director—is the largest step yet in KU’s efforts to achieve prestigious designation as a National Cancer Institute center.

“I know these guys,” Jewell said, motioning toward the many Masons who attended the ceremony, “and they’re good guys. They’re smart guys. They are challenging us to finish this program [with an NCI designation], and we’ve got to accept that challenge. We are ready to become a nationally recognized, comprehensive cancer program.”

The gift wasn’t the first from Kansas Masons, who had previously donated $5 million, dating to 1974, and already have established the Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Chair, held by breast-cancer researcher Carol Fabian.

When Jewell took over the Kansas Cancer Institute’s directorship eight years ago, he immediately started looking for ways to increase community involvement. Because Kansas Masons already had been associated with cancer research at KU for two decades, Jewell created Masons’ Day. Now in its seventh year, Masons’ Day annually attracts Kansas Masons and their families and friends to tour the institute at KUMC.

The program’s success has encouraged Jewell and other KU doctors to take a similar show on the road, conducting Saturday-morning screening and education programs around the state.

As evidenced by their gift and the genuine emotions on display, a real bond has formed between Masons and KU cancer researchers.

“I can’t begin to tell you how much Dr. William Jewell has meant to our Board of Trustees,” said Jeff Sowder, president of the Kansas Masonic Foundation’s Board of Directors. “When he visits with the Kansas Masonic Foundation board members throughout the year, he brings a passion that is so infectious, we are compelled to join him in this journey.”

Jewell’s journey as the institute’s director, a half-time post, is nearing a conclusion. He has always maintained his practice as a cancer surgeon, professor and mentor, and even as details of the important gift are being worked out, Jewell still sees patients twice a week.

He works out of a busy nook in the University Hospital’s Cancer Center—itself newly expanded with $5 million in hospital funds—and consults with young surgeons as they help patients get through the scariest days of their lives.

Now that the Kansas Cancer Institute has its funding in place and is ready to pursue an NCI designation, Jewell is eager to hire a full-time director—itself a requirement before the National Institutes of Health will bestow the National Cancer Institute imprimatur.

“We need to have somebody young to get into this business and take it the rest of the way,” Jewell says. “I’m standing in until we have that.”

In the meantime, Jewell and his colleagues will consider how the Kansas Cancer Institute will be renamed to include the Masons, who, like so many thousands of others, offered the generous gifts that made KU First so much more than a logo on the free T-shirts that have become a staple of undergraduate fashion on Mount Oread.

“We’ve had some surprising results,” Hoglund says, noting his fears that the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, could have shuttered the nascent campaign. “Many people chose to rededicate themselves to creating a better world. We carried on through the adversity, and together we have arrived at this rather incredible moment.”

Raise a glass indeed.

National Cancer Institute Designation

- Bestowed by the National Institutes of Health.
- Currently 61 NCI centers nationwide, including M.D. Anderson in Texas and the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota.
- Kansas Cancer Institute already has $17 million in peer-reviewed funding; NCI designation requires a minimum of $4 million.
- $15 million from the Kansas Masonic Foundation will help recruit the institute’s first full-time director (an NCI requirement), an associate director for clinical trials, and at least six of the “world’s best cancer physicians and scientists,” according to Barbara Atkinson, executive dean of medicine and vice chancellor for clinical affairs.
Kathryn Sanders’ airy, wood-beamed Chicago photography studio occupies 2,500 square feet in a building that formerly housed a bra factory. From her window in Greektown, she looks up at the Sears Tower, and her clients are a “Who’s Who” of food giants: French’s, Nabisco, Burger King, McDonald’s, Taco Bell, Papa John’s, Heinz and Libby, Swift-Eckridge, Tropicana, Edie’s and Bressler’s ice creams, Vienna Beef ... and yes, she’s shot Spam.

Advertising and product-packaging shoots are coveted by professional food photographers, and such work is most of the business at Sanders Studio. Cookbooks and magazines are other lucrative venues—Sanders has made hundreds of photographs for Better Homes and Gardens, her first client, with whom she has worked for nearly 20 years. Those little cookbooks at supermarket checkout stands, put out by Publications International—also based in Chicago—illustrate another longtime relationship.

“The coming of digital photography and the current creativity of food stylists demand flexibility and an ongoing willingness to learn,” Sanders says. “Keeping current is a big part of staying on top in this business.”
shortening, icing sugar and food coloring stands in well for ice cream, for instance, thanks to its luxurious “scoopability” and slower melting under hot lights.

“The key to this business, for me, is finding the balance between versatility and discipline,” Sanders says. “While food stylists have become much more adventurous with their compositions, there’s a limited amount of play afforded to photographers. Clients want their products to look appealing and attractive; purely creative photography isn’t appropriate to the situation.”

An entire day, sometimes days, are spent on a single shot. Settings are constantly rearranged, requiring extensive inventories of cameras, lights and effects, fabrics and dressings, table linens and tableware of different styles, flowers and vases, backdrops and thematic props, all cataloged and carefully stored. Placements are meticulous; the perfect shadow or the glisten of a droplet can take hours to achieve. Thousands of pictures are taken. There are contracts and deals and negotiations.

“It’s quite a production,” she says.

Sanders moved to Chicago immediately after graduation in 1969 to work as the visual merchandiser manager at the corporate headquarters of Sears, Roebuck and Co., but she regularly returned to Lawrence to visit her family. In 1978 she signed on with Maselli Studios, learning commercial photography and the business of the studio. She opened her own studio in 1983, and has since focused on photographing food.

“Mine is a business of constant turnover,” she says. “Clients change agencies, and there are new agents and new photographers constantly moving into the picture. Again, flexibility. See what the new breed has to offer.”

Even in aspects of life far from the studio, flexibility retains its importance to Sanders. When her father fell ill 17 years ago, Sanders and her sister, Nancy, c’67, faced a decision: What to do with the family farm?

It sits on 160 acres in the rolling green of the idyllic Wakarusa Valley, south of Lawrence. Wild Onion Farm, an excellent producer of organic produce, sits just across the road, and the clapboard town of Lone Star is a short country stroll away.

For years, Sanders and her sister pondered uses for the land. There was the goat-raising scheme and the making of goat cheese, or farming hardy lavender—a patch of Provence in Kansas. The ideas flew fast, but the main plan for both women was always a return to Lawrence. Nancy made the first leap. In 1990, Bill Crowe, Nancy’s husband, signed on as dean of libraries at KU and eventually the couple built a home on the farm.

Sanders describes her own transition as “moving along—it’s a lot of back and forth now.”

She and her husband, Jack Wilson, bought acreage adjoining the family property. “Ten acres of the land is pristine, unfarmed and unpastured for decades,” she says. “Lately we’re mulling over the organic production of medicinal herbs. We tried goldenseal and black cohosh on a north-facing slope last season, and they did well until the heat. It’s risky. Cost is a big factor in the marketing of organic produce. Not enough people realize the benefits. But if nothing else, at least I can grow my own food.”

And she knows food. Inside and out, from every angle. By farming, she will know it from start to finish.

—King is a Lawrence chef and free-lance writer whose popular “Foodways” columns are featured on Lawrence.com.
Members to choose 3 from alumni nominees

Annual Board election ballots to be mailed with next Kansas Alumni Association members will receive ballots to elect three new members of the national Board of Directors with issue No. 2 of Kansas Alumni. In December, the Nominating Committee, appointed by National Chair Linda Duston Warren, c’66, m’70, met to select six alumni to run in this year’s election. The nominees are:

Cindy Steineger Blair, a’74, a’75, San Diego; William H. Deschner, c’69, m’73, Palm Springs, Calif.; Luther L. Fry, c’63, m’67, Garden City; Robert T. Stephan, ’54, Lenexa; Becky VanWyhe Thomas, e’86, Baldwin City; and Sue Shields Watson, d’75, Wichita.

Serving on the Nominating Committee were Jerry B. Cohlmia, m’70, Wichita; Curtis A. Brewer, b’62, Albuquerque, N.M.; Kelli Lees Cruz, ’87, San Diego; E. Grant Larkin, c’79, Garden City; and Larry D. Welch, c’58, l’61, Lawrence.

Blair is an associate with Carrier Johnson Architects, one of the largest firms in Southern California. She and her husband, Martin, g’76, also own a San Diego restaurant called Kansas City Barbeque, the traditional gathering place for local Jayhawks (and travelers) for the past 20 years. Along with hosting countless events, the Blairs have been active members of the San Diego chapter. They are life members.

As a student, Blair participated in her sorority, Mortar Board, the Student Senate Executive Committee and the KU Memorial Union Corporation board.

Deschner is an obstetrician-gynecologist in private practice in Lake Arrowhead, Calif. A life member, Deschner and his wife, Lois, have participated in alumni events in Seattle and Southern California. He also has mentored KU students through the Association’s Hawk to Hawk program. For KU Endowment, he is a member of the Chancellors Club and the Elizabeth Watkins Society. As a student, he participated in his fraternity and Owl Society.

Fry founded Fry Eye Associates and has practiced ophthalmology in western Kansas since 1974. He is a clinical assistant professor of ophthalmology at KU Medical Center.

Fry and his wife, Ardis, are life members of the Association and supporters of the Kansas Honors Program, the Association’s program to honor the top 10 percent of all high-school seniors in Kansas. For the Endowment Association, he is a member of the Chancellors Club and was one of the three directors elected in spring voting who will begin their five-year terms July 1. The 25-member national Board of Directors meets each semester.

To nominate additional candidates, members must submit petitions signed by at least 100 paid members, with no more than 50 from the same county. Nominees’ photos and biographical information must accompany petitions; all materials must reach the Association by Feb. 15. Mail to the Alumni Association Nominating Committee, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169.

