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- A father’s-eye view of Commencement
- A Kansan in Queen Elizabeth’s court
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Aimee’s Big Day
After documenting a quarter-century of Commencements, our photographer gets the shot he has long pictured: his oldest daughter’s walk down the Hill.

BY EARL RICHARDSON

Sir Bob
Pollster Robert Worcester is a household name in England, where he has surveyed public opinion for nearly 40 years. Now the Kansan, who was recently knighted for contributions to Britain, has funded a professorship to help KU improve public opinion research on this side of the pond.

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

Will Bike for Pie
Two wheels, eight days and 500 miles: Pack up all your cares and woes and join Biking Across Kansas, where the most pressing question is, apple or rhubarb?

BY STEVEN HILL
Cover photograph by Earl Richardson

Contents Established in 1902 as The Graduate Magazine
Learning Quest is a 529 college savings plan administered by Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins, CPA and managed by American Century Investments. With Learning Quest, more of what you save goes toward education expenses. Earnings generated through the account are tax deferred and qualified withdrawals are tax free. And, as a Kansas taxpayer, your contributions qualify you for an annual deduction on your adjusted gross income.

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On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“Images of the Journey,” items from the permanent Asian collection, through Sept. 25, Spencer Museum of Art

“Recent Acquisitions,” through Aug. 28, Spencer Museum of Art

Lied Center

AUGUST

19 Sisters Morales

Special events

JULY

15 Geoffrey Ward, Bales Organ Recital Hall
19 Matthew Thompson, Bales Organ Recital Hall
22 Ben Keseley, Bales Organ Recital Hall

26 Ken Rodgers, Bales Organ Recital Hall
27 Joseph Rogers, cello, Swarthout Recital Hall

Lectures

JULY

21 Hal Wert, author of Hoover, The Fishing President, Dole Institute Summer Series
28 Craig Shirley, author of Reagan’s Revolution, Dole Institute Summer Series

AUGUST

4 Donna Moreau, author of Waiting Wives: The Story of Schilling Manor, Homefront to the Vietnam War, Dole Institute Summer Series

University Theatre

JULY

15-17, 21-23 “Talley’s Folly,” by Lanford Wilson

The KU Wind Ensemble, directed by John Lynch, director of bands, toured China from May 1 to June 7, performing concerts in Beijing, Chengdu and Kunming. The group first wowed Chinese music conservatory officials during a 2004 performance in Minnesota, leading to the invitation to tour and perform this spring. It was such a hit that KU faculty were invited to return in 2006 to teach and perform at Beijing’s Central Conservatory.
For more information about Association events, call 800-584-2957 or see the Association's Web site, www.kualumni.org.

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F o o t b a l l

S E P T E M B E R

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

O C T O B E R

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18 Fall classes begin

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J U L Y

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18 Emporia Chapter: Senior sendoff
21 Baldwin and Hutchinson Chapters: Senior sendoff
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25 Garden City and Philadelphia Chapters: Senior sendoff
26 Dodge City Chapter: Senior sendoff
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30 Chicago Chapter: Venetian Night boat cruise

A U G U S T

6 Seattle Chapter: Senior sendoff
30 Student Alumni Association Kick-off meeting, Adams Alumni Center

S E P T E M B E R

8 Chicago Chapter: KU Alumni Night with the White Sox
9-10 Lawrence: Alumni volunteers leadership seminar
13 SAA meeting
16-17 Alumni Association National Board Meeting
17 Jayhawk Generations luncheon, Kansas Union
23-24 SAA retreat
27 SAA meeting

C a m e l  T o m b  F i g u r i n e , C h i n e s e  T a n g  D y n a s t y (618-907), gift of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest E. Jones, e’15, g’23. On exhibit in “Images of the Journey,” featuring pieces from the Spencer Museum of Art’s permanent Asian collection, through Sept. 1.
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Steve Hill’s cover story on Biking Across Kansas (BAK), an idyllic adventure under spacious skies, crossed my desk at the perfect moment. It was Monday morning, a few hours after I had returned from one of those summer-weekend road trips that always sound like the perfect getaway when you’re packing the car but turn into torture late Sunday night, when you’re pounding the steering wheel, singing ’70s “classic rock” tunes (please don’t call them “oldies”) to stay awake on the long drive home.

Our destination had been Plano, Texas, where it was even hotter than home, and all we could see for miles and miles was mall after mall. We didn’t mind the weather or the monotony too much because we mostly stayed inside the Plano Sports Authority, a colossal temple to basketball, soccer, ice hockey and other modern obsessions. We were there to watch our 14-year-old son and his buddies play hoops.

Our first clue that we were crazy? The look of amazement on the face of the woman at the registration desk, who had lived in Lawrence while her husband was in law school at KU. “You must be so ... dedicated,” she marveled. The second clue came when I stole a few relaxing moments to watch “Sunday Morning” on CBS, which featured a story on competitive American parents and children who surrender the traditional solace of weekends to too many sports activities.

Brief reward for our ordeal (or so we thought) arrived when our boys took third in the tournament, but our jubilant expressions took on a slightly crazed tinge when we realized we had qualified for nationals—and a return trip to Plano. We couldn’t wait to get home.

On Monday, as I slumped behind my desk, recovery took hold as I read about BAK, a week of exhilaration for hundreds of riders, and an annual celebration for small Kansas communities along the winding road. A sizable contingent of Jayhawks (and the author, a Jayhawk by marriage) made the trip, sharing stories of BAK friendships and traditions as hardy as the wheatfields, wildflowers and warm hospitality that add to the serenity of a real vacation.

Like the cover story, Earl Richardson’s feature is a personal account of a momentous journey—a parade of black gowns rather than black Lycra. Our photographer describes his eldest daughter’s walk down the Hill, and his reactions as a veteran observer turned proud and slightly dazed father. We’re grateful to Earl for doing double duty, and to Aimee for allowing our intrusion. This fall, the father-daughter duo will begin KU law school together; perhaps they thought it wise to preserve their Commencement joy for posterity before they start competing against each other in class.

Every issue of Kansas Alumni results from collaboration, but I must thank Valerie Spicher, graphic designer, for her special efforts. Through most of May and June, she has ably handled her own workload while adding the duties of Susan Younger, our talented and dearly missed creative director, who returns from medical leave this month. Most daunting for Val was the assignment of art directing this magazine, but she has succeeded with grace and style. And while other projects often demand my time, Chris Lazzarino and Steve Hill have continued to expertly guide the magazine.

When the pressure rises, Webmaster Mike Wick croons a tune or two to soothe us (though he prefers Sinatra to classic rock). Danny Madrid, our new advertising sales intern, has adjusted admirably to a workplace that defies any descriptions in his business-school textbooks.

You’ll meet other new Association staff members in this and future issues, as we continue to describe the organization’s growing programs throughout Kansas and in key cities nationwide. When you’re driving, you might even spot our crew, pulling our spiffy new Jayhawk trailer, filled with barbecue grills, cardboard Jayhawks, balloons, stickers and various other trappings of our trade. Road trip, anyone?
**Them’s fightin’ numbers**

Police broke up fisticuffs between two KU roommates in April that started, according to a Lawrence Police Department spokesman, over “being able to prove math.”

As for why two 20-somethings would even be thinking of integers and algorithms on a balmy spring Saturday, well, go figure. But should this problem rise again, we propose a more civilized solution.

Compasses and protractors at 30 paces, gentlemen. And may the best math win.

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**Art of note**

In art history class, John Jordan, Salina junior in journalism, says he learned that modern art is “what the artist decides it is, and, to a lesser degree, what the art community accepts.”

Inspired by artists who sold invisible paintings or drew mustaches on copied classics, Jordan decided to become an artist himself, announcing his plan in a University Daily Kansan column.

“I, John Jordan, am now presenting as art three pages of art history notes taken on white, lined notebook paper, 8-by-11 inches, with black ink, on March 28, 2005, and signed by the artist,” Jordan wrote. “The work has of yet not been exhibited but is for sale for three weeks on eBay starting at $25,000.”

No word on whether the classroom scribblings attracted any eBay bids. But his hope as an artist, Jordan wrote, is that this artwork “confuses and enlightens the viewer/buyer on the question of art.”

In that case, masterpiece accomplished.

---

**Different drummer**

Lots of college kids drop out of school to join rock bands. But how many drop back in?

Josh Baruth, c’05, of Stewartville, Minn., did. Baruth was drawn to KU in 1996 by Lawrence’s music scene and played drums in local bands while pursuing his studies. In 1999, The Appleseed Cast, an up-and-coming Lawrence alt/indie band, asked him to join.

“I delayed school and accepted the opportunity because this was something I always wanted to do,” says Baruth, who recorded and toured the United States, Canada, Europe, Great Britain and Scandinavia during four “wonderful and draining” years. But in 2004, after deciding the “magic of the band was diminishing,” he returned to KU to finish his degree in classical languages.

For his next number, Baruth hopes to start medical school in 2006—but music, he notes, “will always be a huge part of my life.”

Rock on, doc.
The Queen of KU

Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, celebrating his 10-year KU anniversary, was among the 650-or-so employees honored at the annual recognition ceremony May 3 but he wasn’t the event’s star. That honor went to Helen Carr, manager/administrator of enrollment and financials at the Edwards Campus in Overland Park, who celebrated her 50th KU anniversary—a n exceedingly rare milestone.

“Working with students and faculty, I learn things every day,” Carr says. “That’s a type of work I really enjoy.”

Carr joined KU Medical Center’s continuing education office in 1955, while she was still a 19-year-old student at Kansas City, Kan., Community College. Fifty years and three Kansas City campuses later, Carr selected as her anniversary gift a blue necklace with Jayhawk pendant from the Alumni Association’s Jayhawk Collection.

As for how much longer she intends to work, Carr says, “I don’t have any idea. As long as my health holds out, I don’t think I’ll be going anywhere. I’m doing what I enjoy doing.”

Going straight to nowhere

It’s said that blues guitarist Robert Johnson sold his soul in exchange for a memorable musical career. Paul Mirecki, professor and chair of religious studies, got only $70 for his at the April 7 “Soul Auction,” sponsored by a student group called the Society of Open-Minded Atheists and Agnostics.

Mirecki and 23 students were willing to put their ethereal essence on the auction block because no sales were final: Lost souls were reclaimed with household chores, downtown dinners or charitable labor.

Since the event was conceived and conducted with good humor, and $1,200 in auction proceeds was split with the Douglas County AIDS project, we’re left with only one troubling question: How can these self-professed atheists and agnostics sell a product they don’t believe in?

Waste not

The inaugural “From Trash to Treasures” yard sale May 14 in the Adams Alumni Center parking lot, co-sponsored by the Student Alumni Association and three other campus groups, offered everything but the kitchen sink.

Actually, there were two kitchen sinks. And four recliners, a sofa, pots and pans, a stuffed moose, a baseball bobblehead and a terrific selection of Joseph Wambaugh paperbacks. One visitor paid $5 for a stack of Jayhawk stickers and another donated his Kansas driver’s license handbook and an AOL promotional disk.

With prices set somewhere between “25 cents and whatever you want to pay for it,” the sale netted $30 for the Brookcreek Learning Center and the Off-Campus Living Resource Center while saving good stuff from premature disposal in the county landfill.

And that’s an idea that shouldn’t be thrown away.
Only a few students at a handful of universities have had the chance to meet face-to-face with the Oracle of Omaha, billionaire investor Warren Buffett. Professor Mark Hirschey wanted to make sure that students from the School of Business took full advantage of the rare opportunity.

“I said, ‘Look, this is your chance to do something that’s true, something that’s you,’” Hirschey says. “You’re not going to impress anybody with a PowerPoint presentation. Why not do something different? You need to take a chance.”

The 14 students in Hirschey’s Security Analysis class, part of a group of more than 100 KU students and faculty members who traveled by bus to Nebraska May 6 to meet with Buffett, took that advice to heart.

After a 90-minute Q-and-A, students surprised Buffett with treats from Dairy Queen, a company he has invested in for years, then presented a comedy skit that spoofed formal business presentations while outlining the virtues of Les Schwab Tires, a privately owned automobile service company with stores throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The unorthodox pitch sat well with Buffett, who’s known for following his own counsel while posting 40 years of eye-popping returns for investors in his holding company, Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

“We definitely had a good time with it, and he enjoyed it as well,” says Alan Voss, a second-year MBA student who portrayed founder Les Schwab in the skit. “He was smiling the whole time. He was definitely paying attention.”

When the students finished, Buffett told them he is familiar with the company, known for its strong customer service ethic and generous employee profit-sharing plan. If his company purchases Les Schwab Tires, he promised, each of the 100 students would receive a Berkshire Hathaway B-share, currently worth around $2,800.

Hirschey has taken business students to Berkshire Hathaway annual meetings since 1990, but this was the first time KU students were able to meet directly with Buffett, whose investing insights are so valued that a private lunch with him sold for $500,000 at a charity auction. Also attending were members of the school’s finance club and students in Catherine Shenoy’s Applied Portfolio Management class and Hirschey’s Investment Theory class.

What’s in his wallet?

Biz students care more about what’s on Warren Buffett’s mind during Omaha meeting
The group made a good impression, according to MBA student Tim Burger, c’02, a longtime Buffett fan.

“The thing that we’re really proud of right now is that he’s going to limit the number of schools that get to come in the future,” Burger says. “He’s expressed that KU is one of the schools that’s definitely coming back. I think that’s really a big deal for the School of Business.”

In fact, Hirschey notes, he and his students already have been invited back for another visit Dec. 2. The educational value of such trips is obvious: When the world’s second-richest man talks, people listen.

“I can tell students that they need to focus on helping people reach the full potential of their capabilities, but it rings truer when Warren Buffett talks about it,” Hirschey says.

Voss agrees. “So much of the stuff we learn is academic, and not all of it is useful. When you can actually hear someone applying it to real-life situations, it becomes a lot more real.”

Voss says Buffett is not the “cocky, arrogant businessman” many expect in a hugely successful captain of industry. He shared not only his advice for success in business, but also for success in life, noting that the important thing, at age 74, is that “the people who are supposed to love you do love you.” After eating ice cream and trading quips with students during the sketch, he posed for pictures, playfully handing over his wallet.

“He totally made us feel comfortable,” Voss says. “He’s just a normal, average guy—with $43 billion.”

Ginsberg says. “But we must continue to support that program.

“I also think the school’s other departments have identifiable areas of strength where we have an opportunity to really make a mark nationally in teaching, research and service outreach.”

Maintaining the high benchmarks set by some programs while raising the bar for others will be priorities for Ginsberg, who comes to KU from Colorado State University, where he directed the school of education since 1995.

