I’m ready for my close-up, Mr. Vitale!

Dudes, it’s 5:00 a.m.!
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Art and mathematics converge in the intricate folds of Joel Cooper’s spectacularly detailed origami creations.

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When KU researcher Edwin Scholes fell ill in the remote jungles of New Guinea, all he had going for him was luck—and fellow Jayhawk Brett Benz.

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Root and rant all you want, Jayhawk fans. Psychologist Daniel Wann thinks it’s good for you.

BY STEVEN HILL
Cover illustration by Charlie Podrebarac, ’81
Spring is in the air

The Rock Chalk Ball, hosted by the Kansas City Chapter and the KU Alumni Association, celebrates the proud achievements, lively traditions and loyal alumni of the University of Kansas. Dance the night away and enjoy an entertaining auction featuring many KU items.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2007

rockchalkball

For more information, contact the KU Alumni Association at 785-864-4760 or 800-584-2957 or www.rockchalkball.org.
On the Boulevard

■ Exhibitions
“Material World,” through April 6, Kansas Union Gallery
“Art into Art: Inspired Responses,” through April 29, Spencer Museum of Art
“A Saint in the City: Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal,” through May 20, Spencer Museum of Art
“Meiji: Japan’s Transition into a Global Society,” through June 17, Spencer Museum of Art

■ University Theatre
APRIL
4-7, 9-12 “Keely and Du” by Jane Martin
27-29, May 3-5 “Guys and Dolls,” based on story and characters by Damon Runyon

■ Lied Center events

MARCH
27 KU Wind Ensemble with the Kansas City Youth Wind Symphony
28 National Symphony Orchestra
31 Armitage Gone! Dance

APRIL
3 Joy of Singing
13 KU Wind Ensemble
18-19 “AIDA” by Elton John and Tim Rice
20 Emerson String Quartet
21 David Gonzalez in “The Frog Bride”
22 Anna Myeong, Bales Organ Recital Hall
27-28 University Dance Company
30 Faculty Organ Recital, Bales Organ Recital Hall

■ Special events

MAY
1 Symphonic Band
8 University Band

■ February snow dusted Jayhawk Boulevard and sent students gliding—and tumbling—down Mount Oread's slopes.

MAY
14 Day on the Hill, Lied Center Lawn
20-21 Alumni Weekend: Class of 1957 50-year reunion and Gold Medal Club brunch and meeting. For more information, contact the Association at 800-584-2957.
28 Rock Chalk Ball, Overland Park Convention Center

■ Lectures

MARCH
26 Joe Wood, Hallmark Design Symposium Series, Wescoe Hall
28 Ed Humes, “Monkey Girl: Evolution, Education, Religion and the Battle for America’s Soul,” Dole Institute of Politics

APRIL
4 Michael Brown, “Hurricane Katrina: An Insider Tells His Side of the Story,” Dole Institute of Politics
9 Michael Hogue, Hallmark Series, Wescoe Hall
10 John R. Kasich, Vickers Memorial Lecture Series, Lied Center
10 Maria Carlson, “Culture and History Matter: Russia’s Search for Identity after the Fall,” Kansas Union
11 Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Lied Center
16 Alan Mulally, Chandler Lecture Series, Lied Center
23 Dr. Richard Heinzl, founder of Doctors Without Borders, Kansas Union
23 Leonard Konopelski, Hallmark Series, Wescoe Hall

■ Academic calendar

MARCH
19-25 Spring break

MAY
10 Last day of spring classes
11 Stop day
14-18 Final exams
20 Commencement

■ Alumni events

MARCH
22 Phoenix: Big 12 alumni night with the Suns

27 Great Bend: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
28 Salina: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
29 Northern California: School of Engineering Professional Society reception
29 Phoenix: School of Law alumni reception

APRIL
3 Denver: School of Engineering Professional Society reception
5 Lawrence: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
7 Dallas: KU alumni night with the Mavericks
10 Kansas City: School of Engineering Professional Society reception
10 Phillipsburg: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
10 Salina: Night with the Arts
11 Colby: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
11 Kansas City: Rock Chalk Wednesday
12 Hays: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
12 Johnson County: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
12 New York: “Mary Poppins” on Broadway
17 Manhattan: ‘Hawk Talk recruiting reception
18 Wichita: KU vs. WSU baseball tailgate
19 Wichita: Young Alumni Thirsty Third Thursday
26 Emporia: East Central Chapter Kickoff Party
30 Norton: Chamber of Commerce Banquet

MAY
3 San Diego: Wine tasting & networking event
4 Lawrence: Gale Sayers Golf Tournament
10 Kansas City: School of Business Professional Society reception
17 Wichita: Young Alumni Thirsty Third Thursday

■ Kansas Honors Program

MARCH
28 Atchison
28 Kingman

APRIL
4 Oberlin
11 Neodesha
12 Logan
18 Scott City

For more information about Association events, call 800-584-2957 or see the Association’s Web site, www.kualumni.org.
Lift the Chorus

Top of the pile

Issue No. 1, 2007, of Kansas Alumni arrived today. Of the many alumni magazines I now receive, I think KU does a fantastic job. I have suggested things to other schools based on what I've seen in the KU magazine. Thanks.