Ballots, including complete biographies and personal statements from the candidates, will accompany the next issue of the magazine. Each copy will include one or two ballots, depending on the number of voting Association members in a household. Annual and life members are eligible to vote; the Association’s bylaws prohibit associate members (those who did not attend KU) from voting.

the key speakers at the launch of the KU First campaign in September 2001. Through KU First, the Frys have funded a professorship at KU Medical Center.

Stephan, former Kansas attorney general, consults with corporations on consumer-protection laws. In Wichita, he served 13 years as a district judge before he was elected attorney general, an office he held for a record 16 years.

In fall 2003, Stephan received the Association’s Fred Ellsworth Medallion for service to KU. He has represented KU at an international conference on the human genome project and assisted in securing state funding for the expansion of KU’s Law Enforcement Training Center in Hutchinson. He also assisted in obtaining legislation to ensure that alumni associations statewide could continue to fulfill their mission to reach graduates. He and his wife, Marilyn, are life and Jayhawk Society members of the Association.

Thomas worked six years as a mechanical engineer for Honeywell Inc. in Albuquerque, N.M., where she and her husband, John, J’83, co-chaired the alumni chapter. They received the Association’s Mildred Clodfelter Award for their longtime local service. In 1998, they returned to the Lawrence area to rear their two sons. They operate a real estate business and a new Kansas vineyard, Vinland Valley Wines.

As a student, she participated in her sorority and in the mechanical engineering honor society. She and John are life members.

Watson is a community volunteer in Wichita, where last fall she led a committee to organize the Jayhawk Roundup, a Nov. 1 event that drew more than 450 alumni and raised $51,000 for endowed KU scholarships for Wichita area students. For the KU School of Education, she serves on the advisory board. She and her husband, Kurt, D’75, are life and Jayhawk Society members of the Association. For KU Endowment, they are members of the Chancellors Club, the Hill Society and the Elizabeth
Rock Chalk Ball to auction birds

Revelers—and readers—can own one of the Jays on Parade

Two members of Lawrence’s historic Jayhawks on Parade will take their final bows Feb. 6 at the Rock Chalk Ball, Kansas City’s annual KU celebration.

“Whoosh,” which roosted at the Adams Alumni Center during the six-month public exhibition, and “Primary Hawk,” whose downtown perch was INTRUST Bank, will be featured in the ball’s live auction. Proceeds will benefit KU scholarships for Kansas students.

The ninth-annual ball is expected to draw as many as 1,200 alumni and friends to the Overland Park Convention Center & Sheraton Hotel for a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing to the Beatles-inspired band Liverpool.

The 5-foot fiberglass mascots, which weigh about 100 pounds, will be among the five items featured in the live auction, but readers of Kansas Alumni and KU Connection, a monthly e-mail newsletter published by the Association and its KU partners, have the opportunity to bid in advance by proxy. For complete instructions and rules, please visit www.kualumni.org. All bids must be received by the Association no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4.

“Whoosh,” whose surface is covered with dots to simulate a basketball’s texture, is a tribute to Kansas hoops. Its “net” is constructed of more than 370 feet of rope. “Whoosh” depicts the whimsy of artist and Alumni Association art director Susan Younger, f'91. The Association sponsored the bird for the parade and has donated it to the ball, which is coordinated by the Association’s Greater Kansas City alumni chapter. This year’s chairs are Mike, c’92, l’94, and Bonnie Anderson Maddox, j’92, of Lawrence, and Jeff, b’91, and Jenny Horne Spencer, b’90, of Leawood.

“Primary Jay” is the work of Salina artist Patrik Neustrom, c’74, who named his bird for the Jayhawk’s number one place in his heart, and applied the traditional red, blue and yellow plumage in a technique reminiscent of French Impressionists. Primary Jay has been donated by INTRUST Bank.

Jayhawks on Parade was sponsored by the University, the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau, Downtown Lawrence Inc., and the Alumni Association. The 30 fiberglass birds were designed by Lawrence and Kansas artists. Other organizations, including the United Way, Lawrence Humane Society and Habitat for Humanity, also have auctioned birds to benefit their nonprofit programs. Winning bids for the unique keepsakes have ranged from $2,000 to $8,000.
1933
Lida Holmes-Mattman, c’33, g’34, is a professor emerita at Wayne State University, where she taught pathogenic bacteriology for 29 years. She lives in Grosse Pointe, Mich.

1941
Eugene Crabb, d’41, and his wife, Ruth, make their home in Delray Beach, Fla.

1945
Shirley Kelley Wood, c’45, celebrated her 80th birthday earlier this year. She lives in Amarillo, Texas.

1946
Violet “Connie” Conard, d’46, received Alaska’s 2003 AARP Andrus Award for Community Service, the organization’s highest volunteer award. A retired teacher, she lives in Skagway.

1949
George Weber, g’49, PhD’54, wrote Lesterville: A Small South Dakota Town. His home is in Tucson, Ariz.

1950
Stanley Englund, e’50, is retired from a career with Dow Chemical. He lives in Midland, Mich.

1952
Donald Clugston, b’52, wrote All That Money and No Cash. He makes his home in Phoenix.
James Taylor, e’52, is retired in Bellevue, Wash.

1958
Clara Steffan-Wegner, b’58, is retired in Moraga, Calif.

1960
John Boesche, b’60, is retired in Holiday Island, Ariz.

1961
Barbara Frey Bowlus, g’61, was named teacher of the year recently by the Arkansas Foreign Language Teachers Association. She teaches German at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.
William Hines, l’61, is dean of law at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.
Janeth Auer Levitt, d’61, retired last year after teaching music and special education for more than 30 years. She lives in Alhambra, Calif.

1962
Sally Liggett Brown, c’62, g’66, is a senior geologist with Challenger Minerals in Houston, and her husband, Larry, e’64, g’67, is a self-employed petroleum engineer.
Lucinda Eggleston Rohrs, d’62, g’65, a retired school librarian, makes her home in Columbia, Mo., where she enjoys reading and genealogy.
Cotton Smith, j’62, recently published his sixth novel, Sons of Thunder. He makes his home in Mission Hills and is senior vice president of Corporate Communications Group.

1963
William Patterson, b’63, g’64, is president of Stoncreek Management in Westwood.

1964
Philip Doughty, d’64, g’65, recently received a teaching award from Syracuse University, where he’s a professor of education. He lives in Manlius, N.Y.
Karen Vice Irey, d’64, s’66, recently received the Povl Toussieng Leadership Award from the Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health. She’s a retired social worker, and she lives in Norman.
Alice Wischmeier Knight, s’64, retired recently from the board of the Nelson-Atkins Museum’s Friends of Art. She and her husband, William, g’64, make their home in Overland Park.
William Lansdown, PhD’64, is retired in Denver.
Wayne Rice, b’64, lives in Lee’s Summit, Mo., and is president of Food Masters Inc.

1965
Andrzej Bartke, PhD’65, recently received the Senior Scholar in Aging Award from the Ellison Medical Foundation. He’s a professor of internal medicine and physiology at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.
Merle Bolton, c’65, m’69, a retired cardiologist, makes his home in Palm Springs, Calif.
Robert Bowersock, b’65, is assistant vice president and senior financial advisor for Merrill Lynch in Albuquerque, N.M.
Delbert Gerstenberger, c’65, g’67, directs compliance, internal audit and privacy for Swedish Health Care in Seattle.
Barbara Bauerle Glanz, d’65, is president of Barbara Glanz Communications in Sarasota, Fla. She’s also on the board of the Center for FaithWalk Leadership.
Michael McGill, b’65, is a senior project manager for the U.S. General Services Administration in Washington, D.C.
Thomas Phillips, c’65, manages national accounts for Roche Labs. He lives in Olathe.
Nancy Dickerson Whetzel, n’65, g’97, is an assistant professor of nursing at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

1966
John Butler, PhD’66, directs graduate studies for the microbiology department
Class Notes

at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. He lives in Coralville.

Marcia Willoughby Dumler, d’66, retired last year after a 36-year career in education. She lives in Perry.

Michael Mendlick, c’66, m’70, practices orthopedic surgery at Olathe Medical Center. Bill Sterbens, c’66, works as an engineer with Peoples Energy in Chicago.

1967

Edward Herman, c’67, is senior vice president of the Bank of Blue Valley. He lives in Raytown, Mo.

1968

Horst Claus, g’68, PhD’70, is a reader in German cinema at the University of the West of England in Bristol.

Susan Kasper Pingleton, c’68, m’72, recently was named interim chair of internal medicine at KU Medical Center. She lives in Shawnee Mission.

1969

Diana Thompson Dale, c’69, wrote Finding Billy: An Internet Odyssey. She lives in Denver.

Herbert Looney, a’69, has a private architecture practice in San Antonio.

Sylvia Rothwell Lyon, c’69, is CEO of the New Mexico League Credit Union in Albuquerque.

James Krebsiel, p’69, owns Schowalter Villa in Hesston. He lives in Hutchinson.

David Maddy, c’69, g’78, a retired civil engineer with the U.S. Geological Survey, makes his home in Stockton.

Thomas Nowak, PhD’69, is a professor of biochemistry at the University of Notre Dame. He lives in South Bend, Ind.

Janice Burquest Toebben, s’69, g’83, lives in Fort Mitchell, Ky., and is vice president of US Bancorp.

1970

Franklin Dunn, c’70, recently became vice president of Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, Va. He lives in Virginia Beach.

Carol Hays Freitas, d’70, retired earlier this year as an art teacher in Cave Creek, Ariz.

