On the Rocks
The global threat of glacial melting

- Boog leads Lawrence
- Marvels of Munira
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— James Thomas
MBA 2003
Lieutenant Commander
U.S. Navy
Citizen Boog
His irreverent Costume Party campaign led to one of the most memorable student government elections—and administrations—in KU history. Now the former anarchist with the funny name is mayor of Lawrence. Ladies and gentlemen: Hizzoner, Boog Highberger.

BY STEVEN HILL

Perfect Form
The startling, expressive, fantastical sculptures of graduate student Munira Al-Meer.

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO
Lift the Chorus

Little houses, big stories

Over the many years I have been reading Kansas Alumni (since the early 1940s) there have been many changes—nay, improvements—in your publication, and I usually glance at the articles and read Class Notes and, of course, In Memory. But in the current issue [No. 1, 2005], Chris Lazzarino’s article “Little Glass Houses” caught my eye and I found it totally captivating and thought-provoking.

We too often do not realize how valuable are the people who serve us—perhaps we do not even notice them. In this article Debbie Brown comes across as a real person with real responsibilities and some problems we never even think about. I am glad to know she is on guard and say fie to all who are rude to her.

Thank Chris for taking the time to research and write this article. His story has given me the opportunity to tell you of the pleasure your publication has given me over the years.

Lou Cook, Class of 1944
now known as Lisa Carroll, PhD
Pleasant Hill, Calif.

Before she was a diva

Your article about KU Theatre for Young People [Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 6, 2004] reminded me of an incident in 1958 or 1959 when I was working on a master’s degree. Bea Harvey had cast me as Cap’n Billy Bones in a production for children of “Treasure Island.” Assigned to do my intricately gruesome makeup was an undergraduate named Joyce Malicky, a double major in theatre and music, later to become a noted opera singer. To distract me from my stage fright, Joyce said, “John, I’m the only person I know who can sing a chord. Wanna hear it?” I admitted that I did, and she emitted what was unmistakably a two-note chord, albeit, I think, a minor one.

John Waite Bowers, d’58, g’59
Bend, Ore.

Editor’s note: Joyce Malicky Castle, f’61, now a KU professor of voice, continues to perform worldwide.

Jayhawk envy

What an excellent piece on the many generations that have attended KU over the years [Jayhawk Generations, issue No. 5, 2004]. As a friend and athletics supporter of KU, I’m envious of the great atmosphere of friendship and belonging these individuals have received during their stay “on the Hill.” Having attended an urban university, I sadly admit I never had that great KU experience. But one can certainly tell by reading this article how their lives have been enriched by the association.

Thanks again for the interesting read.

Kent Williams, assoc.
Atlanta

High praise from a loyalist

This edition [issue No. 6, 2004] was outstanding. For once I read every page. I also noted that all but two of the staff are graduates of KU. They know what we want.

I am 90 and in excellent health. I take no medications and run a mile every day. I have season tickets to football and basketball. I have seen every football game since 1932, except when a game fell on a Jewish holiday.

In 1941 Ballour Jeffrey [c’28] and I organized the Jayhawk Loyalty Club of America to raise money for football. We provided scholarships for three athletes. Unfortunately, World War II came along and we had to stop. In addition, I was drafted into the army.

Keep up the good work!

Saul Kass, b’36
Fairway

Cluck, cluck

For years we have been referred to mockingly as “chickenhawks” or taunted by K-State fans and others at events—especially athletics events in Manhattan—with chickens thrown on the floor. Thus I wasn’t thrilled to see the “fledgling” picture of baby chicks in the alumni magazine [issue No. 2]. Et tu, Brute?

Allan Eckelman, d’74,
Sumner, Iowa

Editor’s note: Not at all, Mr. Eckelman.
Even mythical birds were babies once.

Baleful error

Our son and his wife returned earlier this month from a trip to Malta. In a small gift shop in St. Julian’s they discovered among the merchandise two ball caps from the United States—Boston Celtics and KU Jayhawks. Needless to say, the KU hat is no longer there; Jim is happily wearing it.

Regarding the article about wrist wrestler Cheryl Frisbie-Harper [issue No. 1, 2005], there must have been an out-of-state editor on the job. How else could an account of “bucking hay bails” have slipped into print?

Sally Garland Foulks, d’52
James R. Foulks, g’57
Pueblo, Colo.

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is Kansas Alumni magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169; our e-mail address is kualumni@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity.
On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“Tradition and Modernity: Japanese Art of the Early Twentieth Century,” through May 22, Spencer Museum of Art

“Transitions: KU Faculty Artists Explore Change,” through May 22, Spencer Museum of Art

“Bobbin’ and Weavin’: Contemporary Textiles at the Spencer,” May 28-July 31, Spencer Museum of Art


“Invisible Revealed: Surrealist Drawings from the Drukier Collection,” through June 5, Spencer Museum of Art

“Daguerreotype to Digital: Photographs from the Collection,” through July 31, Spencer Museum of Art

University Theatre

JULY

1-2, 7-10 “The Fantasticks” by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt
15-17, 21-23 “Talley’s Folly” by Lanford Wilson

Lied Center 2005-’06

AUGUST

19 Sisters Morales

OCTOBER

1 Avishai Cohen Trio
2 Daedalus String Quartet
8 Dan Zanes and Friends
21 Beijing Modern Dance Co.
22 Czech Opera Prague in Die Fledermaus
25 Merce Cunningham Dance Company

27 The Flying Karamazov Brothers
30 Red Priest—“Nightmare in Venice”

NOVEMBER

2 Barrage—“Vagabond Tales”
5 Kronos Quartet
9 Ravi Shankar
10-11 “Grandchildren of the Buffalo Soldiers”
12 Arlo Guthrie

The University dedicated its Korean War Memorial early on the morning of April 16. The monument, designed by University Architect and Korean War veteran Warren Corman, e’50, includes the names of 44 Jayhawks who lost their lives in the war. Support for the memorial came from Yong L. Kim, Leawood, and a group of KU alumni and business leaders in Seoul, Korea, led by Jong W. Han, g’59. Air Force ROTC cadet Eric Buschelman, left, gave a moving tribute to the service of soldiers past, present and future. The copper sculpture, “Korean Cranes Rising,” by Jon Havener, ’83, KU professor of design, graces the space, which overlooks Potter Lake just west of the Campanile.
JANUARY
24 Tap Dogs

FEBRUARY
10 Turtle Island String Quartet
15 Soweto Gospel Choir
17 Canada’s Royal Winnipeg Ballet in “The Magic Flute”
23 “Oklahoma!”
26 Salzburg Chamber Soloists with Andreas Klein

MARCH
3 Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul
12 Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg
15 “The Will Rogers Follies, A Life in Revue”
31 2005 Van Cliburn Piano Competition Gold Medal Winner

APRIL
2 Jacques Thibaud String Trio with Eugenia Zukerman
7 Imani Winds
8 New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players in “The Mikado”
22 Convoy Cubano

Special events

MAY
22 Commencement lunch, The Outlook

JUNE
10-11 Knoxville, Tenn.: Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame induction ceremonies honoring Lynette Woodard, c’81. For more information, call 865-633-9000 or visit www.wbhof.com.

Academic Calendar

MAY
22 Commencement

JUNE
7 Summer classes begin

JULY
29 Summer classes end

AUGUST
18 Fall classes begin

Alumni events

MAY
23 Concordia: Rock Chalk Reception for Wheat State Whirlwind Tour
24 Dallas Chapter: Kansas City Royals vs. Texas Rangers baseball outing
25 Dodge City: KU Jayhawk Dinner for Wheat State Whirlwind Tour

JUNE
18 San Diego Chapter: Sixth annual Big 12 Chili Cook-off and Family Picnic
23 New York Chapter: Alumni boat cruise

JULY
24 Chicago Chapter: Freshman sendoff picnic
30 Chicago Chapter: KU alumni Venetian Night boat cruise

Among those attending the dedication ceremony were (l to r), business leaders and donors Young Bin Min, Suk-Kee Yoh and Y.K. Lee; Yong L. Kim, Leawood; George Frederickson, KU distinguished professor of public administration, who wore a medal for service given to him by the Korean government; and Jeff Weinberg, assistant to the chancellor and a liaison to KU Korean alumni.
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Leave a Legacy
Your gift will help The University of Kansas and will be directed as you desire.

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These figures are for illustration purposes only. Minimum age: 55. Minimum gift: $10,000.
The deduction is variable and based on the available IRS Discount Rate.
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KANSAS UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT
Euphoria is easy to see in a slam dunk or a touch-down spike—and the hand slaps and hugs that usually follow.

But sheer joy also rushes through moments not made for TV. For Prasad Gogineni, it arrived via e-mail as he was eating breakfast one February morning. His proposal to create a National Science Foundation center for polar ice research had won approval. After an 18-month process, Gogineni and his colleagues would receive one of two grants awarded from 168 proposals.

The professor, he confessed days later, couldn’t stop shaking. But his elation, he soon realized, needed to yield to protocol. Though he could hardly contain his excitement, he had to contain the story. For six excruciating weeks. When the story involves $19 million from a federal agency, good news must travel with the utmost caution.

So Gogineni, Deane E. Ackers Distinguished Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, waited, working with the NSF to verify all the particulars of the center, which will open next month.

In the larger, long-term scenario that is scientific research, six weeks was not really so long. After all, as Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway explained April 11 at the press conference announcing the record-setting NSF award, “We’ve been at it 40 years.”

It was the 1960s research in microwave remote sensing conducted by Richard Moore, now a professor emeritus, that laid the foundation for what will be known as the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS).

Gogineni, PhD’84, who came to KU from his native India to study with Moore as a doctoral student, will direct the center.

Through the years, Gogineni and other scholars have adapted and refined Moore’s concepts for their own studies of polar ice. Gogineni landed a 2001 NSF grant that brought international recognition to KU; the new CReSIS study confirms KU’s pre-eminence in research on global warming.

Of course, the irony of such a specialty in landlocked Kansas is not lost on the scholars or the international media that have covered the story. David Braaten, associate professor of geography who will help guide CReSIS as deputy director, says the effects of global warming reach far beyond coastlines. “We are high enough above sea level here that we’ll stay dry, but we have seen big changes in heat, drought and flooding due to changes in rainfall time and amount. This is a worldwide problem.”

CReSIS is KU’s second NSF-funded center: The Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis received a then-record $17 million grant in fall 2003. KU is one of only five U.S. universities to direct two such centers; the other schools sharing the distinction are the universities of Arizona, California-Berkeley, Illinois and Washington.

On April 11, as he thanked the many dignitaries gathered, Gogineni took a few moments to honor his family: One of his sons is a KU senior majoring in political science and economics. “We have a family history of attending KU. I want to thank KU for my graduate education and for the opportunity it provided me to succeed professionally.”

Special thanks go to Moore, whom Gogineni calls “an outstanding graduate adviser. He encouraged me to look at bigger issues.” Twenty years ago, when the graduate student and his mentor decided KU might be the place where he could build his career, Moore held a faculty position open for 18 months while Gogineni and his family sorted through frustrating immigration issues so they could make Kansas their permanent home. “I could not have had a better mentor,” Gogineni says. “He was extremely loyal. He kept his word. He had faith in me.

“I think I’ve justified that faith.”

Gogineni, PhD’84, who came to KU from his native India to study with Moore as a doctoral student, will direct the center.

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Coffeyville, that held on the longest. The war surplus building was moved to KU in 1946, and for more than 50 years offered studio space to architecture students, thereby enriching their war stories of legendary all-nighters.

Enough was enough long ago. Lindley Annex was supposed to come down last year, until the appropriated money did not come through. Now the project has been approved by the Legislature, funding and replacement studio space both have been secured, and the building will soon meet its overdue end.


◆      ◆      ◆

Raze of sunshine

With this summer’s anticipated razing of Lindley Annex, Mount Oread finally will be rid of its “temporary” World War II-era buildings.

“My definition of ‘temporary,’” says University architect Warren Corman, e’50, “is, ‘Permanent until torn down.’”

Barracks and other utilitarian buildings once dotted the empty spaces of Mount Oread. Some, including the barracks near Memorial Stadium and the dreaded Quonset hut tucked behind Bailey Hall, endured as “temporary” office space well into the 1970s and ’80s.

But it was Lindley Annex, originally a U.S. Army kitchen-cafeteria in Coffeyville, that held on the longest. The war surplus building was moved to KU in 1946, and for more than 50 years offered studio space to architecture students, thereby enriching their war stories of legendary all-nighters.

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Crossroads for the ages

What began as a simple T-shirt promotion turned into a captivating stroll through history for Jacob Shipley, ’01, manager of The Crossing, the off-campus hangout that has served as a social hub, under one name or another, since 1923.

That’s according to Shipley’s research, which he started so the bar could sell shirts emblazoned with the bar’s various incarnations. Shipley pored through city records and Jayhawker yearbooks, but his favorite reading was *Cows Are Freaky When They Look At You*, a 1991 book of Kaw Valley’s hippie history compiled and edited by David Ohle, g’72, Roger Martin, g’73.

◆      ◆      ◆

Giddyup, big fella

One of Mount Oread’s most visible campus icons is about to get a bit more, well, visible.

We’re talking about the horse, of course: Comanche, the U.S. Army’s sole survivor of the Battle of Little Bighorn and beloved artifact of KU’s Museum of Natural History.

Museum staff are remodeling the fifth floor, Comanche’s home since the late 1950s, into a changing exhibit space. They will move the taxidermied warhorse to a more prominent spot near the main entrance on the fourth floor. He’ll be stabled in a new case with better climate control and fiber optic lights that are easier on the old horse’s hide. New interpretive labels and a computer DVD station will update the exhibit, which should be in place by fall.

But first, museum staff must complete a rigorous pre-move process that has included constructing a full-scale, foam-board model of Comanche to ensure he can fit through doorways and negotiate tight turns. The closest squeeze leaves a mere half-inch of wiggle room, according to Bruce Scherting, exhibits director.

“We’ve asked the horse to hold its breath,” Scherting says. “Better cinch up that saddle, old boy.”
and Susan Brosseau, ’83. “I read so many stories,” Shipley says, “about things that happened right here.”

Hipsters who made 12th and Oread rock would surely be glad to see The Crossing’s mellow scene, with students socializing on the sunny porch. Though the spirit lives on, there are differences: Thanks to a new city ordinance, the smoking ban now includes tobacco cigarettes, too.

◆ ◆ ◆

Song sung blue

John Paul Johnson, professor of music and director of choral activities, says that when he devised a scheme to get the KU Men’s Glee Club on “The Price is Right,” he realized the first requirement, as with any con game, would be confidence: “I would have to be bigger than life ... and anybody who knows me knows that’s not hard to do.”

Johnson, who helped lead a group of 45 glee-club members on a performance tour of Los Angeles during winter break, showed up at CBS Studios Jan. 10 and announced to a page, “We’re here to sing.” To which the page responded, “You’re here to do what?” To which Johnson replied, “Bob Barker loves choral music! Everybody loves chorales!”

Sure enough, all 25 Jayhawks on the field trip got in, and sure enough, Johnson’s name was picked from the studio audience to “Come on down!” When Johnson arrived at contestants’ row, Barker, who by then had gotten wind of the plot and was eager to play along, whispered, “If we’re going to feature you on national television, you have to sound like you know something.” Which Johnson interpreted to mean, apparently correctly, that it would not be helpful to waffle over the price of patio furniture.

Although Johnson didn’t win the game, he and the Jayhawks did win the big prize, being called up by Barker, a Missouri native, to perform “I’m a Jayhawk” on national television, in an episode broadcast Feb. 9. Which, for the students who frantically phoned family and friends as soon as the taping concluded, was a prize that couldn’t be overbid, an experience truly priceless.

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

Want to attract more state support for higher education? Trumpet your school’s increased research funding, its record of state service, its showing in surveys put out by college guides and magazines such as U.S. News and World Report.

Or, if all else fails, its five-star squirrels.

That’s exactly what officials at Kansas State did during a February briefing before the Senate Ways and Means Committee in Topeka. With tongue planted firmly in cheek, we assume, a KSU representative noted that the campus nut-hoarders drew top marks from Jon’s World o’ Squirrels, a Web site devoted to all things squirrely. The site’s Campus Squirrel Listings (w ww.gottshall.com/squirrels) assigns ratings based on field reports from students and alumni. K-State got high marks for the abundance, friendliness and prettiness of its bushy-tailed rodents. And for the fact that its campus newspaper, the Kansas State Collegian, publishes a special squirrel issue each semester.

KU, we note, did not make the list. That’s easily remedied: Anyone wishing to lobby for Mount Oread’s furry friends can send an e-mail to jon@gottshall.com.

Sure, it sounds nutty, but it can’t be any harder than lobbying the Legislature.
One of Saralyn Reece Hardy’s favorite works in the Spencer Museum of Art’s permanent collection is a mixed media sculpture by Petah Coyne called “Untitled #751 (Craig’s Piece).”

“I’m actually thinking about that work a lot,” says Hardy, who in March became director of KU’s 28-year-old art museum. “It’s this rather large piece of sculpture that seems to be in process; you don’t know if it’s becoming or decaying. It has the imprint of youth, so it’s somewhere in between.”

Hardy notes, in particular, the artist’s use of recycled materials. “I think that’s quite useful to think about when you are thinking about reshaping a place.”

Hardy, c’76, g’94, returns to the Spencer (she worked there as a project coordinator from 1977 to 1979) after a long tenure at the Salina Arts Center, which she began leading in 1986. She helped transform the small community gallery into a contemporary art center hosting national and international exhibitions. In 2004 the center won a major grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation and received a donated building in Salina’s warehouse district to host regional, national and international artists in need of working and living space. Hardy also oversaw development of education programs, an interactive art area for children and a film program. She left Salina in 1999 for a three-year appointment at the National Endowment for the Arts, where she served as chief museum and visual arts expert.

Hardy plans to spend her first six months to a year formulating plans for the Spencer—“I know enough about cultural institutions to know that you can’t come in with a vision; you have to come in and see what you’ve got,” she says—but already she has a clear idea of the balance she wants to strike between the museum’s traditional role as the keeper of KU’s art treasures and its potential to become a vibrant center of debate that uses art to jump-start a lively exchange of ideas.

“I think the big challenge with the Spencer is how do you maintain the quiet elegance and authority while you generate improvisation and questions,” Hardy says. “I don’t think those two are mutually exclusive.”

Long-stated goals such as increasing traffic (among students in particular) and expanding gallery space won’t be ignored, but Hardy says she’s more concerned with what happens once people venture inside the museum.
“I’m interested in how their lives shift, how decision-making becomes more complex, how people are able to ask questions in a more thoughtful way. I’m interested in how people change and grow when they look at art.”

In addition to acquainting herself with the museum and its staff, Hardy will reach out to what she calls the “creative fires” of the University, from faculty members in art and design to those in the biosciences, engineering and pharmacy. Her approach reflects what will likely be a multidisciplinary take on the visual arts, one that strives to recognize the potential for creativity in fields not traditionally considered “artistic,” and a more expansive view of the Spencer’s role on campus.