Ted Mueller, Ph.D’63
Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Tempus fugit

I really enjoyed your article on Danforth Chapel ["Little Chapel on the Hill," issue No. 6, 2006]. It brought back many fond memories of my wedding. My wife and I were married there in October 1987.

Wow, time really flies when you are having fun.

Gary Boyd, f’91
Baldwin City

Isn’t there a rhyme for that?

I know that times are changing, but this morning, as I was planning my vacations for the summer, I was using the 2007 KU Alumni Association Calendar when I noticed that June has 31 days! When did this change happen?

I hope that the Alumni Association is not trying to promote a change in the calendar that will reflect as badly on the state as our constantly changing educational views of evolution.

Dennis L. Dobson, c’77
Topeka

Editors note: Let’s see, “Thirty days hath September, April ...” Oops. At least we didn’t subtract the day from July, or we’d be in real trouble. Thanks for pointing out our blunder.

A friend remembered ...

Although our contacts since our KU days in the late ’50s were few, I was especially saddened to read about the death of Wayne Swanson, e’58, in the last issue of Kansas Alumni.

“Mike,” as his friends knew him, demonstrated a spirit and courage few of us know. Mike was from Abilene, and his years at KU couldn’t have been better: excellent grades, Big Eight half-mile champion, Sig Ep star in intramurals. Then his KU degree, a good job, and a wonderful wife and family.

But a year or two after he graduated, life dealt Mike a major blow. Polio put his otherwise strong, healthy body in a wheelchair for life. But his warm smile, his hearty laughter and his love of life, family and KU athletics lived on.

So now we know: The wheelchair missing from this year’s KU home basketball games (usually right behind the basket) is that of Mike Swanson. It was a spot he faithfully and enthusiastically occupied for more than 40 years: Jayhawk loyalty and courage supreme.

Malcolm W. Applegate, J’59
Indianapolis

... And a mentor, too

News that Professor George W. Forman died last July [In Memory, issue No. 6] brought a flood of memories.

In 1972, after I passed my comprehensive examination as part of the D.E. program, my wife, Judi, and I hosted a celebration at our house. George and Ruth Forman were part of a group that graciously agreed to attend.

We have an 1840 Seth Thomas mantel clock that was a wedding present from Judi’s grandparents. At that time it did not run. Both Professor Forman and Dean Ken Rose were intrigued by the clock. After three weeks, Professor Forman called and asked if Dean Rose had fixed our clock yet. Surprised, I told him no. He said, “Can I take a look at it?”

Thrilled that the inventor of the reversible propeller mechanism would want to work on a clock for a graduate student, my son Mike and I had it at his house within a half hour. He took off the face, squirted oil on the balance wheel shaft and the clock started to run. He looked crestfallen and said maybe he should keep it a week to make sure the clock could count correctly.

Two weeks later the clock was ready. Apparently Mrs. Forman called him at work and said, “George, you get home. That clock struck 73 and I left the house.” He did a little more work and the clock learned to count correctly. It still works.

Just before my dissertation defense, Professor Forman invited me to his office for congratulations and tea. When I greeted him, he said, “You must call me George. We are now colleagues.” I tried, and it sounded completely inappropriate. I finally told him it was just not possible.

I have been in higher education 33 years. I try to emulate Professor Forman’s organized classroom style and more than courteous, respectful treatment of students. Once in a while, a former student will stop by to say hello to “Dr. Knapp.” I encourage them to drop the formality. Often they refuse, and I am reminded of my own inability to be informal with one of my cherished former mentors. I just smile.

Roy M. Knapp, e’63, g’69, g’73
Norman, Okla.
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Back in Kansas City, Keeler met Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway at the January ribbon-cutting for the KU Medical Center’s Life Sciences Innovation Center. He followed up with an e-mail, detailing the exploits of his friend and asking for the chancellor’s help in completing his mission. “Like me,” Keeler wrote, “the flag wants to come home.”

Hemenway obliged, and his staff alerted the media—er, just Kansas Alumni. (“We’ve got a weird story,” a Strong Hall colleague told me on the phone, “so naturally we thought of you.”) Keeler arrived in Strong Hall Feb. 5, carrying a canvas satchel from which he unfurled about 12 feet of pristine blue fabric bearing the crimson KU. Keeler beamed. He had kept his promise to Simone, and he had done a good deed for his alma mater.

Keeler further affirmed his loyalty by rejoining the Alumni Association and, assured that the statute of limitations had run out, he finally divulged the true flag-nabber’s name.