Gerald Shechter, c’70, is executive director of Westside Housing Organization in Kansas City.

1971

Bonnie Brown, g’71, PhD’76, is president of Transition Dynamics in Eugene, Ore. She lives in Corvallis.

Phyllis Stevens Chase, d’71, EdD’87, is superintendent of schools in Columbia, Mo.

David Grose, c’71, g’75, g’79, works as a technical fellow with Boeing. He lives in Poulsbo, Wash.

Nancy Campbell Jenkins, c’71, manages a branch of Intrunct Bank in Wichita.

Dennis Russell, b’71, is executive director of St. Andrew’s Village. He lives in Littleton, Colo.

Dale Somers, l’71, recently became a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. He lives in Topeka.

Keith Witten, l’71, recently joined the Kansas City law firm of Gilliland & Hayes as a shareholder. He lives in Shawnee Mission.

1972

Edward O’Brien, c’72, chairs the psychology and counseling department at Marywood University in Scranton, Pa. He lives in Kingston.

Steven Schanzer, g’72, recently joined the board of advisers of Granite Systems. He lives in Fairfax Station, Va., and is vice president of business development at Veridian Information Solutions.

Joseph Timmons, c’72, lives in Belton, Mo. He’s president and CEO of Midwestern General Agency in Lee’s Summit.

Kathryn Nemeth Tuttle, d’72, PhD’96, recently was named KU associate vice provost for student success. She lives in Lawrence.

1973

Benjamin Mann, c’73, is a partner in the Kansas City law firm Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin.

Tonda Rush, j’73, l’79, lives in Arlington, Va., where she’s president of American Press Works Inc.

Gail Tucker-Griffith, PhD’73, was named Miami Dade County high-school science teacher of the year recently. She lives in Miami.

1974

Mert Buckley, c’74, practices law with Adams & Jones in Wichita. He was listed in a recent edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

Karla Bender Leibham, d’74, g’93, g’03, is associate superintendent of the Archdiocese of Kansas City. She lives in Shawnee.

Randi Miller, c’74, works as a self-employed petroleum engineer in Wichita.

Judy Raney, d’74, is a postmaster with the U.S. Postal Service in North Kingstown, R.I. She lives in Warwick.

1975

Cristy Creitz Cox, c’75, works as an environmental specialist for Citgo Petroleum in Tulsa, Okla., where she and her husband, Jeffrey, c’76, g’78, live. He’s a systems analyst for Citgo.

Gayle Wamser DeBaun, c’75, d’75, is an unemployment benefits specialist for the State of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She lives in Brookfield.

Susan Smith Moeser, f’75, g’77, g’82, teaches organ and is the university organist at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Charles Rhoades, c’75, m’78, is president of the Dickson-Dively Orthopaedic Clinic in Kansas City and CEO at the Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute in Leawood. He lives in Shawnee Mission.

Gregg Vandaveer, j’75, lives in Oklahoma City, where he’s president and CEO of Sooner State Bank.

Eva Williams, c’75, is principal of Nativity Parish School in Leawood.

1976

Patrick Wallace, b’76, g’80, directs security for eScout in Lee’s Summit. He and Joanna Patterson Wallace, b’76, live in Lenexa, and she’s a self-employed artist.
1977

David Davenport, c’77, recently became a distinguished professor of public policy and law at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.

Ryan, c’77, g’78, Ph.D’82, and Sonia Manuel Dupont, c’77, g’81, Ph.D’86, are both professors at Utah State University in Logan. They live in Smithfield.

Linda Hogg-Wood, c’77, h’78, teaches sixth grade in Sacramento, Calif.

John Jeter, c’77, m’81, is president and CEO of Hays Medical Center. He recently was named 2003 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year by the University of Colorado’s health administration alumni association. He and Mary Strunk Jeter, c’86, live in Hays.

Randall Kilian, c’77, lives in Hays, where he’s a self-employed geologist.

Janet Atkinson McClain, j’77, makes her home in Dallas with her husband, Derek, b’77.

Gail Ellena Vick, p’77, coordinates events for Health Care Access in Lawrence.

1978

Richard Ayesh, c’78, works for Merck & Co. in Wichita.

Ann Barsamian Davidson, n’78, recently became a trustee of the Newton Community and Healthcare Foundation. She and her husband, Terry, live in Newton.

Wenda Warner Davis, h’78, works as a physical therapist for Shawnee Mission Home Care. She lives in Leawood.

Linda Koehn Good, s’78, does financial-aid counseling at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Steve Heeney, g’78, l’78, is executive vice president for Cereal Food Processors in Mission Woods. He lives in Leawood.

Grace Schmitz Knott, h’78, manages physical therapy for Nebraska Health System in Omaha.

Jody Manzon Kramer, c’78, recently was promoted to vice president of order management at Birch Telecom. She lives in Lenexa.

Jack Marvin, j’78, l’81, is a partner in the Wichita law firm of Stinson Morrison and Hecker.

Mark Mullinix, c’78, is executive vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and a trustee of the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute at the University of Southern California. He lives in Claremont.

Loren Taylor, j’78, g’87, recently was elected vice president and president-elect of the Council of Alumni Association Executives. He’s president and CEO of the University of Illinois Alumni Association in Urbana.

1979

Peter Brown, b’79, is CEO and chair-
When Frederick Holmes retired from his distinguished professorship and medical practice at KU Medical Center in 2000, he sent each of his patients a card, announcing that he was henceforth practicing medicine in 17th-century London.

And in a way, he was.

Holmes, g’98, wrote *The Sickly Stuarts*, a medical history of England’s tragic Stuart family, which battled disease and disaster from 1603 until Queen Anne’s sad death at age 49 in 1714. The book, published in 2003 by Sutton, a respected English history house, is the culmination of Holmes’ history master’s thesis.

Among his other findings, Holmes, 71, confirmed and expounded on a modern diagnosis of lupus, rather than gout, as the cause of death (and numerous miscarriages) for Anne, and acute mercury poisoning for her forebear Charles II, an amateur alchemist.

Holmes, an internist and cancer epidemiologist, says he began realizing in the late 1980s, when he was in his late 50s, that he would have to “retool” to stay current with medicine’s technological rush. Instead he threw himself into a lifelong interest in history, taking three graduate courses in Lawrence during a six-month sabbatical in 1993. His mentor was John Kenyon, the late Hall Professor of British History, who encouraged Holmes to combine history studies with his medical expertise.

Relying on Kenyon as “the world’s expert on the Stuarts” and extensive British holdings within Lawrence campus and KUMC libraries, Holmes first examined King James I. In papers written for Kenyon, Holmes deduced that James’ reign “was compromised by illness in major ways,” including dementia, which Holmes says had never before been recognized. He also disputes the common diagnosis of syphilis for Charles II.

“The key in internal medicine is to get the diagnosis right,” Holmes says, “so in going back I’ve revised the diagnoses of the Stuarts. Some of them were flat out wrong.”

By the time he had analyzed autopsies performed on all of the Stuart monarchs except James II (who had fled to France), Holmes had personalized his passion for history into an enduring sympathy for a royal family that he came to know intimately.

“The final Stuart, the most tragic of all, dear Anne,” Holmes says reflectively, as if discussing a lost friend. “I just really love that woman. She had 17 pregnancies and no living heir. She was a brave woman; she really was. I took care of many patients who had terrible problems, just awful problems, who didn’t deserve to have that grief in their lives, and I felt she was that sort of person—brave, and just kept on going and discharged her responsibilities.

“I really do feel I know these people. I feel like I’m their doctor.”
1981
Kent Hatesohl, l’81, recently was promoted to senior vice president of Commerce Trust Co. He and Brenda Kastner Hatesohl, d’87, live in Lawrence.

1982
Steven Koppes, g’82, wrote Killer Rocks from Outer Space, a children’s science book. He works for the University of Chicago’s news office, and he lives in Homewood.

1983
Dennis Allin, m’83, recently was named chair of emergency medicine at the KU Medical Center. He and Megan Roberts Allin, n’82, live in Lenexa.
Harry Parker, g’83, PhD’92, chairs the theater department at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.
William Pfeiffer, g’83, is president and CEO of Commercial Lithographing in Kansas City.
Anthony Somora, b’83, lives in St. Louis, where he’s business manager of transplant services at Barnes-Jewish Hospitals.

1984
Lee Carvell, e’84, manages specialty plastics research for Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. in Bartlesville, Okla., where he and his wife Brennee, live with their children, Tyler, 10, and Melissa, 13.
David Rogers, c’84, l’87, a partner in the Wichita firm of Foulston Siefkin, was listed in a recent edition of The Best Lawyers in America.
Andres Toro, b’84, is president of the print division at Graphic Communications in Mathews, N.C. He lives in Charlotte.

1985
John Bower, j’85, and his wife, Katharine, own BRAVO! Awards & Incentives in Glen Ellyn, Ill., where they live with their daughters, Gabriella, 7, and Samantha, 2.
Russell King, c’85, m’89, practices medicine with Family Medical Group in Overland Park.

1986
Susan Fletcher, g’86, recently became vice president of finance and development for Golden Gate Doughnuts, the Northern California franchise of Krispy Kreme. She lives in Carmichael.
PATRICK T. MORRIS, was recently named interim chair of pathology at the KU Medical Center, where he’s a professor of pathology and associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity. She lives in Overland Park.

1987
Rochelle Collier Brown, c’87, works as a beverages planning specialist for Coca-Cola. She lives in Alpharetta, Ga.
Daniel Cavanaugh, j’87, is vice president of liability reinsurace for HCP National Insurance Services in Costa Mesa, Calif. He lives in Laguna Beach.