A national education authority whose background is public policy in education, Ginsberg conducted a broad range of research on issues of education reform and individual and organizational change. He is currently studying how teachers interact with parents in K-12 schools and writing a book on the emotional issues that affect leaders. He has studied successful adults with learning disabilities, school restructuring and the effect of reform reports on change in K-12 schools.

While a faculty member at the University of South Carolina, where he taught from 1987 to 1995, Ginsberg for two years led an office that helped faculty members and doctoral students design research projects. He will continue to emphasize research at KU.

“What you want to try to do is model good behavior for the faculty, in terms of your research orientation,” he says. “We expect our faculty to conduct research, and hopefully it should be informing their teaching as well. Research should be impacting the people across the state of Kansas at some point, or at least adding to the discussion about issues affecting Kansans.”

Ginsberg earned a bachelor’s degree in history and political science from the State University of New York at Albany in 1973 and a doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1983. He will be the school’s 15th dean, replacing Angela Lumpkin, who resigned last fall to return to teaching.

New dean

Education authority brings wide research experience to School of Ed

As Rick Ginsberg sees it, the School of Education’s top-ranked special education program is indicative of the challenges that await when he becomes the school’s new dean in August.

“We have had a nationally ranked department of special education for a long time, and one would anticipate it could continue that way,”
MEDICINE

Purchase of land and buildings positions hospital for growth

Two real-estate deals announced in May assure that the University of Kansas Hospital has room to keep growing.

The hospital agreed to buy Sprint’s former corporate headquarters at 2330 Shawnee Mission Parkway and a 14-acre plot of land on the northwest corner of 39th Street and State Line Road in Kansas City, Kan.

Administrative offices and some clinical operations will be moved to the 233,000-square-foot Sprint building, 1.5 miles from the hospital’s main site.

The 14-acre parcel across the street from the hospital’s new energy center eliminates the possibility that future campus development will be choked off, says Irene Cumming, president and CEO of the hospital.

The developments are the latest in the hospital’s ongoing expansion, which includes construction of a 238,000-square-foot Center for Advanced Heart Care, due to open in 2006. They fulfill a goal of the hospital’s independent governing structure, initiated in 1998.

“These land purchases have shown the importance to act quickly when opportunities appear,” Cumming says. “This would have been impossible under the former state structure. Now we have added flexibility for growth that is available for the hospital and the entire campus.”

JOURNALISM

KU lands grant to improve community journalism

A $400,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight foundation will allow the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications to develop resources to help journalists better understand and cover community issues.

The school will work with the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, a Bethesda, Md., nonprofit organization that works to improve politics and public life.

“Communities are as different as the people who live there,” says Peggy Kuhr, Knight Chair in Journalism at KU. “Journalists, and journalism students, need to understand them better, especially in this age of fast-paced change driven by technology.”

Kuhr will work with institute founder Richard Harwood to develop teaching tools, including Web-based resources such as a community coverage handbook, modules for teachers and newsroom trainers, and case studies of good community journalism.

“For journalists to truly tap civic life, several basic questions must be asked in new ways,” Harwood says. “What does it take to write with authority? How can journalists’ work become more authentic? What makes journalists accountable? And why is that important?”
Milestones, money and other matters

**TUITION WILL RISE** $22.05 per credit hour for in-state undergraduates and $38.65 per credit hour for nonresidents under the fourth year of KU’s proposed five-year tuition plan. Presenting the proposal to the Board of Regents, which approved it in June, administrators cited “extraordinarily positive results” in the plan’s first three years. Since tuition increases began in 2002-’03, the percentage of students from middle-income families has increased slightly, retention rates and overall enrollment have risen and the hikes have funded more than $26 million in improvements to technology, library support, faculty and operating expenses for academic units. KU’s tuition remains below the national average, ranking 30th out of 34 public universities in the Association of American Universities.

**MORE THAN 4,500 SPRING GRADUATES** walked down the Hill May 22, representing 101 Kansas counties, 46 states and 50 countries. Including those who completed degrees last summer and fall, the Class of 2005 numbers more than 6,600.

**KEITH YEHLE**, c’90, former legislative director for U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, became KU’s director of government relations in June. Yehle will work with schools, departments and administrators on the Lawrence and Medical Center campuses to coordinate the University’s governmental relations activities at the state and federal levels.

**TWO DEANS WILL SOON** leave KU. Kim Wilcox, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences since 2002, will return to his alma mater, Michigan State University, as provost and vice president of academic affairs this summer. Barbara Romzek, professor of public administration, is interim dean. Ann Weick, dean of the School of Social Welfare since 1988, will retire in 2006. She joined the KU faculty in 1976 and was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame in 1992.

**SELF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS** were awarded to seven PhD students this spring. The four-year fellowships, funded by Madison “Al” e’43, and Lila Self, ’43, of Hinsdale, Ill., pay tuition and fees, provide a $23,000 annual stipend, and give students an opportunity to develop skills in communication, management and leadership while increasing their understanding of major contemporary issues. Recipients are alumna Lisa Agee, e’05, and Martha Carletti, Mary Krause, Kristin Lichti, Brian Platt, Diana Sperger and Maria Thorson.

**THE CLINICAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM** has been named the nation’s best doctoral training program for students studying clinical child and adolescent psychology by the Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology in Washington, D.C.

**CORNEL PEWEDWARDY**, associate professor of education and Indigenous Nations studies, was named the 2005 Scholars of Color Distinguished Scholar by the American Educational Research Association. Pewewardy also received the Big 12 Outstanding American Indian Faculty Member of the Year award at the Big 12 American Indian Student Leadership Conference and the Anthony Daniels Award for Leadership and Achievement in Multicultural Education from the KU Student Senate.

**ADMINISTRATION**

*University earns rave reviews, maximum accreditation*

An improved academic profile for incoming students, a wildly successful fund-raising campaign, a 120 percent increase in research funding, and a tuition plan that lays the groundwork for growth are among the accomplishments noted by the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities’ report recommending that KU be granted the maximum 10-year accreditation.

The report, issued in May and based on campus visits in January and February, identified no areas of concern and found that all nine areas of concern identified by the previous accreditation in 1994 were successfully addressed.

The report noted areas for future focus, including reducing a $200 million maintenance backlog, getting regulatory relief from the state, implementing a more selective admissions policy and publicizing KU’s extensive service and outreach activities.

“It is gratifying to be so favorably reviewed by our peers in this rigorous review process,” says Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway. “Their analysis acknowledges that the decade since KU’s previous accreditation has been filled with good and hard work by the KU administration and faculty and our state leaders, all of whom believe in education and recognize the superior, enduring value of a KU degree.”
Why do hundreds brave Kansas summers to pedal across the state?
The simple pleasures: hospitality, high hills and hailstorms

BY STEVEN HILL
To bike across Kansas you first must drive across Kansas—or bus or fly or hitch a ride with some kindred spirit also bound for the state’s western border toting a bicycle, water bottles, spare inner tubes, camping gear and enough bug dope and sunscreen to survive an eight-day, 500-mile, pedal-powered journey from the Colorado line to the Missouri River.

Most of the 800 cyclists who ride Biking Across Kansas, the annual bike trip that crosses the state from west to east in early June, don’t live in Elkhart or Coolidge or Weskan or Kanorado or any other border town. They hail from all over Kansas and the continent—38 states and Canada in 2005.

They ride to see Kansas for the first time, or to see it as never before. They come to prove (or improve) their fitness; to enjoy pie, cinnamon rolls, barbecue and other homemade goodies served in small towns along the way; to meet the locals and renew friendships from BAKs past. They come to escape the pressures of work and spend time with family. They come to challenge themselves and to take it easy.

Some, like Mark Levine, ’80, come through hell and high water to get here. Levine, who owns a graphic design firm in Chicago, flew from there to Denver to Garden City to Liberal. Midair on his last flight, he spied through the plane window a distant tornado. After safely landing, he settled into a lawn chair in the back of a delivery van and was driven the final miles to the start by Team Slapper, friends from BAK 2004.

Levine grew up in Kansas City, but when he signed up for his first BAK in 2003, “to reset” and escape the pressures of urban life, he’d ventured no farther west in Kansas than Emporia. “I didn’t know what to expect,” he recalls. “But when you get out here and smell the wheat and ride the open road, it’s incredible. There’s nothing like the clouds in Kansas.”

Tell me about it.

As I wait for the charter bus that will carry cyclists to Elkhart for the start of BAK 2005, a Kansas thundercloud rips open and dumps bucketfuls of nothing-like-it all over me and my bags and my bike. When the bus arrives, the truck contracted to ferry the bikes is miles behind. By the time I board, my bags are soaked. I’m soaked. When we pull away, my bike stays, leaned against a picnic table, awaiting pickup.

It rains nearly the entire 10-hour trip. But when we arrive at Elkhart High School, the sun is out. The grounds are covered with colorful tents and all manner of bikes: Sleek racers, recumbents, tandems, recumbent tandems. The place is buzzing. We are about to set off together, friends and strangers, on an epic journey retracing trails blazed long ago by Pony Express riders, westbound settlers, stage coaches and conquistadors. Through country most people fly over or scurry past at 70 mph, we’ll dwell on at 10 to 20 mph, fully exposed to wind, sun, rain and hail, under our own power and of our own free will.

Since buying a road bike in 2002, I’ve ridden far enough to cover the 2,910 miles from New York to San Francisco—three times. But aside from a two-week tour of Ireland and France, I haven’t actually gone anywhere. My car travels the route of the Santa Fe Trail, crossing a broad, flat plain of sagebrush and prairie grass. Wisps of fog blow across the road. The immense sky is dark, threatening—those incomparable Kansas clouds again.

We are a diverse group, of varying abilities and fitness levels, ranging in age from a tricycle-riding toddler to an 84-year-old woman who braves all but the hilliest miles. Most of us have at least one thing in common. We have heard more than once—from friends, family, co-workers—the same perfectly reasonable question: “Are you nuts?”

In fact, some say BAK keeps them sane. Jeannette Hornung, h’81, works as a life-flight paramedic in Council Grove. “I am a mother of three and the spouse of a physician,” Hornung says. “BAK is my week. I take a break from our daily

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routine and enjoy Kansas by bicycle. I get to look at the clear blue sky and scenery along the way, and it's great for my physical and emotional well-being.”

Hornung and her husband, Joel, c’81, m’85, are ride veterans. This year their 11-year-old daughter, Sarah, joins them for her first BAK. Her 15-year-old sister, Kathleen, volunteers along the route. Families of all sorts see BAK as an ideal vacation. Chris Armstrong, g’84, traveled from Lawrence with his sons, John, an incoming KU freshman, and Will. Don Bush, c’55, of Albuquerque, N.M., rides as the stoker (the backseat pedaler) on his son Rod’s tandem. Terry Bryant, c’86, j’86, g’00, instructor and media lab manager for the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, introduced his 12-year-old daughter, Tara, to BAK, just as his father—a 13-year-veteran—introduced him to the ride in 1999. In 2001, a dozen Bryant family members rode together.

“It just a great way to spend time with family, riding, chatting, laughing,” Terry says. “When you get to the gym there are the day’s adventures to talk about. You get more time together than an ordinary day.”

That family vibe has long been a part of BAK, says Charlie Summers, director since 2001. “It started as a group of friends sitting around a campfire, and someone said, ‘You know, we ought to do a cross-state ride.’ And that’s what they did, just a bunch of friends riding together.” BAK first crossed the state in 1975 with 87 cyclists. “It’s kind of stayed with that family approach,” Summers says. “It’s much more family oriented than, say, RAGBRAI.”

Register’s Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, the cross-state trek begun in 1973 by the Des Moines Register, is the only ride older than BAK. It attracts 10,000-plus cyclists for a rolling carnival that seems more invasion than tour. BAK has an easygoing air. “There seems to be more interaction between participants,” Summers says. “On RAGBRAI, you click with someone and then never see them again.”

On BAK, people who click tend to stay clicked. During storytime at the nightly assembly, several couples tell of chance meetings that led to weddings. “We found each other on the big wind day last year,” one newlywed says. “We drafted together and got through the day, and basically I haven’t let go of her since.” Married three weeks, the couple are making BAK 2005 their honeymoon.

More star-crossed liaisons happen, too. Lisa Rasor, c’89, s’00, a school social worker in Kansas City and self-described “diehard Jayhawk basketball fan,” met one of her best friends on BAK. Now they do the trip together each year. “She’s a Cornhusker fan,” Rasor says, “but she’s really nice anyway.”

For two days we breeze along with mild temperatures and the wind at our backs, dodging a different brand of road kill (armadillos and rattlesnakes) than I usually see. Flat roads make easy riding. Sage gives way to wheat and windmills, circle irrigation rigs and oil pumps; in every little burg loom grain elevators, grandiose gatekeepers that trumpet the modest settlements under their guard miles before we arrive. For long stretches of lonely highway, quiet dominates: Between calls of red-winged blackbirds and meadowlarks and the chug-chug-
chug of a solitary pump-head motor, there’s time to think. I begin to get a sense of what it must take to live here, the fortitude required to settle this land, endure its winters and wring a living from the ground.

For many towns on the route, BAK is an economic boon. In Spearville, our second overnight, cyclists outnumber the 700 citizens. Like locusts, we buzz into town in a Lycra-clad horde, eat everything in sight, and move on. At The Windmill, the town’s one eatery, teenagers pitch in to bus tables and stock the buffet. The Lions Club and Knights of Columbus host supper, and enterprising kids sell snow cones and lemonade at the football field where cyclists camp. The town opens its public schools for showers and sleeping space, with some residents volunteering shady lawns to tenters, and the library lets travelers e-mail home. Spearville Federated Church, where Brad Hansen, c’75, g’77, is pastor, moves its morning service to Sunday evening to accommodate cyclists. Most welcome, after a long, hot day in the saddle, is a simple, thoughtful touch: Beneath the town’s biggest Main Street shade tree, lawn chairs and homemade ice cream await.

Sales of that ice cream raise money to secure a matching grant that will buy $1,000 worth of new books for the Spearville library. But town pride, not cash, is the real windfall, says Leesa Shafer, library director. “We’ve tried to show that our community is the best one on the route,” says Shafer, who shooed her husband, Mike, out of the house to fire up the grills when cyclists began arriving at 10 a.m. “When we got word they were coming, we said, ‘Let’s really do something for them.’”

“For some of the smaller towns, it can be overwhelming,” notes Sherry McKee, a BAK coordinator who spends the fall arranging food and lodging along the route. “We’re really asking them to stretch themselves.” At the meetings, she asks riders to stretch themselves, as well. “You are bringing on a unique, people-to-people cultural exchange,” she reminds us. Later, she tells me, “In these small towns, BAK is front page news. But we don’t want it to be all about us. Our people love to mix with the locals, and we want the locals to come to our meetings and join us for meals.”