Down in San Antonio, Simone was expecting the phone call from Lawrence. He happily recalled his time on the Hill, including the details of his prank. But he stopped short of revealing the name of his partner that Saturday night long ago: “I’d rather not. He might be embarrassed, because I think he still works in security for the Navy.”

Hearing news that the flag may soon return to its perch atop the younger Fraser Hall, Simone expressed his relief and solemnly pledged his KU allegiance.

Despite the odd indiscretions of youth, there is always honor among Jayhawks.
Garth Kimbrell brushed up his Shakespeare, and the judges he did wow.

Kimbrell, a Wichita senior in English, took top honors in the 2006 Norton Scholars Prize for his essay on “Coriolanus,” a play Shakespeare wrote late in his career about the legendary Roman leader.

Kimbrell beat out more than 200 entrants to win the $2,500 first place prize for an outstanding undergraduate essay on a literary topic. His essay focused on the use of the word “directitude,” which Shakespeare scholars have debated over the years. Some think it’s a printer’s error; others think it’s a coinage.

Kimbrell wrote the essay for a class taught by David Bergeron, professor of English. Bergeron was so impressed by the imagination and quality of the writing that he advised his student to submit it to the Norton contest. “And the rest is history,” says Bergeron, who calls the prize “a major coup and achievement” for Kimbrell, the English department, and KU.

Too close to home

Sophomore Timothy Burgess intends to rip down all the Missouri Street signs near Memorial Stadium, but he isn’t plotting any midnight vandalism. Burgess, a Lawrence sophomore, hopes to convince city leaders to rename Missouri Street, especially where it approaches the Jayhawks’ football stadium south of Ninth Street, in honor of former Coach Don Fambrough, d’48.

Burgess is working on the project with Jayhawk Network broadcaster David Lawrence, d’83, an all-conference offensive guard for Fambrough in 1981, and they hope local citizens and KU alumni will join in as they begin lobbying more intensively after basketball season.

Fambrough, famous for his undimmed dislike for anything to do with KU’s cross-border rival, says he tries to avoid Missouri Street when driving around town, and even posing for this photograph was stressful. “People will think I’ve lost my mind,” Coach Fam says with a laugh, “hanging on a Missouri sign like this.”

But Fambrough was delighted to finally meet the student spearheading the drive for Fambrough Street, and, regardless of the outcome, he says it’s the thought that counts most.

“If students want to make it a street or an outhouse, I couldn’t care less,” Fambrough says. “It just means so much to be remembered, it really does. It’s very special to know they are thinking of me.”

As if we could ever forget.
So didya hear Jessica Simpson is a Jayhawk? At least that’s what’s planned for her character in “Blonde Ambition”—a remake of Melanie Griffith’s 1988 hit, “Working Girl”—currently in production in Shreveport, La., and New York City.

Simpson’s character is a recent KU alumna who charms the big-city business world, but as of mid-February it was not yet certain that scenes identifying her as a Jayhawk would make the film’s final cut. Alas, a similar fate apparently has befallen KU in “The City of Your Final Destination,” an Anthony Hopkins pic based on a novel whose protagonist, a KU graduate student, pursues a writer’s life in South America.

Producers chose to film in Boulder (a similar tragedy struck in “About Schmidt,” in which Jack Nicholson’s lonely Jayhawk widower strolls down memory lane with a visit to the University of Nebraska), then wrote KU out altogether, changing their character’s alma mater to—what a great idea—Colorado. Maybe it had something to do with the Flatirons looming in the background of all their Kansas shots …

But that’s OK, the Buffs can have Hannibal the Cannibal; we’re holding out for Daisy Duke, darn it.

And we’ll not hesitate to remind producers that if they truly hope to invoke the karma of their film’s Academy Award-winning, $65-million-grossing original, Melanie Griffith was, at the time, married to University Theatre alumnus Don Johnson, ’71, who in 1989 donned a Jayhawk sweatshirt for the final scene of the final episode of “Miami Vice,” in which he created the pop-culture icon Det. Sonny Crockett.

Case closed. Leave Jessica a Jayhawk. Or, at least, so votes one of us …

Homes in this popular vacation area back up to Lake Michigan, and many have custom signs in the front yard meant to lend the dwelling a creative identity.

“Of course, the Jayhawk caught my eye from a distance, as the Jayhawk is a fairly rare bird in country inhabited by its natural predators, Badgers and Wolverines, and the somewhat more civil Spartans,” Mark reports. “But as we got closer I noticed the ‘Mizzou Rah’ sign and had to stop, chuckle and capture the moment.”

Concludes Cummings, “I can only think this is the Michigan version of the Hatfields and McCoys.” Indeed. Who says rivalry never takes a vacation?