1988
Susan Dewell Crassaerts, b’88, is a senior manager of finance for Quaker Foods and Beverages in Chicago.
Student Loan Rates Plummet!
Consolidate today and lock in an incredibly low rate!

To help borrowers take advantage of the falling interest rates on student loans, the Kansas Alumni Association has teamed with Nelnet to offer student loan consolidation. Qualifying borrowers who choose to consolidate can lock in a very low rate for the entire life of the loan and dramatically reduce their monthly payment.

Today, eligible borrowers may be able to lock in a fixed interest rate as low as 2.875%. Nelnet also offers incentives that reduce the rate even further. By completing and electronically signing a loan application online, borrowers can earn a 1.0% interest rate reduction after 36 initial, regular, on-time payments. In addition, borrowers can get a .25% rate reduction for direct debit payments. Together, these benefits can reduce the consolidation loan’s interest rate by another 1.25%!

Nelnet, a national leader in education finance, brings you over two decades of experience funding education. For more information on how you can consolidate your student loans, call 1.866.4CONSOL (426.6765) or visit our Web site at www.alumniconsolidation.nelnet.net to learn more.

1 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. Applicants who complete and electronically sign the loan application online are eligible for the 1% rate reduction after 36 initial, regular, on-time payments. Borrowers completing applications through the mail are eligible to earn a 1% interest rate reduction after 48 initial, regular, on-time payments. Nelnet reserves the right to modify or terminate the interest rate reduction program at its discretion without prior notice. Terms described above are in effect as of July 1, 2023. Student loan interest rates adjust every July 1 and remain in effect through June 30 of the following year. Other conditions including the length of repayment are as important as this interest rate when considering whether consolidation is right for you. Your borrower’s rights may change when you consolidate your student loans; please refer to your Borrower Rights and Responsibilities statement or contact a Nelnet Loan Advisor for more information. Nelnet is a trademark of Nelnet, Inc. All rights reserved.

2 To qualify, borrowers must be in repayment or in the grace period with a combined total of at least $7,500 in qualified student loan debt, and less than 90 days delinquent.
Mark Klimiuk, c’88, manages the Western region of Intelligence Data Systems. He lives in Temecula, Calif.

Amy Rupp, c’88, co-owns Urban Veterinary Care in Denver.

Amanda Wright, d’88, teaches physical education in Kansas City.

BORN TO:
Larry, c’88, m’92, and Kelley Connors Murrow, j’90, son, Tristan James, Oct. 15 in O’Fallon, Mo., where he joins two brothers, Bailey, 6, and Aidan, 4, and a sister, Paris, who’ll be 2 in March. Larry is an emergency room physician at Barnes Jewish West County Hospital in St. Louis.

1989
Timothy McGuire, c’89, serves as an instructor pilot in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, where he recently was promoted to major. He and his wife, Elsa, live in Wichita and celebrated their first anniversary in September.

1991
Brian, e’91, and Kim Tinsley Culliss, b’92, celebrated their first anniversary last fall. He’s a maintenance engineer for Danisco Ingredients in New Century, and she’s executive director of Meals on Wheels in Lawrence. They live in DeSoto.

Mark Klimiuk, c’88, manages the Western region of Intelligence Data Systems. He lives in Temecula, Calif.

Amy Rupp, c’88, co-owns Urban Veterinary Care in Denver.

Amanda Wright, d’88, teaches physical education in Kansas City.

BORN TO:
Larry, c’88, m’92, and Kelley Connors Murrow, j’90, son, Tristan James, Oct. 15 in O’Fallon, Mo., where he joins two brothers, Bailey, 6, and Aidan, 4, and a sister, Paris, who’ll be 2 in March. Larry is an emergency room physician at Barnes Jewish West County Hospital in St. Louis.

1989
Timothy McGuire, c’89, serves as an instructor pilot in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, where he recently was promoted to major. He and his wife, Elsa, live in Wichita and celebrated their first anniversary in September.

1991
Brian, e’91, and Kim Tinsley Culliss, b’92, celebrated their first anniversary last fall. He’s a maintenance engineer for Danisco Ingredients in New Century, and she’s executive director of Meals on Wheels in Lawrence. They live in DeSoto.

Richardson, b’89, works as an accountant for Paradise Bakery and Cafe in Aspen, Colo. She lives in Carbondale with her husband, Kip Kummer, and their daughter, Samantha, 3.

BORN TO:
Trevor Holsinger, b’89, and Johanna, daughter, Peyton Craig, July 8 in Leawood, where she joins two sisters, Skyler, 4, and Sydney, 2. Trevor is president of Aspen Wealth Management in Overland Park.

1990
Stewart Bailey, j’90, is co-executive producer for Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show.” He lives in New York City.

Daniel Rudolph, e’90, manages engineering for Magenta Corp. in Chicago, where he lives with his wife, Cara, and their son, Evan.

1991
Brian, e’91, and Kim Tinsley Culliss, b’92, celebrated their first anniversary last fall. He’s a maintenance engineer for Danisco Ingredients in New Century, and she’s executive director of Meals on Wheels in Lawrence. They live in DeSoto.

Wendy Mullen Klein, j’91, is president of creative services for the IPM Group in Overland Park.

Mark Smith, e’91, works for Chevron Texaco in Houston.

Stacia Swearngin, b’91, lives in Shawnee and is a consultant for Synthes Maxillofacial.

Raak Yanasugondha, c’91, does retail marketing consulting for Market 21. He lives in Pathumthani, Thailand, with Vimolchaya Luenchavi Yanasugondha, g’92, who’s a lecturer at Thammasat University.

BORN TO:
Daniel, c’91, and Kimberly Koser Fee,
Class Notes

c’92, daughter, Claire Elizabeth, April 9 in Hutchinson, where she joins two sisters, Ashton, 8, and Caroline, 1, and a brother, Jack, 6. Daniel is a captain with JetBlue Airways.

Mark, d’91, g’97, and Jill Hilton LaPoint, d’92, g’93, son, Dominic Russell, Sept. 24 in Lawrence, where he joins two sisters, Caitlin, 15, and Sophia, 2. Mark is vice president of sales for Security Shred in Olathe.

Jon Mohatt, b’91, g’97, and Courtney, daughter, Chloe Hope, July 18 in Aurora, Colo., where she joins two sisters, Claire, 6, and Olivia, 2. Jon serves as a major in the U.S. Air Force.

1992

Dennis Baginski, b’92, recently became vice president of finance at the Bank of Blue Valley in Overland Park. He lives in Olathe.

Melissa Comstock, p’92, manages a Kmart pharmacy in Topeka.

Bianca Shindley Elliott, d’92, g’95, teaches foreign languages and social studies at Lansing High School. She lives in Linwood.

Renee Bazin Hofmeister, j’92, and her husband, Jeffrey, make their home in Wellesley, Mass., with their daughter, Greta, who’ll be 1 Dec. 11. Renee works for Worth Ltd.

Todd Porch, s’92, directs operations for Yahoo in Dallas.

BORN TO:

Chris, b’92, and Susan Hubbard Chaney, c’94, daughter, Gracen Julia, March 27 in Olathe, where she joins a brother, Rylan, 3, and a sister, Dawson, 6. Chris is a partner in Pickett and Chaney.

1993

Sherlanda Brooks, c’93, is president and CEO of As Good As Mother’s in Chicago. She lives in Forest Park.

Meade McFarlane, c’93, and his wife, Allysone, live in Wilmington, N.C., with their son, Campbell, 1.

Charyti Reiter, c’93, j’93, lives in Chicago, where she’s a social worker for Hull House Association.

1994

Michael Breen, g’94, owns Hometown Games in Lawrence.

Sharon Cook-Stuewe, s’94, a special-education social worker for USD 501, serves as president of the Kansas Association of Social Workers. She lives in Maple Hill.

Timothy Lutz, a’94, works as a project architect for Kuhlmann Design Group in Maryland Heights, Mo. He lives in Manchester.

Daniel Mills, c’94, g’97, manages enterprise resource planning at MarketSphere Consulting. He lives in Shawnee.

Joshua Mistler, c’94, is an associate with the Stolar Partnership in St. Louis. He lives in Columbia, Ill.

Paula Shields, g’94, works as a special-education teacher in Derby. She lives in Wichita.

BORN TO:

Christopher, c’94, g’98, g’03, and Jennifer Sundgren Brull, c’94, m’98, daughter, Margaret Claire, Sept. 26 in Hays, where she joins two brothers, Jacob, 8, and Paul, 3. Chris teaches physics at Fort Hays State University, and Jen has a family medicine practice in Plainville.

Melissa Allemann Hillman, c’94, and William, b’95, son, William Cooper, July 29 in Overland Park. Melissa is an attorney with Norris, Keplinger & Hillman, and William is an attorney at Baty, Holm & Numrich.

Michelle Marshall Laub, c’94, and Derek, son, Tyler Christian, Oct. 15 in Franklin, Tenn., where he joins a brother, Derek, who’s nearly 2.

1995

Erik Niemann, a’95, and his wife, Jennifer, wrote Chasing Summer: Exploring the World on an 18-month
Honeymoon. They live in St. Louis, where Erik is an abstract painter and Jennifer is a writer.

Charles Stillian, c’95, teaches and coaches in Leavenworth, where Leslie Black Stillian, d’94, g’03, teaches second grade. They have two children, Caroline, 5, and Alex, 1.

MARRIED

Gretchen Craig, c’95, to Ian Robinson, Oct. 4 in Las Vegas. They live in Grain Valley, Mo., and Gretchen is a corporate recruiter for DST Systems in Kansas City.