Kansans do just that. At Ellinwood’s park, I meet a lively couple in the barbecue line: Retired and moved to town from the farm he occupied for 75 years, they are eager to hear our stories and share supper. Lindsborg’s Swedish Folk Dancers entertain us; Onaga high school students stage a variety show; Chapman invites us to watch Little League games; and town after town opens public pools for free swims, to the unfailing delight of local kids itching to show off their own bikes.

Their enthusiasm reminds me where bike love is rooted. As a kid, learning to ride opens a wider world: My first bike—schoolbus-yellow, banana seat—put new neighborhoods within reach, and on it I learned the power of freedom, the pure joy of speed, the thrill of discovery. Who says that has to stop when you grow up?

Kyle Shepard, c’90, cycled everywhere in high school. Unlike most teen-age
Boys, who can’t wait to ditch two wheels for four, he didn’t own his first car until 26. When it was stolen, Shepard recalls, “I said, ‘Good riddance.’” When he came to KU, he biked to Lawrence from his parents’ Overland Park home. After graduation, he cycled to California. He worked 12 years as a bike messenger in San Francisco and traveled across North America, Europe, and Asia taking photos for his book, *Bicycle Messenger*.

In contrast to the hectic pace of big-city biking, BAK—which he’s riding with his parents, Barbara, ’75, and Glen Shepard, and his girlfriend, Susan Kief, ’91—offers a chance to slow down. Though he has the fitness to blast past riders, he wanders, pausing to take photographs or loaf in the sun.

Kief, who works in Minneapolis, Minn., has been anticipating the trip. “I’ve dreamed about it, sitting at my desk counting down the days. There’s no schedule. No multi-tasking. You do one thing: get on your bike and breathe fresh air.”

Enjoying a meal in Ellinwood, Shepard revels in the moment, too.

“I’ve also eaten a lot of homemade pie. I like pie. I’ve learned, when entering a restaurant overrun by hungry cyclists, to order my pie before my meal. And when the harried waitress delivers it, I’ve decided, it’s OK to eat dessert before lunch. On a typical day, a 150-pound rider averaging 16 to 19 mph for four to five hours needs to down more than 4,000 calories just to break even.

So far I’ve witnessed a Dodge City shootout at high noon and nearly gotten creamed by a big green schoolbus called the Jesus Express. I’ve watched a 12-year-old boy in a dress dance the Can-Can as 800 people hummed the tune. I’ve been eyed by circling vultures, lazing cattle and a joyful farm dog that loped alongside for a mile. I’ve met many nice people, seen much beautiful Kansas countryside. And after 20-some hours on a hard bike seat, I’ve come to appreciate the value of chamois butter.

If you don’t know where that goes, I can only tell you it ain’t on pancakes.
Dan Chirpic, e’04, a 23-year-old grad student and professional-cycling fan, likes to ride hard no matter the terrain. He relishes hills.

Don Wright, b’49, a 79-year-old retiree from Topeka, likes ‘em too, though he’s stingy in his definition. He ticks off three or four qualifiers from memory, and when I try to add one to the list, he says, “Wasn’t much of a hill was it?”

Chirpic rides a racing bike, crouching low in the drops and pumping out a high cadence as he chews up the miles of his first BAK. A late riser who’s among the last to leave each morning, he passes people all day long.

Wright perches straightbacked on an old Schwinn he pulled from mothballs 17 years ago to ride his first BAK. He hasn’t missed one since. He rises early and keeps his own deliberate pace.

Though BAK is no race, Chirpic is here to prove something. He wants to show that he can ride with anybody.

“A similar goal drives Wright. He wants to prove to himself that, at 79, he’s up to the challenge of pedaling every mile of this border-to-border ride. “I want to do this at 80,” he tells me. “Just to see if I can.”

Like Wright, Chirpic and everyone else who signed up to test themselves, I’m looking forward to day six. It packs the most miles (88) through the hilliest country (Chapman to Onaga) that BAK 2005 will travel. Since the route was announced in January, this day has been circled in red on everyone’s calendar.

When the day of days dawns, we learn that, in addition to hills and high mileage, BAK organizers have arranged for lightning, driving rain and hail.

Things roll along until lunch. Cycling in rain is a lot like cycling in heat: It doesn’t feel that bad until you stop. By the end of lunch, I’m trembling in wet clothes. Back on the road I ride hard to warm up, but instead hit bottom.

Chirpic, with whom I kept pace this morning, recedes into the rain ahead. I grind on mile after mile. Trying to be stoic, I think, “I am a High Plains drifter riding a two-wheeled steed. Clint Eastwood on a bike. Wind and rain don’t bother me.” It doesn’t work. The next 15 to 20 miles are a suffer-fest.

Somewhere around mile 75 I pedal through it. Gaining my second wind, I start to enjoy the rises again, the wide vistas they open up. The good people of Wheaton serve hot chocolate and coffee. A kind old gal bundled in a bright yellow slicker puts a hand on my arm, and says, with such feeling that I wonder if she’s Mother Nature herself, “I’m so sorry about this rain.”

Before I know it, I’m singing, “Rain drops keep falling on my head ...” I’ve got it. BAK fever.

... but that doesn’t mean my eyes will soon be turning red,” answers dad, and we roll along, belting out the tune together, to the cackling accompaniment of his laughing little boy.

I’m no Lance Armstrong (or B.J. Thomas), but I will finish this day of hills, hell and high water feeling good enough to tack on an extra dozen miles, my first century ride. Don Wright will do the same, a first-time century at 79.

Like Don and Dan and the rest of the BAK crew, I’ll thrive on two more days of storms and dip my tires in the Missouri River at White Cloud. The blues they send to meet us won’t defeat us.

And the next time someone asks, “Are you crazy?” I’ll tell ’em what I told the lady in the raincoat. “You don’t understand: We love this.”
I’ve seen the walk down the Hill at least 25 times, most of them through a camera. I participated in two Commencements intimately: the first being my 1983 graduation, and the second in 1988, when my wife, Teresa, graduated.

Since our oldest daughter, Aimee, was born as I enrolled for my senior year at KU in 1982, I’ve imagined how I would feel if she one day made the trek through the Campanile and down the Hill. I referred to my own mental calendar and checklist while photographing KU Commencements, counting down the years until Aimee’s graduation.

Let me introduce you to Aimee. She’s the eldest of my three daughters. She’s 22 years old with beautiful red hair. She’s been heavily involved on campus: Alternative Spring Break, vice president of her scholarship hall, president of Mortar Board, Crimson and Blue Scholar, Honors Program. If Aimee were a car, she’d be a Hummer with a Porsche engine, perpetually traveling though life at 100 miles per hour. She can be your best friend or your worst enemy. As she has been known to say, “We Irish can’t hold our liquor, but we can hold our grudges.” In short, she is a ball of energy that affects the orbit of everyone around her. And I love her for all of it.

Even as an objective observer of Commencement, I always felt my emotions stirring as “Pomp and Circumstance” played and the graduates marched down the Hill toward a stadium filled with proud family members. My thoughts usually drifted to what I might feel when my eldest processed into the stadium to complete her undergraduate years.

Would I feel elation? Definitely. Would I be emotional? I’d better not let it show, lest my tough-as-nails Aimee bust my chops for being a sentimental old man. Relief? Obviously. My days as an ATM would be numbered. But as the Class of 2005 went through Commencement exercises, I must admit that the experience differed radically from notions I had formed over 22 years.

The month in the run up to Commencement was exhausting. Teresa and I were up early and seldom in bed before midnight, as we worked feverishly to get the house ready for Aimee’s graduation party, following the “to-do” list that Aimee had provided to bring the house up to her party standards. In all fairness to her, it was not unusual to look out a
window during finals week and see Aimee, dressed in work clothes and her finest black-and-pink polka dot Wellies, as she took a study break to help mulch the yard, pull weeds and paint. So, having reached just the right level of exhaustion, we finally arrived at Commencement weekend. Saturday started with Aimee’s Phi Beta Kappa initiation. When she had called the month before to tell me she had been selected, I was elated and told her how proud I was of her. “You mean,” Aimee asked quizzically, “you actually know what Phi Beta Kappa is?” I assured her I did. “Just because I wasn’t smart enough to get into Phi Beta Kappa, doesn’t mean that I don’t know what it is,” I replied. Phi Beta Kappa then blurred directly into Honors Cording. After about five minutes in the courtyard of Murphy Hall, we and an impatient Aimee were off to get the final items out of her room at Watkins Scholarship Hall. As Aimee packed the rest of her belongings and we began to load them into the car, Teresa and I talked about the whole day. She said she had shed a few tears during the Phi Beta Kappa initiation. I said I really hadn’t felt much emotion other than exhaustion yet, but as I came down the staircase of the empty, quiet scholarship hall carrying Aimee’s possessions, I felt a lump in my throat and noticed that there were tears in my eyes. As I glanced into the now-empty sitting room, I realized that a chapter in our lives was indeed closing. Aimee was graduating and, in all likelihood, we would never pass this way again. A sense of quiet finality engulfed me as we trudged in and out, moving her futon and the last few boxes. My mind raced back to Aimee’s excitement in August 2002, when she moved into the hall. I glanced at the board that the Women of Watkins use to signal their comings and goings. Near the bottom of the center row of names, two caught my eye. Printed on pieces of paper taped to the board I saw tags for Aimee Richardson, and directly below, Mallory Richardson, Aimee’s younger sister, who has decided to move off-campus for her junior year. Their hooks were empty. They were no longer in residence. Gone were my days of being on Lilac Lane and seeing one of them in front of the hall. That corner of campus won’t be quite so welcoming for me. Commencement morning was a blur. Everyone was tired. Aimee had been up well past midnight baking pies for her party, and arranging her room, perhaps for the last time before she moves into her own apartment and enrols in the School of Law in August. So when it came time to head to the Hill for the walk, we were happy, but exhausted. While the rest of the family staked out spots along the ropes, I walked with Aimee up to Memorial Drive. After a few moments of
conversation and a search for lost bobby pins, we parted. She went to find a friend for the walk and I went to my spot to get a photo of her.

I had always presumed that the sight of my daughter, in cap and gown, walking down the Hill, would elicit sheer joy. Perhaps I would let out a yell. Maybe we would trade high-fives. I was sure that somehow we’d display our pride for all the world to see.

Yes, we were incredibly proud, but elation was not what I felt at that moment. Instead, it seemed as if we were at the finish line of a marathon, and I was just relieved we were all still standing. The moment I had envisioned a thousand times was upon us, and it did not feel anything like I had imagined.

I spotted Aimee near the back of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences procession about five seconds before she reached us, her red hair making it easy to see her amid the black gowns and smiling faces. She’s smiling. She’s right in front of me. She walks past. I catch a final glimpse of her long red hair streaming out from under her mortar board before she is swallowed up in a sea of her fellow graduates entering the stadium. It’s over. Twenty-two years of imagining played out anticlimactically in less than 20 seconds. The brief, bittersweet moment will stay with me forever.

As we walk home with Aimee, the Commencement ceremony proceeding inside the stadium—Aimee didn’t want to sit through “a bunch of speeches in the heat”—I realize that the walk is a metaphor for life. The trip is as important as the destination, perhaps even more important, because I have learned that the destination, much like Aimee’s graduation, is often not at all what we expect.

Chancellor Hemenway is right. The walk is the ceremony.

Aimee, are you listening?
Sir Robert Worcester, Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, craves a pastrami sandwich. But lunch is third on his to-do list. First he must shop for a small, leather notebook (suitable for list-making) and a few magazines. He strides purposefully through the Kansas Union. After rejecting the limited notebook options, he soon finds a few newsstand purchases, among them a magazine devoted to castles, fitting for Sir Robert, who happens to live in a 13th-century English castle, once the home of advisers to Henry VII and Henry VIII.

The campus deli has no pastrami this day, but he cheerfully settles for a Reuben. He asks for English mustard. “I always try to have a pastrami sandwich when I’m in America,” he explains, “although they have some wonderful ones in England. There’s a big department store called Selfridges, and it has pastrami and corned beef—the British call it salt beef—they make wonderful, tall, New York deli-style sandwiches.”

Conversation ricochets between Britain and the United States because Worcester, b’55, is a man of two countries. He spent his first 35 years in America, growing up in Kansas City, Mo.

On April 15, he was back in his college town to celebrate the 50-year reunion of his KU class. Fourth on his list of afternoon tasks: Register for the reunion and mingle with friends who remember him as red-haired Bobby from Kansas City.

At 71, Worcester has lived in Britain nearly 36 years. He moved to London in 1969 and founded Market & Opinion Research International (MORI), a public research and polling firm that has become one of the 20 largest such firms in the world. He writes frequently for the Financial Times and Observer and appears often on British television as a commentator. “His is the familiar, avuncular face of opinion polling in this country,” writes Sheena Hastings of the Yorkshire Post.

In June, Queen Elizabeth knighted Worcester for “outstanding services rendered to political, social and economic research and for contribution to government policy and programmes.” He holds dual citizenship; chairs the Pilgrims Society, which promotes cooperation between his home countries; and was appointed a deputy lord lieutenant.
and ambassador for the county of Kent—he is thought to be the only American ever to hold such a post.

Worcester’s divided loyalties were tested in April, when his 50-year reunion at KU fell during the final days before Britain’s national election. But his dedication to his alma mater and his profession sealed the decision: Worcester came home to see his classmates, share the latest research on British opinions toward the United States—and pledge $2 million to his alma mater to fund a professorship in political science. He hopes the distinguished professorship in public opinion and survey research will help ensure that future practitioners uphold the highest standards in the field.

The professorship in part pays tribute to Francis Heller, professor of law and political science emeritus, whose course in constitutional law Worcester audited as a KU junior in the business school. “I was hooked. It changed my life,” he says. “He was an absolutely marvelous lecturer.” Worcester’s fascination with politics and law began that morning, although he later abandoned his plan for law school the week before he was to start classes.

Instead the study of public opinion became his calling. The young man who at age 15 had made a list of his life’s goals (one of which was to own a stately home in England) discovered that recording and analyzing the smallest details of views, opinions and attitudes—three distinct categories by Worcester’s definition—held irresistible appeal. “I believe the people have a right to their voice and a right to be heard,” he says. “People in authority need to know what people think, whether they are running a hospital, a government or a university.”

In Britain, people have become accustomed to MORI’s interpretation of the political and cultural landscape. Although press attention for the firm focuses on its political research, the staff of 450 spends far more time studying corporate topics such as consumer trends, advertising, public relations and product awareness. In addition, its Social Research Institute gauges satisfaction with the services delivered by national and local governments and nonprofit agencies. The weekly MORI Omnibus study includes 2,000 face-to-face interviews across 210 sampling locations that span Great Britain.