A highlight of the week at Rockefeller Center was visiting the set of “Saturday Night Live,” says Burge, who praises the hospitality of the TODAY staff, especially newscaster Ann Curry. Her affectionate hugs prompted teasing from his friends back home. “They said she had a crush on me,” Burge says, “and I said nothing to dissuade them.” After all, who could resist such a natty dresser?

Jetting to New York City as a finalist in NBC’s “Anchor for TODAY” contest was “the coolest thing in the world for a kid from Wichita,” says David Burge.

Burge, c’97, g’02, appeared on the show Feb. 26-March 2, after his wife persuaded him to submit his last-minute video entry. His witty wooing of voters until the last day, when he finished second to Brad Hook, a cattle rancher from Humeston, Iowa.

Burge, a former KU admissions recruiter, is now associate director of admissions for the University of Nebraska, where he has become known as the “guy in the bow tie” who narrates online recruiting videos.
The crushing backlog of deferred maintenance at the six Kansas Board of Regents universities is finally receiving serious attention from the Legislature and governor, but, as of early March, it appeared that little consensus had emerged on the difficult issue.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, g’80, got things started with her plan to provide $575 million, by far the largest proposal to emerge from Topeka in recent years. But $300 million would be generated by a series of 5-percent surcharges on Kansas Turnpike tolls, and that keystone element appeared to find little political traction.

“I am apprehensive about a policy that would take money from the [Kansas Turnpike Authority] to pay for building maintenance,” said Melvin Neufeld, speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives. “I believe transportation funds should not be used for purposes other than transportation.”

Neufeld’s sentiments appeared to be shared by many of his statehouse colleagues, though in the month after the governor announced her proposal, it also appeared that alternative proposals had failed to build broad support. A seven-member Senate task force spent a month on the issue and emerged with plenty of ideas but no consensus.

The task force suggested the state find $100 million per year to fund the backlog on Regents campuses—once estimated at $727 million, but since pared down, at the state’s request, to $660 million. The task force did not agree on whether the $100 million in annual repair funds should be generated by a single source of revenue, such as expanded gambling opportunities in the state, or a mixed bag of revenue sources, such as a 1-mill property tax increase, maintenance fees imposed on students by the credit hour, a sales-tax increase for counties with public universities, and a 10-percent ticket surcharge for university events.

Among other proposals was a suggestion by a Kansas City senator, Chris Steineger, g’92, that KU Hospital be sold to cash in on its estimated market value of $800 million.

Sebelius’ turnpike surcharge idea was the rarest of political creatures—a major policy proposal that was a genuine surprise. Except for an item published in the Lawrence Journal-World the day of her announcement, Sebelius was able to keep the wraps on her controversial plan until she laid it out for public inspection.

She defended her proposal as a lucrative alter-
native to raising sales or property taxes. Even if turnpike tolls were increased 5 percent a year for six years (skipping the year already designated by the turnpike authority for its own toll increases), Sebelius argued, Kansas still would have one of the lowest average rates of tolls per mile in the country. She also argued that 40 percent of the turnpike tolls are paid by out-of-state users, and that many of the Kansans who regularly use the turnpike live in counties that are home to public universities.

“This plan recognizes that we have an asset that we can use more aggressively,” she said. “It doesn’t raise taxes and it doesn’t raise tuition, and frankly will help pave the way for the workforce of the future.”

An element of Sebelius’ plan that does appear to have wide support is the dedication of unexpected general revenue—as much as $75 million—to pay off debt from the Crumbling Classrooms initiative of the mid-1990s. Half of the state’s annual maintenance budget has since been dedicated to that plan’s debt service, meaning an additional $15 million would now be freed annually for the Educational Building Fund.

Sebelius proposed $200 million in low-interest loans, provided by the Pooled Money Investment Board, be offered to universities. She also asked that future construction, whether paid for by the state or private donors, include maintenance endowments. Both proposals appeared to have strong support in Topeka.

“I think the universities need to step up,” she said, in reference to the $200 million that would have to be repaid. “They raise a lot of money on a regular basis. They also have funds available that they can set aside for loan repayment.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Elizabeth Asiedu, associate professor and director of the department of economics master’s program, was dubbed “a rising star” for her work advising African policymakers on how to improve their economies by relying less on foreign aid and doing more to attract foreign investment.

“In the past, the focus in Africa has been on what foreign aid can do,” Asiedu says, “but research has shown that aid is not generally very effective.” And foreign aid to the continent has been declining in recent years, she says.

But when companies like GM and Coca-Cola set up plants in a developing country, they often pay higher wages that can lift people out of poverty, Asiedu found. There are other benefits as well for the citizens of these countries.

“People learn by doing, and they can take what they learn and set up their own firms,” she says. “That’s how knowledge and technology pass over.”

Asiedu came to KU in 1998 as the first Oswald Scholar in Economics. The professorship, created by a donation from Charles Oswald, C’51, provides research money and salary support to help young professors establish their careers.