BORN TO:
  Katherine Siegrist Markes, b’95, and Brad, daughter, Logan Bradley, July 8 in Leawood. Katherine is a manager at KPMG International in Kansas City.

1996

Michael Bell, e’96, recently became a senior project manager for Harris Construction in Kansas City.

Kerri Graunke, e’96, lives in Sacramento, Calif., and is a senior equipment development engineer for Intel in Folsom.

Greg Gurley, b’96, is vice president of sales for Collegiate Marketing Services in Overland Park.

Scott Jarboe, c’96, received a law degree recently from Washington University. He’s a corporate attorney for

---

Business acumen leads to pet-product success

Evan Wooton says he’s always owned pets, and he happily describes himself as a “pet enthusiast.” But that’s not why he was hired as president and co-owner of Premier Pet Products.

“My passion is building organizations comprised of talented people and helping people in that organization succeed,” says Wooton, b’86. “Whether that’s in the pet industry or any other industry, I believe those are my talents. And as it happens, the pet industry is a great industry to be in.”

Wooton’s talents were recently recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration, which named him and Sharon E. Bennett, Premier’s founder and the other co-owner, as National Small Business Persons of the Year. Their company (www.premier.com) is best known for its “Gentle Leader” head-collar, a painless behavior coach.

But by itself, the innovative training aid for dogs was not enough to build a well-rounded business.

“Premier saw itself as a manufacturer of collars and leashes, but there’s only so many collars our customers can buy,” Wooton says. “I helped shift that strategy to a marketer of products and services that improve the relationships between people and their pets. That’s the key position of the company now.”

Since Wooton joined Premier in 1999, the company’s revenue has grown from 50 to 70 percent each year, product offerings have widened and the 40-employee “Mom and Pop” business now employs more than 100.

“Evan is dynamite,” says Steven Biller, former editor-in-chief of the influential Dog Fancy magazine and its affiliated publications. “He runs by far the most intelligent pet-product business in the country.”

After finishing school, Wooton joined Hallmark Cards in Kansas City. He says he enjoyed the opportunities offered by a huge corporation, but eventually Wooton returned to his original dream of running a small company, accepting an offer to oversee a new outfit called Three Dog Bakery. That job led to his offer at Premier, which led Wooton, his wife and their two children to move to Virginia.

“A lot of small businesses are started by an entrepreneur who succeeds with a strong personality and sheer will,” he says. “Eventually, the business reaches the point where it can only do as much as the entrepreneur can handle. Hopefully I can come in and take a company beyond the capabilities of the original founder.”

Wooton is confident that the pet industry is poised for continued growth. Why? We love our animals.

“Pets are becoming more a part of the family rather than an animal in the backyard,” he says, “and consumers are spending more and more money on these family members.”

---

Profile

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Business expert Evan Wooton and entrepreneur Sharon Bennett joined talents to make their pet-products company an industry leader and award winner.
Class Notes

Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin in St. Louis, where he and his wife, Aimee Witman, c’96, d’99, make their home. Aimee is a career development specialist at Washington University’s Career Center.

Kathryn Meier, p’96, is a corporate pharmacy trainer for Albertsons in Franklin Park, Ill.

Megan Sears, d’96, recently became zone manager for Bic Graphic in Denver.

Mark Stover, e’96, is an emergency-medicine resident at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia.

MARRIED

Rob Vohs, p’96, to Julie Cannon, Oct. 3. He manages a Wal-Mart pharmacy in Overland Park, and they live in Louisburg.

BORN TO:

Jeremy Armstrong, h’96, g’03, and Tammy, daughter, Keighlee Marie, April 22 in Mitchell, S.D., where she joins a brother, Tristan, 2. Jeremy is an administrative fellow with Avera Health.

Matthew, c’96, and Anne McFarland Brown, f’97, daughter, Marin “Mimi” McKune, July 17 in Kansas City.

John Lee, c’96, m’00, and Caroline, son, Julian Lee, Sept. 18 in Memphis, Tenn., where John is a radiology resident at Baptist Memorial Hospital.

1997

Kristin Crain, j’97, c’97, manages marketing for Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership in Portland, Ore.

Bradley Korell, f’97, has been elected a partner of Osborne & Helman in Austin, Texas.

Paul Mehrer, p’97, manages the Walgreens pharmacy in Chandler, Ariz.

Brent Sharpless, b’97, is president of AceGemini in St. Louis.

Timothy White, PhD’97, serves as pastor of Central Church of the Nazarene in Dallas. He lives in Mesquite.

1998

Kevin Jeffries, g’98, is president and CEO of the Leawood Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Laura, have three children, Adam, 12; Christy, 9; and Sarah, 6.

Cynthia Taylor, d’98, works as a pediatrics nurse at Georgetown Medical Center. She lives in Alexandria, Va.

MARRIED

Michelle Cadmus, c’98, to David Bodie, May 10. Their home is in Toledo, Ohio, where Michelle is a physician assistant and clinical instructor at the Medical College of Ohio.

Katie Holbrook, f’98, and John Delzer, c’99, May 3 in Tucson, Ariz. She works for Meredith Corp., and he works for SBC Communications. They live in Chicago.

Anna Johnson, p’98, p’02, to Jonathan Sala, July 5. They live in Wichita, where Anna’s a pharmacist at Wesley Medical Center.

BORN TO:

Douglas, g’98, and Tracy Hepler Ahrens, c’98, daughter, Sydney Elizabeth, May 3 in Apex, N.C., where she joins a sister, Lilith, 3.

1999

Kristen Abell, c’99, and her husband, Sean Grube, c’02, celebrated their first anniversary in November. They live in Athens, Ga.

Matthew Anderson, b’99, recently was elected an officer in the medical banking area of UMB Bank. He lives in Overland Park.

Mark Coolege, g’99, and his wife, Deborah, live in Glendale, Ariz., with their daughter, Abigail, 1. Mark manages international projects for Prudential Financial in Scottsdale.

Jennifer Kimball Harrison, c’99, practices law with Faegre & Benson in Denver.

Donald Kleine, b’99, practices law with Gaines, Pansing & Hogan in Omaha, Neb.

Kevin Pritchard, c’99, recently joined the scouting staff of the San Antonio Spurs. He and Shea Rimmerman Pritchard, c’95, continue to live in Lawrence with their children, Kendall, 7, and K.J., 10.

MARRIED

Joel Ackerman, c’99, m’03, and Jill Gray Ackerman, m’03, May 3. Their home is in Rochester, Minn.


Kelly Thompson, c’99, g’03, and Kevin Rapp, c’00, Aug. 9 in Lawrence. They live in Bloomington, Ind.

BORN TO:

Michael, d’99, and Karen Schmitendorf Conner, c’00, g’02, daughter, Reilly, May 9 in Lawrence.

2000

James Drake, g’00, teaches Spanish at Northrop High School in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Trent Hardman, c’00, works as an account executive for Monster.com in Denver.

Julie Phillips Karpinski, p’00, is a pharmacy clinical specialist for MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. She lives in Pearland.

Melissa Kelley, c’00, works as a systems analyst for Aquila in Kansas City. She lives in Lawrence.

Sherry Morris Parnell, g’00, is a senior human resources generalist at Honeywell in Kansas City. She lives in Shawnee.

MARRIED

Nicholas Brown, c’00, and Stephanie Cooper, a’03, July 12 in Wichita, where he’s a medical student at the KU School of Medicine and she’s an architect with Klover Architect.

Jason Goodwin, c’00, and Carolyn Anderson, c’03, Aug. 17 in Lawrence, where they live. Jason is a lead systems programmer with DST Systems in Kansas City.

2001

Deanna Berney, b’01, g’02, recently joined the tax department of BKD in Kansas City.

Amanda Hunter, c’01, coordinates merchandise for Target. She lives in Edina, Minn.
Guadalupe Ramirez, b’01, works as a staff accountant for Americo Services. He and Kirsten Drickey Ramirez, c’01, g’03, live in Lawrence.

Carrie Waters, c’01, is a speech-language pathologist with EBS Healthcare in Maywood, Ill. She lives in Chicago.

Michael Watkins, c’01, makes his home in Wichita, where he’s vice president of commercial sales with Alert America.

MARRIED
Lindsey Gross, j’01, and Garrett Cutler, c’02, Sept. 6 in Topeka. Their home is in Eudora.

Gail Mosinski, a’01, and Shaun Nordgaard, b’03, Sept. 6. Their home is in Maryland Heights, Mo.

Staci Nicks, j’01, to Bret Kassen, July 19. They live in Overland Park, and she’s a senior media planner with NKH & W in Kansas City.

BORN TO:
Jessica Lang Mason, n’01, and Timothy, son, Timothy John Jr., April 26 in Wichita, where Jessica is a clinical instructor at Wichita Area Technical College.

2002
Crystal Bremer, d’02, is a sales representative for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco. She lives in Wichita.

Kelley Fried, c’02, coordinates marketing for Blue Tooth SIG. She lives in Overland Park.

Adrienne House, n’02, is a nurse at UAB University Hospital in Birmingham, Ala.

MARRIED
Nan Zhao, c’02, and Jason Crowther, c’03, c’04, Aug. 8. She’s a process designer for Exxon Mobil in Baytown, Texas, and he’s a graduate student at Rice University. They live in League City.

2003
Jennifer Voelzke Bahr, f’03, recently joined Infinia Health Care in Topeka, where she’s an activity director and a music therapist.

Donald Baker, g’03, serves as an Eurasian foreign area officer with the U.S. Army in Dumfries, Va.