“I do see the museum and its reach more like a connective force,” Hardy says. “I would love it if the Spencer began to feel less like a thing and more like a system of values and meanings and relationships that permeate the whole campus.”

In the meantime, Hardy has taken steps to better learn the museum’s feel. She relocated the director’s office to the third floor, where she can watch the flow of students and museumgoers through the Spencer’s main entrance.

“I want to see the students moving in and out, and I want people to poke their head in my office,” Hardy says. “We welcome ideas. They don’t all have to be ours.”

Her door is always open.

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**Degrees of difficulty**

Federal grants fund new special ed programs that address need for autism education

Two U.S. Department of Education grants worth a combined $2 million will equip KU’s top-rated special education program to train more people to work with the growing numbers of children and adolescents who have autism and emotional behavior disorders.

A four-year, $800,000 grant will allow the School of Education to train doctoral students to become leaders in research, teacher education, advocacy and program management in the fields of emotional and behavior disorders and autism spectrum disorders. A five-year, $1.25 million grant will fund a master’s degree program to train teachers, speech pathologists, occupational therapists and other school personnel to work directly with children who experience autism, childhood disintegrative disorder, Rett’s disorder, Asperger syndrome, pervasive developmental disorder and other developmental disabilities.

“Kids with autism and kids with emotional behavior disorders are often among the most difficult children and adolescents to teach, manage and provide services for,” says Richard Simpson, professor of special education. “What we know from a variety of research projects is there are some specialty skills people need if they are going to successfully work with these kids, and there is a real scarcity of teachers who have the specialty skills to address these especially difficult-to-teach kids.”

Simpson, EdD’73, says the dramatic rise in autism in the past decade has contributed to the workforce shortage.

“Autism was considered a low incidence disability not too long ago, but now it’s quite common,” he says. “Unfortunately, higher education and teacher training programs have not kept pace with the demand.”

According to the advocacy group FightingAutism, U.S. cases of the disorder soared from 15,000 in 1992 to 141,000 in 2003. Simpson says the most recent scientific data suggest the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders is approximately one in 166. Only a few years ago the prevalence estimate was one in 2,000 to one in 2,500.

KU’s special education program has long been considered one of the best in the country. Since

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“We have had a startling increase in the numbers of autistic kids, but we don’t have the workforce in place to help them.”

—Richard Simpson

Brenda Smith Myles, Richard Simpson and project coordinator Deb Griswold will oversee two new graduate programs in special education.
1995, it has received the top ranking from U.S. News and World Report every year but two. Studies in special education research dating back to 1978 identify the special education doctoral program as the best in the nation.

That status makes the program ideally suited to quickly address the demand for leaders and practitioners in public schools and other institutions where more help for children with autism is a dire need, Simpson notes.

“We have an ongoing program that we are able to build on, which is really the best possible scenario,” he says. “The KU program is one of the few in the country that really has a longstanding good program. Several universities are coming online with autism programs, but they don’t really have the background, the history and the experience to immediately address the demand.”

Simpson will oversee the new degree programs with Brenda Smith Myles, PhD’90, associate professor of education. Five doctoral students and a dozen full-time master’s students are expected to enroll the first year, along with another dozen or so part-time master’s students. Though the programs are separate, students will do field work together in public schools.

“Our master’s students will have the opportunity to learn not only from our faculty and staff, but also from our doctoral students,” Simpson says. “In turn, our doctoral students will have the opportunity to supervise and mentor the master’s students. So it’s really fortuitous that we hit on both of these relatively large grants and that they were slated to take place in the same school districts. It’s natural that we would link them together.”

Stage two

Lied Center acts on long-held goal, announces fund drive for expansion

When Tim Van Leer of the Lied Center announced in February that he wants to raise $7.5 million by June 30 to expand the University’s performing arts center, the plan might initially have struck some as counterintuitive: To offer a more intimate concert- and theatre-going experience, the 2,000-seat center for the performing arts first proposes to grow.

While campus construction projects usually build bigger rooms to accommodate greater crowds, the Lied Center will add a smaller, 800-seat theatre to free up the big hall’s calendar for large-scale productions while allowing groups such as the KU Symphony Orchestra and the University Dance Company to perform in a more suitable setting.

“It’s going to allow us to put events in a more proper environment that will benefit artists and audiences,” says Van Leer, executive director of the center.

“The existing facility is great for a performance such as a Broadway show that draws a large audience,” he explains. “We want to complement that theatre with the new addition, which will provide space for much more intimate events such as a string quartet performance.”

The project would also add a visual arts

A proposed expansion would add new theatre space along the Lied Center’s northeast wall and a visual arts gallery and expanded lobby to the south.

Hilltopics

Rock Chalk, postdoc

KU ranks as one of the 10 best schools in the nation for postdoctoral researchers, according to The Scientist, a life sciences trade magazine. KU ranked 10th among 122 schools and was the only Big 12 school on the list.

KU ranks as one of the 10 best schools in the nation for postdoctoral researchers, according to The Scientist, a life sciences trade magazine. KU ranked 10th among 122 schools and was the only Big 12 school on the list.
Plainspoken

Kent Haruf, whose novels Plainsong and Eventide chronicle small-town life on the high plains of northeastern Colorado, read from his work and gave a talk as part of the Eberhardt Lecture sponsored by the department of English and the office of the chancellor.

WHEN: April 6
WHERE: The Kansas Memorial Union and the Spencer Museum of Art

BACKGROUND: Published in 1999, the best-selling Plainsong won the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award and was a finalist for the National Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the New Yorker Book Award. His sequel, Eventide, was published in 2004.

ANECDOTE: Haruf’s time as a graduate student at KU was interrupted by the Vietnam draft. The son of a Methodist minister, he returned to his native Colorado after passing a military physical in Kansas City and successfully lobby his local draft board for conscientious objector status. He did noncombat service at a hospital and an orphanage and later worked for the Peace Corps in Turkey.

QUOTE: “I never use the word inspiration in regard to writing. That makes it sound like all you have to do is translate a story to the page. Writing is messy. Writing is rewriting. When I start a novel, I’ve thought about it for a year; I’ve brooded over it.”

“I reject the idea that I’m simply writing about northeastern Colorado. Surely those human predicaments are also true elsewhere.”

—Kent Haruf
GREEK LIFE
Fraternity expelled for open-door beer bash

The Interfraternity Council’s judicial board unanimously voted in early March to expel Phi Kappa Theta fraternity, the first such expulsion in IFC history.

The fraternity’s troubles began with a Feb. 19 keg party at which members were allegedly charging $5 for unlimited beer. Lawrence police issued at least eight citations and seized 16 kegs of beer. Marlesa Roney, vice provost for student success, condemned the fraternity for “willful and egregious violation of University policies and, frankly, the trust of our community,” and IFC expelled the fraternity soon thereafter.

Phi Kappa Theta lost its appeal to the IFC executive board March 31. Its headquarters then revoked the chapter’s charter and told members and alumni they would not be permitted to appeal to the IFC general assembly, ending, for now, a KU legacy that began in 1915.

“We are very disappointed in the actions of the KU chapter,” said national secretary Kevin Lampe. “When these things happen, we need to take responsibility and quickly stand up for the values this fraternity believes in, which we did.”

Lampe said it is hoped Phi Kappa Theta’s support for the expulsion of its 35-member chapter will help the fraternity succeed with an eventual bid to reorganize here, perhaps by 2009.

Phi Kappa Theta had long occupied a chapter house on Stewart Avenue, and in recent years moved to the 11th Street house, adjacent to Memorial Stadium, formerly occupied by Delta Tau Delta.

—Chris Lazzarino

MULTICULTURAL RESOURCES
Multicultural center funded; Union may expand

A four-year campaign by students has raised $2.7 million for a new Multicultural Resource Center, and the project will lead to more construction at the Kansas Memorial Union.

The resource center will be built on the north side of the union, level with the building’s fourth floor and Jayhawk Boulevard. The cost of the 7,000-square-foot addition will be funded with a $3.50 student fee that is expected to raise more than $1.5 million in the next 10 years, and a $1 million gift from the Sabatini Family Foundation of Topeka.

If union officials can raise money to cover construction costs, they also want to expand the union’s second and third floors beneath the center. The project would enlarge the union bookstore by 10 percent and provide more space for offices and meeting rooms.

“It’s totally opportunity,” says Pat Beard, director of building services. “We just can’t ignore the opportunity that exists there, and we have the need for space.”

Construction on the resource center will begin in August or September and is expected to wrap up by fall 2006.

Class credit
Six juniors were winners of two of the nation’s most prestigious academic prizes this spring.

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships, considered the premier undergraduate award in science, engineering and mathematics, went to Shawn Henderson, a Wichita physics and mathematics major; David Hover, an Overland Park physics and mathematics major; and Hannah Swift, an Olathe physics, mathematics and astronomy major. The scholarships provide up to $7,500 in tuition, books and other expenses.

Morris K. Udall Scholarships worth $5,000 went to Laura M. Adams, a Topeka civil and environmental engineering major; Andrew Harrington, an Olathe architectural engineering major; and Trisha Shrum, an Olathe environmental studies and biology major. Receiving honorable mention were Rebecca Evansho, a Derby chemistry and journalism major; and Catherine Kollhoff, a Beloit chemical engineering and journalism major. The Udall scholarships support students planning careers in fields related to the environment.
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg visits School of Law

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg first encountered her colleague Chief Justice William Rehnquist in the 1970s, when she argued six landmark cases on gender equality before the U.S. Supreme Court. As the first director of the Women’s Rights Project for the American Civil Liberties Union, she answered his tough questions and won five of the six cases.

Ginsburg recalled her early arguments before the high court during her first visit to the KU School of Law March 10. Acknowledging her differences with Rehnquist and other conservative justices on the court, she described them as good friends who share enormous respect for one another. She singled out Rehnquist for his courage in battling cancer. “The chief was always a man of few words. Now he’s more concise,” she said. “We’re all so proud of him for not letting this disease defeat him. He was determined to swear in the president, and he did.”

Ginsburg, 72, was the first woman hired as a tenured professor at Columbia Law School, and in 1980 was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the U.S. Court of Appeals. In 1993 she became the second woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

RESEARCH EXPENDITURES SET RECORDS for the second straight year as grants and contracts from the federal government reached $155.2 million in fiscal 2004. Overall research expenditures totaled $274 million, a 6.2 percent increase over last year’s record $258 million. “This announcement reflects KU’s stature as a world-class research university,” said Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway. “The continued upward trend in research expenditures is a testament to our faculty’s outstanding efforts across a broad range of disciplines.”

THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE’S Kansas Child Welfare Scholars Program won the first Academic Excellence Award from the American Public Human Services Association. The KU-based program is a partnership between the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services and the Social Work Education Consortium that improves child welfare services across the state by training social workers.

THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ranked third in the nation for National Institutes of Health funding in fiscal 2004. Pharmacy received more than $13 million in NIH funding. This marks the sixth time in seven years the school has ranked in the top five.

FRANK DESALVO, the director of counseling and psychological services, was named interim dean of students April 8. He replaces Richard Johnson, associate vice provost and dean of students. Johnson’s employment was terminated for cause after an internal investigation of a formal complaint filed against him in late March.

SPRING ENROLLMENT SET A RECORD for the second straight year. Enrollment at the Lawrence campus hit 25,379, an increase of 31 students over the previous high set last spring. Total enrollment (which includes the Lawrence and Edwards campuses and the KU Medical Center) reached 27,890, up from 27,772 last spring.

PAUL STEPHEN LIM, professor of English and creator of KU’s English Alternative Theater, is the newest Chancellor’s Club Teaching Professor. The professorships, established in 1981, honor teaching excellence and recipients are chosen by students and colleagues.

THE FIRST-YEAR DEBATE TEAM won the National Novice Championship Tournament in Evanston, Ill., in March. Sophomores Lindsey Lathrop, Overland Park political science major, and Brett Bricker, Wichita mathematics major, edged out 12 teams to win KU’s first national title in the novice category.
filled Memorial Stadium April 23 for the final afternoon of the Kansas Relays. She surely knows they’re talking about her. And she definitely hears the embarrassing goofs by the public-address announcer, who repeatedly mistakes her for the only other Jayhawk competing in the women’s invitational pole vault, Ekaterina Sultanova, a freshman from Russia.

And yet when she badly misses a vault at 13 feet, 11 inches, but is rewarded with another attempt after Manson leaps to his feet to tell the judges the crossbar support column had fallen out of position during the jump, Linnen saunters past, wearing the retro-hip knee-high Jayhawk socks she bought for herself in the KU Bookstore, winks, and says, cool as Bette Davis, “Thanks, guys.”

And suddenly Amy Linnen, two-time NCAA champion and already the best woman vaulter in KU history, has won over three more fans.

“The first thing to say about Amy,” Manson observes, “is that she’s a proven big-meet performer. That might sound obvious, but it’s a big deal. Lots of vaulters have the ability but don’t do well when it counts. Amy does.”

Linnen’s strange odyssey began at Mt. Sinai High School on Long Island, N.Y., where she took up pole vaulting after growing too tall for gymnastics. An athletic 5-feet-10, with good gymnastics skills to maneuver herself upside down, Linnen established herself as the top-ranked high-school vaulter in the country, and chose to attend the University of Arizona and train with Hays.

As a sophomore Linnen won the NCAA indoor championship with an NCAA-record vault of 14 feet, 10.25 inches. Then followed a series of setbacks, including injuries to an Achilles tendon and a foot, and then the most devastating loss of all, her coach, who returned to Kansas to be with his family at their McLouth home while coaching at Johnson County Community College.

“Being tall is a big advantage, but it’s also harder to swing yourself upside down,” Pat Manson said while watching Amy Linnen at the Kansas Relays. “If they can do the gymnastics, they’re in great shape.” Linnen took up vaulting only after she grew too tall for gymnastics.

Up, up and away

Senior transfer with two NCAA titles makes the most of her brief KU vaulting career

Talk about smooth. Here she is, only a few months into the first and last semester of her KU track career, and Amy Linnen knows the three guys sitting on a bench just a few feet away are watching her every move. And she knows exactly who they are: two of the greats in KU’s rich vaulting tradition, Scott Huffman, j’88, and Pat Manson, e’91, and the 2000 Olympic gold medalist, Nick Hysong.

She knows that, except for her coach, Tom Hays, ’89, also an all-conference KU vaulter in the 1980s, these three have the wisest eyes among the many thousands of spectators who
Suddenly adrift after so much early success, Linnen struggled through one more season at Arizona before finally heading to the University of Arkansas, where she planned to enroll last fall for one final collegiate season. When she found out the Southeastern Conference would not accept a senior transfer, her heartbreak was tempered with the unexpected news that Hays, after one season at JCCC, had been hired by coach Stanley Redwine to coach KU vaulters.

Linnen rushed to Lawrence, where, she says, administrators, coaches and teammates welcomed her warmly. She began competing once she was officially enrolled for the spring semester, and promptly won the Big 12 and NCAA indoor titles and set the KU women’s indoor record at 14 feet, 1.25 inches.

“In the past four years I’ve faced a lot of obstacles,” she says. “I’ve lived in three different states in the past year. But I take the positive out of it. I keep meeting new people and making new friends, which is great, and I can’t tell you how fantastic everyone has been to me here. I definitely feel like I’m home now.”

Although she finished second to veteran April Steiner at the Kansas Relays, because she had one more miss at the winning height than did Steiner, Linnen appears on target for a good run at the NCAA outdoor championship, June 8-11 in Sacramento, Calif. Before her indoor title this spring, the last KU vaulter to win an NCAA championship was Terry Porter, in the 1973 men’s indoor, and Jan Johnson, in the 1970 men’s outdoor.

“Amy is very tall, has great running mechanics, and is very athletic on the pole,” Hays says. “Potentially, she’s probably one of the best in the country. If her perception of what she can do gets better, she can be one of the best American vaulters of all time.”

With bountiful stars and customized scheduling that grouped all the highlighted events on Saturday afternoon, the Relays attracted a crowd of 24,200, including 17,000 on Saturday alone.

Among the highlights:

Junior Benson Chesang won the mile, senior Jeremy Mims won the 800, senior Brooklyn Hann won the women’s triple jump, and junior Abby Emsick won the discus.

The men’s 100-meter dash was won by John Capel, one of the top sprinters in the world, in 10.10 seconds, edging Mark Jelks and Olympic champion Maurice Greene. Marion Jones’ 800-meter relay team appeared to run away to a huge victory, but was later disqualified for an illegal handoff. Dominique Arnold won the 110 hurdles in 13.33 seconds, the best time in the world to date. Star high-jumper Amy Acuff finished second to KSU alumna Gwen Wentland. Olympic silver medalist Matt Hemingway won the men’s high jump.

“I’ve never been here before, and I’m kicking myself in the behind,” Jones said, gazing up at the big, loud, sun-drenched crowd. “I want to come back.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Early exit

Title hopes dashed as Kansas loses NCAA first-round game for first time since 1978

Aaron Miles sat on the floor of the Ford Center locker room in Oklahoma City, slumped against a wall with his head in his hands, as he tried to come to terms with one of the most shocking losses in Kansas basketball’s storied history.

Olympic gold-medalists Marion Jones and Maurice Greene were among the many track-and-field stars who appeared to genuinely savor the Kansas Relays. They typically must travel to Europe to find enthusiastic track crowds.
“My career as a Jayhawk basketball player is over,” Miles said, after the Bucknell Bison stunned KU, 64-63, in the first round of the NCAA tournament. “And it ended in a terrible way.”

Maybe it was the “Spirit of the Buffalo” art exhibition that brought 100 painted bison to the Oklahoma City streets that tipped the cosmic scales in Bucknell’s favor. Or maybe it was just the law of averages finally evening out. Whatever the cause, the defeat broke a string of 21 first-round wins for Kansas and completed a disappointing final month in which the preseason No. 1 squad that started the year 20-1 dropped six of its last nine games, squandering a two-game lead in the Big 12 and a potential NCAA top seed.

But perhaps the most jarring aspect of KU’s loss to a 14th seed was the unexpectedly swift completion it brought to the careers of Miles and his fellow seniors.

“Having it end so abruptly is devastating for those guys,” coach Bill Self said of Miles, Keith Langford, Michael Lee and Wayne Simien, who appeared in two Final Fours and an Elite 8 while compiling a four-year record of 110 wins 28 losses. “I don’t have enough words to say how proud of them I am. Just because we lost a game doesn’t change what they accomplished.”

Against Bucknell, Kansas suffered a horrid shooting night from beyond the arc, missing all five three-point attempts in the first half and making only one of six in the second half.

Despite trailing much of the first half, the Jayhawks battled back to lead by three at the break, due largely to the play of Simien and Lee. Starting in place of Langford, who was still recovering from a bout of flu and a sprained ankle, Lee combined with Simien to score 24 of KU’s 31 first-half points. Overcoming poor outside shooting with strong inside play, Kansas shot 54 percent and held Bucknell to 31 percent.

Those percentages reversed in the second half, as Bucknell made more than half its shots, including five of 12 threes. Kansas, which shot only 33 percent and went the last eight minutes without a field goal, stayed close by hitting 15 of 16 free throws.