“I am not exaggerating,” Asiedu says, “when I say there is no way I would have been able to do half of what I’ve done without that discretionary funding.”

—Joe Sicilian

Wise investment

First Oswald Scholar receives national recognition for research on Africa

An economics professor whose research examines the link between foreign investment in African countries and their economic development was one of 10 “Emerging Scholars” chosen this spring by Diverse magazine.

“ Our mission is to produce research that’s at the forefront of the discipline, and she has done that.”

—Joe Sicilian

Economics professor Elizabeth Asiedu made the Diverse magazine Emerging Scholars list for her work on African economic development.
Staff members of Diverse (formerly called Black Issues in Higher Education) chose the scholars, which this year include a math prodigy who studied college-level calculus at age 9 and earned a PhD at 20. Economics department chairman Joe Sicilian nominated Asiedu for the award.

“It was a combination of her contributions to research and also her excellent teaching,” Sicilian says.

Not only has Asiedu’s research attracted the attention of Diverse, but it also has drawn invitations to address local and international policymakers. She has advised the Joint IMF-World Bank Institute and provincial government leaders in South Africa on how to address problems with infrastructure, education and corruption that discourage direct foreign investment.

“That’s what our mission is here, to produce research that is at the forefront of the discipline and which attracts attention on a national and international level,” Sicilian says. “And she has certainly done that.”

Her findings suggest that education level, good infrastructure and a dedication to fair trade and the rule of law can overcome a lack of natural resources—good news for many small African countries that have had a tough time attracting foreign investors in the past.

Asiedu grew up in Ghana, where her mother taught grade school and an uncle was a scientist for the U.N. Her brother also became a professor. “Going into academia was a no-brainer,” she says, but it took her awhile to decide on a field. She came to the United States in 1990 to earn a PhD in math, but switched paths after completing her master’s degree.

“That was a time when Ghana was going through a lot of changes. The economy wasn’t doing well, the country was in transition from a military government,” Asiedu says. “I thought, ‘This is interesting.’”

She switched to economics, where she felt she could use her math background to influence public policy. “The only way to do that is to write papers that policymakers can read and understand,” she says.

The boys next door

Twelfth scholarship residence will duplicate Rieger Hall for 50 KU men

When he came to KU in the 1960s, Carl Krehbiel took the advice of his father, who had lived at Battenfeld Hall in the 1940s, and applied to live in KU’s scholarship hall system.

It turned out to be a good move, for him and for KU.

Krehbiel, c’70, spent three years in Stephenson Hall before studying abroad during his senior year. This winter he decided to return the favor to his parents and his alma mater, donating $4 million to build the University’s 12th scholarship hall.

“When I was here in the 1960s it was a great experience, and probably the best part of that experience was living in Stephenson,” Krehbiel said during a Jan. 27 news conference to announce plans for the new hall, which will stand next to Dennis E. Rieger Hall in the 1300 block of Ohio Street. “I certainly believe that the scholarship hall is the optimum environment and social atmosphere for students attending the University.”

KU will seek permission from the Kansas
Board of Regents to name the building after Krehbiel’s parents, Floyd, c’47, and Kathryn Krehbiel, c’45.

“They had this wonderful American attitude that they wanted life to be better for their children than it was for them,” Krehbiel said. “I don’t have any children of my own, but I think one way that I can kind of make life better for succeeding generations is to provide the space for another 50 KU students to experience what I think is the best possible living environment.”

Krehbiel’s parents played in the KU band at basketball games as students and were married for 50 years before Floyd died in 1992. Several years ago Kathryn started a tradition of buying sodas for every band member during home basketball games.

“My husband’s favorite tune was ‘It Had to Be You,’” said Kathryn, who wore a crimson-and-blue jacket for the announcement at Rieger Hall. “Now they play that before each game. I love it. It’s wonderful.”

The 18,000-square-foot building will be a twin to all-women Rieger, which opened in 2005 after considerable conflict between the University, Oread neighborhood advocates and the city of Lawrence. As previously reported in Kansas Alumni, construction on Rieger was able to proceed only after Gov. Bill Graves, at the request of KU, overturned a decision by the Kansas State Historical Society and allowed the University to raze several houses to make room for the hall. The project also contributed to the signing of a new land-use agreement with the city and led to the inclusion of neighborhood representatives on committees that oversee campus construction projects.

Jeff Weinberg, d’64, g’70, assistant to the chancellor and the official liaison between KU and neighborhood groups, says that the design will mirror Rieger Hall because that was part of the agreement with neighborhood advocates.

“Two halls were approved, with the understanding that the second building would look just like this one,” Weinberg said. “Had they not followed that requirement, we would have had to appoint a new advisory committee and a new building committee.”