Molly Birch, l’03, recently became an associate in the Tulsa, Okla., law office of Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson.

Christine Boehne, a’03, is an intern architect at Design Poole. She lives in Melbourne, Fla.

Andrew Dies, s’03, works as a residence director at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

John Haertling, b’03, manages client service for Fortis in Kansas City.

Benjamin Halpert, l’03, recently became an associate in the St. Louis law office of Thomas Coburn.

Hunter Harris, b’03, is vice president of business development with Harris Construction Co. in Kansas City. He lives in Lawrence.

Jason Shumaker, d’03, teaches and coaches in Garland, Texas.

Susan Shumaker, g’03, is a residence hall director at Ohio State University in Columbus.

Michael Stern, j’03, supervises accounts for Ketchum in Chicago.

Curtis Swinford, p’03, and his wife, Monica, live in Bonner Springs with their son, Jaydon, 1. Curtis is a pharmacist at Wal-Mart in Overland Park.

Carl Voorhees, b’03, is a sales representative for Buckle Inc. He lives in Lawrence.

Kara Walters, c’03, makes her home in Topeka, where she’s an arts academy teacher for Topeka Collegiate School.

Joseph Wenrich, b’03, works as a financial adviser for American Express in Overland Park. He lives in Prairie Village.

MARRIED
Lora Brandt, n’03, to Dennis Hofstetter, Aug. 30. They live in Kansas City, where Lora’s a nurse at Children’s Mercy Hospital.

Jessica Fishback, a’03, to Michael Stoll, Oct. 11. They live in St. Louis, where she’s a designer with Lawrence Group Architects.

Jennifer Gabel, p’03, and Jason Schmitz, p’03, Aug. 16. They live in Wichita.

Michele Lagarde, m’03, to Jay-Michael May, June 21. Their home is in Orlando, Fla.

BORN TO:
Rodger Christy, h’03, and Briana Exley, h’03, daughter, Jaden Coral, Oct. 2 in Bowie, Md.

Jacinta Mendoza-Caceres, c’03, and Roberto, son, Diego Isaac, Oct. 7 in Bel Aire, Kan.

School Codes Letters that follow names in Kansas Alumni indicate the school from which alumni earned degrees. Numbers show their class years.

a School of Architecture and Urban Design
b School of Business
c College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
d School of Education
e School of Engineering
f School of Fine Arts
g Master’s Degree
h School of Allied Health
j School of Journalism
l School of Law
m School of Medicine
n School of Nursing
p School of Pharmacy
s School of Social Welfare
DE Doctor of Engineering
DMA Doctor of Musical Arts
EdD Doctor of Education
PhD Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter) Former student
assoc. Associate member of the Alumni Association
1920s
John Allison, e'28, 101, Sept. 19 in Miami, where he was a retired aeronautical engineer. Two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive.

Marie Nelson Simons, c'28, 97, Oct. 25 in Lawrence, where she was former secretary-treasurer of The World Company. She taught school and was a principal before her marriage and later was active in social, philanthropic and political affairs at KU and in Lawrence. A memorial has been established with the KUEndowment Association. She is survived by two brothers, John, c'54, m'60; nine grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Dreyer Rumsey, f'39, 86, Oct. 1 in Wilmette, Ill., where she was retired vice president of consumer affairs with Quaker Oats. During her 40-year career with the company she directed test kitchens and published recipes and helpful hints under the name Mary Alden. Her nieces and nephews survive.

Vaughn Downs, e'31, Aug. 25 in Moses Lake, Wash., where he was retired from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. A son, a sister and a brother survive.

Freeman French, c'37, g'52, 87, Oct. 6 in Kansas City, where he was a retired teacher. Survivors include two brothers, Orrin, e'34, and Glen, '41.

Morton Green, c'39, g'42, 85, Sept. 23 in Lawrence, where he was an adjunct research associate at KU. He had been head of the biology department at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, and curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Museum of Geology. A memorial has been established with the KUEndowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Griffith Green, f'43; two sons, Leon, c'71, and Joel, c'75; a daughter, Julia Green Rombough, c'80; and five grandchildren.

Dorothy Dreyer Rumsey, f'39, 86, Oct. 20 in Lawrence, where she had co-owned Rumsey Funeral Home.

George Scofield, b'30, Oct. 1 in Chicago. He was retired from Continental Oil Co. Two daughters, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive.

Everal Wakeman, c'36, m'39, 88, Aug. 1 in Aplena, Mich, where he was a retired family physician. He is survived by a son, four daughters, a sister, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Robert Williams, e'36, Oct. 1 in Houston, where he worked for Monsanto Oil. Surviving are his wife, Ann; a daughter; a stepdaughter; two stepsons; two sisters, one of whom is Betty Williams Hedberg, '37; three grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1940s
Mary Kathryn Brown Dickerson, b'43, 82, Sept. 15 in Hutchinson, where she had co-owned the Book Inn. She is survived by a son; two daughters, Nancy Dickerson Parton, j'75, and Diane Dickerson Coene, c'75; two brothers, John, c'52, and Norman, c'38, l'40; and five grandchildren.

Delmar Green, b'43, Aug. 27 in Atwood, where he was a farmer and a rancher. Surviving are his wife, Lillian Vap Green, '47; three sons, one of whom is Robert, e'72; and four daughters.

Alison Jones Guinotte, f'48, Oct. 6 in Chanute. She is survived by her husband, Jim, c'48; five sons; four daughters; two brothers, Ogden Jones, '43, and Richard Jones, c'51; 21 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Zoa McReynolds Hedlund, c'45, 78, Oct. 10 in Montezuma. Four sons, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive.

John “Jack” Heisler Jr., c'49, 82, Oct. 21 in Wichita, where he was a former salesman. He is survived by a son, William, f'80; and two grandchildren.

Frances Cilek Kolsky, c'43, 83, Sept. 10 in San Jose, Calif., where she was a former home economics teacher. She is survived by her husband, Harwood, c'43, g'47; a daughter; three sons, one of whom is Franklin, c'70; and two grandchildren.

Vivian Landrum Pierce, '44, 82, Aug. 16 in Topeka. She lived in Lawrence and is survived by a daughter, Ann, c'68; two sons, Wayne, c'73, and Robert, c'82, g'84; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Lois Ross, c'41, 86, Sept. 6 in Wilmette, Ill., where she was retired vice president of consumer affairs with Quaker Oats. During her 40-year career with the company she directed test kitchens and published recipes and helpful hints under the name Mary Alden. Her nieces and nephews survive.

Duncan Sommerville, c'49, e'51, 75, Oct. 3 in Leawood. He had worked for Midwest Research Institute and Black & Veatch. He is survived by his wife, Lucile; four daughters, three of whom are Janice Sommerville Hagan, c'80, Doris Sommerville Meek, c'81, and Lydia Sommerville Thomas; his mother; and 14 grandchildren.

Harry Spencer Jr., d'49, Sept. 14 in Fresno, Calif., where he was a retired music teacher. He is survived by his wife, Maxine Madden Spencer, f'49, d'51; four sons; a daughter; three stepsons; a stepdaughter; a sister; a brother; five grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; and three stepgreat-grandchildren.

Dwight Sutherland, '45, 81, Oct. 25 in Kansas City, where he was treasurer and a partner in Sutherland Lumber Co. He created the Sutherland Institute for Facial Rehabilitation at the KU Medical Center, was past president of the Kansas Alumni Association, a board member of the KUEndowment Association and a recipient of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion for service to KU and the Distinguished Service Citation for his civic leadership. A memorial has been established with the KUEndowment Association.
Association. He is survived by his wife, Norma Trine Henry Sutherland, c’45; three sons, Dwight Jr., l’77, Todd, assoc., and Perry; a daughter, Martha Sutherland Conrad, g’79; and nine grandchildren.

1950s
Robert Blakely, e’59, 67, Oct. 4 in Athens, Ala., where he was retired from Boeing. A son, two daughters, a brother and five grandchildren survive.

John Brown, c’52, 77, Sept. 20 in Wichita, where he was a retired trust officer with Bank IV. He is survived by his wife, Mary Douglass Brown, d’51; two daughters, Jodie Brown King, d’77, and Corie, j’79; a brother, Norman, c’38, l’40; and four grandchildren.

Louis Claypool, p’53, 75, Oct. 15 in Cheney. He worked for Coberly Drugs in Hutchinson and is survived by his wife, Betty, two sons, two daughters, two brothers, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Richard Cook, p’50, 76, July 3 in Ventura, Calif. He had been a pharmacist, real-estate agent and restaurant owner. He is survived by his wife, Martha Keplinger Cook, c’50; two daughters; two sons; and seven grandchildren.

Shirley French Eakin, c’50, Oct. 13 in Austin, Texas, where she was a nurse. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is Daryl, c’73; and five grandsons.

Gary Fenity, c’57, Sept. 30 in Moraga, Calif., where he was a retired administrative manager with Kaiser Engineers. He is survived by his wife, Mary; a son; a daughter, Douglas Jr., b’53; two half sisters; and a grandson.

Jane Braucher Fugate, c’59, Oct. 20 in Pueblo, Colo., where she had been a nurse and director of the Pueblo Agency on Aging. She is survived by her husband, Gilbert Sanchez; two sons, one of whom is Dave Sieverling, c’86; five stepchildren; her mother, Josephine Braucher Fugate, c’24, g’29; two brothers, one of whom is Brauch Fugate, e’55; and seven grandchildren.

Don Monger, c’51, June 13, 2002, in Miami, where he was retired from the U.S. Naval Observatory and had taught astronomy at Florida International University. A sister and several nieces and nephews survive.