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To measure the tides of public opinion, Worcester says, researchers must measure at three distinct depths, as he explained during a late-afternoon lecture April 15 at the Hall Center for the Humanities:

“Views are opinions lightly held, not thought about or discussed with family,” according to Worcester. “They are the ripples on the surface, easily blown about.

“Attitudes are the deeper currents below the surface. People have thought about them; they care about them, although attitudes can be changed by new information from a respected source.

“Values are those subjects that people care deeply about. Values are formed by the age of 25, and these are almost unchangeable.”

In his research, Worcester honors these distinctions and, of course, his vow of ironclad objectivity. As adviser to British prime ministers, the royal family, the Church of England, top corporations and nonprofit firms, he will not vote in a British election, even though now, as a citizen, he is entitled to do so.

He shudders at what passes for opinion research in this era of 24-hour news and instant online surveys. “The state of polling is getting worse and worse,” he says. “I would like the recipient of the professorship to be a theorist as well as a methodologist—to think about the implications of what the research raises. Public opinion is an important, deep and very badly misunderstood area.

“I want one person who is all of these things: a pluralist, a teacher, a writer, an internationalist, a political nous—what a wonderful British word. I would see this job being 40 percent teaching, 40 percent writing and 20 percent outreach.”

Barbara Romzek, KU’s interim dean of liberal arts and sciences, explains that the professor, though based in the political science department, will work with students and faculty in several other disciplines, including journalism and public administration, and share views with the public through programs at the Dole Institute of Politics. She says KU will look for a scholar who cares deeply about the importance of polling to democracy.

The philosophy and far-reaching job description fit not only the yet-to-be-named professor but also the benefactor, an energetic pollster who still shuns the notion of retirement. The man who calls two nations home still has two things left to do on the list of goals he recorded as a Kansas City teen-ager: Sir Robert Worcester still wants to learn to fly and speak French.

He is, as the British would say, “spoiled for choice.”

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Worcester and his wife, Lady Margaret, celebrated his knighthood in June. When Worcester was sworn into British citizenship in 2004, the ceremony concluded with the British national anthem. “In my mind, it started, ‘My country ‘tis of thee,’” and ended God save the Queen,” he says.
The annual fall dinner celebrating University service is set for Sept. 16, when the Alumni Association and its Board of Directors honor four winners of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion during a dinner in the Adams Alumni Center. The four honorees for 2005 are William R. Docking, c’73, b’77, l’77, Arkansas City; Sally Roney Hoglund, c’56, Dallas; A. Scott Ritchie, c’54, Wichita; and Gale Sayers, d’75, g’77, Chicago.

Created in 1975, the Ellsworth medallion honors longtime Association leader Fred Ellsworth, c’22, who was known as “Mr. KU.” He retired in 1963. Each year, a committee of representatives from the Chancellor’s Office and the Alumni, Endowment and Athletics associations meets to choose the recipients from nominations submitted by KU alumni and friends.

Docking, chairman and CEO of The Union State Bank in Arkansas City, in June completed his most recent term as a member of the Kansas Board of Regents, which he joined in 1995 and chaired from 1998 to 2000. Though his tenure on the Regents has ended, Docking’s commitment to higher education continues at a brisk pace.

For the Endowment Association, he is a trustee and a member of the Executive Committee, a KU First major donor and member of the Chancellors Club. His leadership gifts have benefited the schools of business, law and journalism; the School of Medicine-Wichita; the Dole Institute for Politics; and KU Libraries. For the Alumni Association, where he maintains life and Jayhawk Society memberships, Docking has been active in the Kansas Honors Program and Jayhawks for Higher Education.

Docking is the eldest son of the late former Gov. Robert Docking, b’48, himself an Ellsworth Medallion winner as well as a Distinguished Service Citation honoree. Along with his work at Union State Bank, Docking also maintains banking and oil interests in Oklahoma and is president of Cowley County Broadcasting, Inc. He also volunteers for Pittsburgh State University, Cowley County Community College, the Kansas Health Foundation, the Kansas Bankers Association, and, as a former director, the University of Kansas Hospital Authority.

While at KU, Docking was inducted in Phi Beta Kappa and in 1977 received the School of Law’s Samuel Mellinger Leadership Award.

Hoglund, a joint life member of the Alumni Association with her husband, Forrest, e’56, and a member of the Jayhawk Society, is co-chair of...
the advisory board serving Women Philanthropists for KU. She served the KU First capital campaign as a member of the steering committee, but more precisely was an active partner with Forrest, KU First chairman, in encouraging, organizing and guiding Endowment Association staff and alumni donors.

Among their numerous gifts to KU, Sally and Forrest are responsible for the Hoglund Brain Imaging Center at KU Medical Center and the stained-glass American flag at the Dole Institute of Politics.

Sally is a member of the Chancellors Club, the Elizabeth Watkins Society and the Williams Educational Fund, was a Campaign Kansas leadership donor and regional-committee member, and remains active with KU’s School of Engineering, Natural History Museum, Hall Center for the Humanities, and departments of theatre and film, biology and geology. She is a trustee of the Hoglund Foundation, and among many volunteer interests are the Arthritis Foundation of North Texas, the Alzheimer’s Association, Family Place Partners and Easter Seal Society.

For the Alumni Association, Sally has been active with Rock Chalk Ball, Flying Jayhawks and Jayhawks for Higher Education.

Ritchie, chairman of Ritchie Exploration Inc., also maintains business interests in ranching, cattle feed and Pizza Hut franchises. He is a joint life member of the Alumni Association with his wife, Carol Swanson Ritchie, d’54, with whom he created the Ritchie Alumni Programming Fund.

The Ritchies belong to the Jayhawk Society and Gold Medal Club, and they are active in the Kansas Honors Program, Rock Chalk Ball, Jayhawk for Higher Education and Flying Jayhawks.

For the Endowment Association, Scott is a trustee and chair of the Property Management Committee, a KU First Leadership Donor and was a member of the KU First Steering Committee. He also is a member of the Chancellors Club and Athletics’ Williams Educational Fund, and worked on Campaign Kansas in many roles.

Sayers, a life member of the Alumni Association and past member of the Board of Directors, is president and CEO of Sayers 40, a national computer equipment and supply business based in the Chicago area. He chairs the Gale Sayers Golf Tournament, a 10-year tradition benefiting the School of Education, for which he is also a member of the advisory board. He also worked for four years as KU’s assistant athletics director and is a member of the K-Club, for former athletes.

Sayers’ business and educational successes follow his legendary college and professional football careers. At KU, Sayers was named All-American and three-time All-Big Eight running back. For the Chicago Bears, Sayers was the 1965 Rookie of the Year and, though his career was cut short by serious knee injuries, he established himself as one of the game’s greatest running backs and kick returners.

His autobiography, I Am Third, led to the beloved movie “Brian’s Song,” which told the story of Sayers’ friendship with his late teammate Brian Piccolo.

Sayers has been inducted in Professional Football, KU Sports and Chicago Area Entrepreneurship halls of fame. His name is included on Memorial Stadium’s Ring of Honor, the Bears retired his No. 40 and he is a recipient of the KU School of Education’s Apple Award for Distinguished Achievement.

Election results

Members elect 3 directors; Board names officers

The Association’s national Board of Directors welcomed three new elected members to five-year terms July 1. They are E. Grant Larkin, c’78, Garden City; Melissa Rodgers Padgett, c’83, Lawrence; and Walter F. Riker III, c’70, j’78, Aurora, Ill.

The results of the annual spring elections by Association members were announced May 20 during the Board’s spring meeting, when directors elected officers to guide the Association during the 2005-06 year. The national chair is David B. Wescoe, c’76, La Jolla, Calif., who last year served as executive vice chair. Wescoe succeeds Larry J. Borden, b’62, g’67, Colorado Springs, Colo., who
KANSAS ALUMNI Association didn’t start well. Spoiled by the Sun Belt, Lewis was skeptical of Kansas winters, but recruiters had told him snowfall wasn’t a huge winter worry. Lewis learned otherwise when he landed in Kansas City in what looked like a blizzard—at least to his untrained Arizona eyes. To make matters worse, Lewis waited an hour for a KU coach to appear at the airport. His dread grew. “I kept telling myself I was going to hop on the next plane back home,” he says. “I was not happy.”

But waiting with him at the airport was another KU representative, Kevin Corbett, c’88, then senior vice president of the KU Endowment Association, who now leads the Alumni Association as president. Corbett had struck up a conversation with Lewis when they were seated together on the flight, and he didn’t want to abandon the gloomy recruit. Years later, Lewis now works for Corbett, and the two already have perfected their comedy routine about their meeting on the plane. Lewis kids, “I

3 join the cause
Lewis, Winkelman and Brandt to help Association at home and away

As true Jayhawks know, the University can sometimes be an irresistible force. Just ask Danny Lewis and Jamie Winkelman. Both of them thought they would never choose KU, but now they have not only KU degrees but also new careers that help support their alma mater.

As the Association’s new coordinator for professional societies, Lewis, b’05, will work with KU schools to plan events for their graduates nationwide. As coordinator for alumni programs, Winkelman, b’05, will help the alumni programs staff plan various events throughout the state and the nation.

Lewis, a native of Surprise, Ariz., played football for KU, despite a December 2000 visit to Kansas that didn’t start well. Spoiled by the Sun Belt, Lewis was skeptical of Kansas winters, but recruiters had told him snowfall wasn’t a huge winter worry. Lewis learned otherwise when he landed in Kansas City in what looked like a blizzard—at least to his untrained Arizona eyes. To make matters worse, Lewis waited an hour for a KU coach to appear at the airport. His dread grew. “I kept telling myself I was going to hop on the next plane back home,” he says. “I was not happy.”

But waiting with him at the airport was another KU representative, Kevin Corbett, c’88, then senior vice president of the KU Endowment Association, who now leads the Alumni Association as president. Corbett had struck up a conversation with Lewis when they were seated together on the flight, and he didn’t want to abandon the gloomy recruit. Years later, Lewis now works for Corbett, and the two already have perfected their comedy routine about their meeting on the plane. Lewis kids, “I
Tim Brandt

couldn’t figure out why this guy on the plane just kept talking, and then he wouldn’t leave me alone at the airport. Now I know he was just doing his job.”

And as a former student-athlete and staff member of the Williams Educational Fund, Lewis knows how strong KU connections can be, no matter how they begin. “I’m eager to work with the deans and their alumni all over the country,” he says. “With the energy and enthusiasm on campus and among alumni, we’ll create great events for grads to meet others in their profession.”

Like Lewis, Winkelman worked for the athletics department before joining the Association staff. The first of three KU daughters from a KU family, the Wichita native at first vowed to head anywhere but Lawrence. But after two years at Baylor University, she relented. “This was where I belonged,” she says. “I’m looking forward to working with people from so many different backgrounds who all share the same connection to KU. With so much alumni activity, nothing will become routine.”

Winkelman and Lewis will work closely with fellow alumni programs staff Mike Davis, d’84, g’91, senior vice president for alumni programs; Jill Simpson, d’01, director of national programs to Kansas Alumni Association.

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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chapter development; Jennifer Alderdice, g’99, director of student programs; and Heath Peterson, d’04, director of Kansas chapter development. Peterson, who worked at the Adams Alumni Center as a KU student, was promoted last year to director of the Center. He began his new duties with Kansas chapters July 1.

Tim Brandt, d’74, succeeds Peterson as director and event coordinator for the Center. He oversees the Association’s primary asset after more than 30 years of experience in family-owned drilling companies in Wichita.

Brandt returned to his hometown after his KU graduation to work for his family’s oil and gas business, and in 1995 launched his own water-well drilling company. But earlier this year, Brandt and his wife, Debbi, decided to make a big change, so they packed up their pets and moved to Lawrence, where they found a new home and new jobs—Tim as director of the Adams Alumni Center and Debbi as business manager with the Kansas Wildscape Foundation.

Brandt’s ease and expertise with mechanical systems were immediately tested: On his first day, bearings seized inside an aging water cooler and the unit began gushing water. Brandt quickly got the waterfall stopped and the area cleaned, and then introduced himself to the Association’s plumbing contractors a bit sooner than he had planned. And when it came time to replace sprinkler heads around the Adams Center’s lawn in the late June heat, Brandt was leading the way, emerging from a day’s labor covered in soil and sweat.

“I’ll use my experience from running heavy mechanical systems to help run the building,” Brandt says. “I think it’s working out well. It feels like a good fit.”

Brandt, who begins his employment already carrying an Association life membership, also directs event scheduling for the Center. He is assisted in both of his principal duties by KU senior Kurtis Mason, a former part-time student employee who now carries an Association internship while completing his engineering studies.

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Shipping and handling added. Kansas residents add sales tax. Jayhawk Society members receive a 15% discount.
1931
Patti Johnson Wilson, f'31, celebrated her 100th birthday in April. She lives in Tulsa, Okla.

1942
Pauline “Polly” Roth Bales, '42, was inducted earlier this year into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame. She is president of the Dane Hansen Museum in Logan, where she lives, and the Bales Organ Recital Hall at KU is named in her honor.

1947
Charles Schuler, b'47, wrote the recently published Winner Take All. He lives in Jacksonville, Fla.

1951
Bromleigh, c'51, g'53, and Mary Boyer Lamb, '53, make their home in Portland, Ore.
Ernst Niedermann, g’51, lives in Kirchdorf, Switzerland, with his wife, Helena.

1955
Robert Kennedy, e'55, is CEO and chief pilot of Quoddy Air in Eastport, Maine.

1956
Dean McManus, g’56, PhD’59, wrote Leaving the Lectern: Cooperative Learning and the Critical First Days of Students Working in Groups, which was published in June. He’s a professor emeritus at the University of Washington, and he lives in Seattle.

1957
Patricia Gardner Stein, d’57, g’63, continues to make her home in Olathe with her husband, Ira.

1958
Robert Guthrie, e’58, and his wife, Pickett, live in Raleigh, N.C.

1959
Stewart Horejsi, b'59, and his wife, Ellen, make their home in Paradise Valley, Ariz. He works at Boulder Investment Advisers.
Mark Yeokum, a’59, a retired captain with TWA, makes his home in Leawood.

1960
E. Norb Garrett, c’60, recently was named chairman of Kroll Inc. He divides his time between Clinton, N.J., and Manila, Philippines.
Fred Pendergraft, d’60, is retired in Lansing, Mich., after a 32-year career teaching vocal and instrumental music.

1961
Michael Garrison, e’61, a retired engineer, works as an FAA designated pilot examiner. He lives in Leawood.

1963
William Breckenridge Jr., c’63, received a teaching award earlier this year from the University of Utah, where he’s a professor emeritus of chemistry. His home is in Salt Lake City.