An ROTC student at KU, Krehbiel went on to a 20-year career in the U.S. Army, serving in Vietnam and as a Green Beret. He took over the family business, the Moundridge Telephone Co., after his father’s death. He also served in the Kansas Legislature from 1998 to 2006.

On the question of photo manipulation by news organizations in the digital age, Clarkson abides by a single rule: “If you could have done it in an enlarger, you can do it in Photoshop.”
Hilltopics

Andrew Tsubaki wears the Order of the Sacred Treasure, awarded him by the Emperor of Japan in 2006.

annual banquet of the Greater Kansas City Japan-America Society.

“It’s nice to have this kind of authority recognize my work, but at the same time it’s ironic,” says Tsubaki, who came to America to study Western theatre, thinking he’d return home and teach it to the Japanese people. “Instead, I ended up staying here and introducing [Japanese theatre] to America. It’s kind of a roundabout way of helping Japan.”

RESEARCH

Grants and awards at all-time high

Powered by a 15-percent increase in grants from the National Institutes of Health, research funding at KU rose to a record $218 million in fiscal 2006.

The NIH is the largest single source of research funds in the United States, and it provides the largest source of University research awards as well. KU’s record $86 million in NIH grants accounts for 85 percent of NIH funding in Kansas.

What makes the increase even more notable is that the pool of potential NIH funds has not grown recently, according to Jim Roberts, e’66, vice provost for research. “Nationally, the budget for NIH research has been flat the past three years,” Roberts says. “So the growth in NIH awards to KU last year is impressive.”

NIH funding rose by more than 21 percent at KU Medical Center. On the Lawrence campus, a high success rate helped fuel growth: 23 percent of grants submitted for NIH funding were approved in 2005, the most recent data available. “The national rate was 18 percent,” Roberts says. “Nationally, the budget for NIH research has been flat the past three years,” Roberts says. “So the growth in NIH awards to KU last year is impressive.”

NIH funding rose by more than 21 percent at KU Medical Center. On the Lawrence campus, a high success rate helped fuel growth: 23 percent of grants submitted for NIH funding were approved in 2005, the most recent data available. “The national rate was 18 percent,” Roberts says. “Nationally, the budget for NIH research has been flat the past three years,” Roberts says. “So the growth in NIH awards to KU last year is impressive.”

FINE ARTS

Retired professor honored for devotion to Japanese culture

Andrew Tsubaki, professor emeritus of theatre and film, has been awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure by the government of Japan.

Tsubaki, who taught at KU from 1968 to 2000 in the department of theatre and film and in Japanese language and culture, is one of only three Japanese natives to receive the decoration, one of Japan’s most prestigious, in 2006.

The Order of the Sacred Treasure is granted by the Emperor of Japan for long and meritorious service and is announced on Nov. 3, Japan’s Day of Culture. It recognizes Tsubaki for his devotion to passing along the traditions of Japanese culture—especially the classical theatre forms Noh, Kyogen and Kabuki—as a teacher and as executive director of the Greater Kansas City Japan Festival, a position he has held since 1997.

“Dr. Tsubaki has brought the best of Japanese culture to Kansas and Missouri and across the Midwest,” said Kenji Shinoda, consul general of Japan, who presented the award Jan. 19 during the annual banquet of the Greater Kansas City Japan-America Society.

“My Little Yellow Taxi invites readers to fill up the gas tank, check the oil and tire pressure, and start the engine of a Checker Cab. Johnson, a Lawrence native who lived in New York City for 13 years, began the project four years ago, when he was completing work on a 66-foot mural for a subway station in his former Brooklyn neighborhood (“Common Touch,” No. 6, 2004). As in his earlier interactive book, My Little Blue Robot, Johnson provides sturdy cardboard tools, which pop out and fit neatly back into place when each task is complete. Some pieces even do double duty: Snacks that fit in the glove compartment are shaped like street signs so young drivers can begin to learn the rules of the road. They need only supply the “vroom vroom” sounds to complete the make-believe.

Class Credit

The term “pop-up” doesn’t do justice to the new children’s storybook by Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator and author Stephen T. Johnson, f’87. Unlike books whose 3-D castles or creatures are for looking but not touching, My Little Yellow Taxi invites readers to fill up the gas tank, check the oil and tire pressure, and start the engine of a Checker Cab. Johnson, a Lawrence native who lived in New York City for 13 years, began the project four years ago, when he was completing work on a 66-foot mural for a subway station in his former Brooklyn neighborhood (“Common Touch,” No. 6, 2004). As in his earlier interactive book, My Little Blue Robot, Johnson provides sturdy cardboard tools, which pop out and fit neatly back into place when each task is complete. Some pieces even do double duty: Snacks that fit in the glove compartment are shaped like street signs so young drivers can begin to learn the rules of the road. They need only supply the “vroom vroom” sounds to complete the make-believe.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner
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Milestones, money and other matters

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ranks first among U.S. medical schools for graduates who choose a residency in family medicine. More than 22 percent of KU’s med school graduates entered family medicine residency programs in 2005, according to a report issued by the American Academy of Family Physicians. “Countries with primary care physicians as the foundation of the health care system have better health outcomes for the population at lower cost,” the AAFP report concluded. “The United States needs, and its population deserves, a primary care physician-based health care delivery system.”