Edward Taylor Jr., b’53, l’56, 73, Oct. 10 in Wichita, where he was retired from Lawyer’s Title Insurance Corp. and had been a judge in the Sedgwick County Small Claims Court. He is survived by a son, three daughters, a stepson, a stepdaughter, two grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

1960s
Jack Hewitt, g’62, PhD’65, 67, Oct. 8 in Prairie Village, where he was a clinical psychologist for Clarence M. Kelley Detention & Youth Services. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Reilly Hewitt, c’62; two daughters, one of whom is Shannon Hewitt Fowlie, c’95; a brother, Charles, c’63, l’66; and six grandchildren.

Raymond Peterson, EdD’61, Aug. 23 in Eden Prairie, where he was former Minnesota Assistant Commissioner of Education. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; three sons, two of whom are Gary, a’72, and Tom, c’78, b’78; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Francis Spencer, c’60, 65, June 29 in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he had worked at the Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center. He is survived by two sons; a brother, Steven, g’67; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Michael Vance, c’68, m’72, July 8 in Paradise Valley, Ariz., where he was a physician. He is survived by two sons; a daughter; and a sister, Sharon Vance Kendrick, d’64, g’66, EdD’72.

1970s
Fred Brening, p’75, 52, Oct. 2 in Hays, where he was a pharmacist and longtime Kansas Honors Program coordinator. He is survived by his wife, Sheila Hull Brening, c’74; two sons; a daughter, Megan, c’01; his mother; and a sister.

Jean Mullin Yonke, g’71, PhD’81, July 8 in Okemos, Mich., after a long battle with cancer. She taught at Michigan State University and community colleges in Michigan and Kansas.

Survivors include her husband, Louis, g’86, a daughter and a son.

1980s
Catherine Dycus, ’82, 48, May 16 in Lawrence. She had studied painting and worked in the library system at KU.

Vivian Irene Fuller, c’82, 61, July 15 in Richmond. She lived in Wellsville. Surviving are a son, two daughters, two brothers, two sisters and three grandchildren.

Sharon Gross, d’84, 41, Oct. 28 in Lawrence, where she had been a school librarian. She is survived by her parents, LeRoy and Shirley Sacks Gross, c’33; and a sister, Leann, d’79.

Phillip Hines, b’80, 43, Sept. 27, and Gail Levy Hines, h’80, 46, Sept. 28 of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident near Santa Fe, N.M. They lived in Albuquerque, where Phil was an FBI agent. Their son and daughter are among survivors.

1990s
John Born, g’95, 45, April 6 in McLouth. He was a nurse anesthetist at Colmery-O’Neil VA Medical Center in Topeka. Surviving are his wife, Mary, two sons, his parents and two sisters.

Melanie Carolan Van Dyke, f’91, 35, Sept. 12. She lived in Healdsburg, Calif., and was an illustrator and graphic artist with the Press Democrat in Santa Rosa. Surviving are her husband, Jeff; a son; a daughter; a stepdaughter; her mother, her father and stepmother, William, e’60, and Diane Ira Carolan, g’81; two sisters, Nancy Carolan, c’86, and Melissa Carolan Gouffray, c’90; two brothers, one of whom is Michael Carolan, c’90, j’90; four stepsisters; and a stepbrother.

Marc Winchester, j’91, 44, July 15 in Lawrence. His mother, a brother and two sisters survive.

The University Community
Aase George, c’26, g’27, 98, Aug. 4 in Lenexa. She was a professor of social welfare and had helped develop the School of Social Welfare. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association.
Family secrets
Paranoia past and present confound Paretsky’s V.I.

As she faced the stress of graduate-school exams at the University of Chicago years ago, Sara Paretsky sought solace in crime novels. She read 24 in one month.

Since then, she’s written a string of her own, starring her brilliant, brash heroine, private investigator V.I. Warshawski.

In Blacklist, the 11th V.I. installment, Paretsky, c’67, confirms her character’s staying power and her own.

Both gutsy women face down their fears: Warshawski in scuba gear, swimming through the sludge of an ice-cold pond to search for clues connected to a dead man she’d found earlier in the pond. Paretsky plunges into the muck of post-9/11 waters, darkened by paranoia, prejudice and threats to individual freedoms. By lacing her modern story with secrets dating to the McCarthy era, she speaks her mind about current government policies under the Patriot Act.

For more than 20 years, Paretsky, a Lawrence native, has told tales tinged with social commentary. Once a reader who indulged in mysteries to escape, she has become a respected, best-selling author by confronting trouble head on.

In Blacklist, the troubles include old-money intrigue, a suspected terrorist and a murder. Chicagoan V.I. drives out to the suburbs to investigate suspicious activity at an abandoned estate, once home to a prominent family, the Grahams. As she checks out the grounds late one night, she surprises Catherine Bayard, the teen-age granddaughter of publishing legend Calvin Bayard. Minutes later she stumbles upon the body of Marcus Whitby, a reporter for an African-American magazine. Whitby had been researching the story of an avant-garde dancer whose career was ruined by a 1950s anti-Communist witch hunt. Warshawski soon senses that the dancer and Whitby’s death are linked to the Graham and Bayard families, longtime power brokers whose secrets are nearly as old as their fortunes.

For Paretsky, Blacklist’s setting amid post-9/11 turmoil seemed eerily ordained, as she explained at an Oct. 14 book signing in Lawrence.

At the end of her 2001 novel, Total Recall, the author had sent V.I.’s lover, Morrell, off to Afghanistan, of all places, because “love interests slow down a crime novel.” Total Recall was published Sept. 4, 2001; on Sept. 9, Paretsky received an e-mail from a befuddled reader, asking what the Taliban was and why the author always filled her books with “stuff nobody’s ever heard of.” Already she had begun outlining her next Warshawski tale around themes of terrorism. Sept. 11 changed all that.

Paretsky struggled to steer V.I.’s story in a new direction, but her mind veered back to the daily...
news, especially her fear of what she calls “overseas extremists and extremists right here at home.” As she learned that the Patriot Act could force libraries to reveal borrowers’ records to law enforcement officials, politics again became personal: Paretsky’s late mother, Mary, had devoted her career to children’s literature at the Lawrence Public Library. Thus Blacklist describes the fallout when governmental agencies peer into library records—and Warshawski’s investigation.

Back in the library where her mom worked for so many years, Paretsky paid homage: “My mother was the greatest storyteller of all time,” she said. “What I do now is a pale comparison.”

What Paretsky does is weave worldly issues into the lives and deaths of palpable characters, intertwining the political and personal to create some of crime fiction’s most intelligent stories, starring the enduring, indomitable V.I.

She said she planned to write one more Warshawski novel by next summer, then take a vacation from her longtime real-life and literary home of Chicago. She wants to retreat to a friend’s farm outside Lawrence and write a story set in the Kaw Valley. Even without V.I., fans still will clamor for a tale told by Paretsky.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

**Big picture**

Professor’s map innovation brings galaxies into focus

Galaxies are not flat, and Sergei Shandarin does not think that our pictures of galaxies should be flat either. He wants to add some peaks and valleys to our galactic images, so we can get a better idea of what galaxies actually look like.

According to Shandarin, professor of physics and astronomy, two-dimensional images lose lots of information about our three-dimensional universe. For instance, it would be hard to tell from just comparing overhead photos that Mount Everest is taller than Mount Oread. The same is true for pictures of galaxies. A single galaxy can span trillions of miles and have a very complex structure. However, current astronomical images mash that complexity flat. As a result, we cannot tell whether a galaxy looks like the Himalayas or a Kansas prairie.

Shandarin and his graduate research assistant, Nurur Rahman, have developed a method to resurrect some of that complexity. They map galaxies using the brightness of stars within the galaxy the same way cartographers use altitude when making topographical maps. They describe their method in the August issue of Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.

Shandarin starts by looking for the brightest stars in the galaxy’s interior. He plays a game of connect-the-dots with these stars and ties them all together with a single line called an isophot. Then he moves to the next brightest stars and draws a second isophot. He continues in this way until he works his way to the galaxy’s edge.

When he is done, Shandarin has covered the galaxy with a series of irregular concentric rings that look like the contour lines on a topographical map. The rings give him an idea of the shape of the galaxy’s interior, and the variation in that shape from one place to another within the galaxy.

Shandarin’s maps are an improvement over years past, when astronomers could only gauge the shape of a galaxy’s perimeter. That led them to lump all galaxies into just three categories: elliptical, spiral (with a whirlpool shape like our own Milky Way) and peculiar (lacking any easily defined shape).

Shandarin’s work shows that the interiors may not always match the exteriors. “We looked at some elliptical galaxies

---

**Poetry circle widens**

A $225,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant will extend the Langston Hughes National Poetry Project “poetry circles” to 20 sites nationwide. The poetry discussion groups are part of an effort to expand the legacy of the eminent poet and writer, who spent part of his childhood in Lawrence. That effort began when KU hosted “Let America Be America Again” (“Rhyme and Reason,” issue No. 2, 2002). The 100th birthday celebration for Hughes, organized by Maryemma Graham, professor of English, drew scholars from around the world.

Community discussions of Hughes’ work have proved popular in Lawrence, Topeka, Iola, Independence, Hays and Norton. The NEH grant will extend the program to nine states and Washington, D.C. It will also fund online and print resources and a Hughes’ Web site, www.kuce.org/hughes.

The goal of the poetry circles is to bring together readers eager to discuss the work of a man considered the most important African-American writer of his day, while also promoting the importance of poetry in general.