As the clock ticked down to the final minute, the Jayhawks trailed, 62-57. Lee made two free throws, then stole the ball from Bucknell’s Charles Lee, who committed an intentional foul. The senior’s two free throws set the score at 62-61 with 52 seconds remaining. Kansas retained possession, and Langford was fouled at the 24-second mark. His two free throws gave the Jayhawks the lead and brought KU fans to their feet.

But after Chris McNaughton banked in a shot from the lane, Bucknell led with 8 seconds left. As he had done so many times this year with last-second heroics against Georgia Tech and Iowa State, Langford stepped up to take the potential game-winner. The shot was short, however, and Kansas was forced to foul. After Bucknell missed the front end of a one-and-one, the Jayhawks had one last opportunity with 2.4 seconds remaining.

This time, Kansas went to Simien. Standing under the Bucknell basket, Lee fired a perfect three-quarter-court pass; Simien caught the ball at the foul line, turned and launched a fadeaway jumper. “It was the perfect play, the perfect draw up, and Mike Lee made the perfect pass,” Simien said. “It felt good right up to the point it rimmed out.

“I don’t know how many game-winning shots I made in my back yard dreaming I was a Jayhawk,” Simien added. “It just didn’t work out.”

While their team goal of returning to the Final Four slipped away, the seniors will leave with an impressive array of accomplishments to their credit. Simien was named to the All-America first team by the Associated Press and was a finalist for the Naismith and Wooden player-of-the-year awards. The Big 12 player of the year was also named a first-team selection by the U.S. Basketball Writers, National Association of Basketball Coaches and Sporting News, making him eligible to have his jersey hung in the rafters of Allen Field House.

Miles’ 954 assists set Kansas and Big 12 records and ranks him among the top 10 NCAA assist leaders. Langford’s 1,812 points ranks sixth on the all-time Kansas scoring list. And Michael Lee joined Miles and junior Christian Moody on the Academic All-Big 12 team this spring. All four seniors are on track to graduate May 22.
Located in a residential neighborhood just moments from Lawrence's vibrant, cultural and academic atmosphere, Brandon Woods is a community where you design your days. Our full, resident-focused activities calendar includes everything from aqua aerobics and writing classes to presentations, seminars and performances at and by the University of Kansas. The University even offers continuing education programs at Brandon Woods in the Smith Center.

While we provide monthly housekeeping, maintenance, groundskeeping and scheduled transportation, you can take advantage of our fitness area, indoor heated pool, woodworking shop and library. Or, you can join your friends for a delicious meal prepared under the direction of our certified chef in the Woodlands Restaurant. As a resident of one of our spacious apartment homes or equity-owned townhomes, you'll even receive a complimentary social and dining membership to the Alvamar Country Club.

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2005 Summer/Fall Itinerary

**Italy – Chianti**
Alumni Campus Abroad
June 12–20 $1,990 + air

**China**
June 16–July 28
$2,999, includes airfare from Kansas City

**Kingdoms of the Baltic – Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn, Helsinki**
June 29–July 11, $2,920 + air

**Cruise the British Isles**
June 30–July 11, from $3,220 + air

**Poland – Krakow**
Alumni Campus Abroad
July 13–21 $1,695 + air

**Canadian Rockies – Pacific West**
July 15–23, $2,995 + air, includes all sightseeing and meals

**Switzerland – Interlaken**
Alumni Campus Abroad
July 20–28, $1,995 + air

**France – Normandy**
Alumni Campus Abroad
August 1–9 $2,090 + air

**Cruising Alaska’s Inside Passage**
August 12–19, $2,430 to $3,750 + air; sightseeing is optional; port taxes are included

**Charlemagne’s Dream Cruise – Main River, Danube Canal, Danube River**
Alumni Campus Abroad
September 9–17, from $1,995 + air

**Germany’s Black Forest and Switzerland’s Lake Geneva Region**
September 16–24
$1,599, includes airfare from Kansas City

**Ireland**
September 16–24, $1,699, includes airfare from Kansas City

**Cruising the Dalmatian Coast – Croatia**
September 27 – October 5
$2,995 to $4,195 + air, optional Venice post-cruise 3 day extension $825

**Beauty and Wonder Down Under – New Zealand & Australia**
October 5–20
$5,995 from Los Angeles

**The Italian Riviera & Tuscany**
October 7–15
$1,599, includes airfare from Kansas City

**South African Wildlife Safari**
October 13–24, $4,895 + air, includes all sightseeing and safaris

**Sicily Cultural Season**
Alumni Campus Abroad
November 12–21, $1,890 + air

**New York Theater Tour**
November 23–27, $1,989

2006 Sneak Preview

**January/February**
Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, Torres del Paine, Southeast Asia hill tribes by private air (Vietnam, Cambodia, China)
Wings over the Nile
Panama Canal aboard the Crystal Harmony
Journey through Vietnam

**March/April**
China (Shanghai, Beijing, Xi’an & Yangtze River)
Paris
Greece (Poros) Alumni Campus Abroad

Peru Alumni Campus Abroad
Budapest & Prague Escapade
World War II South Pacific Campaign
Springtime in Holland and Belgium

**May/June**
Sorrento Alumni Campus Abroad
Voyage of Discovery (Istanbul, Turkey to Catania, Sicily)
Kitzbuhel, Austria
Classical Antiquities of the Balkans and Albania
Temples and Gardens of Ancient Japan
Passage of Peter the Great
Legendary Passage on the Rhine & Mosel Rivers
Switzerland - Alumni Traveler’s Choice
Scotland Alumni Campus Abroad
Adriatic Riviera Alumni Campus Abroad

**July/August**
Alaska aboard the Island Princess
Family Adventure in Costa Rica
Delft & Bruges Alumni Campus Abroad

**September/October**
Treasures of Italy (Chianciano & Fuiggi)
Cote d’Azur - Provence
Cruising the Majestic Pacific Northwest
Portugal Alumni Campus Abroad

November
Holiday Markets in Vienna & Salzburg

All rates are per person, double occupancy.

Dates and prices are subject to change. For more information and the latest prices, go to www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2937
■ Softball

**MAY**
- **11-14** at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Rowing

**MAY**
- **19-27** at NCAA Championships, Sacramento, Calif.

■ Men’s golf

**MAY**
- **19-21** at NCAA Midwest Regionals, South Bend, Ind.

**JUNE**
- **1-4** at NCAA Finals, Baltimore, Md.

■ Women’s golf

**MAY**
- **17-20** at NCAA Championship, Corvalis, Ore.

■ Baseball

**MAY**
- **13-15** at Missouri
- **20-22** Oklahoma State
- **25-29** at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Track & field

**MAY**
- **13-15** at Big 12 Outdoor, Manhattan
- **26-28** at NCAA Midwest Regionals

**JUNE**
- **8-11** at NCAA Outdoor Championships, Sacramento, Calif.
- **16-19** at USA Championships, Carson, Calif.

### Football

**SEPTEMBER**
- **3** Florida Atlantic
- **10** Appalachian State (Band Day)
- **17** Louisiana Tech (Family Weekend)

**OCTOBER**
- **1** at Texas Tech
- **8** at Kansas State
- **15** vs. Oklahoma, Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City
- **22** at Colorado
- **29** Missouri (Homecoming)

**NOVEMBER**
- **5** Nebraska
- **12** at Texas
- **19** Iowa State

Freshman running back Gary Green (4) is stopped by senior linebacker Nick Reid (7) and other defenders during the April 16 spring scrimmage in Memorial Stadium. Green will get more playing time than expected because former star running back John Randle was dismissed on the eve of spring drills for an ongoing series of legal troubles stemming from alleged incidents at downtown nightclubs. While the KU defense appears to be among the Big 12’s best, the offense continues to await the emergence of a strong No. 1 at quarterback. Junior Adam Barmann and senior Jason Swanson failed to win over coaches, and it is thought that incoming freshman Kerry Meier, of Pittsburg, might be allowed to compete for the job.
The next time you’re in a burger joint, try this simple experiment to illustrate a global problem: Fill a cup with soda pop, then drop in a bunch of ice. What happens? The answer is obvious—the ice makes the cup overflow and soda spills on the floor.

Now, imagine the soda is salt water and the cup is the ocean basin. What happens when we add ice here? The same thing: Liquid overflows its container and makes a big mess.

Unfortunately, the mess you get when oceans overflow takes more than a mop to clean. That is why a team of KU polar scientists spends so much time peering at glaciers in Greenland and Antarctica. The scientists fear that a warming climate is melting these glaciers at a rate that threatens to drop a mother lode of ice into the drink.

Others share their concern. On April 11, the National Science Foundation came to campus to announce that it was awarding KU’s icemen the largest...
federal research grant ever given to a university in Kansas—$19 million (see sidebar). The five-year grant will create a new Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets, or CReSIS, at the University.

KU got the grant because its proposal integrates top-notch research with excellent education for young scientists, according to Scott Borg, head of Antarctic Sciences at NSF. That combination was enough to beat 166 other schools for one of only two grants awarded after a grueling 18-month evaluation.

“One of NSF’s missions is to train the next generation of scientists,” Borg said. “So we really do look for excellent integration of research and education. We see this project as an excellent opportunity for training students.”

Heading up CReSIS is Prasad Gogineni, Deane E. Ackers Distinguished Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. An innovator in the use of radar technology to study ice, Gogineni, PhD’84, has become a major contributor to the growing body of research on polar ice sheets and their potential effect on sea levels. CReSIS is only the latest manifestation of that prowess. A faculty member since 1986, Gogineni took leave from KU for two years in the late 1990s to manage NASA’s Polar Research and Analysis Program, which monitors the Greenland ice sheet. His work earned him an award from the space agency and highest honors from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Under his leadership, KU has developed a worldwide reputation for pioneering innovative ways to peer into gigantic blocks of ice. Since 2001, Gogineni has worked on a $7.5 million grant that he and his research team received from NASA and the NSF. That grant funded a project called Polar Radar for Ice Sheet Measurements, or PRISM.

Speaking in a deep voice that lends authority to his words, Gogineni says the ice-sheet research has the potential to help people across the globe plan for and perhaps avoid the kind of catastrophic losses that occurred in December, when an earthquake beneath the Indian Ocean triggered a massive tsunami that killed thousands of people. The potential threat from glacial melting comes not from a sudden deluge of ice creating tsunami-like waves, but from a gradual sea-level rise; but unheeded, Gogineni warns, the problem could yield similarly devastating results.

“If you saw how the tsunami affected people living in the coastal areas, there were so many deaths because the areas are densely populated,” Gogineni says. “It’s the same thing with sea-level rise. One meter of sea-level rise is estimated to affect 100 million people, and some

By Michael Campbell
countries where this will happen don’t have the resources to adapt quickly. I think you’ve got to have a better prediction 20 to 30 years ahead that this is going to happen, and that is what this research will contribute over the next 10 years.”

The consequences of rising oceans are already on display in Tuvalu, a nation of nine atoll islands roughly midway between New Zealand and Hawaii. Tuvalu’s high ground tops out just under 10 feet above sea level. Its 10,000 inhabitants already struggle with swelling oceans, which have risen almost 2 inches in the past century. Rising salt-water has contaminated the country’s ground water and damaged staple root crops like taro and sweet potatoes, according to Enele Sopoaga, Tuvalu’s ambassador to the United Nations. The fear is that further rises will completely drown the country. The future looks so bleak that some Tuvaluans are fleeing the country via employment programs that allow them to work in Australia and New Zealand. “I’m aware of quite a few families that have moved mainly because they fear sea-level rise,” Sopoaga says.

The United States is not immune to similar problems. The Census Bureau estimated in 2000 that half of Americans lived in a coastal county. A 1991 study from the Environmental Protection Agency estimated that protecting the U.S. from a 3-foot rise in the oceans would cost $270 to $475 billion.

Will the oceans really rise that much? Nobody knows for sure, but the potential is certainly there. Antarctica is almost completely covered by a
massive ice sheet that can be up to two miles thick. Greenland, the world’s largest island, has an ice sheet covering about five-sixths of its surface. Those two sheets combined hold three-quarters of all the freshwater in the world. Greenland’s ice alone, if melted, would raise the oceans about 20 feet. A rise just half that high would inundate the eastern U.S. seaboard, drowning Boston, New York and Miami.

The truth is that glaciers naturally lose ice all the time, says Dave Braaten, a meteorologist and associate professor of geography who will be deputy director of CReSIS. A tall man with curly blond hair and a mustache, Braaten has a Nordic look that makes it easy to imagine him at home among mountains of ice. Glaciers continually creep downhill, he says, and as ice at the back of the glacier pushes forward, ice at the front falls off. This is how icebergs form. Glaciers also partially melt during warm spells.

So how do Braaten, Gogineni and their colleagues know when a glacier’s ice is disappearing, and whether that disappearance is part of the natural ebb and flow of glacial ice or a warning sign of potential trouble?

The key question, Braaten says, is whether the glaciers lose more ice off their fronts than they gain elsewhere. Glaciers gain ice during snowstorms. New layers of falling snow compress older snow into ice. If more ice falls off the front than collects on the top, then the glaciers thin and oceans rise. If ice collection outpaces loss, then glaciers grow and oceans recede.

To monitor both potential scenarios, KU’s researchers developed two innovative types of radar capable of gleaning new information from the ice. The radar explains how an electrical engineer raised in tropical India became KU’s head iceman. As he pulls pictures and charts from a host of files tucked neatly in a warren of folders on his computer screen, it is easy to imagine that Gogineni is grateful for hard drives and compact discs: Putting all this data and analyses on the page would surely bury him under a glacier-sized pile of paper.

Scientists have known for some time how to use radar to measure a glacier’s thickness or velocity, according to Gogineni. However, other information was only available in limited quantities and after painstaking effort. For instance, to study past rates of snow accumulation, scientists had to drill cores out of the ice and examine the exposed layers like dendrologists looking at tree rings. Because drilling was difficult and time-consuming, researchers collected accumulation rates from just a handful of places.

From 1999 to 2002, Gogineni and his colleagues at KU’s Information and Telecommunication Technology Center developed an airborne radar that can quickly measure those rates across a wide swath of territory. They mount their invention on P-3 aircraft, retired Cold-War era submarine chasers the size of small cargo planes. Some of the radar actually sits in the old bomb bay to get a clear view of the white expanse below.

As the pilot flies over the glacier, the radar fires an electronic signal at the ice. Part of the signal penetrates the surface and bounces off the ice’s internal layers.
back to antennas mounted on the plane’s wings. Several factors influence the signal’s reflection, including how thick an ice layer is and how much volcanic ash and other contaminants it contains. By analyzing differences between the signal that leaves the radar and the signal that returns, Gogineni’s team can determine how fast snow accumulated within each layer. Additionally, the radar lets researchers trace each horizontal layer as it runs from the front of the glacier back inland. This helps them understand the history and movement of the glacier.

KU’s engineers also developed the first radar capable of imaging the very bottom of a glacier to look for a lubricating layer of water. “Ice flows very slowly under gravity,” Gogineni explains. “As soon as water forms underneath it, the ice speeds up tremendously. That is what happened at a place called Jakobshavn in Greenland. It started at 6 kilometers a year in the late 1980s. It sped up 14 to 15 kilometers by 2003. It is close to tripling.”

The acceleration is important because the faster a glacier moves, the more ice it dumps into the ocean. And Jakobshavn’s acceleration is nothing compared with the speed demons Gogineni has seen elsewhere. Last fall, he and his colleagues from an international team of researchers announced that glaciers on the Antarctic Peninsula had begun flowing up to eight times faster following the collapse of the Larsen B ice shelf in 2002. The researchers have discouraging results from other locations as well. Surveys of Antarctica’s Amundsen Sea and all over Greenland have revealed thinning glaciers almost everywhere the team looked.

At least collecting all this bad news does not require the researchers to battle the extreme weather often found in polar regions. Teams of a half-dozen or so scientists and graduate students visit Greenland in May and June, when spring reaches the far north and temperatures can soar into the 40s during days when the sun never sets. The teams work out of a former U.S. Air Force base at Kangerlussuaq, staying in a spartan hotel fashioned from the old barracks. The town of a few hundred people does not have much in the way of entertainment, according to Braaten, but the area
does have its diversions. He frequently hikes the surrounding countryside and sees abundant wildlife: musk ox, reindeer, arctic fox.

In some ways, researchers looking at the southern glaciers have things even better. Gogineni and Pannirselvam Kanagaratnam, an assistant research professor at KU’s Information and Telecommunication Technology Center, do not stay in Antarctica, but commute to work from a base in the Lawrence-sized town of Punta Arenas, Chile. But the daily 12-hour flights to and from their research areas leave little time to enjoy the relatively plush surroundings.

Of course, information, not entertainment, is the purpose of their trips. They share the data they collect on the ice with scientists at other schools, helping to create the elaborate mathematical formulas designed to predict whether the ice sheets will disappear or otherwise change.

Indeed, for all the frozen stolidity of their appearance, the ice sheets are highly changeable. Ice has disappeared entirely from Greenland in the past, and ice sheets have surged as far south as Kansas. It is possible for the ice sheets to change again, on their own or with our help. The past decade has seen nine of the hottest years recorded since scientists started systematically tracking temperature in 1861, according to the World Meteorological Organization. Many people attribute that rise to emission of greenhouse gases. Even if you are a skeptic about the cause of global warming, the numbers represent an ominous trend, according to Braaten.

“The Earth has warmed about 0.75 degrees in the last century. It’s believed that if it warms by another degree, then the ice sheets will start changing and we won’t be able to stop that change, even if we reverse the warming. We’ll have changed the internal thermodynamics so much that the melting won’t stop. The change will be irreversible.”

Reason enough to keep an eye on the ice.

—Michael Campbell, g’93, wrote “You Are Here” in issue No. 6, 2004.

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**NSF rewards KU teaching and research**

KU’s new Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets, or CReSIS, takes its name from Croesus, a ruler of the ancient Middle Eastern kingdom of Lydia, who was famed for his great wealth. CReSIS director Prasad Gogineni says the center’s scientists plan to use the $19 million grant from the National Science Foundation to gather a wealth of knowledge about polar ice.

CReSIS will expand KU’s current polar research program in several ways. Center scientists hope to improve data collection by fitting their ice-penetrating radar on unpiloted drone aircraft similar to the spy drones used to great effect in Afghanistan and Iraq. They also plan to increase outreach to future scientists by developing K-12 curricula and recruiting undergraduate and graduate students from underrepresented groups.

When the center formally opens in June, it will make KU one of only five universities to be awarded two research centers by the National Science Foundation. KU’s other NSF center is the Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis, which in September 2003 won a $17-million grant that was, at the time, KU’s largest.

CReSIS will actually be an international consortium administered by KU. Other participants include:

Five American universities: Elizabeth City State University, a historically black university in North Carolina; Haskell Indian Nations University; Penn State University; Ohio State University; and the University of Maine;

Several federal agencies, including NSF, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Goddard Space Flight Center;

International universities such as the Technical University of Denmark and the University of Copenhagen;

Businesses such as Sprint and Lockheed Martin.