BOB HOLDEN AND SCOTT MORRIS will be Dole Institute of Politics fellows for the spring semester. Holden, former governor of Missouri, and Morris, ’93, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Florida Long-Term Recovery, will lead weekly study groups on political topics at the institute throughout the semester.

A $3.25 MILLION GRANT will let KU’s Research and Training Center on Independent Living study ways to help people with disabilities participate more fully in their communities. The grant from the National Institute on Disability Rehabilitation and Research will fund a five-year project by Glen White and his research team to develop measures and methods to identify and overcome barriers, such as a lack of personal assistive services, that discourage community participation by people with disabilities.

DON STEEPLES, Dean A McGee distinguished professor of applied geophysics and vice provost for scholarly support, will be the distinguished lecturer for the Society for Exploration Geophysicists this fall. Steeples will speak around the world on geophysical imaging, which uses seismic technology and radar to detect underground features such as tunnels, earthquake faults and pathways for groundwater pollution.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL earned Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center in December. The hospital is the first in Kansas to receive the prestigious designation, which the ANCC awards to facilities that meet high nursing standards. Only 3.5 percent of healthcare organizations qualify for Magnet status.

A $2.1 MILLION GIFT from Madison “Al,” e’43, and Lila Self, ’43, will fund a scholarship and mentoring program for aspiring engineers at KU. The program will recruit 15 freshmen annually as Self Engineering and Leadership Fellows and help them build leadership, managerial, business, interpersonal, entrepreneurial and engineering skills.

FRANK TANKARD, Overland Park senior in journalism, won first place for in-depth writing at the William Hearst Journalism Awards Program for his University Daily Kansan story on the Boardwalk Apartments fire. Tankard won a $2,000 scholarship for himself and a matching grant for the School of Journalism. Read the story at kansas.com/stories/2006/oct/06/boardwalk/.
KU Spirit in a can!

For Jayhawk fans and collectors, “KU Spirit in a can” features an authentic paint can with a custom designed “In the Paint” label!

Each can contains:
- 100% cotton, royal blue T-shirt with KU basketball graphic, available in sizes Youth M & L, Adults S, M, L, XL, 2X-4X
- Face paints—perfect for showing your spirit!
- Jayhawk temporary face tattoo and sticker
- Blinky Jayhawk magnetic light—really stand out in the crowd. (While supplies last. Other blinky prizes may be substituted.)

Non-members, $25
Association members, $23
Jayhawk Society or Life Members, $21

(plus shipping and handling, and Kansas sales tax where applicable)

An exclusive item from the KU Alumni Association
www.kualumni.org ■ 800-584-2957
Sherron Collins energized KU’s offense and confounded conference foes with three-point sharpshooting and strong drives to the rim.

Less is more

Transforming his body and his game, freshman Sherron Collins makes himself a key contributor for KU

Gone are the shoulder-length braids he wore as a multi-sport standout at Chicago’s Crane Tech Prep. Gone, too, are roughly 30 of the 228 pounds he packed on a 5-11 physique when basketball practice began last fall.

In high school, guard Sherron Collins wowed college recruiters not only with his crossover dribble and shooting range, but also with his speed and toughness as a wide receiver and safety. When he arrived at KU cut more like a running back than a point guard, however, coach Bill Self engineered a makeover for his McDonald’s All-American.

“Sherron had to take care of some things before he could really impact the program,” Self says.

Namely, pounds.

“Coach told me I needed to lose a lot of weight,” Collins says. “That was the big thing on me, right there.” At first the extra cardio work and changes in diet seemed like punishment, but he came to see the tough regimen as a way to demonstrate his willingness to work and sacrifice for the team. “It was like boot camp or something, but in the end it was a chance to show coach that I can do it, that I can stay dedicated. I think I did that. I feel pretty good about where I’m at.”

After 31 regular season games in which Kansas won 27 and claimed the Big 12 regular season championship, Collins has developed into one of two reliable sixth men for the Jayhawks. Usually the first substitute (along with fellow freshman Darrell Arthur), he brings a jolt of offensive energy while maintaining the defensive intensity that fuels so much of KU’s scoring. His 22 minutes and 9.1 points per game both rank fifth on a team known for its balanced attack. His shooting percentages (50 percent from the field and 42.7 percent from three) are tops among Jayhawk guards, and at 1.8 to 1, his assist-to-turnover ratio is second only to Russell Robinson’s 2.3 to 1.