“Today’s audiences rarely experience the power of the printed word in poetic form,” Graham says. “Our project seeks to reclaim the preeminence of poetry in our lives, to reconnect poetry to its social and cultural function.”

—Steven Hill
and found that their ellipticity can vary,” Shandarin says. “Sometimes the insides were more circular and the outsides more elliptical.”

So far, Shandarin has tried his method only on elliptical galaxies, but his success makes him confident that the technique will work on others. He says astronomers study the shape of galaxies because such study can reveal the age of a galaxy, how it rotates, and whether stars formed relatively early or late in the galaxy’s life.

One problem with Shandarin’s method is that it looks only at relatively shiny stars. It can miss parts of a galaxy populated by dim objects.

“It’s like trying to figure the population of Earth from satellite pictures taken at night,” Shandarin says. “In the U.S., there are lots of lights because people consume lots of energy. In India, the cities are much darker, even though more people live there.”

—Michael Campbell, g’93, is a Eudora freelance writer.

**OREAD READER**

**Home at last**

* A grieving niece takes up family’s search for lost pilot

My morning newspaper tells me an Army helicopter crashed in Iraq. Nine American soldiers died. Circumstances were uncertain, though witnesses reported hearing a missile. A young Iraqi farmer rushed to the site; there were no survivors to aid. Names of the dead were not reported.

As casually as I reach for another piece of toast I find the sports section.

Diana Thompson Dale, c’69, and her marvelous book, *Finding Billy: An Internet Odyssey*, remind me to consider the losses. Those soldiers who died yesterday in Iraq? They are anonymous casualties to us, but they will be missed. For their families, nothing about the crash will be forgotten, and the newspaper I tossed aside will be clipped by nine weeping mothers and added as a final chapter in too many scrapbooks.

Such was the case for Dale’s family after the October 1944 death of her handsome, 20-year-old uncle, Lt. Billy Wisner. As Dale shows in loving detail, Billy Wisner was the kid every American boy wished he could have had as a pal, and a happy-faced man who made women look twice.

He trained as a pilot for World War II, and was assigned to fly the glamorous P-38, a versatile, twin-fuselage craft that escorted heavy bombers and could make strafing and bombing runs of its own.

Wisner had been in the war five weeks when, on Oct. 17, 1944, he wrote a long letter to his parents in Dallas, announcing he had christened his P-38 the “Golden Slipper,” in honor of their favorite song. Three days later, the Golden Slipper was knocked out of the sky over the Italian Alps.

Lt. Wisner’s plane was struck by parts from two other P-38s that had collided while eluding German shrapnel. Three planes went down but only two parachutes opened. Though nobody could say for certain—except for the young Tyrolean farmer who had rushed to the site, Dale learned decades later during the Internet-powered search that is the basis of her book—the fears of flyers who witnessed the event were correct.

Neither chute had been deployed by Lt. Wisner, a fate obscured from certainty by low clouds.

Two weeks later, on Nov. 3, Billy’s parents were celebrating their 28th wedding anniversary when the phone rang. Ida Wisner was told she had a telegram waiting at the Western Union office. Her son was missing in action.

One year later he was declared dead, and in 1949 the Army officially abandoned any hope of finding Billy’s remains or mountainous crash site.

But that first telegram stated only that Billy was missing, not dead, and Ida Wisner clung to the uncertainty. She wrote innumerable letters to anyone she could think of: Army offices all over the country, Billy’s squadron mates, classmates from pilot training. Nothing worked, and Ida Wisner died in 1976, knowing almost nothing more of her son’s fate than what she learned from the Western Union telegram.

When Dale started noodling with the...
Internet in 1998, she posted a query to a newsgroup dedicated to military-aviation history, asking whether any of the online veterans might have known her uncle. So began the long search that aimed to end the mystery of Billy’s fate.

First, a mild qualifier: Dale’s book, at 353 pages before the afterword, appendices and admirable index, is too long, the Internet saga too minutely detailed. What was surely an astounding computerized adventure at the time is, after five more years of Internet anecdotes, not so mind-boggling, which lessens the need for exhaustive e-mail transcripts.

Finding Billy is beautiful nonetheless. Internet characters who join forces in the intriguing hunt for a long-dead aviator are woven tightly into the story; when they finally appear as real people, we are as delighted as Dale was to meet them in person, and the reader’s heart breaks, as did Dale’s, when a stalwart Internet friend sends along the news that her only son had inexplicably thrown himself off a cliff—not far, it turned out, from where Billy’s P-38 plummeted into the Alps.

Dale’s amateur hunt ultimately outperformed the Army’s, and proved that the Army had thoughtlessly disregarded the grieving family when it failed to pass on news of an important discovery made in the early 1950s.

Yet the search for answers to Billy Wisner’s fate is not what makes this book unforgettable. The imprint is left by letters and photographs that Diana Dale’s grandmother—Billy’s hopeful mother—saved in scrapbooks. There is a snapshot taken on a lake during a rare break from pilot training, Billy and his pal Eddy Steffani rowing into the wind and sun, looking every bit the dashing aviators in their leather jackets. Neither had long to live.

Another flyer’s mother responded to Ida Wisner that she, too, lost a son: “I hope this will learn us to fight wars and rumors of wars. Oh God we have had a hard lesson.”

And there is the unspeakably sad letter written by Ida herself, to her “darling boy,” 12 days after she learned Billy was missing in action. Certain he had survived and been taken prisoner, Ida wrote to the Red Cross, brandishing a mother’s hope that someone might be able to deliver the letter she enclosed.

No words by politicians or peacemakers could possibly do more to scuttle the impetus for war than a letter written by a lonely mother to her dead son. “Don’t forget to pray, darling. Mom loves you very dearly and always will think of you as a little boy. Be sweet, as ever.”

Finding Billy is self-published, by Dale’s “Golden Slipper Press,” and is far beyond the qualities often associated with such works; she funded the project in part with an unexpected windfall from a successful run on “Hollywood Squares.” Her book uses the authentic, brave voices of aviators, family, friends and searchers to tell us stories that should not be forgotten.

It is on bestseller lists in Denver, where Dale lives, yet it also deserves the support of a grateful nation. Finding Billy should be read so that in times of war the morning newspaper is not so easily disregarded.

—Chris Lazzarino

Professor Tim Miller taught his religious-studies students to do field work by counting religious groups in Douglas County. The task proved to be more nuanced than Miller expected.

Simultaneously monitored for a month, or too many regulars would be overlooked.

As the students discovered, it was difficult enough just deciding what counted as a religious group. If people gathered regularly to study or discuss a common book or religious philosophy, but did not actually worship, did they constitute a religious group? The best answer, Miller says, was generally yes: “We tried to be inclusive.”

The U.S. Census stopped reporting on religious groups in 1936, so Miller hopes this study serves in future years as a base for comparative studies.

“This was a technique exercise,” Miller says. “It was about the students learning how to do field work, finding information other than in the library, connecting with people.”

—Chris Lazzarino
A few days before the “Uncle Jimmy” Green memorial statue arrived from the workshop of artist Daniel Chester French, in spring 1924, the engineers’ “Pioneer” statue, then stationed at the boulevard’s west entrance and now tucked between Fraser and Blake halls, was surreptitiously placed atop the Green statue’s unoccupied base. So began decades of high jinks, all of which represent alumni and students’ collective adoration for our Uncle Jimmy statue.

Forgive the School of Law if it feels a bit more proprietary—and, in recent years, left out. James Woods Green was, after all, law’s dean and law’s beloved uncle, and the statue, towering above the Green Hall steps, was law’s visage. So when the school moved to its new home in 1977, a concrete base was constructed for the statue.

Except the statue never arrived.

On Nov. 7, the School of Law’s 125th birthday, Uncle Jimmy finally came home—not as a statue, but a magnificent painting by Lawrence artist Stephen Johnson, f’87.

Dedicated with the help of re-enactors, Johnson’s painting, an oil-on-canvas collage, hangs outside the law library entrance. Though the identity of the student model remains uncertain, legend says French’s inspiration was law graduate Alfred C. Alford, c1896, l1897, who was killed in action in the Philippines Feb. 7, 1899, becoming the first KU alumnus or student to lose his life in battle.

Alford’s heroic circumstance of course legitimizes the legend, and it is comforting to see that he and his mentor, Uncle Jimmy, have finally resumed their protective and inspirational watch over KU’s law students, faculty and staff.

As for the traditional high jinks: Perhaps that’s why the painting is behind protective glass?
Each year we honor individuals with the Fred Ellsworth Medallion, the highest honor for service to KU that the Association bestows. Recipients of the prestigious medallion are selected from nominations submitted to the Alumni Association and reviewed by a special Selection Committee. Recipients will be honored at an awards ceremony in the fall.

Nominations may come from any source and should include a recent résumé of the candidate’s service history, including career, previous honors and service to the University. Letters of support may also be included.

The deadline for nominations for the 2004 Ellsworth medallion awards is March 31. Please send your nomination to Fred B. Williams at the Kansas Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169.
Quite possibly the perfect gift.
(It’s even easy to wrap.)

Visa Gift Cards
Looking for the perfect gift? You can’t miss with Visa® Gift Cards – they can be used virtually anywhere! They’re more personal than checks, cash or store cards, and you can choose from a selection of designs. Designate any gift amount you want!

Ideal for all gift occasions:
- Holidays
- Birthdays
- Weddings
- Graduations
- Employee Incentives
- Special thank-you gifts

INTRUST Bank is also the exclusive provider of KU Platinum Visa Credit Cards and Check Cards.

Give a Gift Card!
intrustgiftcard.com
800-222-7458