The Center eventually will employ 20 to 25 KU faculty, including two new faculty positions created by the grant to study glaciology. —M.C.
Citizen Boog

In the city commission chamber at Lawrence City Hall, close by the banks of the Kaw, remarkable events are unfolding this balmy spring night.

By unanimous vote, his fellow commissioners have just elected Dennis “Boog” Highberger to a one-year term as mayor.

Highberger is a soft-spoken man, but his first official words as Lawrence’s leader boom loud and clear, and they are vintage Boog: “As the Grateful Dead used to say, ‘What a long, strange trip it’s been.’”

In 1984, Highberger, e’85, l’92, and Carla Vogel, c’86, scored one of the most memorable student election victories in KU history. To a political stage traditionally trod by earnest go-getters conducting dress rehearsals for statewide office, Boog (as president) and Vogel (as vice president), introduced a mind-bending blend of anarchism and street theatre. They dubbed themselves the Costume Party and chose as their symbol a grinning jester clad in a fool’s cap. They courted internationals (campaign posters were printed in a dozen languages) and other disenfranchised students. Revolution was their goal. Boog, then 25 and in his seventh year at the University, declared, “I want to be the last student body president of KU.”
They finished third. But voting irregularities led to a recount, and the recount led to a new election. Boog and Carla switched spots on the ticket. Running without greek support, facing opponents with ample Student Senate experience and the endorsement of the Daily Kansan, the Costume Party—improbably, inexplicably—won.

In a Reagan-era atmosphere of social Darwinism and go-go capitalism, their reign struck many as a throwback to the counterculture ideals of the 1960s. Escaping formality, Carla and Boog shared presidential duties. They tried to do away with Robert’s Rules of Order, turning Senate meetings into freewheeling forums that one stern young politician derided as “bull sessions.” They favored blue jeans and flannel shirts to suits and ties. Highberger, who sported a scraggly beard and shoulder-length hair, showed up for a budget meeting dressed as Jesus. In their office hung a photo of Che Guevara.

But behind the theatrical mask beat a heart of genuine compassion. “Despite the funny name,” Boog says, “we were serious.” True outsiders, they worked for inclusion. They took the office into the streets, setting up a table on Wescoe Beach to hear students’ gripes. They persuaded administrators to rename the office of foreign students the office of international students, and they defended funding for a gay and lesbian student group. They also backed talk with action: Near the end of his term, wearing his trademark “Vote With Your Money” T-shirt, Boog got himself arrested on the steps of the KU Endowment Association while leading a protest demanding that the University divest from South Africa.

“There are not many places where an ex-hippy anarchist with a physical disability and a funny nickname can be elected mayor,” he tells the family, friends and citizens crowding City Hall and those watching on TV at home. “That’s what I love about this place.”

The next day, at Zen Zero, an Asian noodle shop on Mass Street, Highberger orders the lunch special—a mango curry—with tofu instead of chicken. At 45 his hair is shorter and gone to gray. A lush goatee frames a shy smile and behind oval specs his eyes are lively, engaged. At meetings the “ex-hippy” is often the only commissioner in coat and tie, but today he wears the faded flannel and denim of his student days.

In a business that too often judges humor a threat to electability, a rough edge to be sanded smooth, Boog’s playfulness and enduring quirkiness are refreshing. (What other city of Lawrence’s size boasts a mayor who begins an online chat, “Greetings, citizens! Let the wild rumpus begin!”) A politician who doesn’t enjoy public speaking, Boog says he’s willing to play the ribbon-cutting, hand-shaking, baby-kissing figurehead, but it won’t be easy. “It may be hard to believe, given all the things I’ve gotten myself into,” he says, “but I don’t really like being the center of attention.”

The prospect of stamping his personality on the office, on the other hand, clearly appeals.

“I can make the mayor go places he wouldn’t normally go. I can make the mayor ride his bike to important meetings. The office feels kind of like a cardboard image I can carry around; I can make it go here, make it go there.”

The one thing he can’t do, it seems, is make it stay home. Sitting at a sidewalk table on a fine spring day, eating lunch and scanning the New York Times, he’s hailed by every third person who passes. Some are friends offering encouragement; some are constituents with a beef. All part of the job, Boog says.

“It’s good that voters can find the people who make decisions and talk to us. We’re still the size of community where anybody can call the mayor and complain. I hope we don’t lose that.”

Last year, when the five-member commission enacted a citywide smoking ban, then Vice-Mayor Highberger cast one of four yes votes. The ban was not an issue he raised. But in the mind of John Q. Smoker, Boog became the poster-boy for intrusive government. Opponents of the ordinance singled him out for harsh criticism. The Lawrence Journal-World even published a life-size Halloween mask of his face—complete with cutout cigarette.

He found the mask funny, and the rest—well, he bears. It’s the duty of citizens, he believes, to keep their public officials on track.

Sound about right for someone who once chose a jester as his party symbol? Once upon a time in medieval courts,
Local businesses are the key to Lawrence’s strength. Neighborhoods need more say in development. The city should direct growth, not run to catch up to whatever developers build.

Companies desiring tax abatements must pay a living wage. These are the not-so-wild-eyed tenets of Boog’s beliefs.

But that doesn’t mean there aren’t threads connecting today’s mayor to yesterday’s student leader.

“Basically, the Costume Party was about building bridges, opening up possibilities for people who had been disenfranchised,” Highberger says. “I think that parallels what happened here in Lawrence two years ago.”

On April Fools’ Day 2003, Highberger tallied the second highest vote count in the city commission race. He was part of the jester wheel of a lavender Chevy. He even printed his own money.

REAL dollars, an alternative local currency intended to encourage spending at Lawrence businesses instead of corporate chains, debuted in 2000. Though it never really took off, the grand experiment (inspired by a book he discovered while exploring the stacks of Watson Library) highlights how idealism fostered at KU endured to form the core of his political beliefs.

“For a long, long time—20 years or more—I’ve been interested in building alternative institutions,” he says. “Now I work on improving existing institutions. I mean, anybody with half a brain can criticize. But what changes the world is people working to make things better.”

Don’t just complain; do something. Now there’s a radical idea.

“I’m still idealistic, but I think it’s tempered by a good deal of pragmatism. What I want to achieve as a city commissioner I would characterize as reformist, not revolutionary. Revolutionary changes have to come from outside the system, and that’s not what I’m doing.”

Boog promises to stamp his own unique imprint on the office of mayor, just as he did as student body vice president in 1984, when he was arrested at the Endowment Association (above) while protesting KU’s investments in South Africa.

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But that doesn’t mean there aren’t threads connecting today’s mayor to yesterday’s student leader.

After nailing down degrees in electrical engineering and law, Highberger stuck around Lawrence to become the type of free spirit college towns are famous for. He launched his law career providing legal aid to Native Americans and others, and he helped an unlicensed local radio station battle the FCC. He founded an art magazine and gained renown for his stamp art, an irreverent form that drew pen pals from around the world and gave the U.S. Postal Service fits. He worked 30 hours a week for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, enforcing state regulations. He cruised downtown on a homemade three-wheeled recumbent bike or behind the wheel of a lavender Chevy. He even printed his own money.

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a three-man sweep of “Smart Growth” candidates backed by the Progressive Lawrence Campaign, a political action committee formed to offer an alternative to the traditional power enjoyed by builders, realtors and other development advocates. Many saw the victories of Highberger, Mike Rundle, c’76, and David Schauner—who joined commissioner David Dunfield, c’74, g’76, g’83, to form a so-called Smart Growth “super-majority”—as a rebalancing of power after several years of commissions judged friendly to development.

Gwen Klingenberg, ’95, a member of the West Lawrence Neighborhood Association and president of the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods since 2003, says neighborhood advocates see a difference. “I have the feeling now that all sides are represented,” she says. “I honestly feel as a member of the West Lawrence Neighborhood Association that a lot of changes have been made in the last two years that have been wonderful. For instance, developers are actually inviting us to see their projects and give input. That is something that shows this commission really has made some changes.”

During the campaign, detractors circulated copies of “What Is Money,” an essay Boog wrote in 1987 for the Gentle Anarchist, highlighting passages to suggest that he was anti-capitalist. Trouble was, the passages were allegedly faked. The original essays showed Boog wrote no such thing. Stated one letter to the Journal-World, “For a developer to try to twist the essay into a problem suggests that Highburger’s opponents are getting really desperate.”

More diplomatically, Boog says, “I think some people, perhaps given my past history here, had some concerns about what I would do in this position. But I think I’ve reassured most of them.”

In fact, criticism has come from those who think he isn’t pushing hard enough to change the status quo. The same was true when he ran student government. Then, as now, Boog says, in the voting “I felt like I was representing people who felt disenfranchised,” but once elected “I feel like I represent everybody.”

That’s evident in the ambitious agenda he has set for the year. He has boldly placed finishing the South Lawrence Trafficway, the stalled east-west connector, atop of his to-do list, and he’s aiming the divisive issue squarely toward the middle ground, declaring that neither of the most polarizing choices—building through the wetlands or not building at all—remain options. It’s just one example of his modus operandi: Unite and conquer, bring together people to work out a solution.

“I think it comes down to the personal will to address issues and seek input from various viewpoints,” says Lavern Squier, president and CEO of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. “In that sense, does it matter where you start from? You still have to cross boundaries and try to pull opinions together and garner consensus. I think that’s what Boog is trying to do.”

He came to KU in 1977 from Garnett, 50 miles south of Lawrence. The nickname, courtesy of grade school friends, came too.

When he was 15, Boog followed a friend’s lead and dove headfirst into a snowbank. He broke his neck. He spent several months at the KU Medical Center, able to move his arms, nothing more. Doctors thought he’d never walk again, but he did. “His father drove up there to see him every day,” says Gene Highberger, Boog’s uncle. “Every day. He was his physical therapist. He helped him come back.”

Long days immobilized in a hospital bed taught him patience. “If you have an itch on your nose and you can’t move, you have to detach yourself or you’ll go crazy,” Boog says. “I had to develop the skill of just standing back and looking at things objectively.”

The injury changed the way he copes with the physical world—walking still requires tremendous effort—but he says it isn’t much on his mind otherwise. “It presents challenges,” he says. “But the strange thing is, if I had the chance to go back and change it, I’m not sure I would. I’ve had a good life. Who knows how things would be without it? That’s not to say I wouldn’t like to be able to run around the block.”

Humor has a place in politics, Boog believes, even when it’s at his expense (left). But at city commission meetings (above, with commissioners Sue Hack, Mike Rundle, Mike Amyx and David Schauner) the mayor knows when to play it straight. “When you make decisions that may negatively affect someone,” he says, “you want them to know you’re taking it seriously.”
He was told, when pondering his run for office, that a person with a disability couldn’t get elected.

“I was also told substance doesn’t sell, and the Boog thing wasn’t gonna work, either,” he says. “Apparently they were wrong.”

His parents, and the Catholic schools he attended, ingrained in him an ethic of service. His mother, Norma, 84, still visits the Garnett senior center “to help take care of the old people.” His father, Clarence, who died in 1997, sold combines and cultivators to Anderson County farmers and dreamed of a better life for his son.

“My dad ran me out of the shop because he said he wanted me to be something better than he was, even though I thought he was great. But at the same time, I think he didn’t really trust someone who didn’t work with his hands.”

That upbringing was a microcosm of “the dichotomy now playing out on the political scene in Kansas,” Boog says, referring to the war between intellectualism and authenticity, the practical and the ideal, detailed by Thomas Frank, ’87, in What’s the Matter With Kansas.

Those opposing forces have long tugged at the bookish Hightberger. He’s apt to quote Marx one moment and Zippy the Pinhead the next. He spent much of his student days exploring Watson, reading through entire sections of the stacks. “I wasted some of the best years of my life in the library,” he jokes, but allows, in a more serious moment, those are the days he’d most like to return to, just for the pure pleasure of exploring books and ideas. There’s something professorial about him still, but academia—while tempting—never reeled him in. “I’ve got this native Kansan compulsion to do something useful with the things I’ve learned, which is probably why I’m here doing what I’m doing.”

For a man drawn more to tinkering in the shop than cogitating in the ivory tower, city government fits perfectly. Lawrence has grown, but its politics are still small-town. Rundle, the former mayor who passed the gavel to Hightberger in April, works a checkout line at the Community Mercantile, the cooperative grocery where Boog is a member of the board of directors. Vice-Mayor Mike Amyx, re-elected to the city commission after serving in the 1980s and ’90s, cuts his hair.

“I think democracy really does work at this level,” Boog says. “You get much higher, and I get a little more skeptical.”

He has promised that his year as mayor will be an interesting one. He wants new zoning and subdivision codes that make it easier to build traditional front-porch neighborhoods that foster tight-knit communities. He’s calling for a community visioning process to heal divisions and talk about “not just what we want Lawrence to look like, but what we want Lawrence to be.” He wants excise taxes to ensure development pays for itself, more green space, more industrial land, more affordable housing. And then there’s the SLT, the hottest of Lawrence’s hot-button issues.

“I think his sense of humor will help,” Rundle says, “because it brings us together in those tense moments.” There may be ample opportunity to test that notion in the coming months. If Boog succeeds, he may be remembered as the mayor who put the laughs back in brouhaha.

Yes, he’s the mayor—“I just hope other people find it as amusing as I do,” he says—but in the commission system he’s still just one vote among five.

Yet he is committed and serious and he has a head full of ideas and a strong conviction that people working together can solve problems.

He also understands the power of one vote.

After his term as student body vice president, Hightberger wrote-in his own name during a Student Senate election. It was the only vote he won. Yet by year’s end, so many senators had vacated seats, grown tired of the messy business of governing, the not-so-young-idealistic from Garnett added one more long shot to his resume: Senator Boog.

One vote. One more laugh for the jester.
Munira Al-Meer, a tiny, spirited, captivating woman, arrived from Doha, Qatar, in the early spring of 2001 and immediately encountered something she had never before seen. “I came with the snow,” the ceramic artist says, days before her March 30 departure, which occasioned much more local attention than did her arrival four years
earlier. “I like the Kansas weather now, but then, I was so cold, I just want to sleep. I didn’t want school, only sleep. I don’t know why.”

Al-Meer, g’05, says that at the time she left Qatar University, where she taught ceramics, to study for her master’s degree in the United States, no unmarried woman had traveled alone outside of Qatar. Certainly none had come to America on an art scholarship awarded by the government, Al-Meer says, and she was the first of either gender to win a scholarship for ceramics. Much has changed in the years she has been away, Al-Meer says happily, but at the time, her adventure was still rare enough that her mother insisted on accompanying her.

Replicating experiences repeated here for more than a century by those who view Lawrence as a foreign land, Al-Meer and her mother spent a week gawking at, and reluctantly absorbing, the bizarre and beautiful college town. “My mother, she is crying so much! She says to me, ‘Go school and home, go school and home, no go anywhere else!’ My mother, she came just one week, just to find the place for me to live and see the school, because she is so worried.”

Al-Meer giggles at the memory, as she does often, and her patchwork English is never a problem because of her laugh. She makes herself always understood with her disarming laugh, beguiling smile, instructive eyes and, of course, the expressive ceramics that took hold of campus art circles in one brilliant, startling week in mid-March. As quickly as she flew into our consciousnesses, she was gone, leaving for Qatar 12 days after the close of her thesis show in the Art & Design Gallery.

“You can’t imagine how much pull this show has had,” says Gregory Thomas, professor and chair of design. “And I think it could have been phenomenal had we known what was here. This woman is very shy, and everybody knew parts of her, but nobody knew the whole her. So when the show went in, everybody was looking at each other and saying, ‘What? Where did this come from?’ The faculty, including metals, textiles, design, everybody, was

Any of the 48 ceramic plates filling one wall of the Art & Design Gallery would be treasured by collectors, yet Munira Al-Meer only made them to test glazes. As can be seen at far right, her early works featured tubular coils growing out of pot-like bases. Pieces featured on the previous page and in the photo second from the left, above, show her work as the coils blossomed to emphasize spaces and forms while abandoning any reference to the traditional pot.
Associate Professor David Vertacnik, above with Al-Meer, describes his star student as "personable, passionate and prolific," and says, "Some of these geometrics she's picked up on are really a challenge for a person who works in clay. She knows how to stretch it, and she's pushing it to the limit. It's pretty phenomenal."
saying, 'I want one of those.'

"Another thing we found out is, she's not selling any of it."

The first reaction to Al-Meer’s work, and even an enduring impression shared by some of her faculty and friends, is that her stunning ceramic sculptures are stylized coral or sponges. Considering that Qatar is a tiny peninsula jutting into the Persian Gulf from the east coast of Saudi Arabia, the sea-creature references are natural, though wrong, assumptions.

"Though some sculptures may be reminiscent of some existing natural form," she writes in her show catalog, "they are not meant to suggest a particular idea. Rather, it is the organic forms, and the spaces created by them, that I want my audience to interact with."

While studying and teaching in Doha, Al-Meer concentrated on “maintaining the idea of the pot,” a traditional form of functional design. She then began sprouting coils from the tops of the vessels, and then wrapped coils into pot-like forms. Through these explorations, which gained intensity and scope when she joined the KU ceramics program after a year and a half of studying English in Lawrence, she finally over-built a vertical piece that shattered into her breakthrough.

At the urging of her adviser, Associate Professor David Vertacnik, Al-Meer used the altered, and now horizontal, piece to begin new explorations of form. She responded with a growth into complex “wavy space forms” that depend upon spacial play, undulating openings, commanding size and structure, textured surfaces, varied glazes and subtle colors, and even etched carvings of Arabic script and geometrics.

Each piece is, on its own, remarkable and, to the untrained eye, worthy of any gallery or museum. To see 53 of them filling one gallery, along with 48 plates that could have made for a show in their own right yet were created only to test
glaze experiments, is to encounter the raw powers of galloping energy and thundering originality.

Professor Jon Havener wrote in Al-Meer's leather-bound comments book, "This is a unique exhibit the likes of which I have never before seen in this gallery." Thomas, the department chair, recalls hearing a well-dressed woman barking into a phone, "But she won't sell!" Says Thomas: "This could go in New York galleries at any time. Today. But, of course we want her back. First to Kansas, then to New York."

And even Al-Meer herself expressed satisfaction at how her show, titled "Organic Form and Space," provided a comforting end to such an important stage in her life.

"From the same hand, all at the same time," she says, her eyes darting around the big, square Art & Design Gallery. "Yes, I like to see them all together."

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Al-Meer's sculptures, some of which weigh more than 300 pounds, filled their own shipping container for the month-long ocean voyage back to Qatar. They will be reassembled for exhibitions at Qatar University and the Qatar Fine Arts Society’s new contemporary museum. If all goes as Al-Meer hopes, the sculptures eventually will have a permanent home in her own museum, on the grounds of Qatar University, where she will continue to teach and create.

The plans are big, but, judging by the work, not outsized.

“I like working in the mornings, and at night, sometimes for 10 or 12 hours a day, sometimes for seven or eight, it just depends,” Al-Meer says. “I miss my family a lot, but also it has been good to be here, where I can concentrate. It has made me focus on work, with no interruptions.”