1964
David Holloway, f’64, d’67, is professor of voice at the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University and director of the Apprentice Young Artist Program with the Santa Fe, N.M., Opera. He lives in Winnetka, Ill.
Elizabeth Stockton, c’64, is retired from AT&T. She lives in Morristown, N.J.

1965
Joan Fowler Kessler, c’65, recently was elected to the Wisconsin Court of Appeals. She lives in Milwaukee.
Martha Hershey Rhea, d’65, g’70, executive director of the Salina Arts and Humanities Commission, recently received a Governor’s Arts Award from the Kansas Arts Commission.

1966
Jeffrey Hubrig, b’66, is vice president of operations at Innovation Services in Knoxville, Tenn.
Linda Duston Warren, c’66, m’70, recently was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame. She practices medicine in Hanover, where she lives with her husband, Roger, c’54, m’57.
Richard Whelan, EdD’66, was honored last spring by the KU School of Education, where he was a faculty member and administrator for many years. He lives in Overland Park with his wife, Carol King Whelan, n’57, g’82, and works as a consultant for the Blue Valley School District.

1967
John Nicholson, f’67, g’73, was honored earlier this year by the Advertising Club of Kansas City. He’s executive vice president and chief creative officer of Nicholson Kovac in Kansas City.

1968
Beverly Smith Billings, c’68, g’70, president of Alvamar Inc. in Lawrence, was inducted earlier this year into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame.
Nancy Lillard Bridges, d’68, teaches in the elementary-education department at Kansas State University. She lives in Manhattan.

1969
Thomas King, d’68, is artistic director of the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria.
Patricia Huggins Pettey, d’68, g’74, teaches preschool in Kansas City.
Les Steckel, s’68, c’68, is president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Kansas City.

1969
Russell Bromby, f’69, retired recently as chief of communications for the Colorado Division of Wildlife. He and Barbara Deetjen Bromby, f’71, live in Lakewood. She’s an occupational therapist.
Harrison Long, c’69, works as a broker and attorney for Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group in Irvine, Calif.
Dorothy Barnhart Sherman, d’69, is artistic director of Chorale Connecticut in Marion.

1970
R.L. Bailey, c’70, is senior director of development for the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California-La Jolla.
Dan Harden, b’70, e’70, works as a design engineer with BG Consultants in Lawrence.
Franklin Kolsky, c’70, is profit center manager at Consolidated Electrical Distributors in St. George, Utah.
Peter Kovac, j’70, was honored earlier this year by the Advertising Club of Kansas City. He’s president and CEO of Nicholson Kovac in Kansas City.
Janet Will Nuse, p’70, works as a pharmacist at Sam’s Drugstore in Fayette, Mo.
Marsha Baxter Sears, f’70, g’75, is a school occupational therapist in Wichita.

Timothy Vocke, c’70, serves as treasurer of the Wisconsin Reserve Judges’ Association. He lives in Rhinelander.

1971
Gregg Anderson, e’71, is a shareholder in Greenberg Traurig in Denver.
Wayne Mark, c’71, lives in DeRidder, La.
Robert Schwegler, m’71, practices medicine with United Imaging Consultants in Mission.
Michael Yearout, j’71, d’74, owns Year In and Year Out Management in Breckenridge, Colo.

1972
Barry Adamson, b’72, a retired attorney, is recording his fifth CD of original guitar music. He lives in Lake Oswego, Ore.
Carol Brown, c’72, lives in Alexandria, Va.
Jean Dechant Crewson, d’72, is assistant district director for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Bloomington, Minn.
Gene Neely, d’72, works as a Uniserv director for the Kansas National Education Association in Overland Park.
Meredith Masoner Yorkston, c’72, is executive director of Ecumenical Social Ministries in Colorado Springs.

MARRIED
William Woody, a’72, to Jeanie Compas, Feb. 14 in Los Cobos, Mexico. They live in Springfield, Mo.
1973

Jay Hern, g’73, is an associate at Burdeshaw Associates in Bethesda, Md.

Clifford Illig, b’73, in May was named one of two Distinguished Alumni of the Year by the School of Business. He lives in Leawood and is vice chairman and co-founder of Cerner Corp.

Phillip Miller, b’73, l’75, owns Kansas City Mediation Services.

Maurice Wildgen, c’73, g’76, is a senior business analyst with Compass IT. He lives in Rockville, Md.

1974

Deborah Davies, c’74, is CEO of the Arc of Atlantic County in Somers Point, N.J. She recently was inducted into the Atlantic County Women’s Hall of Fame.

Patrick Oenbring, c’74, does consulting in Houston.

Timothy Short, c’74, l’77, practices law in Pittsburg.

1975

Ann Gardner, j’75, recently was named 2005 Communicator of Achievement by the Kansas Professional Communicators. She’s editorial page editor of the Lawrence Journal-World.

1976

Rachel Lipman Reiber, j’76, l’84, is vice president of regulatory and government affairs for Everest Connections. She lives in Olathe and is a trustee of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System.

Howard Wolkowitz, b’76, g’78, owns Organized Solutions in St. Louis, where he and Laurie Recht Wolkowitz, c’78, make their home.

1977

Ame Holden, c’77, lives in Oceanside, Calif., with her husband, Steven Cox, c’76. She’s president of Holden & Associates.

Steven Jones, c’77, works as a consultant for Wachovia in Charlotte, N.C.

Nick Michale, j’77, is an annuity marketing consultant for Creative Marketing International. He lives in Overland Park.

Jeffrey Nelson, b’77, l’80, lives in Overland Park and is a partner in the law firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

Annette Stanton, c’77, a senior research scientist with the Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at UCLA, recently was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame.

1978

Mary Courtney, d’78, teaches math at Rolla Middle School. She lives in Rolla.

Gerard DeZern, a’79, e’79, is vice president of HOK Construction Services. He lives in Pasadena, Calif.

Mark Gabrick, c’78, manages business
development for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in Lawrence.

Robert Herman, g’78, is a partner in the St. Louis firm of Schwartz Herman & Davidson.

Teri Stewart Mace, j’78, works as attorney placement director for Special Counsel Inc. in Dallas.

Eric Morgenstern, j’78, is president and CEO of Morningstar Communications in Overland Park.

Kenneth Richards, c’78, practices with Front Range Cardiac Surgery in Greeley, Colo.

1979

Howard Cohen, b’79, is a partner in Deloitte & Touche. He recently was named one of two Distinguished Alumni of the Year by the School of Business. Howard makes his home in Leawood.

Stephen Koontz, e’79, works as technical manager for Chevron Phillips Chemical Company in St. James, La.

1980

Bradley Shoup, e’80, is president of BCS Capital in Prairie Village.

BORN TO:

Craig, c’80, g’85, and Jennifer Thole Berquist, j’94, g’96, daughter, Claire Suzanne, Feb. 9 in Lawrence, where she joins a brother, Landon, 4.

1981

Rex Anderson, l’81, owns and operates Rexomatic Productions, in Phoenix.

Thomas Laming, c’81, is president of Trend Star Advisors in Shawnee Mission.

Elizabeth Smith Scheib, f’81, directs congregational life at Lawrence Wesleyan Church in Lawrence.

1982

Jeffrey Botnen, b’82, is a broker for Park Company Realtors in Fargo, N.D.

Aurora Mendoza Perry, c’82, recently was named assistant principal at Three Rings Ranch Elementary School in Beaumont, Calif.

Sara Ruge Stryker, c’82, l’85, serves as a spokesperson for South Asian affairs for the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

Ladd Wheeler, e’82, a U.S. Navy captain, serves on the USS Harry S. Truman, based in Norfolk, Va.

Lee Whitman, d’82, is general manager of MC Lioness Realty Group in Kansas City.

1983

Jeff Gentry, b’83, is president of Koch Industries in Wichita.

Susan Crawford Morgan, f’83, works as an instructional assistant with Murray Independent Schools in Murray, Ky.

Mindy Spritz, f’83, is a professor of art foundations, illustration and design at the Art Institute of Atlanta.

MARRIED

Jim Sterbenz, p’83, p’98, to Kathy Briggs, Nov. 20. They live in Topeka, where Jim is a pharmacist at St. Francis Health Center.

BORN TO:

Gregory Everage, c’83, and Laura Gorman, daughter, Nicole Marie, Jan. 10 in Mill Valley, Calif., where she joins a brother, Grayson, 2.

1984

Kevin Newbury, ’84, coordinates production for Liberty Home Products in Denver.

Michael Wattai, e’84, is a product design engineer for General Motors in Pontiac, Mich.

1985

Mike Burghart, ’85, is president of Kansas PC Warehouse in Topeka.

Mark Schwartz, PhD’85, is an associate professor of geography at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He recently was honored by the National Council of the Association of American Geographers.
Back in the late 1960s, any university student with a beef heard the mantra: Work within the system. In 1968, Bill Berkowitz tried. As part of the student-faculty committee on governance, he co-authored a dissent calling for tutorial programs for African-American students and improved relations with Haskell Institute. Wild-eyed stuff. Got nowhere. He started working without the system.

Berkowitz, c’71, co-founded the underground newspaper Reconstruction (later called Vortex). He and some fellow students halted the spring ROTC ceremony, for which he received "indefinite suspension." His father came from New York expecting to see Bill graduate. He wound up instead at a benefit concert for the protesters.

"He said, ‘Once this is behind you, it’s time to move on to something else.’" Berkowitz didn’t.

The Bronx-bred lad who had scrimmaged in Rolling Stone sunglasses at Allen Field House with Jo Jo White and Walt Wesley (causing a passerby, coach Ted Owens, to scratch his head) has remained true to his view that American life contains inequities needing remedy.

His résumé shows he has lived with a dedication more familiar in surgeons than political activists.

After leaving a Lawrence factory job, he went to Cuba, returned to Lawrence, left again. He became a United Farmworkers Union organizer, then promotions director for the North American Congress on Latin America; NACLA launched its Data Center, a research library for social activists that Berkowitz maintained for 23 years.

"Working with the UFW led me to understand how essential it was for activists to equip themselves with facts,” says Berkowitz, who now lives in Oakland, Calif. “We made our then-paper database available to activists and media.”

Today he writes online columns at Working for Change, Media Transparency and other sites, and says he feels privileged to have spent a life doing this work. “People often ask, ‘How can you read and write about the things that you do?’ I guess it’s the contribution I can make.”

He left Lawrence in 1974 but still feels a connection. He was something special in Kansas—an East Coast exotic—and he grew up here.

But what about that suspension for life? Not a bother.

In spring 1969, his mother talked with a dean. A couple of days later, the dean sent a $150 check to the KU protesters’ defense fund.

Two years later, Mom Berkowitz got another surprise: Bill’s diploma, for a bachelor’s degree in English, arrived at her Bronx apartment in a registrar’s cardboard envelope. —Martin, g’73, is publications editor at the KU Center for Research and a Lawrence free-lance writer.
Gregory, daughter, Ava Noel, Dec. 9 in Kansas City.

Mary Frances Reilly-Daniel, h’88, and John, son, Joseph Reilly, March 5 in Fenton, Mo.

John Skidmore, c’89, and Teri, twins, Lauren and John III, Jan. 26 in San Ramon, Calif.

1989

Dawn Abrahamson Allen, j’89, directs multimedia for Scott Foresman in Glenview, Ill.

Laura Bronson, j’89, is editorial Web director for Shop Etc./Hearst Magazines in New York City.

David Dingwell, c’89, lives in Dover, Ohio. He’s a partner in TzangasPlakas Mannos & Raies.

Barry Engelken, c’89, g’91, works as a physical therapist for HealthSouth-KCOI in Leawood.

Kathryn Lester, b’89, does consulting for the Murrayhill Co. in Denver.

Mark Putman, f’89, g’94, is assistant vice president of technology relations for NCHELP. He lives in Basehor.

Jeffrey Suggs, j’89, works as an account executive for Cingular in Fresno, Calif.

Jeffrey Wietharn, b’89, l’92, is a shareholder in Coffman, DeFries & Northern in Topeka.

BORN TO:

Kim Lock Bittner, b’89, and Ernest, b’90, son, Jacob Ernest Joseph, Jan. 7 in Overland Park.

Daniel, c’89, and Kara Durrett Dolan, j’90, son, Drew Daniel, April 4 in Leawood, where he joins two sisters, Quincy, 3, and Kendall, 5.

1990

Robert Cahoon, c’90, works for AARP in Lakewood, Calif.

Andrew Halaby, e’90, g’92, l’96, is a partner in the Phoenix law firm of Snell & Wilmer.

John Masterson, d’90, g’99, works as a client service representative for the Assessment Technologies Institute in Overland Park.

Michael Moore, e’90, manages engineering at Seyller Industries in Wathena, and Kimberly Moulden-Moore, c’91, works for Pella. They live in St. Joseph, Mo.

Marc Ramsey, j’90, c’90, is senior communications manager for the Anxiety Disorders Association of America. He lives in Silver Spring, Md.

BORN TO:

Maria Galli Stampino, g’90, and Robert Strain Jr., PhD’93, son, Lawrence Armando Stampino-Strain, April 7 in Coral Gables, Fla.

1991

Heather Friede Abrahamson, b’91, c’91, works for CGI-AMS in Atlanta.

Grant Gooch, e’91, serves as an F-16 fighter squadron director of operations with the Iowa Air National Guard. He lives in West Des Moines.
Anthony Kempf, c’91, is senior project manager at Garney Construction in Kansas City.

Eraline Moulder, g’91, gave organ recitals last year in Chile, Los Angeles and Vienna. Eraline lives in Springfield, Mo., and teaches music at Drury University.

Jaclyn Piel, c’91, sells real estate for Coldwell Banker Cherry Creek in Denver.

Thomas Van Benschoten, b’91, is a pilot with Comair Airlines. He lives in Wilmette, Ill.

**BORN TO:**

Bart Brown, d’91, g’94, and Shelley, daughter, Caroline Jayne, Nov. 5 in Bixby, Okla.

Kendall Peters Johnson, b’91, and Douglas, son, Will, Jan. 17 in Plano, Texas, where he joins a brother, Mitchell.

Shon, b’91, l’94, and Michelle Travisano Robben, j’92, son, William Joseph, July 11 in Manhattan, where he joins a brother, Benjamin, 5, and a sister, Lauren, 6.

1992

Bruno Lapierre, g’92, works as a financial analyst with Exane BNP Paribas in Paris.

Angela Casey Shaw, c’92, m’05, practices medicine at the Center for Women’s Health in Pittsburg.

**BORN TO:**

Amy Schwindt Nachtigal, b’92, and John, m’04, daughter, Calleigh Elizabeth, Jan. 5 in Overland Park, where she joins a sister, Katheryn, 2.

1993

Steven Ammerman, j’93, is the morning and noon anchor at WTEN-TV in Albany, N.Y.

Adam Cox, c’93, directs microbiology at Sparhawk Laboratories in Lenexa.