For this artist filled with dreams, there is no longer time for sleep.
The University's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Citation, this month goes to three alumni and a long-time KU leader. KU and the Alumni Association will honor them May 20 at the All-University Supper, and the four will march in Commencement May 22.

The 2005 winners are Paul James Adam Jr., e’56, Overland Park; Forrest E. Hoglund e’56, Dallas; Delbert M. Shankel, assoc., Lawrence; and Kala Mays Stroup, c’59, g’64, PhD’74, Lawrence.

The DSC honors individuals who through their lives and careers have helped benefit humanity. Nominations for the award are accepted each year until Sept. 30; representatives from the Alumni and Endowment associations and the Chancellor’s office select the recipients.

As an innovator throughout his career, Jim Adam improved not only the mechanics of fossil-fueled power plants, but also the computer tools to design them, and the worldwide firm responsible for plant design and construction. In 1956, he joined Black & Veatch as a mechanical engineer. Fifty years later, he remains chairman emeritus of the firm he guided through much of the 1990s as chairman and CEO. He led the firm from a partnership to a corporation with employee ownership, and he led his industry as chair of the U.S. Energy Association and the World Energy Council.

In Kansas City, he has helped guide the Civic Council, the United Way and the Midwest Research Institute. For KU, he is a member of the Edwards Campus Advisory board, past chair of the School of Engineering advisory board and a trustee of the KU Endowment Association. He was a KU First donor to engineering’s Eaton Hall, and he served on the Alumni Association’s national Board of Directors from 1998 to 2001, chairing it from 1998 to ‘99. He also served on the Adams Alumni Center Board of Governors from 1993 to 2002. He is a member of the engineering school’s Mechanical Engineering Hall of Fame and a Distinguished Service Award winner, and his many professional and community awards include the Human Relations Award from the American Jewish Committee.

Forrest Hoglund embodies “drive” in every sense of the word. In the oil and gas industry, he became known for spurring small companies to big growth and top performance. He chairs Arctic Resources Co. Ltd., a group proposing a $10 billion natural gas pipeline from northern Alaska through Canada, and SeaOne Maritime Corp., which transports natural gas.
Civic leaders in Texas and his fellow Jayhawks have trusted him to provide the drive behind many a successful fund-raising campaign, most notably the historic KU First venture, which raised $653 million for the University. The Hoglund Brain Imaging Center at KU Medical Center signifies his quest to provide the most advanced tools to benefit medical care, teaching and research. Through the years, he has contributed to numerous areas of the University, including the Hoglund Engineering Lab and, as a former baseball letterman and captain, Hoglund Ballpark. He received the Fred Ellsworth Medallion in 1996 for his service to KU.

His enthusiasm as a spokesman and investor also brought fund-raising success to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Foundation and the Museum of Natural Science in Houston. He chairs the Hoglund Family Foundation in Dallas, and he has developed and supported The Reasoning Mind, a Web-based math program for fifth- and sixth-graders. He now leads another ambitious drive, this time for the Dallas Museum of Nature & Science.

Del Shankel, professor and chancellor emeritus, has earned acclaim as a scientist, a teacher, and an energetic leader who welcomes a challenge. But beyond acclaim, he has earned affection from countless scholars, students and University staff members. Though his academic life began at Walla Walla College in Washington and the University of Texas, he is a confirmed Jayhawk whose length and breadth of service defy concise explanation. He has served KU as department chair, dean, the first executive vice chancellor, and twice as chancellor, though he is officially known as KU’s 15th chancellor for his leadership from 1994 to ’95.

During critical transitions, he has served as interim athletics director, acting chancellor, and interim president of the Alumni Association.

Through the years he has continued to encourage young scholars in microbiology and related fields through his teaching, advising and publications. As a researcher, he has studied mechanisms to halt cancer-causing gene mutations, receiving numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

The KU chapter of Mortar Board has honored him three times as an outstanding educator; in 1989 Walla Walla College named him Alumnus of the Year, and KU honored him for his service in 1996 with the Fred Ellsworth Medallion.

Kala Stroup majored in speech and drama, but she found her home on a stage larger than any theatre. As a national leader in higher education, she became a mentor and model for countless young women, starting at KU, where she spent 18 years as a teacher and adviser, including a stint as dean of women.

She served as chief academic officer at Emporia State University, then spent 12 years as a university president at Murray State University in Kentucky and Southeast Missouri State University. In 1995, she expanded her role in Missouri as commissioner of higher education, serving on the Governor’s Cabinet until 2002. She is now president of American Humanics, which prepares future leaders of universities and nonprofit groups.

For KU, she has served on the board of the Alumni Association from 1985 to ’90, and on the Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center Advisory Board from 1974 to 1983; she began a second term on the center’s board in 2004. She is a member of the KU Women’s Hall of Fame and received the Alumni Honor Citation from the Division of Speech and Drama. A fountain at Southeast Missouri State University is named for her, and two honorary degrees are among her many professional and civic awards.

School spirit abounded during Gold Medal Weekend. Brad, d’53, and Donna Hillyer Keith, d’52, of Plano, Texas, (above) sang along to the KU songbook at the Gold Medal Club brunch. At the 50-year anniversary dinner for members of the Class of 1955, former cheerleaders (top, l to r) Frances Henningson Lintecum, d’55, and Alberta Johnson McGrath, d’55, both of Prairie Village, again encouraged their classmates to cheer for ol’ KU.
Good as gold

Reunions hit full swing with record turnout

Gold Medal Weekend, featuring reunions of the 50-year anniversary class and Gold Medal Club, was bigger and better than ever in 2005, with record numbers of participants keeping the festivities hopping April 15 and 16.

“From the very first time that we’ve had an anniversary, it’s just grown,” Gary Padgett, b’55, of Greenleaf, said of Class of ’55 reunions. “We all feel as though we’re a family, and we feel we are part of the University of Kansas family.”

Their ranks were so full that the Friday-evening cocktail reception and dinner, a feed for more than 200, had to be moved to a downtown hotel. For the Saturday pinning luncheon, where 50-year reunion attendees receive the pin and citation that officially confer membership in the Gold Medal Club, more than 130 citations were read.

Equally enthusiastic were Jayhawks of earlier generations, who again gathered for their Gold Medal Brunch in the Kansas Union. The senior Jayhawks heard, as always, from campus leaders, including Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway. And, as always, they participated in organized bus tours or took leisurely strolls, marveling at the changes visited upon their beloved Mount Oread.

“Mind-boggling,” said Harland Cope, c’44, who lives in Hawaii and had not returned to campus in 30 years. When he spied a dandelion on the Lied Center lawn, Cope instantly recalled a tradition never to be forgotten by Jayhawks of his era: Dandelion Days. “I haven’t dug a dandelion since,” he said with a laugh.

Weedier traditions might have been eradicated, but the important matters remain unchanged: sincere school spirit nourished and replenished when the Jayhawk generations mingle among Mount Oread’s spring finery.
The Alumni Association was established in 1883 for the purpose of strengthening loyalty, friendship, commitment and communication among graduates, former and current students, parents, faculty, staff and all other friends of The University of Kansas. Its members hereby unite into an Association to achieve unity of purpose and action to serve the best interests of The University and its constituencies. The Association is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes.

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The 2005 Directory of Members and Graduates will be published in the fall. If you have not already been contacted, call PCI, our partner in the project, to verify your information at 800-982-1589. Association members also may access our official online directory, another great benefit of membership. If you don’t have an account or alumni ID number, send us an e-mail or call and we will provide it.
**Class Notes**  BY KAREN GOODELL

**1941**  
Robert, d’41, c’46, and Dorothy May Pine, c’42, have traveled to more than 300 countries. They live in Boulder, Colo., and belong to the Travelers’ Century Club, which requires its members to visit at least 100 countries. Their goal is to visit every country in the world.

**1949**  
Robert Brown, e’49, is a resident of San Diego.  
James, b’49, and Ann Cuthbertson Hotchkiss, d’52, make their home in Mission Hills.

**1953**  
Jerome Sattler, g’53, PhD’60, received the 2005 Gold Medal for Life Achievement in the Application of Psychology from the American Psychological Association. He is a professor emeritus at San Diego State University.

**1955**  
Robert Worcester, b’55, recently was knighted by Queen Elizabeth of England in recognition of his service to political, social and economic research and for his contribution to government policy and programs. He is a governor of the London School of Economics and Political Science and a governor and honorary professor at the University of Kent. He makes his home in Allington Castle in Kent.

**1956**  
Jean Orr, s’56, founded and is director of Restoration Ministries International in Denver. She lives in Greenwood Village, Colo.

**1957**  
Earl Merkel, m’57, recently was named 2005 Kansas Family Physician of the Year by the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. He practices medicine in Russell.

**1958**  
Robert Terrill, b’58, makes his home in Overland Park with his wife, Judith.

**1959**  
Marcia Blumberg, d’59, recently was elected financial secretary for the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League of Kansas. She and her husband, John, b’56, make their home in Andover.  
Richard Medley, c’59, l’63, serves as a trustee and director of Coffeyville Regional Medical Center. Richard and his wife, Becky, live in Coffeyville.

**1960**  
Francis Sellers, PhD’60, is an associate with Back Bay Financial Group. He and his wife, Marianne, live in South Yarmouth, Mass.

**1961**  
Michael Garrison, c’61, works as a master flight instructor and an FAA designated pilot examiner. He and Roberta Johnson Garrison, c’62, live in Leawood.  
Kirk Prather, c’61, g’64, hosted a reunion recently of several of his former fraternity brothers and Andre de Villiers, who spent the 1959-60 academic year at KU as a graduate student from South Africa. Kirk lives in Van Nuys, Calif.

**1963**  
Thomas Brown, c’63, is a managing member of Brown Cascade Properties in Bend, Ore., where he and Carol Cochran Brown, d’63, make their home.  
Caswell Hobbs, b’63, lives in Alexandria, Va., where he’s a principal at Potomac River Associates. He recently received a lifetime achievement award from the Federal Trade Commission.

**1964**  
Clark Ellis, b’64, does accounting for Duke Energy Field Services. He lives in Lafayette, Colo.  
Carol Peterson Tatay, d’64, is vice president of Tatay Tatay Inc. in Fort Worth, Texas.

**MARRIED**  
Ralph Schmidt, b’64, l’67, to Francine Winn, June 12. They live in Fairway, and Ralph is president of Ralph Schmidt & Co.

**1965**  
Andrzej Bartke, PhD’65, is a professor of internal medicine at Southern Illinois University in Springfield. He lives in Mechanicsburg.  
Karen Love Dale, c’65, works for National Educational Software, where she’s a trainer and contractor. Karen and her husband, Don, c’65, live in Coronado, Calif.

**1966**  
Ralph Juhnke, c’66, PhD’80, is a senior research analyst at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park.

**1967**  
Kenneth Mathiasmeier, e’67, g’73, is a research staff member for the Institute for Defense Analyses. He lives in Manassas, Va.

**1968**  
Alice White, c’68, directs public relations for Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

**1969**  
John Manahan, d’69, g’82, is a senior consultant with CGI-AMS in Chicago.
Stephen Morgan, j’69, l’74, recently was elected a member of Bond Schoeneck & King in Overland Park.

1970

Terrence Jones, d’70, g’72, is president and CEO of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts in Vienna, Va. He recently received a distinguished service award from the Association of Performing Arts for his service to the field of professional presenting.

Peter Kovac, j’70, commutes from Parkville, Mo., to Kansas City, where he’s CEO of Nicholson Kovac.

1971

Augustus diZerega, c’71, g’74, teaches political science at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y.

Thomas Handley, c’71, is vice president of Lewis & Ellis in Overland Park.

Berg Keshian, e’71, works as vice president for Weston Solutions in Albuquerque, N.M.

Wayne Mark, c’71, is planning manager for MeadWestvaco in Deridder, La.

1973

Gregory Cott, b’73, is president of United Way of McLean County. He lives in Bloomington, Ill.

Adrian Faimon, e’73, works as a hydrologist for the National Weather Service. He lives in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Michael Keilberg, e’73, manages project controls for Shell Oil Products. He lives in Torrance, Calif.

Carolyn Kubik, c’73, m’79, is a reproductive endocrinologist with Reproductive Health Specialists in Pittsburgh, Pa., where she lives with her husband, Steele Filipek.

1975

David Arasmith, a’75, works as a designer and superintendent at A.G. Tollefson & Co. in Topeka.

Dean Homolka, c’75, l’79, practices law in Wichita.

MARRIED


1977

Susan Ward Aber, c’77, teaches at Emporia State University. She recently received a doctoral dissertation fellowship from the American Library Association for her proposal, “Information Needs and Behaviors of Geoscience Educations: A Grounded Theory Study.”

Paul Coakley, c’77, recently was ordained bishop of the Catholic diocese of Salina.

Phillip Correll, c’77, works as a senior analyst for Yellow Roadway in Overland Park.

1978

Mark Gabrick, c’78, manages seed market sales for the Golf Course Superintendents Association in Lawrence.

Tom Krattli, b’78, is president of Plaza Mortgage Services in Leawood. He and Mary Kosier Krattli, b’77, live in Stilwell.

Andrew Ramirez, b’78, l’81, recently became a department chair at Lathrop & Gage in Overland Park. He lives in Lawrence.

1979

Mary Beth Davis Dean, d’79, g’81, supervises the speech department at the St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in Chesterfield, Mo. She lives in Kirkwood.

1980

Scott Bloch, c’80, l’86, is special counsel to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel in Washington, D.C. He lives in Alexandria, Va.

William Buzbee, j’80, g’84, works as
a researcher for Hewlett-Packard Laboratories in Palo Alto, Calif.  
**Pamela Evans**, b’80, is president of Evans Consulting Group in Fairport, N.Y.  
**Craig Finley**, e’80, lives in Tallahassee, Fla., where he’s president of Finley Engineering.

### 1981

**James**, c’81, c’01, and **Lisa Borden Burton**, c’82, live in Portland, Ore., with their children, William and Katie. Jim is a hydraulic engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Lisa is a regional manager of human resources with Terex Utilities.  
**Kevin Riedel**, c’81, works on the database administrator staff at Lockheed Martin in Fort Worth, Texas.

### 1982

**Patricia McRae Denning**, m’82, recently was named chief of staff at KU’s Watkins Student Health Center. She and her husband, **Dale**, m’82, live in Lawrence.  
**William Ford**, c’82, recently became department chair at Lathrop & Gage in Kansas City.  
**Jacquie Hill**, j’82, supervises marketing communications for Assurant Employee Benefits in Kansas City.

### 1983

**Barbara Brainerd Barrett**, c’83, practices podiatry at the McBride Clinic in Edmond, Okla.

### 1984

**Jeff Bollig**, b’84, directs communications for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He commutes to Lawrence from Overland Park. He is co-author, along with Doug Vance, of Beware of the Phog: 50 Years of Allen Fieldhouse.  
**Daniel Godfrey**, c’84, recently retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. He lives in Raleigh, N.C.

### 1985

**Tina West Faria**, n’85, is a nurse at St. John’s Hospital in Springfield, Mo.  
**John Smith**, e’85, works as a producer with Walt Disney Animation. He lives in Santa Monica, Calif.

### 1986

**Christine Davis**, b’86, g’87, is vice president of treasury and tax management with Endo Pharmaceuticals. She lives in Newton Square, Pa.  
**Josephine Cavestany Foley**, c’86, has a dental practice, Biondo & Foley Dental Group. She lives in North Andover, Mass.

### 1987

**Sally Betta**, g’87, teaches second grade at Junction Elementary School in Kansas City. She lives in Shawnee Mission.  
**John Clever**, l’87, is assistant director of athletics at the University of Oregon in Eugene.
BORN TO:
Jeff, c’87, and Elaine Fields Jacobs, c’89, son, Connor Leon, Feb. 1 in Mission Hills, where he joins a brother, Jackson, who’s nearly 2.

1988
Chris Burmeister, c’88, is a project engineer with Hernandez Engineering in Houston.
John Ertz, c’88, lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio. He’s managing partner of the Northwestern Mutual Financial Network.
Mark Mileski, p’88, owns Genesis Travel in Carrollton, Texas.
John Sisco, g’88, PhD’90, lives in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he’s executive director of Pfizer. He recently was elected president of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.
Karlton Uhm, b’88, is vice president of mortgage banking at Northstar Lenders in Downers Grove, Ill.

1989
Vicki Johnson, PhD’89, is a senior engineering specialist with Cessna Aircraft in Wichita.
Eric Larson, p’89, PharmD’04, works as assistant director of pharmacy at Avera Queen of Peace Hospital. He lives in Mitchell, S.D.
Kenton Snow, c’89, recently was promoted to partner at Lathrop & Gage in Kansas City.
James Woodson, g’89, is president of

Profile

Moffet’s tales of discovery reach around the world

When she began working for the National Geographic Society’s news service, Barbara Moffet didn’t plan to go to graduate school. But 27 years later, she figures she has earned the equivalent of a master’s hood or two, and she has participated in the transformation of the 118-year-old society.

“Writing features was like going to school again, because they gave us a lot of time to study and learn before we wrote. I felt like it was a couple more degrees’ worth of study in biology, archaeology, paleontology, all those things I didn’t know much about.”

Now, as a director of communications for the society, Moffet, j’73, is indeed conversant on the subjects of a frozen Incan mummy, new species of dinosaur and, most recently, an ancient human species nicknamed “the hobbit,” discovered last fall in Indonesia.

When explorers find such treasures, they call Moffet, who tells the story in various media and organizes the world press, tasks that sometimes require her to sort through political protocol, soothe cranky reporters and photographers and, on occasion, summon wondrous feats of engineering. In 1996, she coordinated an international press conference at National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C., to unveil the “Ice Maiden,” an Incan mummy, originally a human sacrifice, that had lain frozen atop a 22,000-foot mountain in Peru. The conference included Peruvian president Alberto Fujimori, then U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, scientists, and of course, swarms of reporters and photographers.

The following year, Moffet watched nervously as giant casts of a new dinosaur species unearthed in Africa were assembled in the courtyard between the two buildings that make up the society’s headquarters. “I had to hire an engineering firm,” Moffet recalls, “because one of my concerns was that the wind would knock the dinosaurs over and crush a reporter, and that’s not really good for media relations. So the engineers attached guidewires to the buildings all the way around the exhibit, but it still swung in the wind.”

Such colossal projects are now routine for the society, whose exploration stories once were told chiefly through a single magazine but now reach millions through numerous magazines, television broadcasts in 150 countries, online publications and special classroom programs, including a National Geographic Bee that awards annual scholarships.

“We’re really trying to get the message of appreciating nature and cultures across to people all over the world,” Moffet says. “Everything we do is part of disseminating geographic knowledge, and that mission takes many forms. It’s exciting to work in a place that is helping to enlighten and enthuse people.”

Moffet helped plan the society’s 1987 centennial and since then has been instrumental in creating the explorers-in-residence program, and the National Geographic Bee, a national competition that involves 5 million students in fourth through eighth grades.

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Class Notes

WoodVesting in Los Angeles.

1990

Scott Beaven, e’90, g’93, PhD’95, serves on the corporate senior staff of the Space Computer Corp. in San Diego, Calif., where he lives. Debra Howland Burgess, c’90, manages strategic integration for GE Consumer Finance in Merriam. She lives in Prairie Village. Brett Leopold, c’90, is a senior attorney at Sprint in Overland Park. Melanie Dick McMullen, l’90, practices law and is a political public affairs consultant at Clear Creek Communications in Holt, Mo. Marion Salyer Stone, c’90, g’01, PhD’05, is associate director and research coordinator for UMKC’s Center for Academic Development. She lives in Olathe.

MARRIED

Andrew Halaby, e’90, g’92, l’96, to Ann Flood, Jan. 8 in Phoenix, where they live. Andrew practices law with Snell & Wilmer, and Ann is a graduate student.

BORN TO:

Chad, c’90, l’94, and Kara Beach Gillam, d’94, g’96, daughter, Abigail Knox, May 11 in Englewood, Colo., where she joins a sister, Megan, 2. Neal Lintecum, m’90, and Julie, son, Jackson Dean, Jan. 13 in Lawrence, where Neal is a surgeon with Orthopedic Surgery Associates.

1991


MARRIED

Lori Mitchell, d’91, to Karl Kandt, Nov. 20 in Johnson. They live in Ulysses. Mary Womble, a’91, to Franklin Kell, Oct. 9. They live in Tulsa, Okla., and Mary manages client services for BSW International.

1992

Gregory Ballew, c’92, l’95, is a partner in Bioff Finucane in Kansas City. Casey Housley, c’92, l’96, recently was...
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Class Notes

elected a partner in the Kansas City firm of Armstrong Teasdale. He lives in Leawood.

**Louis Lopez,** j’92, is a senior trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. He lives in Arlington, Va.

**Josh Taylor,** b’92, makes his home in Eden Prairie, Minn. He’s managing director of Black River Asset Management in Minnetonka.

**BORN TO:**

- **Steven,** b’92, and **Jennifer Tweed Beardslee,** c’93, son, Samuel Robert, July 1 in Kansas City.
- **LoAnn Quinn Burt,** c’92, l’94, and **Kevin,** f’94, daughter, Harper Reece, June 19 in Columbus, Ohio. LoAnn is senior human-resources manager for American Showa, and Kevin is a product designer for Crane Plastics.
- **Heather Malone Grandsire,** d’92, and Jim, son, John James, Sept. 2 in Baltimore, where he joins a sister, Maggie, who’s nearly 3. Heather teaches fourth grade at Hawthorne Elementary School.
- **Heather Gage Jackson,** j’92, and Justin, son, Aidan Jacques, Dec. 21 in Summerville, S.C., where he joins twin brothers, Evan and Nolan, 3.
- **Kevin,** c’92, g’95, and **Heather Switzer Wagner,** e’96, son, Taylor Reid, Feb. 1 in Colorado Springs.

**1993**

- **Christine Brocker Bina,** p’93, is a regulatory management officer for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She lives in Rockville, Md.
- **Tyrone Borders,** c’93, recently was named an associate professor of health management and policy at the University of North Texas in Fort Worth.
- **Todd Jensen,** d’93, is district sales manager for ICOS. He lives in Papillion, Neb.
- **John Mullies,** b’93, h’97, works as a senior solution architect for Cerner. He lives in Overland Park.
- **Heather Harris Silver,** c’93, manages customer care for Datamax. She lives in Roeland Park.

**BORN TO:**

- **Kevin Toal,** c’93, and Michelle, son, Cameron Tyler, July 28 in Maryland Heights, Mo. Kevin is a scientist at Washington University in St. Louis, and Michele is a biochemist with Pfizer.

**1994**

- **Jennifer Trammel Giller,** h’94, works as an account representative for 3M. She lives in Libertyville, III.
- **Shannon Schwartz,** j’94, manages customer research for the California State Automobile Association in San Francisco. She lives in Mountain View.
- **Donald Stearns,** c’94, is a senior geographic analyst for NAVTEQ in Overland Park.
- **Susan Dickey Sweet,** m’94, practices medicine with Kansas City Urology Care and at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She lives in Prairie Village.
- **Alicia Thomas,** d’94, g’00, teaches reading at Vinland Elementary School in Baldwin City. She lives in Lawrence.

**BORN TO:**

- **Allison Graham Kracker,** c’94, and David, son, Patrick Sweeney, Sept. 28 in Western Springs, Ill., where she joins a sister, Peri, 3.
- **Tamara Wagner,** d’94, and Curtis Elleman, son, Wagner Wayne, June 11 in Overland Park, where he joins a sister, Alexandra, 3.

**1995**

- **Kurtis Hassler,** e’95, serves as city administrator of Burlingame, where he and **Anne Sutherland Hassler,** j’95, c’95, make their home.

**BORN TO:**

- **Woodrow,** 95, and **Tiffany Shenk Goodwin,** c’95, son, Davis Woodrow, Sept. 16. They live in Wichita.
- **Shelly Britt Goscha,** s’95, and
Richard, s’96, daughter, Kelsey, Dec. 28 in Lawrence, where she joins two sisters, Callie, 1, and Bayley, 8, and a brother, Brendan, 5.

Jeffrey, c’95, and Jodi Phillips, g’02, daughter, Peyton Faith, Dec. 16 in Lenexa, where she joins two sisters, Jaidyn, 2, and Emma, 5.

Patrick, c’95, and Sara Goldman Rhodes, j’96, son, Jack Patrick, May 18 in Prairie Village.

Allison Moss Tuttle, e’95, g’01, and

Brian, f’98, son, Brayden Emory, Sept. 16 in Prairie Village.

1996

John Blair, c’96, is a New Mexico Supreme Court judicial clerk. He lives in Albuquerque.

Bradley, c’96, m’00, and Gretchen GoodMcIlnay, h’98, daughter, Charlotte Gretchen, Nov. 18 in Dallas.

Steven Ortiz, g’96, is a professor of art at South Texas College in Weslaco. He lives in McAllen.

John Price, a’96, works as an architect with Hartshorne & Plunkard in Chicago.

Born to:

Jeremy Bezdek, b’96, and Emily, daughter, Emma, July 19 in Wichita, where she joins a brother, Jackson, 2.


1996

John Blair, c’96, is a New Mexico Supreme Court judicial clerk. He lives in Albuquerque.

Bradley, c’96, m’00, and Gretchen Good McIlnay, h’98, daughter, Charlotte Gretchen, Nov. 18 in Dallas.

Steven Ortiz, g’96, is a professor of art at South Texas College in Weslaco. He lives in McAllen.

Profile

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Veteran NFL coach finds second career atop FCA

Growing up in Allentown, Pa., Les Steckel never imagined moving halfway across the country to a strange place called Kansas. “I thought I was going to the Naval Academy,” he says. “It wasn’t until late spring of my senior year that I first heard about KU, from Chancellor Clarke Wescoe. He was from Allentown, too, and I knew his nephew. When he heard about me, he strongly encouraged me to consider Kansas, and I listened.”

Except for his first trip home for Christmas of his freshman year, Steckel, c’68, s’68, hitchhiked through every journey from Philadelphia to Lawrence and back again. His eager mind and thirst for adventure continued to lead him down new roads, including 30 years as an NFL and college football coach and his March appointment as president of Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

“There was something so special about Kansas,” Steckel says from his office at FCA headquarters in Kansas City. “The culture was so different than the East Coast, and I can remember in those first few weeks, even months, being so apprehensive. The people were so friendly and nice and cordial, and I wasn’t quite used to that. It took a while to accept the culture difference.”

Though he was primarily a football player, Steckel’s athletics highlight while at KU was winning the Golden Gloves’ light-heavyweight boxing championship in 1966. Soon after that victory, he wandered into a campus Christian crusade that changed his life.

“I was the Golden Gloves champion, and I thought I was the cat’s meow. I found out I wasn’t. After that night I looked at life through a different set of eyes.”

The day after Commencement, Steckel marched to the Marine Corps recruitment office. He completed a tour in Vietnam as an infantry officer, and in 1970 joined the Quantico Marines, the service’s national football team. He spent three seasons as the star running back—during which time he first began attending FCA events—and found himself propelled back into sports.

From a $150-a-month graduate assistant’s job at the University of Colorado, Steckel went on to become an assistant or coordinator for eight NFL and three college teams, and in 1984 was head coach of the Minnesota Vikings.

In 2004 Steckel left coaching behind for good and accepted a full-time job with his family’s church in Brentwood, Tenn. When the FCA presidency came open soon thereafter, Steckel was again asked to use his leadership and motivational skills in service to young athletes.

“What we try to do,” he says, “is give them proper perspective. Performance is only temporary, but purpose is eternal.”
Manhattan, where he joins a brother, Zachary, 2.

1997

Amy Farmer-Estka, d’97, and her husband, Scott, live in Peoria, Ariz., with their son, Owen, 2.

Kathryn Richardson Franquemont, c’97, makes her home in Cave Creek, Ariz., with her husband, Michael, and their sons, Christopher, 3, and Matthew, 1.

Jennie Stiffler Waters, c’97, and her husband, Christopher, c’97, live in Lawrenceville, N.J., with their daughters, Emma, 3, and Isabella, 1.

MARRIED

John Claxton, b’97, g’99, and Emily Leonard, c’98, Oct. 23. They live in Chicago, where Emily is a regional trainer for Spencer Stuart. John manages transactional finance for Brunswick in Lake Forest.

William Matthews, l’97, and Carolyn Rumfelt, l’97, Nov. 6 in Wichita, where they both practice law with Foulston Siefkin.

BORN TO:

Jarrod Guthrie, c’97, and Megan, Carson Edward, May 14 in Overland Park. Jarrod is lead contract negotiator with Marley Cooling Technologies.

Michelle Rojohn Hewitt, d’97, and Ty, son, Logan Alan, Dec. 1 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Michelle teaches health at Cypress Bay High School.

Kevin, b’97, and Brooke Thompson Kopp, s’97, daughter, Anne Sophia, Oct. 12 in Phoenix.

Daniel, c’97, and Dawn Madrick-Stewart, s’01, s’04, daughter, Paige Elizabeth, Dec. 30 in Leawood. Their home is in Olathe.

Dwight Zabel, m’97, and Staci Jo, son, Tanner David, Jan. 23 in Shawnee. Dwight is an assistant professor of medicine at the KU Medical Center.

1998

Amy Akers, c’98, is a human-resources executive with Target. She lives in Wamego.

Bryant Bremer, n’98, works as in-house counsel for ExxonMobil in Houston.

Bridget Mason Hess, j’98, lives in Overland Park and is an assistant vice president and corporate communications manager for UMB Financial Corp. in Kansas City.

Gregory Prestridge, b’98, works as a business systems analyst for Sprint in Overland Park. He lives in Olathe.

Erin Veazey, j’98, directs firm and corporate relations for Northwestern University’s school of law. She lives in Chicago.

BORN TO:

Alexander Ewing, c’98, and Ellen, daughter, Katherine Harriet, Oct. 6 in St. Louis. Alex is an integration engineer for Boeing.
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Shepherd Stauffer, Dec. 19 in Lawrence, where he joins a brother, Asa, 2.

Lindsay Mann Gonzalez, c’00, manages accounts for CTCO CalComp Peripherals in Columbia, Md. She lives in Crofton.

Kevin Damm, f’00, owns Damm Music Center in Wichita.

Jana Gruver, c’00, works as an occupational therapist for St. Francis Monterey, Calif.

Erica VanRoss, c’99, reports news for WIXT-TV in East Syracuse, N.Y.

Nicholas Walker, b’99, is a software developer/analyst for Flint Hills Resources in Wichita.

BORN TO:

Jeffrey Morrison, b’99, and Mary, son, Casey, d’98, g’02, daughter, Karis Ann, June 17 in Blue Springs, Mo. They live in Lee’s Summit.

Patrick, g’98, and Nicole Wiviott McGuire, c’98, son, Owen Robert, July 30 in Plainfield, Ill., where he joins a brother, Liam, 2.

1999

Shawn Gaitan, c’99, serves with the U.S. military in Iraq. His home is in

Monte

Encouraged by an editor at the Kansas City Star, who told Gump he showed the tape to his copy editors three times a year, Gump returned the video to her Ohio University editing classroom.

“After we watched it, I asked them, ‘Was this a good thing to see?’ They all said, ‘Absolutely yes.’ His fervor for the language and his belief in the power of copy editing come through. You can’t miss it. He’s not just talking about chasing commas; he’s talking about exactly what he says, being ‘guardians of the newsroom.’”

Gump spent more than 20 years guarding newsrooms across the country. While working in Marin, Calif., she agreed to teach journalism at San Francisco State University while keeping her job as news editor at the local paper. In 1999 she won a Freedom Forum PhD Fellowship at the University of North Carolina; after 27 months of intensive study, she emerged with her doctorate.

Gump’s dissertation would have fascinated her mentor: Closely examining nuances of newspaper writing, Gump found that as word choices become more elaborate and vivid, readers found the stories less credible.

“No one likes to be told what to think,” she says, “and that’s the reaction readers had as the writing got more vivid. Words we use all carry different connotations, and the choices you make will lead the reader in some direction you may not want them to go.

“The journalism faculty at KU all taught us just that, that the choice of words you use, or don’t use, carries its own message. That’s the spirit that I and others carry forth.”
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Health Center in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Jackson Martin, c’00, is deputy director of administrative communications for Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. He commutes to Topeka from Lawrence.

MARRIED

Amy Everett, h’00, to Michael Gorman, Dec. 19 in Kona, Hawaii. Amy is a research sales representative for Fisher Scientific in Seattle, and Michael is Western division sales manager for Digene. They live in Sammamish, Wash.

Carol Shaffer, d’00, to Brian Birnbaum, Dec. 18. They live in Denver, where Carol recently completed a master’s in instruction and learning technologies from the University of Colorado.

2001

Wendy Canaday, e’01, g’04, is a process engineer for Astaris in Lawrence. Christopher Hines, c’01, works as a National Health Center in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

C-SPAN beat satisfies journalist’s varied tastes

lew Ketcham, newsman, bass player and scholar, pursues a hefty nighttime reading syllabus. It includes the biographies of U.S. presidents. All of them. In order.

“I’m up to Millard Fillmore,” he says.

His course of study began in 1999, when he helped produce C-SPAN’s Peabody Award-winning series, “The American Presidency.” Ketcham, j’71, who covers Capitol Hill for the public affairs cable network, hosted the episodes on James Buchanan, Zachary Taylor and Gerald Ford. As a man who scours museums and saves little-known quotes and anecdotes, he decided he needed to know more about all the presidents, so he cracked open a book on George Washington and hasn’t stopped.

Like many KU broadcasters, Ketcham began his career at WIBW in Topeka. Later he spent several years in Washington, D.C., on the staff of then Sen. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.). In 1986, he landed at C-SPAN, where he has covered Congress and has chaired the U.S. Media Gallery of congressional correspondents. His workload follows the course of legislation and other Washington events; he meets each day at 3 p.m. with colleagues to plan the lineup. He interviews lawmakers and hosts segments in which some of the network’s 50 million viewers call in to comment, telling stories that can add vivid detail to a giant policy issue—and make history-in-the-making more real.

Such was the case during the recent debate of a bill on driver’s license requirements for immigrants. Proponents argued that stiff requirements would make it more difficult to obtain fake IDs, which all of the 9/11 hijackers had used.

“Opponents were saying that, though this is a laudable goal, the bill would really make it harder for legal immigrants, putting more obstacles in their way,” Ketcham recalls. “So we go to the phone lines, and, lo and behold, a lot of callers were immigrants. It was this little United Nations, because we had people from all over the world, calling and telling their stories about trying to be legal immigrants. It was pretty moving.”

When he isn’t tracking the impact of legislation, Ketcham often shares a set or two of 1960s musical standards with Sweet Lew and the Jayhawks, a collection of lawyers, businessmen and a priest who play for weddings and fundraisers. Ketcham has played bass since high school but confesses, “I was always the weakest musical link. For others it was easy. I really had to work at it.” As the member who endures the drudgery of bookings and contracts, Ketcham claims naming rights to the band, using the nickname that has followed him from KU days, when he and the Happy Medium used to play the Red Dog Inn. His other favorite Mass Street hangout? His apartment above Malott’s Hardware: “My best decision at KU was choosing not to take the apartment above Joe’s Bakery. That smell was heaven.”
James Sloan, c’01, l’04, is project director and grass-roots coordinator for a nonprofit organization in Alexandria, Va.
Robbi Weniger, c’01, practices law with Naman, Howell, Smith & Lee in Austin, Texas.

MARRIED
Mindy Anderson, b’01, and Brendan Mauri, b’01, July 10 in Kansas City. Their home is in Evanston, Ill.

BORN TO:
Jason Hrabe, c’01, and Amy, daughter, Claudia Elise, May 3 in Lenexa. Jason is a mapper for General Electric.

2002
Jason Gladfelter, c’02, is president of the Society for Conflict Resolution. He lives in Denver.
Katie Hackett, j’02, lives in New York City, where she’s a registered associate for SmithBarney.
Melissa Montgomery, c’02, is a sales executive for Gallery Guide. She lives in New York City.
Scott Moore, c’02, CEO of Virtumundo, makes his home in Overland Park.
Crystal Nesheim, l’02, serves as a Minnehaha County deputy state’s attorney in Sioux Falls, S.D.
Richard Petty, h’02, works as an occupational therapist for Pinnacle Healthcare in Oklahoma City. He lives in Skiatook.
Andrew Yoder, e’02, works as a structural analyst with Boeing. He lives in Renton, Wash.

MARRIED
Michelle Richart, d’02, g’04, and Grant Wittenborn, e’02, Sept. 25 in Olathe, where they live.
Megan Rule, j’02, and John Beck, j’02, Dec. 18 in Tulsa, Okla. She studies law at UMKC, where he’s a graphic-design student. Their home is in Kansas City.

2003
Matthew Boies, d’03, is a scout for the Houston Texans of the NFL.
Darin Brubaker, e’03, works as an aerospace engineer with General Dynamics. He lives in Chandler, Ariz.
Jason Charay, b’03, is an events manager for Nolet Spirits USA. He lives in New York City.
Lauren Cuchna, c’03, works as a sales administration assistant for Komori America. She lives in Downers Grove, III.
Andrew Dies, s’03, is a residence director at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.
Alison Farley, d’03, directs bands and choirs for the Steelville R-3 School District. She lives in Sullivan, Mo.
Holly Jelinek, b’03, works as an information systems auditor and senior associate at CBIZ Accounting Tax and Advisory Services in Leawood. She lives in Merriam.
Patrick Lytle, b’03, is a joint interest
analyst for Hiratsuka & Schmitt. He lives in Littleton, Colo.

Justin Mennen, b’03, works as a web architect for Stryker Orthopaedics in Mahwah, N.J.

Justin Mullins, c’03, is a state trooper with the Colorado State Patrol in Dillon. He lives in Silverthorne.

Scott Newell, c’03, owns the Phoggy Dog Bar and Grill in Lawrence.

Timothy Obringer, c’03, is an insurance producer for Johnson & Bryan. He lives in Atlanta.