Jason Flaherty, b’93, practices law with the Jenkens & Gilchrist firm in Austin, Texas.

Heather Gillis, j’93, works as an account executive for Mediamark Research in New York City.

Patti Mason, p’93, a pharmacist for Caremark Specialty Pharmacy, makes her home in Overland Park.

Lance Niles, ’93, is executive vice president of Homes National Bank in Arkansas City.

Jennifer Rogers, ’93, works as a paralegal for Garlo Ward in Austin, Texas.

Darin Stephens, c’93, is a district manager for Gap Inc. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.


**BORN TO:**

David, c’93, m’98, and Lori Davis Book, c’93, m’98, daughter, Amelia
Class Notes

Vivian, Feb. 20 in Colorado Springs, where she joins a brother, Robert, 2.

Angela Fiebach Centeno, b’93, and Jose, daughter, Lillian Therese, March 15 in Chicago.

Heather Werner La Montagne, j’93, and Evan, c’94, daughter, Quincy Mae, Nov. 20 in Denver, where she joins a brother, Cole, 3.

1994

Jason, c’94, and Janice Khongmaly

Haney, n’95, live in Gardner with their daughters, Jade, 4, and Joy, 1.

William Mehnert, c’94, b’94, is a project manager for Ecology and Environment Inc. in Portland, Ore.

Shannon Schwartz, j’94, manages customer research for the California State Automobile Association in San Francisco. He lives in Mountain View.

MARRIED

Kristine Strain, j’94, c’94, to John

Ingraham, Sept. 4 in Keystone, Colo. Kristine is assistant news director at KCNC-TV in Denver.

1995

Darrell Allen, g’95, PhD’04, is assistant professor of history at Seattle Pacific University.

Patsy Blalock, s’95, directs child placement for KVC Behavioral Healthcare in Olathe. She lives in Overland Park.

Carla Byrum, s’95, is a medical social

Profile

BY JULIE METTENBURG

Alumna puts a child’s face on labor picture in Africa

Three KU experiences steered Loretta Bass, j’91, c’91, toward a career in sociology, where she has earned a reputation as a leading childhood scholar.

First, as a freshman from tiny Columbus, she lived in Watkins Hall, an international environment that created a curiosity about the world. Second, she studied in Denmark for a semester. Third was a lesson she learned in an international comparative sociology course taught by David Smith.

“The big thing I took from this one little class was, ‘What dumb luck,’” says Bass, associate professor of sociology at the University of Oklahoma. “What dumb luck to be born in a rich country with good schools and some social mobility.”

In *Child Labor in Sub-Saharan Africa* (Lynne Rienner, 2004), Bass gives a voice to children who haven’t been so lucky. Although sub-Saharan Africa has the world’s highest incidence of children in the workforce, nearly 30 percent, hers is the first monograph on the subject.

“In Asia or Latin America, they are tied to our discussion because we kick their soccer balls or walk on their rugs,” Bass says. “You don’t have that trade connection with Africa’s child laborers, so they’ve been neglected.” Most African child laborers work in agriculture, in craft trades, or as market vendors.

For her dissertation research at the University of Connecticut, Bass spent two years traversing Senegal. She learned the Wolof language and assembled a Senegalese research team, traveling into more than 50 villages to interview women and children about the reality behind Africa’s child labor statistics.

“It gave me a whole new view of the idea ‘working for peanuts,’” she says. “They are like gold to parents back in the villages.” Rural girls are sent to markets to sell peanuts, a staple crop, for little money.

Indeed, Bass says, child labor is vital to African families crushed by some of the world’s worst poverty.

“Not all child labor is bad. It’s very important work. Without them, their families couldn’t put meat in their pots.”

She recommends apprenticeships and programs that combine crafts or market work with half-days of school. Her future research will examine such programs already in place in Zimbabwe.

“If you have one generation of educated children, they’ll never be back in the marketplace,” Bass predicts.

In her journey from her rural American childhood to rural Africa, she has learned how important these children are. “What they do matters to that country today, but also for where it’ll be in 20 to 40 years.”

And they matter to us, she says, because we’re all connected. “The world is big. But it’s finite.”

—Mettenburg, j’92, is a Lawrence free-lance writer.
Stephanie DeWeese Mills, d'95, and Samuel, live in Medina, Ohio, with Nathan, 5, Samuel, 3, and Hannah, 1. Bryan Rusch, a'95, is an architect with HMN Architects in Overland Park.

BORN TO:
Shelly Britt Goscha, s'95, and Richard, s'96, daughter, Kelsey, Dec. 28 in Lawrence, where she joins two sisters, Callie, 2, and Bayley, 8, and a brother, Brendan, who’ll be 6 July 23.

1996
Michael Brady, g'96, is senior principal and an associate company stockholder with CSHQA in Boise, Idaho.
Anne Teaford Carson, j'96, works as a marketing consultant for the National Council of State Housing Agencies. He lives in White Plains, Md.
Stefanie Carlon Dick, j'96, is an account supervisor for the Motta Co. in Phoenix.
Thomas Erickson, j'96, makes his home in Dallas, where he’s assistant news editor for the Dallas Morning News.
Alayna Miller, c'96, is a senior petroleum analyst with Netherland Sewell & Associates in Dallas.

BORN TO:
Samuel, c'96, m'00, and Hillary Young Guenthner, h'00, son, Carson, Feb. 3 in Olathe.
Kimberly Trevithick Lorbacher, f'96, and Scott, son, Logan Philip, Dec. 22 in Apex, N.C., where he joins a brother, Austin, who’s nearly 3.
Ryan Pearson, e'96, and Katherine, daughter, Parker Elizabeth, March 16 in Overland Park, where she joins Emily, 4, Nathaniel, 7, and Dexter, 4.

1997
Scott Allen, a'97, is a principal at SDA Architects in Scranton, Pa.

Kevin Bates, d'97, g'03, recently became a fiscal analyst in the Arizona Joint Legislative Budget Office in Phoenix.
Miles Franz, b'97, directs business development for the Integrated Solutions Group in Lenexa.
Scott Kleiner, c'97, works for Wieden & Kennedy in Portland, Ore.
Erin O'Donnell McLaughlin, c'97, coordinates research for the University of Pennsylvania’s corporation and foundation relations department in Philadelphia. She lives in Haddon Heights, N.J.
Jessica McNickle, c'97, is an associate with Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City.
Teresa Melcher Nelson, e'97, is a consumer insights senior associate with General Mills. She lives in Apex, N.C.
Kellie Johnson Plegge, e'97, works as a producibility engineer with Boeing. She lives in Maryland Heights, Mo.

BORN TO:
Bradley, '97, and Maria Holmberg Macoutrie, b'99, l'02, son, Brody Nicholas, Feb. 23. They live in Shawnee.

1998
Sean Biggs, e'98, is a senior consultant with Navigant Consulting in Burlington, Mass.
Robert Davis, c'98, studies for a doctorate in modern European history at Ohio University in Athens, where he also teaches. He recently won a Fulbright grant to study at the University of Oslo and the Norwegian Defense Institute.
James Johnson, j'98, supervises accounts for Bernstein-Rein Advertising in Kansas City.
Tricia Elliott Stephens, j'98, c'98, is a media supervisor for Nicholson Kovac in Kansas City.
Matt Woodruff, j'98, and his wife, Amanda, live in Shawnee with their daughter, Faith, 1. Matt is a lithographer
Class Notes

at Herff-Jones in Mission.

MARRIED

Tracee Badzin, c’98, and Joshua Lee, c’00, March 26 in Kansas City. They live in Chicago.

BORN TO:


1999

Kristen Abell, c’99, s’01, coordinates programs at KU’s Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center in Lawrence.


Karen Kinney Wendt, b’98, and Barrett, son, Mason, March 19 in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Dane Bear, b’99, is quality manager for Ryder Logistics in Roanoke, Texas.

Trisha Maberly, c’99, coordinates MBA international programs at the University of Texas-Austin.

Danielle Abernethy Merrick, s’99, is a tax associate with American Century Companies in Kansas City.

Sherry Schultz, b’99, g’00, manages accounting for the Lincoln Journal Star in Lincoln, Neb.

Profile

Crawford’s historic vision helps Denver shine anew

Forty years ago, downtown Denver was about to tumble into the abyss of good intentions that would doom cities across the country: federally subsidized “urban renewal,” realized by razing troublesome districts of historic buildings that had seemingly played out their boom eras. Dana Hudkins Crawford, a relatively anonymous citizen armed with little more than passions for history and preservation, would have none of it for her adopted hometown.

Crawford, c’53, created business and political partnerships that saved Larimer Square, now the heart of an energized downtown that includes big-league sports arenas, hip bars, gourmet restaurants, loft apartments and seven-day-a-week buzz.

“You have to have a vision,” Crawford says from her office in Denver’s Urban Neighborhood Real Estate Co. “For me, several things really influenced that vision. One was the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City; another was what was happening to Aspen in the early ’60s. With those successes in mind, I knew what downtown Denver could become.”

After spending countless days touring rundown streets and seedy alleys, with her four young sons staring wide-eyed out the windows of mom’s station wagon, Crawford found herself striding down the middle of Larimer Street, helping business leaders, politicians and reporters share her vision for Larimer Square. When an editor read his reporter’s coverage of the May 1965 event, he cracked that it belonged on the obits page.

Not only did Larimer Square survive, Crawford has become a civic icon and her beloved lower downtown district, now called “LoDo,” is a jewel of true urban renewal.

“A collective vision is much easier to reach now than it was in the ’60s, when ‘collective vision’ meant mowing it all down,” she says. “Now people understand that not only is the history important, but so are the architectural reminders of a time when buildings were erected on a scale that people enjoy being around.”

Crawford, winner of the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award, the nation’s highest award for historic preservation, has also helped save and renovate the Molly Brown House and the Oxford Hotel. She is currently developing a project called Prospect Place, an urban community patterned after Italian villages, with a large plaza and no building taller than 10 stories.

“When I started doing research, I found that everything that grew into a great city really started in the 1400 block of Larimer Street, so it seemed appropriate that it be saved.

“Now we have a lot of people living downtown, we have sports venues, and a very lively nightlife. So come on out. It’s wonderful!”

Profile by Chris Lazzarino
Student loan rates at historic lows

Consolidate today and lock in an incredibly low rate!

The Kansas Alumni Association has teamed with Nelnet to offer student loan consolidation. Qualifying borrowers can lock in a fixed interest rate as low as 2.875% for the life of their loan and take advantage of great repayment incentives that can reduce the rate even further.*

Borrowers have the option to choose one of the following:

- 3.33% principal loan reduction to be applied after 30 consecutive, uninterrupted payments.
  Borrowers must also maintain a valid e-mail address to be eligible for this option, OR
- 1.0% interest rate reduction after 36 consecutive, uninterrupted payments

In addition, borrowers can receive a .25% interest rate reduction for making auto-debit payments.

Today, eligible borrowers that choose a Nelnet Consolidation Loan will not only reduce their monthly payment, but also experience the following benefits:

- Flexible repayment terms
- No fees
- No credit checks
- No prepayment penalties

To determine your loan eligibility and discuss the best loan options for you, contact a Nelnet Loan Advisor today.

Toll-free 1.866.4CONSOL (426.6765)
www.alumniconsolidation.nelnet.net

*The Consolidation Loan interest rate is calculated by taking the weighted average of the rates on the Federal loans consolidated rounded up to the nearest one-eighth of one percent (1/8%). Not to exceed 8.25%. Nelnet reserves the right to modify or terminate its borrower incentives at its discretion without prior notice.

Interest rates described above are in effect through June 30, 2005, unless otherwise indicated. Factors other than the interest rate, such as the length of the repayment period, affect the total cost of the loan. Also, a borrower’s rights, such as eligibility for deferment, may change upon consolidation. Please refer to the Borrower Rights and Responsibilities statement or contact Nelnet Loan Advisor for more information. To qualify, borrowers must be in repayment or in the grace period with a combined total of at least $7,500 in qualified student loan debt, and less than 90 days delinquent.

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**Class Notes**

**Thomas Stanion**, c’99, g’00, and his wife, Mary, live in Santa Monica, Calif., where he’s an assistant vice president for Wells Fargo.

**Ryan Washatka**, d’99, is general manager of the Rockford Icehogs hockey team. He lives in Loves Park, Ill.

**MARRIED**

**Amy Ashworth**, c’99, to Mike Pinkerton, Feb. 26 in Dallas.

**Kendall Day**, c’99, to Danielle Baussan, April 30 in Charlottesville, Va. They live in Washington, D.C., where Kendall is a prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Paul Voiles**, c’99, and **Lisa Bessinger**, e’01, Oct. 9 in Houston, where Paul is a project engineer for Cobb, Fendley & Associates. Lisa is a member of the international space station mission planning staff for United Space Alliance.

**2000**

**Robert Easterling**, c’00, is an intake specialist for the Kansas Human Rights Commission in Topeka.

**Daniel Esmond**, b’00, works as IT director for Gene Fritzel Construction in Lawrence.

**Angela Willems Koehn**, n’00, teaches nursing at Dodge City Community College.

**Rebecca Lang**, b’00, is a corporate strategy senior analyst for UMB Bank in Kansas City.

**Jenifer Boyer Pope**, c’00, works as an advisor at Butler County Community College in Andover. She lives in Wichita.

**Hermin Valdya**, p’00, is a pharmacist at CVS Pharmacy in Dunellen, N.J.

**BORN TO:**

**Israel**, c’00, and **Hannah Wood Jirak**, n’00, son, Landon Brock, Jan. 10 in Fort Collins, Colo.

**2001**

**Debra Berkowitz**, c’01, is senior publications editor at Creative Solutions Group in Washington, D.C.

**Jessica Bristow**, g’01, g’03, lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with her daughter, Geneva, 1.

**David Conner**, e’01, works as a civil engineer with Burns & McDonnell in Englewood, Colo.

**Rachel Fox**, j’01, manages vending accounts for Coca-Cola Bottling Co. She lives in Goodlettsville, Tenn.

**Jeffrey Glendening**, c’01, is chief of staff at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka. He lives in Olathe.