Melissa Williams, j’03, works as an account executive for Buona Catering. She lives in Chicago.

MARRIED

Kristi Burkhart, p’03, to Doug Cofer, July 3 in Ingalls. Their home is in Cimarron.

Patrick Lytle, b’03, and Sarah Holtzer, ’03, Nov. 6 in Denver. They live in Littleton.

Jennifer Perkins, c’03, to Kevin McKinney, April 4, 2004. They live in Kansas City, where Jennifer is a new loan boarding specialist with NovaStar Financial.

2004

Carrie Buchholz, b’04, is an actuarial analyst for Creative Marketing International in Overland Park.

Amber Finney, c’04, works as a financial service specialist for AmSouth Bank in Bradenton, Fla. She lives in Sarasota.

Jason Fraser, c’04, is a coordinator with the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va. He lives in Silver Spring, Md.

Erick Garzon, g’04, works for Leica Geosystems, where he’s a senior project coordinator. He lives in Alpharetta, Ga.

Amy Lee, j’04, is an assistant media planner for OMD in Chicago.

Kerry Lippincott, g’04, is curator of the Watkins Community Museum in Lawrence.

Joshua Lusk, b’04, e’04, serves as a submarine officer with the U.S. Navy. His home is in Olathe.

Kristi Misejka, b’04, works as a fund accountant for State Street in Kansas City. She lives in Overland Park.

Andrew Neumayr, p’04, is a pharmacist with Walgreens in Salt Lake City.

Dustin Walters, e’04, works as a computer engineer for Rockwell Collins. He lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

BORN TO:

Matthew Flickner, c’04, and Amy, daughter, Abigail, April 4 in Shawnee. Matthew works for Advanced Field Services.

John Marshall, g’04, and Elizabeth, daughter, Emma, April 21 in Leawood. John works as a consultant for BMC Group.

William McDonald, b’04, and Cally, daughter, Mariah Olivia, Nov. 17 in Hayesville. William is an assistant controller with Waste Connections.
In Memory

1920s

Archie Dennis, c'28, 98, Jan. 29 in San Mateo, Calif. He worked for Allis Chalmers, and is survived by a son, two daughters, nine grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Frances Flynn Koppers, c'21, 105, Jan. 24 in Olathe. She had been a teacher and is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Judith Koppers Janes, '59; 12 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Gladys Smith Middlebrook, c'29, 97, Dec. 29 in Santa Monica, Calif., where she retired from Hughes Electronics. A son, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

Grace Vaniman Russell, c'29, 97, Feb. 22 in Topeka. Surviving are a daughter, a son, Robert Jr., g'66; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Gladys Smith Middlebrook, c'29, 97, Dec. 29 in Santa Monica, Calif., where she retired from Hughes Electronics. A son, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

1930s

Olive Smith Brenner, b'36, 90, Jan. 19 in Broken Arrow, Okla. Surviving are two sons, George, p'66, PhD'71, and James, c'75; a daughter, Brenda Brenner Grasmick, c'69; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Pulley Burma, d'37, 88, June 21 in Claremont, Calif. Her husband, John, and a brother survive.

Steven Cave, b'39, 87, Feb. 2 in Dodge City. Surviving are his wife, Bobbie; three daughters, two of whom are Lisa Cave Ritchie, b'78, and Dinah Cave Zeck, '73; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Walker Cowell, '35, 89, Dec. 3 in Houston. She is survived by her husband, Herbert, a'36; two daughters; and a son.

Garland Downum, d'30, g'35, 97, Nov. 15 in Flagstaff, Ariz., where he taught at Northern Arizona University for more than 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, two daughters, a son, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Virgil Flanders, b'38, m'51, 91, Oct. 13 in Mission. Survivors include two sons, one of whom is David, '77; a brother; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

E. Clifford Gordon, b'33, 92, Feb. 21 in Fort Scott, where he worked for Western Insurance. He is survived by two sons, Edward, c'68, and Albert, '71; and two grandsons.

Billens Gradinger, m'33, 98, Feb. 12 in Manhattan, where he practiced gastroenterology and radiology at the Hertzler Clinic for many years. Surviving are two daughters, Lynne Gradinger Haines, n'60, and Jan Gradinger Crow, n'58; a brother; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jack Knight, b'38, 89, Sept. 25 in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. He was a CPA and is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and three sons.

John Markham, c'31, l'33, 95, Feb. 21 in Parsons, where he practiced law. He is survived by a son, David, c'74; a daughter, Carol Markham Stoddard, c'72; two sisters, Julia Piper Beckwith, c'35, and Mary Katherine Markham Faucett, d'39; and six grandchildren.

Harold Patterson, c'35, m'38, 89, Feb. 26 in Hutchinson, where he was a retired physician and ophthalmologic surgeon. He is survived by five sons, four of whom are Michael, c'65, m'69, Laird, c'63, Bruce, c'68, m'73, and Thomas, '71; a sister; and 11 grandchildren.

H. Donald Putney, b'37, 90, Feb. 4 in Flourtown, Pa. He was vice president emeritus of Fox Chase Cancer Center. A sister and a granddaughter survive.

Elizabeth Walker Reed, c'37, 89, Feb. 7 in Lawrence, where she was a retired teacher. Survivors include a daughter, Carolyn, c'67, l'71; a son, Martin, '64; and two brothers, William Walker, c'48, and Charles Walker, c'42.

Keith Roberts, d'35, g'38, 92, Feb. 25 in Wichita, where he owned Roberts Audio-Visual. He is survived by a son, Darryl, e'61, PhD'68; a daughter, Lynne Roberts Stark, c'64; three granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

Helen Harvey Ryan, '36, 90, Feb. 18 in Wausau, Wis. Survivors include five sons, four of whom are Michael, c'60, m'66, Scott, c'69, m'73, Philip, c'77, and Christopher, c'79, g'82; six grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Paul Strahm Sr., c'32, 96, Jan. 11 in Columbus, Ohio. He was a retired district manager with Trans World Airlines. Survivors include his wife, Anna, two sons, a daughter, 21 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Robert Taliaferro Jr., c'32, 93, Feb. 19 in El Dorado, where he was a retired attorney. Several nieces and nephews survive.

Irene Farrar Wagner, b'33, 93, Feb. 4 in Lawrence. She is survived by a son, Roger, '60; four daughters, Marie Wagner Franklin, '63, Camilla, b'65, g'76, Ruth, f'66, and Diana Wagner Rhodes, d'71; two sisters; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1940s

Robert Allen, p'44, 84, Oct. 10 in Bucklin. A son, two daughters, two sisters, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

Kenneth Anderson, b'48, 81, Dec. 11 in Rochester Hills, Mich., where he was retired from Uniroyal and H&R Block. Surviving are his wife, Rose; two daughters; a son; four stepchildren; a brother, William, c'48; and six grandchildren.

Anne Shaeffer Coshow, c'49, 75, Sept. 28 in San Diego, where she was a retired human-resources manager. She is survived by a daughter, Viki, d'72; a son, Richard, b'79; and six grandchildren.

Berniece Stroup Doering, d'49, 77, March 10 in Garnett. Surviving are her husband, Hank; two sons, Steve, 1'77,
and Mike, l’78; and six grandchildren. 

Thomas Gregg, c’48, 80, Feb. 15 in Topeka, where he worked for American United Life Insurance. He is survived by his wife, Ann; two daughters; three sons, one of whom is Andrew, ’88; a sister; and seven grandchildren.

Margaret Baker Horacek, c’42, 84, Dec. 30 in Morgantown, W.V. Two sons survive.

Martha Fay Hutchinson-Phelps, c’48, g’60, 78, Feb. 8 in Leawood. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by her husband, Edwin, e’36; two sons; a daughter; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Betty Cunningham Jennings, b’47, 79, Feb. 15 in Lawrence, where she was retired from banking and directed the altar guild of Trinity Episcopal Church. She is survived by a son, John, c’79, l’82; a daughter; and two grandsons.

Heloise Hillbrand Kocour, c’45, 81, Feb. 26 in Bel Aire. She is survived by her husband, Max; four daughters, three of whom are Mary Kocour Healy, d’71, Colette, c’73, and Michele, j’77; two sons; and five grandchildren.

Ralph May, e’44, 82, Dec. 10 in Falls Church, Va. He lived in Fairfax and had been a research scientist and program manager for the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics. He is survived by his wife, Jane, two daughters and a sister.

Barbara Byrd McDonald, f’48, 76, Jan. 29 in Lawrence. She is survived by her husband, Clifford, b’50; two daughters, Carol, ’80, and Teresa McDonald Allen, h’98; two sons, Kent, c’76, g’05, and Greg, ’77; a brother; and 11 grandchildren.

Alexia Marks McMorran, c’40, 88, Jan. 31 in Green Valley, Ariz. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Loring McMorran Dixon, d’65; and four grandchildren.

Max Miller, c’47, m’49, 84, Feb. 15 in Mission Hills, where he was a retired anesthesiologist. He is survived by his wife, Annabel Beck Miller, ’46; two daughters, Marilyn Miller Pattison, d’74, g’82, and Annette Miller McLaughlin, c’78; a son; a brother; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Richard Rosberg, ’48, 82, Jan. 25 in Overland Park. He was district manager for Marion Keystone for many years and is survived by his wife, Bonnie; a daughter, Shelly Rosberg Christ, ’80; a son, Richard, f’82; a sister; and a grandson.

Elmer Schumacher, c’49, l’51, 81, Sept. 1 in Topeka, where he had directed the Workers Compensation Commission, the Kansas Crime Commission and the Human Relations Commission. Survivors include four sons, four daughters, three stepchildren, three sisters, two brothers, 24 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

John Siemens Jr., g’49, 83, Dec. 15 in Overland Park, where he had been a management consultant and a financial adviser for Waddell & Reed. He is survived by his wife, Edna Thiessen Siemens, ’49; two daughters, one of whom is Emily Siemens O’Shea, ’81; a brother; and three sisters.

Jack Singleton Jr., a’48, 81, Sept. 20 in Denver. A daughter survives.

Arlyn Smith, j’49, 78, Jan. 28 in Tucson, Ariz. He edited the Larned Chronoscope, owned a ranch and wheat farm and was president of Tucson Executives’ Association. Surviving are his wife, Jacqueline Houdysheil Smith, ’51; a son, Arlyn, ’74; two daughters, Denise, d’77, and Dana Smith Hines, c’78; a brother, Glee, c’43, l’47; five grandchildren; a stepgrandfather; and four great-grandchildren.

James Sparling, c’48, 84, March 20 in Kansas City. His wife, Mary, survives.

William Taylor, c’47, 85, Nov. 7 in Huntington, Md. He was a systematic zoologist at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Surviving are his wife, Sally; five daughters; a son; a stepdaughter; a stepsister; a sister, Ellie Taylor Sims, d’65; 14 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Margaret Husted Wakley, c’45, 81, Jan. 10 in Lakeland, Fla. Two sons survive, one of whom is Daniel, c’74.

Henry “Huck” Wright Jr., c’40, 87, Feb. 18 in Dodge City, where he co-owned Wright’s Potato Chip Co. and later worked for Waddell & Reed and Bush and Co. Mortgage Bankers. Several nieces and nephews survive.

1950s

Richard Barlow, c’51, 76, Feb. 14 in Kendallville, Ind. He retired after 35 years with the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Survivors include his wife, Betty; a daughter, Kathryn Barlow Westmoreland, ’81; two sons, one of whom is Jesse, c’77; a brother; three sisters; and four grandchildren.

Jerome Brewer, g’57, PhD’60, 85, Feb. 9 in Overland Park. He worked for Midwest Research Institute and is survived by his wife, Peggy; two sons, David, c’74, m’77, and Kenneth, e’81, g’91; a daughter, Diane Brewer Rozenberg, d’72; and five grandchildren.

William Buechel, c’51, l’54, 78, Feb. 24 in Salina. He is survived by his wife, Theresa; two daughters, Saral, c’78, and Julia Buechel Marino, c’81, d’85; a brother, Robert, c’47, m’49; and two grandchildren.

Jene Campbell, c’54, m’59, 76, Jan. 30 in San Antonio, where he was a retired colonel in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Stewart Campbell, n’58; two sons; a brother; a sister; and two grandchildren.

John Christie, e’56, 71, Feb. 15 in Fayetteville, Ark., where he was retired from NCR. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth, a daughter, two sons and two stepsons.

Howard Conkey Jr., ’57, 73, Dec. 24 in Brownsville, Texas, where he was a drug and alcohol abuse counselor and had co-owned Family Connection. Surviving are his wife, Joan Worley Conkey, d’56; a daughter, a brother, Harlan, d’59, g’61; a sister; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

John Dickey, d’53, 79, Feb. 10 in Bellingham, Wash. He lived in Blaine and was a former teacher and coach. He is survived by his wife, Cora, two daughters, two sons, 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchildren.

Dallas Dunn, b’50, 78, Feb. 2 in Overland Park, where he worked in the office furniture and supply business. He
is survived by his wife, Helen; two daughters, Patricia Dunn Daly, h'79, and Susan Dunn Boland, c'82; a son, Mark, c'84; two sisters; two brothers, John, e'58, and William Jr., '50; and eight grandchildren.

Mary Lawrence Engle, f'56, 70, Dec. 12 in Colorado Springs. She is survived by her husband, Joe, e'55; a daughter; a son, Jon, c'84; a brother, Ray Lawrence, b'53; and two grandchildren.

Jack Fink, b'56, 77, Jan. 22 in Garnett. He had owned Hi-Country Products in Denver. Surviving are his wife, Kathryn Cook Fink, n'55; a son; a daughter; a sister, Joan Fink Wilson, d'53; and five grandchildren.

John Fredricks, e'51, 75, Jan. 22 in McLean, Va., where he was retired vice president of marketing with McDonnell Douglas. Surviving are his wife, Else, two daughters and six grandchildren.

David Hanson, c'56, g'81, 70, Feb. 23 in Lawrence, where he was retired from the Kansas Department of Administration and had served as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife, Pat, three sons, a sister and five grandchildren.

Joan Harris Haver, d'52, 75, Jan. 29 in Palm Desert, Calif. She lived in Incline Village, Nev. Surviving are her husband, Harold, three daughters, a stepdaughter, a stepson and eight grandchildren.

George Hopkins, e'50, g'61, 80, Feb. 26 in Prairie Village, where he was retired from a 35-year career with Marley Cooling Tower. He is survived by his wife, Joan, three daughters, a son and 10 grandchildren.

Thomas Kennedy, l'53, 72, Jan. 21 in Salina, where he was senior partner and president of the law firm of Berkeley, Yarnevich and Williamson. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Wandling Kennedy, d'54; four sons, James, c'85, Donald, c'87, Robert, assoc., and William, j'92; two daughters, Carol Kennedy Johnson, b'77, and Katherine Kennedy Challant, j'81; a sister; and 16 grandchildren.

Richard Lockwood, m'58, 76, Feb. 28 in La Jolla, Calif., where he was a retired thoracic surgeon. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. Two daughters, a son and three grandchildren survive.

Kathleen Kummer Lutz, b'57, 70, Jan. 1 in Great Bend. She is survived by her husband, Dennis; three sons, Daniel, e'90, Kent, a'95, and D.J., e'90; a daughter; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

Charlene McCoy McDonald, d'57, 69, Dec. 26 in Dodge City. Surviving are two sons, Scott, b'80, and Mark, j'82; a daughter, Sally McDonald Fankhauser, d'80; and eight grandchildren.

William Modrcin Sr., d'51, 80, Dec. 16 in Shawnee Mission. He was retired from Equitable Life Assurance and is survived by his wife, Eleanor; a son, Bill Jr., c'75, l'78; a brother; and two grandsons.

Richard Munns, m'50, 87, Feb. 20 in Mason City, Iowa, where he directed the family practice residency program at Mercy Hospital. Four sons, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

James Neumann, m'56, 80, March 6 in Salina, where he was a neurologist. He is survived by his wife, Ann; two daughters, one of whom is Joan Neumann Head, s'87; three stepsons, one of whom is John Suter, '83; two sisters; four stepgrandchildren; and a stepgreat-grandchild.

Wilbert Odem, g'53, 79, Feb. 15 in New Orleans, where he was a retired petroleum geologist for Chevron Oil. Surviving are his wife, Ellen, two sons, seven daughters and 15 grandchildren.

James O’Hara, c'51, Oct. 7 in East Orange, N.J. He owned a construction business and is survived by five sons, three of whom are William, f'85, Antony, f'83, and Christopher, c'85; two daughters, one of whom is Katharine O’Hara-Cohen, c'86; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

Barbara Holmes Reinders, c'55, 71 Dec. 16 in Green Valley, Ariz., where she worked in the insurance business. She is survived by her husband, William, c'51; a son; a daughter; three stepdaughters; and six grandchildren.

Bernard “B.J.” Schulte, j'57, Feb. 18 in Norwich, Conn., where he had a 30-year career with Norwich-Eaton Pharmaceuticals. He is survived by his wife, Myrna Schneider Schulte, '58; a son; a daughter; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Patricia Spillman, g'56, 83, March 4 in Kansas City, where she was retired after teaching 37 years for the Shawnee Mission school district. Two sisters and a brother survive.

William Vestal, c'50, 81, Jan. 26 in Valencia, Calif. He lived in Waveland, Miss., and is survived by his wife, Nubia, two sons, two daughters, four stepdaughters, two stepsons, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Wilma Feuerborn Weaver, n'53, 77, Feb. 7 in Hazlet, N.J., where she had been a nurse for 30 years. Surviving are two daughters; a son; a sister, and three brothers, two of whom are Ivo Feuerborn, b'56, and Kenneth Feuerborn, '61.

Jerry Woods, b'52, 74, Feb. 19 in Glen Ellyn, Ill., where he owned Jerry Woods and Associates Insurance Agency. He is survived by his wife, Marlene, a son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

1960s

Marilyn “Marnie” Mohs Campbell, d'67, g'83, 59, Feb. 23 in Prairie Village. She worked at the KU Medical Center and is survived by her husband, Stephen, c'66, l'69; a son; a brother; and a grandson.

Paul Cory, n'64, 71, July 24 in Seattle. He lived in Kingfield, Maine, where he was a registered nurse. He is survived by his wife, Anna Mae, three daughters, a son, a sister and nine grandchildren.

Beth Beamer Deakins, c'66, h'66, 60, Feb. 20 in Fort Collins, Colo. She was a physical therapist for more than 35 years and is survived by her husband, John, c'64, g'66; two sons; a daughter; a brother, Raymond Beamer, e'73; a sister, Wendolyn Beamer Blakely, c'69, h'69;
Robert Gernon, b'66, 61, March 30. He had been a Kansas Supreme Court justice since 2003. A longtime Kansas Honors Program volunteer and alumni chapter leader in Hiawatha, he was honored by the Alumni Association in 1990 for his service. He is survived by a sister, Maureen Gernon, c'59, a brother, John Gernon, c'58, and two daughters, Kristin Gernon Olson, c'97, and Rebecca Gernon Wilson, c'95, m'01.