**Trent Guyer**, b’01, works in marketing at Grasshopper Lawnmowers in Moundridge.

**Alison Hickman**, b’01, g’03, is global internal auditor for Jones Lang LaSalle in Chicago.

**Trevor Kohl**, c’01, is a sales representative at Hallmark Cards in Kansas City.

**Kyle Kovac**, d’01, works as a police officer for the Kansas City, Kan., Police Department.

**Shelley Mathern**, c’01, serves as a cap-
2006 Sneak Preview

Panama Canal aboard the Six Star Crystal Symphony
January 27-February 7, from $2,295 + air

Journey through Vietnam
February 1-16, $2,795 from Los Angeles

South East Asia Hill Tribes by private air (Vietnam, Cambodia, China)
February 3-18, $19,950

Expedition to Patagonia (Tierra del Fuego & Torres del Paine)
February 19-March 2, from $4,695 + air

Wings over the Nile
February 24-March 10, from $4,595 + air

Budapest & Prague Escapade
March 23-31, $1,695 + air

World War II South Pacific Campaign
March 30-April 14, from $6,950 + air

Peru Alumni Campus Abroad (featuring Machu Picchu)
April 7-14, $1,995 + air

Romantic Paris and Beyond
April 7-15, $1,599 from Kansas City

Springtime in Holland and Belgium
April 13-24, from $2,795 to $5,095 + air

China Treasures and the Yangtze River
April 13-25, $3,099 from Kansas City

Italy (Sorrento & Orvieto) Alumni Campus Abroad
April 29-May 10, $2,695 + air

Greece Alumni Campus Abroad
May 5-14, $1,995 + air

Classical Antiquities of the Balkans and Albania
May 9-18, from $2,980 to $6,000 + air

Legendary Passage
May 10-22, from $2,895 + air

Kitzbühel, an Austrian Delight
May 19-27, $1,699 from Kansas City

Adriatic Riviera Alumni Campus Abroad
May 30-June 7, $1,795 + air

Temples and Gardens of Ancient Japan
June 1-13, from $6,250 to $9,360 + air

Voyage of Discovery (Istanbul, Turkey to Catania, Sicily)
June 2-12, from $3,295 + air

Passage of Peter the Great
June 6-18, from $1,995 + air

Switzerland Alumni Traveler’s Choice Education
Nine day trips, throughout June and July, $1,495 + air

Delft and Bruges Alumni Campus Abroad
June 19-30, $2,695 + air

Family Adventure in Costa Rica
July 7-16, $2,195 + air

Alaska
July 18-31, cruise only from $1,295–cruise/land from $2,845

Scotland Alumni Campus Abroad
August 20-28, $2,095 + air

Cruising the Majestic Pacific Northwest
September 20-27, from $1,320 to $3,910 + air

Treasures of Italy
September 22-30, $1,699 from Kansas City

Côte d’Azur (Provence)
September 30–October 8, $1,699 from Kansas City

Portugal, Sintra Alumni Campus Abroad
October 17-25, $1,995 + air

Holiday Markets of Vienna and Salzburg
December 11-19, $1,995 + air

All rates are per person, double occupancy. Dates and prices are subject to change. For more information and the latest prices, go to www.ku.alumni.org or call 800-584-2957.
tain in the U.S. Army in Columbia, S.C. 
Autumn Metzler, e’01, is regional sales manager for io Lighting in Chicago. 
Susan Wang Moss, c’01, works in toxicology client services at Clinical Reference Laboratory in Lenexa. 
Jeffrey Severin, c’01, manages environmental services for facilities operations at KU. He lives in Lawrence. 
Brian Wasko, b’01, is a CPA with Grant Thornton in Kansas City.

MARRIED 
Kate Humphreys, d’01, to Joshua Kalinowski, Nov. 13. They live in Highlands Ranch, Colo.

2002 
Kelly Hood Bailey, j’02, coordinates marketing for GBA Master Series. She lives in Overland Park. 
Michael Harman, d’02, directs marketing for the University of Texas-San Antonio. 
Audrey Hickert, c’02, g’03, is a research analyst for the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Consortium in Salt Lake City. 
Sarah Jackson Martin, c’02, reviews grants for the Kansas State Historical Society. She lives in Lawrence. 
Thomas Moreland, d’02, g’04, and his wife, Jennifer, live in Richmond, Va., where he directs the Bon Secours Hospice. 
Michael Schmitz, b’02, g’04, is controller of KCM Capital in Prairie Village. 
Amy Dwyer Seibel, j’02, works as a staffing consultant for Express Personnel. She lives in Wichita.

MARRIED 
Michael Smith, b’02, and Kimberly Grollmes, d’04, April 9 in Perry. They live in Lawrence.

BORN TO: 
Tracy Flora Burgess, c’02, g’04, and Larry, son, James Ewan, Sept. 14 in Overland Park, where he joins a brother, Caeleb, 7.

2003 
Angie Behrens, j’03, coordinates marketing for Kiewit Construction in Englewood, Colo. 
Amy Dwyer, d’03, is an athletic trainer at Jacksonville University in Florida. 
Michael Graber, b’03, works as a tax associate at McGladrey & Pullen in Kansas City. 
Katherine Hannon, e’03, recently joined ITT Industries as a design engineer. She lives in Rochester, N.Y. 
John Mallory, d’03, edits video for the Seattle Seahawks. 
Matthew Sargent, c’03, directs marketing for Artco Casket Co. in Lenexa. 
Elizabeth Godfrey Warner, c’03, j’03, is lead teller at Wells Fargo. She lives in Littleton, Colo.

BORN TO: 
Christopher Kennedy, e’03, and Janet, daughter, Madison Marie, Dec. 15 in Kansas City.

2004 
Harlan Altman, b’04, is an account representative at Worldwide Express in Kansas City. 
Danielle Clock, b’04, works as a retail
It’s not just philanthropy; it’s an adventure for Miller

Charities do good, but they don’t always work well. Capitalism works well, but it doesn’t always do good.

Doug Miller is on a mission to bring together the best of both worlds—and enjoy big adventures in the process.

Miller, c’66, g’71, is co-founder of the European Venture Philanthropy Association, a group that applies the principles of venture capital to the realm of charitable giving.

“Like venture capital, venture philanthropy is a more hands-on, engaged model,” Miller says. “In addition to giving capital, you’re working directly with a charity on its management structure and business plan—including operations efficiency.”

Charities don’t always deliver services as efficiently as possible, he contends. In London, for example, some 30 charities care for the homeless. “Each one needs a chief executive, a building, secretarial staff,” Miller says. “That’s very inefficient. If you consolidate those charities, you could help more homeless people more efficiently.”

As founder of International Private Equity Ltd., a “corporate finance boutique,” Miller has since 1990 raised $5 billion to finance business ventures in China, India, Israel and Europe. Venture philanthropy, he believes, creates a classic win-win: Charities gain more money, and donors gain more control over how their money is used.

The idea is relatively new in Great Britain, where Miller has worked since 1979. To generate publicity, he led two adventure treks. The first, a bicycle trip across Vietnam in 2002, raised $350,000 for the Mines Advisory Group, a charity that clears land mines in Vietnam (where Miller served with the U.S. Special Forces in 1968-’69), Laos, Cambodia and Sri Lanka.

In January, the 60-year-old led 17 people to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. Trekkers raised more than $350,000 through pledges. A third went to Tanzanian charities, including a school building on the mountain and a water project for a local Masai village; a third helped fund EVPA projects; and the remaining third went to charities of each donor’s choice.

Miller—and his wife, Audrey, and his sister, Judith L. Miller, d’65—donated their shares to the Multicultural Scholars Program at KU, which Miller has long supported.

Just as he strives to build a more effective philanthropy with EVPA, he seeks a similar long-term payback in the Multicultural Scholars Program, a School of Business effort to help students of color that expanded into seven KU schools in 2001. Each recipient accepts a “moral agreement” with Miller to give back to the program when they are able.

“It’s the principle of leverage. If I can give some of my time and money and encourage others to do the same, the ultimate effect is greater than just writing a check.”

—By STEVEN HILL

Profile

BY STEVEN HILL

2005

Michelle Castor, c’05, is a resident supervisor at the Adolescent and Family Institute of Colorado in Wheat Ridge.

Jennifer Hanna, c’05, works as associate director of Accessible Physical Therapy Services in Greenbelt, Md.

MARRIED

Kimberly White, b’05, to Douglas Pratt, Dec. 31 in Andover. They live in Lenexa.

James Denbigh, c’04, lives in Baytown, Texas. He works for the Houston Fire Department.

Brian Elswirth, c’04, is an insurance producer/agent with Farmers Insurance Group. He lives in Chesterfield, Mo.

Adam Gilstrap, g’04, is an insurance producer/agent with Farmers Insurance Group. He lives in Chesterfield, Mo.

Joshua Kaplan, b’04, is an export assistant with FD Associates in McLean, Va.

Nikki Nugent, j’04, works as a sports information intern with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. She lives in Olathe.

Brian Reddy, a’04, is an architect with Suttle Mindlin in St. Louis.

Amanda Wolfe, j’04, manages marketing for Allen Press in Lawrence.

Joshua Kaplan, b’04, is an export assistant with FD Associates in McLean, Va.

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Adam Gilstrap, g’04, is an insurance producer/agent with Farmers Insurance
In Memory

1920s

Mary Hamilton Ackerman, c’27, 98, May 6 in Wichita. She is survived by a daughter, Ann Ackerman Houchin, c’51; a brother, George Hamilton, e’37; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Carl Gauck, ’27, 98, March 22 in Peoria, Ariz., where he was a retired agent for Northwestern National Life Insurance. He is survived by his wife, Gladys, two sons, a brother, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Norman Newell, c’29, g’31, 96, April 17 in Leonia, N.J. He had been curator of invertebrates at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and had taught at Columbia University. His wife, Gillian, survives.

1930s

Louis Bonann, c’36, m’40, 90, March 8 in Malibu, Calif. He was a radiologist and had taught at UCLA. Survivors include his wife, Regina, assoc.; a son; two daughters; and two grandchildren.

Martha Markwell Brown, c’39, March 24 in Shawnee Mission. She is survived by a daughter; a son, Raymond O’Brien, f’74; a sister, Helen Markwell Hartman, c’41; a brother, Calvin Markwell, b’50; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Marie Russell Cochrane, c’38, 88, April 1 in Kansas City. She is survived by a daughter; two sons, one of whom is William III, e’63; two sisters; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Orrin French, e’34, 95, April 29 in Topeka, where he was retired from a career with Santa Fe Railway. Surviving are two daughters; a son, Robert, g’79; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Jessie Lemon Jones-Cobb, c’38, g’40, 88, Jan. 26 in Medford, N.J. She taught school for more than 50 years and is survived by two daughters; three stepsons; a stepdaughter; a sister, Elsie Lemon Howe, d’49; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Elma Jennings Klepper, c’31, 95, March 18 in Wichita. She is survived by two daughters, Diane, c’56, m’64; a brother, Homer Jennings, b’34; two grandsons; and two great-grandchildren.

J. Rogers Kratochvil, b’31, 95, Feb. 28 in Jefferson City. He was retired deputy director of the Missouri Division of Employment Security. Survivors include his wife, Thelma Wilcox Kratochvil, d’33; two daughters, one of whom is Margaret Kratochvil Baggett, c’68; a sister; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Philip Liggett, e’33, March 6 in Boca Raton, Fla., where he was a retired patent attorney. A daughter survives.

Mary Klose Parker, c’30, April 25 in Overland Park. A granddaughter survives.

Florence Teubner Puell, c’34, March 17 in Munich, Germany. Among survivors are four sons.

Gilbert Spencer, c’33, 94, Nov. 26 in Corvallis, Ore. Surviving are his wife, Helen, three sons and a brother.

Elizabeth Wilkinson Vaughan, c’30, 97, May 17 in Kansas City, where she was a teacher, a concert soprano and a civic leader. Her son, Joe, j’70, survives.

1940s

Joan Taylor Anderson, c’41, July 22 in Englewood, Colo. She is survived by her husband, Wayne, e’42; three daughters; one of whom is Patricia Anderson Fanning, d’64; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Gerald Barker, g’48, 90, March 15 in Topeka, where he had been vice president of development and of university relations at Washburn University. He also broadcast KU men’s basketball on WREN radio for many years. He is survived by his wife, Lois; two sons, one of whom is Gregory, c’71; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Richard Finney, e’48, 80, April 27 in Topeka, where he was retired chairman of the board of Finney and Turnipseed. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by two daughters, Rosalynn Finney Redmond, d’71, and Carolyn Finney Holmes, f’74; a son, Keith, e’78; a sister; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mary McKinney Gleissner, c’42, Feb. 7 in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Survivors include a brother, Joseph McKinney, ’45; and two grandsons.

William McGrannahan, c’48, April 24 in Kansas City, where he practiced dentistry for many years. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, a daughter, a son and seven grandchildren.

William Miller, c’40, m’42, 87, Dec. 23 in Indianapolis, where he was a retired physician. Survivors include two daughters, Donna Miller Moody, b’65, and Constance Miller Stultz, d’70; a son; and five grandchildren.

Barbara Byrd McDonald, f’48, Jan. 29 in Lawrence. Among survivors are her husband, Clifford, b’50; two sons, Kent, c’76, g’05, and Greg, g’77; and two daughters, Carol, ’80, and Teresa McDonald Allen, h’98.

Joanne Fronkier Oliver, c’44, 82, April 12 in Newton. She is survived by a daughter, Diane Oliver Joseph, j’69; two sons, Craig, c’75, l’78, and Douglas, c’76; a sister, Janice Fronkier Neustrom, f’51; and eight grandchildren.

Evelyn Scamell, f’49, d’57, 79, March 27 in Lee’s Summit, Mo., where she was a retired teacher. A sister, Helen Scamell Dewey, c’48, g’49, survives.

1950s

Joe Anderson, c’50, 76, Jan. 2 in Fort Collins, Colo., where he was a retired minister. He is survived by his wife,
Marilyn; four sons; a sister, Glenn Anderson Fearing, c’51; and seven grandchildren.

James Black, b’50, 77, April 1 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. He had been CFO of Kansas Color Press in Lawrence and later founded Southeastern Packaging in Kennesaw, Ga. Surviving are his wife, Sarah Underwood Black, f’50; a son; two daughters; a brother, Charles, e’45, g’52; and six grandchildren.

Kenneth Carder, a’50, 79, April 11 in Wichita. His wife, Freddie Blanks Carder, ‘56; a son; and a daughter, Deborah Carder Pfortmiller, ’95, survive.

Benjamin Dalton, e’56, 71, April 30 in Conroe, Texas, where he was retired from a 30-year career with Exxon. He is survived by his wife, Jane Armstrong Dalton, c’55; two sons; and a sister.

Orene Carroll Edmonds, d’57, 70, April 25 in Topeka, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, Gerald, c’53, l’58.

Joy Jungferman Rushfelt, f’59, g’73, May 13 in Leawood. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, assoc.

Gair Sloan, ‘51, 75, April 17. He owned Sloan’s Drafting Design in Leavenworth. An aunt survives.

Benjamin White, c’50, m’54, 77, March 19 in El Dorado, where he practiced medicine. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Jones White, c’51; three sons, Theodore, c’75, d’77; Douglas, c’91, m’85, and Lucas, ‘84; a daughter; and 10 grandchildren.