Marvin Hake, e'60, 67, Jan. 11 in Niceville, Fla., where he was retired from Lockheed Martin Federal Systems. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Loretta Nauman Hake, d'60; a daughter; four sons, one of whom is Bradley, e'89; three brothers; four sisters; and 11 grandchildren.

William Hendricks, e'66, 60, Feb. 23 in San Jose, Calif., where he worked for Lockheed Martin. He is survived by his wife, Jane, a daughter, two sons, two sisters and a brother.

Sammie Hunter, b'61, 65, Feb. 27 in Lawrence, where he worked for Hy-Vee. He is survived by a daughter; a son, Clayton, j'83; and five grandchildren.

George Mallon, c'63, 66, Feb. 5 in Kansas City, where he practiced law. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; four daughters, Martha Mallon DeGraw, b'88, g'90, Eileen Mallon Heble, c'89, l'92, Anita, d'92, and Michaela Mallon Sarbach, '89; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Peter Mark, m'61, 69, March 8 in Plymouth, Minn. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, four daughters, a son, a brother, a sister and nine grandchildren.

Gary Martin, e'66, 62, Dec. 12 in Las Cruces, N.M., where he was retired. Survivors include his wife, Debbie, a son, a daughter, a stepdaughter, a stepson and four grandchildren.

Hugh Moore, m'61, 71, March 25 in Mineral Wells, Texas, where he was a retired pathologist. He is survived by his wife, Betty, two sons and a daughter.

Kathleen Park, g'68, 65, Dec. 5 in Wichita, where she was a speech pathologist in the public schools for 30 years.

Kenneth Sells, c'60, m'64, 69, Jan. 17 in Long Beach, Calif. He practiced medicine in Kansas City for many years and is survived by his wife, Margaret Frueh Sells, n'71, g'85; a daughter; two sons; and two sisters, Barbara Sells Carrier, '53, and Georganna Sells Clark, n'51.

Roger Whitaker, e'62, 65, March 20 in Emporia. He is survived by his wife, Frances; two daughters, one of whom is Melissa Whitaker Knapp, c'92; two step-daughters; a sister, Sharon Whitaker Hilyard, n'66; and nine grandchildren.

Milo “Mike” Wynne, c'61, g'62, 69, Feb. 20 in Denver, where he was a geologist in the oil and gas industry. He is survived by four sons, two daughters, a brother and two grandsons.

Christopher “Kit” Gunn, j'78, g'99, 55, March 17 in Houston. He lived in Lake Charles, La., where he taught sociology at McNeese State University. He also had been a reporter for the Salina Journal and had worked in KU’s remote sensing laboratory and the pharmaceutical chemistry department. He is survived by his wife, Diana Odom Gunn, c'95, PhD'02; his parents, James, j'47, g'51, and Jane Gunn, j'47; and a brother, Kevin, c'79.

Geoffrey Lind, j'71, l'74, Feb. 13 in Colorado Springs, Colo. He practiced law in Kansas City and had been a probate district court judge for the Wyandotte County District Court before becoming an officer at United Missouri Bank in Kansas City and later in Colorado. He is survived by his wife, Betsy Calovich Lind, c'71; a son; his father, Stanley, b'42, l'48; his mother, and a brother, Richard, c'76.

Mark Mathews, d'72, 55, Feb. 14 in Elgin, Ill., where he was office administrator for Heartland Services. He is survived by a son; his mother, Patricia, assoc.; and a brother, David, c'75, m'78.

Carolyn McClurg, s'79, 61, Feb. 16 in Topeka, where she was a retired counselor. A son, her mother and a brother survive.

Berry McLaughlin, c'76, Feb. 10 in Prairie Village, where he worked in the advertising specialty business. His father, Gene, c'49, and a sister survive.

Versey Taylor Stephens, d'74, g'80, Feb. 25 in Kansas City. Surviving are her husband, Benjamin; two daughters, Carol Stephens Hegwood, '82, and Karen Stephens Rayford, b'02; three sons; a brother; a sister, Vera Taylor Randle, d'72; and 11 grandchildren.

1990s

Carmen Urdaneta, c'94, 32, Feb. 3 of injuries suffered in a plane crash outside Kabul, Afghanistan, where she was helping to develop a comprehensive communications strategy to expand the country’s community-based health-care plan. She was a senior communications associate for Management Services for Health. She lived in Boston and is survived by her father; her mother, Lia Urdaneta, s'84; a grandmother; two brothers, one of whom is Jose, c'93, m'97; two step-brothers; and two stepsisters.

The University Community

Conchita Garcia de la Noceda Augelli, g'80, 85, March 18 in Lawrence, where she had coordinated international programs at KU’s Bureau of Child Research. She is survived by two sons, John, c'72, and Robert, c'78, g'82, PhD'98; two sisters; and two granddaughters.

Theresa “Terri” Knoll Johnson, j'89, 53, Feb. 6 in Baldwin. She worked for the KU Endowment Association, where she was senior director for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and special projects. She is survived by her husband, J. Kelly, c'78, g'83, PhD'88; a daughter, Cheri Johnson Thomas, ‘91; two sons, one of whom is Lucas, student; a sister, two brothers; and two granddaughters.

Lee Sonneborn, Aug. 14 in East Lansing, where he was a professor emeritus of mathematics at Michigan State University. Earlier he taught math at KU. His wife, Vida, died Aug. 7. Survivors include a daughter, Mary Sonneborn Stromquist, ’70; a son; and a brother.
Co-authors Stephen Hasiotis, assistant professor of geology, and Bruce Lieberman, associate professor of geology, (l to r) during their search for the earliest traces of life, in Canada’s Mackenzie Mountains. Among their discoveries was a 520-million-year-old “trilobite,” the dominant life form of the Cambrian era, a good example of which (below right) includes well-preserved hard shell, soft tissue and antennae.

Paleontology on the Canol Road
KU geologists travel byway of cultural, natural and evolutionary history

The Mackenzie Mountains of the Canadian Northwest Territories are a geologist’s paradise, where jagged peaks jut as far as the horizon in all directions. It was to this land of the midnight sun, one latitudinal click shy of the Arctic Circle, that paleontologists and geologists from KU and Washington State University traveled in 2002 and 2003 on expeditions sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society. Our trips led to the publication in the London Journal of the Geological Society of findings that suggest animal life on Earth may have originated in Siberia.

Our rendezvous point was the Canol Road, a road rich in cultural history, and a byway back roughly 520 million years to the dawn of animal life. This prehistoric time is known as the Cambrian explosion: Over a geologically short interval, perhaps 20 million years, animal life on
Earth first began to proliferate. The rapidity of this event puzzled Charles Darwin, and continues to puzzle scientists today.

Canol is the abbreviation of Canadian-American Northern Oil Line, describing the road’s genesis from 1942 to ’44 as a route flanking a pipeline to bring oil from the Canadian Arctic to the United States, when fear of a Japanese invasion of Alaska foreshadowed loss of petroleum needed for the war. The road became obsolete because of American victories, and then it languished, a victim of the cost of moving oil through a vast wilderness. The rotting shacks, trucks and bridges along the road are testament to different times. History has now come full circle: There is talk of building a new pipeline from the unpopulated Canadian north to the markets beyond.

The Canol Road bridges the divide between cultural and natural history, and the area is replete with wolves, caribou and grizzly bears. At one point from our helicopter we saw an 8-foot, 700-pound grizzly ambling down the road. Field work here is a step closer to the laws and processes of natural selection than most Americans are accustomed to, and it was these processes we were here to study: What were the environmental triggers that coaxed animal life from its embryonic state during the Cambrian?

The Mackenzies preserve an exceptionally complete record of the Cambrian explosion. Some of the most exciting fossils we found were in 520-million-year-old rocks deposited close to shore but out of permanent standing water. We found animal trackways that might be the timid steps of the first animal to crawl out on land. The animal resembled a cross between a worm and a centipede. In addition to these rare traces, the most common fossils are trilobites, the dominant Cambrian life form. These now-extinct relatives of horseshoe crabs were scavengers that scurried along the sea floor.

Doing geology here involves exploring essentially virgin paleontological terrain in an almost unspoiled wilderness. Souvenirs include aching knees and a half-ton of fossils. The Canol Road juxtaposes staggering mountains carved by glaciers and rusted trucks left by the U.S. military. Such a place reveals the stark contrast between the abyss of geological time and the transitory nature of the human condition.

As our team headed back toward “civilization,” the contrast soon faded, leading us to think at last of the Canol Road as a conduit not only between the past and the present but also the future, because the land may once again be transformed in the quest for oil.

—Bruce Lieberman & Stephen Hasiotis are faculty members in the department of geology.

Cold before the storm

Study finds ice age, not hunting, first thinned bison DNA

Natural Trap Cave, in north-central Wyoming, was a field-trip favorite for KU paleontologists from 1974 to ’85. Though 95 percent of the fossil-rich site remains untouched, Dyche Hall now houses 40,000 bones recovered from Natural Trap, including remains used in a recent DNA study that showed the lack of genetic variability among bison dates to a climatic event 20,000 years ago, not the near-extinction achieved by 19th-century hunters.

When he joined 26 other scientists from around the world on the bison DNA study, Professor Larry Martin, senior curator at the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Center, had only to reach into KU’s existing Natural Trap Cave collections, gathered 20 to 30 years ago—long before it was imagined that DNA analysis could unravel so many mysteries.

“We cannot guess what’s going to be important in the future, so we prepare for things we haven’t thought of yet,” Martin says. “That’s the value of museums. Museums prepare us to take advantage of opportunities that haven’t happened yet.”

Natural Trap Cave is just as advertised: a natural trap that meant speedy death for animals that fell through a 85-foot plunge into their bell-shaped tomb; any that might have survived the 85-foot plunge into their bell-shaped tomb were doomed, too, because the only way in was the only way out.
grown into “a 5’7’, 160-pound frame that just seemed too large for my personality. I felt awkward, clumsy, and totally misfit for childhood.” His growth spurt and a collection of prominent scars (all oddly enough, he notes, on the right side of his body) marked him with a self-consciousness that lasted into adulthood.

In the record-holders portrayed in the 1980 and 1982 Guinness editions, he discovered an obsessiveness he could identify with, an unconventional sense of specialness that he could embrace, and an outlet for his active imagination. “It was the Guinness books that gave me an escape,” Church writes, “a strange and seductive escape into the territory of imagination.” As he attempts to explain the motives behind the record-holders’ bizarre accomplishments, he dreams up

Church’s eccentric memoir examines the highs and lows of a misfit Kansas boyhood

Jay Gwaltney ate an 11-foot-tall birch tree. Arron Marshall showered for 336 hours straight. Fred Newman made 88 consecutive free throws—blindfolded. The who, where, when and how of these record-setting feats are chronicled in The Guinness Book of World Records, the renowned compendium of odd and dubious achievements that has thrilled schoolboys and other weird-fact aficionados since 1955. What the books leave to the imagination is the why.

Into that breach jumps Steven Church, ’95. In his debut memoir, The Guinness Book of Me, he uses a long-held fascination with The Guinness Book of World Records to look back at the feelings of freakishness and alienation he felt growing up in Lawrence. A sickly toddler who experienced bouts of febrile seizures, Church writes that by 10 he had grown into “a 5’7’, 160-pound frame that just seemed too large for my personality. I felt awkward, clumsy, and totally misfit for childhood.” His growth spurt and a collection of prominent scars (all oddly enough, he notes, on the right side of his body) marked him with a self-consciousness that lasted into adulthood.

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University of Missouri, proved an invaluable resource, especially for the then-unknown possibilities of DNA research. “Natural Trap Cave is the only site we’ve found where we can consistently get DNA from ice-age animals south of the ice sheet [that covered much of North America during the last ice age],” Martin says. “We have samples preserved in permanently frozen ground up in Alaska, but when we want to know what was happening down here, Natural Trap is the only place where we can figure that out.”

DNA culled from Natural Trap’s bison bones helped Martin and his fellow researchers see that a “terrible environmental catastrophe,” probably the extreme cold weather that launched the most recent ice age, nearly wiped out the world’s bison 20,000 years ago.

“With something that’s been around a long time like bison, you would expect to have dozens and dozens of separate genetic variations, little sub-areas of individual selection, and in fact, the early bison all show this,” Martin says. “But, 20,000 years ago, all that variation disappeared, and we got the same amount of genetic variation that we have now, like just one local population made it. There were probably only a few thousand bison left in all of North America.”

The study’s findings, published in the journal Science, remind paleontologists not to fall into their own natural traps, presuming too many conclusions about ancient fauna from too little evidence.

“We already knew that bison had low variability,” Martin says, “but that didn’t bother us, because we knew we had killed them off, down to about 800 individuals, 100 years ago. The shocking thing is that before that happened, Mother Nature nearly took the bison out. So it was a real exciting study. Nobody really expected this.”
possible lives for them. Though it’s not clear to him at the time, Church’s imag-
inings mark his first forays into the life of a writer.

Of particular interest are Billy and Benny McCrary, the world’s heaviest
twins. A photograph of the brothers on motorcycles serves as “a window into
another world.” He exploits the gaps in Guinness’ just-the-facts approach to
dream up tensions and rifts between the brothers, who made a living performing
stunts. For Church, this is a way to examine the close but complicated rela-
tionship he shares with his younger brother, Matt, an athletic, winning, confi-
dent kid who seems to be everything Steven is not. To explain the death of
Billy, Church dreams up a death scene in which the estranged brothers are recon-
ciled, Benny holding Billy’s head in his lap, “stroking his brother’s hair and
humming old country songs their gram-
my used to sing ... until the sirens come
and his twin heart stops pumping.”

The first half of The Guinness Book of
Me is largely a paean to family life, but
beneath tales of the mildly reckless
adventures of the brothers and their
father runs an undercurrent of barely
discernible dread. Reading of their
adventures with knives, guns and trucks,
one feels a nagging worry that some-
thing could go wrong.

When those worries finally surface—
abruptly—Church’s oddball memoir, in
danger of foundering in shallow self-
absorption at its halfway point, strikes
out for more profound depths. It
becomes clear that it’s not the Guinness
records that fascinate him so, but the
record-holders. Why these unique peo-
ple do what they do is essentially
unknowable—but so are the motives of
the so-called ordinary folks we
encounter every day. In the gaps of their
personal histories Steven Church finds a
blank page on which to work through
his own feelings of alienation and loss,
and the journey to belonging that he
chronicles suggests every human story,
examined closely enough, is unique and
record-worthy.

—Steven Hill

Patinkin delights students, fans in Murphy Hall

E van Grosshans must be destined for a
career on-stage. He can sing, and
more important, he doesn’t scare easily.

It’s a Saturday afternoon in the
Crafton-Preyer Theatre, and Grosshans
volunteers to sing a solo during class. This
would not be a big deal, except for the
fact that there, in the front row, sits
Mandy Patinkin, winner of Tony and Emmy
awards for his roles on Broadway and TV.

Grosshans, a Lawrence senior majoring
in theatre and theatre/voice, gamely
forges ahead, his lush voice launching into
a favorite from “Carousel”:

“If I loved you—”

“But you don’t.” Patinkin shouts.

Grosshans stops. “I don’t? I thought I
did,” he replies.

Patinkin, ’74, grabs the momentum,
turns to the students in this special mas-
ter class, and begins to teach. Through a
meandering monologue, the singer and
actor talks about making a genuine con-
nection with an audience, about the need
to “go places in yourself that people
spend a lifetime avoiding,” about the need
to make each performance real and natu-
ral by drawing on emotions from your
own life. Performers, he says, must strive
to reach that point where “you don’t
work at it, because it’s in you.”

The students hang on every word.

Grosshans tries his solo again. Patinkin
stays quiet until the end, then offers his
review: “That was great. And let me tell
you why it was great to me. You were not
performing at all. There were only two
bullshit moments.

“Mostly it was so natural, I’d hire you
in a minute—” Grosshans sighs and
smiles, relieved. But Patinkin’s not finished:
“unless, of course, you were too tall, had
the wrong hair, or just didn’t fit
the part.”

Such is an actor’s life. Such are the
indecipherable, indescribable dynamics
when a master returns to his alma mater
to share his craft with a new generation.

Patinkin taught and performed April 9
as part of a benefit for University Theatre.
The visit was his second to Lawrence in
recent years. With Jack B. Wright, profes-
sor of theatre and film, he took the stage
at Crafton-Preyer for “A Conversation
with Mandy Patinkin,” loosely based on
the “Inside the Actors’ Studio” on TV’s
Bravo network. Patinkin, 52, talked about
his career and his recent battle with
prostate cancer, which had killed his
father at 52. The event raised about
$30,000 to provide theatre equipment
and scholarships for film students.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Patinkin left KU in 1972 for The Juilliard
School, but he fondly recalls his role as Teyye
in KU’s production of “Fiddler on the Roof,”
the last time his father saw him perform. His
reprise of “If I Were a Rich Man” earned a
standing ovation April 9.
Air Force ROTC cadet Duncan Catlett raised his silver trumpet and honored his fellow Jayhawk Raleigh Bowlby Jr. with the mournful tribute reserved for fallen warriors. On the fine spring morning of April 9, taps played at the Campanile. Bowlby, a native of Marion, was killed in action near Cassino, Italy, on April 8, 1944. He had left KU just one semester shy of his business degree. After completing Officer Candidate School, Bowlby summoned his sweetheart, Mary Jane Shahan, and they were married Oct. 31, 1943, at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Like countless couples ruined by worldwide war, they would not know a life together. Bowlby’s widow, now Mary Jane Cunningham, of Caldwell, married Leonard Cunningham, and together they reared a spirited Jayhawk family. During frequent trips to the Hill for football games, they sometimes strolled through the Campanile and wondered why Mom’s first husband was not among the 276 names carved in granite.

It was not until seeing his name at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., that the family notified the University of the oversight; Jeff Weinberg, assistant to Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, immediately took up the cause.

Midland Marble & Granite of Independence, Mo., donated services and materials, fashioning two “absolute black” nameplates. One was attached to the Campanile’s roster of World War II dead; another was given to Bowlby’s widow. “I think it’s beautiful,” Mary Jane Cunningham said softly, tracing a finger across the name of her long-lost love.

The spring wind snapped to attention in cadence with the color guard, and the American flag whipped sharply. Taps played. A widow twice over shed quiet tears a half-century overdue. A University remembered its own. A forgotten son came home.
Fledglings?

If your baby Jayhawk is ready to leave the nest and head to KU, let us know! Your family’s legacy of KU students will be featured in “Jayhawk Generations,” Kansas Alumni magazine’s salute to true blue heritage.

To be included, the student must:
• be a freshman in the fall 2005
• have at least one parent who is an Alumni Association member
  • have at least one parent who attended KU
    (that parent need not have graduated)

Second Generations:
Please mail in your son or daughter’s résumé and high school name. Please do not send student photographs for second generation Jayhawks.

Third Generations and beyond:
Mail in your son or daughter’s résumé, along with information detailing high-school activities. Please provide information about your KU ancestors. Mail a photograph of the student and college-era photos of parents who attended KU. Photos of grandparents should be sent for fifth-generation students only. We will return all photos after the feature is published in issue 5, September 2005.

Jayhawk Generations
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