Mary Meyer Zimmerman, n’58, 71, March 26 in Lubbock, where she was a nurse with the Texas Department of Health. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. Her husband, J.E., survives.

1960s

Cecil Cole, ’68, 59, Feb. 22. He was artistic administrator of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, and had served with symphonies in San Francisco, New Orleans, Phoenix and Utah.

Dean Cordell, c’69, c’76, 57, April 17 in Flower Mound, Texas. Surviving are his wife, Ruth Regier Cordell, c’76; two sons; his mother; and two brothers, Charles, p’72, g’81, and Steve, c’78.

Jean Fleckenstein Templin, ’60, May 3, 2004, in Louisville. She is survived by her husband, Jay, e’58, g’66; three daughters, one of whom is Christie Templin Holm, c’94, g’97; and six grandchildren.

1970s

James Cobb, c’71, 55, Sept. 25. He was senior pastor of First Christian Church in Amarillo, Texas, and was survived by his wife, Jeanne, a son and a daughter.

Daniel Heinrich, g’76, 77, Oct. 12 in Medicine Lodge. He is survived by his wife, Elsie Coppock Heinrich, b’58, s’68; a stepdaughter; five stepgrandchildren; and 14 stepgreat-grandchildren.


George Schultz, j’77, 54, April 18 in Lawrence, where he was an engineer. Survivors include a sister and a brother, James, d’65.

Randall Stroup, d’71, 58, April 3 in Overland Park. He is survived by his wife, Pat Gordon Stroup, d’68, g’74; two daughters; a son; his mother; a brother, Aric, c’74; a sister; and seven grandchildren.

1980s

Betty J. Irvin, s’97, s’99, 51, May 23, in Lecompton, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was a case manager at the Jayhawk Agency on Aging in Lawrence. Survivors include her husband, Michael, t’96; three sons, including Brent, a KU student; a sister; and two grandchildren. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association.

2000s

Ryan Hogan, ’07, 24, Feb. 3 in an airplane crash outside Kabul, Afghanistan. He worked for Mantech International and is survived by his parents, John and Monica Hogan; a brother; and his grandmother.

The University Community

Elizabeth Collins, 83, April 23 in Lawrence, where she was a retired associate professor of occupational therapy at KU. A brother survives.

Ted Lockwood, c’67, m’71, 59, May 14 in Prairie Village. He was an associate clinical professor of plastic surgery at KU Medical Center. Surviving are his wife, Anne Cleveland Lockwood, ’69; a son; his parents; and a brother, Gary, c’65, m’71.

Norberto Salinas, 65, March 28 in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was a professor of mathematics at KU for more than 30 years before retiring in 2002. A son and a daughter survive.

L. Don Scheid, May 14 in Lawrence, where he was a retired professor and former associate dean of the School of Fine Arts. From 1958 until 1989, he was the voice of the Marching Jayhawks. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Marian Keller Scheid, assoc.; a son; two daughters, Lynda Scheid Paul, d’72 and Marilee Scheid Groth, b’87; a sister; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Timothy Sifers, c’71, m’74, March 15 in Leawood. He was a clinical assistant professor of surgery at KU Medical Center. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Celina; a daughter; five sons; his mother, Frances, c’45; a brother, Tuck, c’70; and two sisters, one of whom is Sally Sifers Hilkene, c’78.

 Associates

Walter Netson, 87, March 18 in Topeka, where he was a retired lieutenant colonel in Kansas National Guard. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Miller Netson, assoc.; a daughter, Ethelyn Netson Nash, d’68, g’75; a stepson; and two grandchildren.
Like the steam engines and Pony Express riders that crossed the 19th-century American West, monarch butterflies on their long migrations need places to rest and replenish.

“Steam engines needed stops to pick up water and coal; the Pony Express riders needed stops to pick up food and fresh horses,” says Orley “Chip” Taylor, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and director of Monarch Watch. “The same principle applies with the monarch. The monarch needs resources and places across the continent to breed and sustain its migration.”

Trouble is, monarch habitat is going the way of steam trains and horseback mail. According to the American Farmland Trust, subdivisions and other developments devoured 6 million acres of farmland from 1992 to 1997; about 3,000 acres of farmland disappear daily, an annual loss of 1.2 million acres. Another 80 million acres of croplands in the prime breeding grounds of the upper Midwest become inhospitable to monarchs and other pollinators when farmers plant herbicide-resistant crops, which allow them to spray freely to kill plants such as milkweed, the sole plant on which monarchs lay their eggs.

To counter that trend, Monarch Watch wants to create 10,000 “monarch waystations” by 2008. The education, conservation and research organization based at KU is selling waystation seed kits online at www.monarchwatch.org. The hope is that private gardeners and public entities such as schools, nature centers, parks and zoos will create small habitat plots that, like the water tanks and Pony Express outposts of old, will provide oases of food and shelter to help sustain the journey.

“We want to do everything we can to preserve the monarch migration,” Taylor says. “If we’re going to convince Mexico to take responsibility...
for protecting the overwintering sites in their country, we should do something to protect the breeding habitat in our country.”

Taylor has studied the migratory behavior of monarchs since 1992. During the fall migration, which runs from August to October, thousands of Monarch Watch volunteers across North America capture and tag the orange-and-black butterflies as they make their way south to overwintering sites in Mexico. Each spring, the butterflies make it through the winter head north again, to reproduce and die.

The monarch population in 2004 declined to about one-tenth the size of its 1996 peak. Monarch numbers are now about one-fourth the size of the population in an average year. Recovery from that low will take time, Taylor says, and it won’t be eased by habitat losses.

The waystation kits contain seeds for nectar-producing plants, which adult butterflies rely on for food, and milkweed, the plant essential to monarch caterpillar survival.

Planting lots of small garden patches “won’t replace the amount of milkweed that has been lost or even keep pace with the habitat losses each year,” Taylor says. “On the other hand, waystations will get the public involved in the conservation effort and hopefully these people will educate their fellow citizens.”

And their legislators.

“We need to mobilize the people in this country to understand what’s happening to the country, to wildlife, to the habitats, and this is part of that effort,” Taylor says. He hopes the waystation kits will plant a seed of action, inspiring those concerned about the natural world “to reach out and say, ‘Hey, look, we have to save something.’”

Gardeners can have their plots certified by Monarch Watch and listed in the Monarch Waystation Registry, an online database. They can also display a weatherproof sign identifying the spot as an official monarch waystation.

For more information, write Monarch Watch, University of Kansas, 1200 Sunnyside Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045.
—Steven Hill

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Eureka!

Husband-and-wife team restores Poe’s science treatise for modern readers

Even after a full career of reading, researching, writing and lecturing, Stuart Levine still isn’t sure about what to make of Edgar Allan Poe. He’s confident that myths about a reclusive genius don’t hold up, and neither does a limited popular picture of Poe as the haunted writer of macabre stories and poems. Then again, Levine also is wary of taking any of Poe’s writing at face value, especially the startling insights offered in a largely forgotten short masterpiece, Eureka.

“I think he thought it was a revelation,” Levine says of Poe’s lecture and book, in which he expounded upon cosmology scholarship and theories of universal interconnectedness. “Except, you never know what Poe really means. It’s a brilliant piece of transcendental inspiration grounded in solid science. On the other hand, it’s a big joke.”

Levine laughs heartily, as he does often, especially when discussing Poe. If Poe was big on inside jokes and literary winks, he was destined to be blessed more than a century later with his good-humored match in Team Levine:

Stuart, professor emeritus of English, and Susan, PhD’80, a retired assistant dean of the Graduate School who has collaborated on her husband’s Poe research since the late 1960s. They are even able to laugh about a catastrophic computer crash and a mislaid manuscript, disasters that nearly derailed their Eureka edition and set the project back about two and a half years.

Their determination recently reached fruition with the University of Illinois Press’ publication of their sleek volume that, with the Levines’ introduction and annotations offering sure guidance, restores Eureka to the accessible Poe canon.

In his lecture—delivered Feb. 3, 1848, to a disappointingly small audience in New York City—and subsequent book, Poe displays a solid grasp of the current science of his era, and even offers deep insights that have been largely backed up by modern astronomy, including an origin hypothesis that resembles what is now known as the big-bang theory.
The Evolution of Urban Kansas. As he explains, the fortunes of our cities exemplify success and failure at the junctures of East and West, North and South, frontier and modernity, agriculture and industry, Native and European, slave and free, steamship and rail, highway and air. Shortridge, professor of geography and author of numerous previous books on Great Plains geography and people, rightly cautions that he could not have included anything close to all 4,000 post office-worthy settlements that have come and, in most cases, gone in Kansas’ 150 years of settlement; neither should he have focused on Wichita, Topeka, Lawrence, Salina, Emporia and Hays.

“Such successes,” he writes, “need to be balanced by the much more common stories of frustration and failure.”

Cities on the Plains is a stout book, and Shortridge does not hide its scholarly foundations. The appendix includes decade-by-decade population graphs for the 118 cities under consideration; the notes, bibliography and index run 91 pages; and 26 consecutive maps depict population trends within fascinating variables, including rivers, mineral deposits, Indian land holdings, manufacturing, highways, television markets and freight and passenger rail service. Particularly fascinating are maps of railroad visions held by Lawrence, Topeka, Atchison, Leavenworth, St. Joseph and Kansas City, delineating how each saw itself as the ultimate winner in a race to lure citizens and commerce.

Even with these academic underpinnings, Shortridge fashioned a book that surely will rivet amateur historians, who now can ponder the urban tides that shaped Kansas.

Shortridge introduces the book’s unusual premise with a discussion of the “elbow” region, where the Missouri River detours east from its southerly descent—or, from the perspective of a nation growing against the flows of the central continent, turns north from its westerly route. Building an early example that predicts the many to follow, Shortridge shows that in the first half of the 19th century, western Missouri river and trail towns of St. Joseph, Weston, Independence and Westport all had seemingly bright prospects. But as each staked out certain claims to regional renown—steamship or rail hubs; Oregon, California or Santa Fe trailheads—they drifted toward subservience to their youngest cousin, the river trading post that became the central Plains metropolis called Kansas City.

The narrative takes flight with the May 30, 1854, opening of Kansas to “white settlement,” at which point “town foundings in Kansas began almost instantaneously.” We are introduced at rapid pace to the distribution of public institutions: the capital city, universities, prisons, asylums and specialized schools. Shortridge then illustrates how other cities’ fortunes founedered on fickle market and social forces, including railroads, meatpacking, manufacturing, minerals, market access, and, of course, agriculture. Even a poorly timed tornado or flood that diverted resources to reconstruction rather than expansion jeopardized a young city’s prospects.

By offering it at the formidable sum of $45, University Press of Kansas pledges that Cities on the Plains should deliver a readable, authoritative Kansas history as never before considered. It succeeds grandly. Not only is the book smart, but
it is also well organized, and therefore is easily read at intervals.

Mirroring the growth and evolution of Kansas, the reader should meander. Rest awhile here, plunge in there, ponder the future everywhere.

—Chris Lazzarino

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Clowning 101

Acting students learn nuances of great clown performance

Eli Simon held aloft a red ball on an elastic strap. The visiting theatre professor explained to his students that they would have just one prop: this clown’s nose. The rest of their transformations would depend upon their skills and creativity.

That, and following two clown rules:

“First, you are not allowed to talk,” Simon said during the May 6 session in Murphy Hall’s Inge Theatre. “You can’t even make noise. Second, the clown is not always happy, but is always positive. The clown will go forth and persevere, even in a dire situation.”

Simon, head of acting at the University of California-Irvine and a specialist in clowning and masks, said, “Clowning is really pretty simple. If you try to get too fancy, you’ll mess it up.”

The premise was that Simon owned a circus and was auditioning clowns to join the troupe. Students were then left to their own devices, and the clowns that emerged were startlingly good.

Eric Avery, the brave first volunteer, created a wide-eyed, inquisitive clown weighed down by a tinge of melancholy. There was a crying clown, a sad clown and a dancing clown. There even was a creepy clown, created by Steve Ducey, who was among the most memorable.

“Try not to get into mercy laughter; if a clown is tanking, it’s not funny,” Simon said. “But when you get a clown on the edge of failure, interesting things can happen. So don’t be afraid of that.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Visiting Professor Eli Simon (above) coached Eric Avery (top), a junior from Olathe and Topeka, and Overland Park senior Steve Ducey (right) through clown transformations with just one prop at their disposal: the traditional red nose.
All of the happy things that I have known in life are the prototypes of these faces. To gather them together and put them into bronze has been a privilege. I am grateful, very grateful, that it has been my heritage to have these forms instead of the forms that might have come from any other part of the world. And out of these sculptures, these things that it has been my privilege to assemble, I have this command, this demand:

“You were clay; and you were plaster; and now you are bronze. I saw you when you were shapeless lumps. I saw you when you were ingot metal or scrap metal. I saw you poured into the mold. I saw you come out. I saw you placed onto the doors. I have something to ask of you sculptures. I ask that you stay here through day and night; and moon and season; storm and peace and war.

“I ask that you stay here from now on and I ask that your silent voices tell our story, the story of our team, our people, our forms, to whomever comes, and to the entire universe in time.”

—Sculptor Bernard “Poco” Frazier, ’29, at the June 6, 1955, dedication of the World War II Memorial Campanile’s twin sets of bronze doors.

Frrazier, who eventually held faculty appointments in both design and architecture, fitted the south entrance with his “Doors of Memory.” Intended to be studied from bottom to top, starting at the bottom right, the doors convey emotions associated with war, including silence, meditation, sorrow, aspiration, courage and achievement.

For the north entrance, Frazier created “Doors of Kansas,” intended to be read in the same bottom-to-top, right-column-to-left storyboard format, to “salute the vision and the valor of those forefathers who built the state and nurtured its cultural beginnings.”

The doors became part of KU lore as generations of graduates walked through them during the central rite of Commencement. But, as Frazier and his enduring architectural adornments remind us, these portals are not mere passages.

They are patient sentinels, obeying their creator’s command, awaiting only those who will listen.
Distinguished Service Citation

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The Kansas Alumni Association invites nominations for the University’s highest honor.

Since 1941 the University of Kansas and its Alumni Association have bestowed the Distinguished Service Citation upon 308 alumni and 32 honorary alumni. Recipients are selected from nominations submitted to the Alumni Association and reviewed by a special Selection Committee. Distinguished Service Citation recipients are honored by the Alumni Association in the spring and participate in Commencement as honored guests.

Nominations may come from any source and should include a recent résumé of the candidate’s service history, including career, published works, previous honors and service to the world, nation, state, community and University. Letters of support may also be included. The deadline for nominations for the 2006 awards is Sept. 30, 2005.

Send nominations for the 2006 awards to the Kansas Alumni Association, 1266 Cread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169.
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