Among the most thrilling parts of Collins’ game, though, are his headlong drives down the lane, often after pushing the ball the length of the floor. Early in the season, when he fell prey to a freshman tendency to attempt too much, those drives frequently led to trouble. Now that Collins has adjusted to the college level by learning to play off his teammates’ screens, the
drives often lead to easy buckets or assists.

If less than thrilled by his freshman's football frame, Self seems more appreciative of his football frame of mind.

"I don’t think him being a wide receiver has a lot to do with him getting to the rim," Self says. "But I like football players, I do. There’s something about their mindset that likes contact, which is positive. I don’t know if it’s football, or just the fact that he played all sports. Being the shortest guy usually and having to fight for everything—I do think there is something about being fearless in that regard, getting to the lane and taking the ball to the basket."

Collins started the season opener against Northern Arizona, setting a KU record for most three-point makes by a freshman in a debut game (four) before moving to the bench in game two. Except for two February starts in place of an injured Russell Robinson, he has continued to fill a supporting role.

On a loaded team that boasts what Self calls "eight starters," that role seems just fine with Collins and his teammates.

"Whenever he’s in the game, period, whether start or finish, he’s the kind of player that just affects the game," sophomore forward Julian Wright says. "He gets the ball moving and he’s also good at attacking, putting pressure on the defense. Whenever he’s in the game we know that we’re gonna most likely get a shot, or an easy basket."

Heading into his fourth tournament season at KU, Self has plenty of options to call on. Four starters average double figures and six Jayhawks received Big 12 postseason honors. Clearly the first-round NCAA tournament losses of the past two years have left a bitter taste.

The coach joined his players in clipping the nets in Allen Field House after Kansas mounted a stellar second-half comeback to beat Texas and claim sole possession of the conference title, but Self has noted repeatedly that what distinguishes a good year from a great year is how well a team plays in March.

"Cutting down the nets is great," he said after the Texas win, "but it’ll mean a lot more if we have a couple more net-cutting ceremonies before this team is finished.”

—Steven Hill

◆ ◆ ◆

"Coach told me I needed to lose a lot of weight. ... It was a chance to show coach that I can do it, that I can stay dedicated. I think I did that."

—freshman guard Sherron Collins

The hero of that game was freshman Danielle McCray, who scored a career-high 25 points, including seven of the Jayhawks’ 12 points during the second overtime. Mosley sent the game into the second overtime period by driving past past two defenders for a layup with five seconds left in the first overtime.

"She is more confident now with her shot," Mosley said of McCray after the victory over Kansas State, "and we have..."

Women’s hoops shrugs off slow start to score dramatic Big 12 victories

With seven freshmen on the roster, coach Bonnie Henrickson and fans of her women’s basketball team anticipated some tough times. But even the most pessimistic outlook probably didn’t include nine consecutive conference losses, and a stretch from Dec. 3 to Feb. 3 during which the Jayhawks won one game in 11.

But it all turned around Feb. 6, when the Jayhawks topped Colorado in overtime, 70-68, and followed that victory in Allen Field House with a victory at Texas, 50-49. In both games, fields goals in the final seconds by senior Shaquina Mosley sealed the wins. She was selected for the All-Big 12 second team.

"She was our spark plug this season," Henrickson says, "and her emergence during conference play was evident in our strong finish."

Mosley, a 5-6 guard from Lancaster, Calif., scored a career-high 26 points in the regular-season finale, a 70-66 victory at Missouri. After the dreadful start to the conference season, the Jayhawks closed 4-3, including a double-overtime victory Feb. 18 over Kansas State, KU’s first win against the Wildcats since January 2001.
Seniors Gary Woodland and Tyler Docking finished 1-2 at the All-American Golf Classic Feb. 27 in Houston, leading the Jayhawks to a one-stroke team victory over third-ranked Lamar University. Woodland, who won by three strokes, finished the tournament with a birdie, and Docking bettered him with an eagle. Woodland also carded a three-stroke victory at the Louisiana Classics March 4 in Lafayette, La. ...
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KANSAS RELAYS
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FRIDAY, APRIL 20
Alumni Reception and Dinner in Lew Perkins' Suite
8th Floor Press Box Memorial Stadium (pass required)
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Alumni Party at the 23rd Street Brewery
$2 for Alumni
Located on the corner of 23rd Street (Clinton Parkway) and Kasold (in the Hy-Vee parking lot)
9:00 pm – close

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
Guided Tour of Booth Family Hall of Athletics
(Front of Allen Fieldhouse)
9:00 am
Recognition of All “2” and “7” Track Classes and Championship Teams
Naismith Lounge
Booth Family Hall of Athletics
(Front of Allen Fieldhouse)
10:00 am – 11:00 am
Awards Stand Recognition
Access to the infield is restricted.
Please come to the Alumni Tent thirty minutes prior to your scheduled recognition in order to be ushered to the Awards Stand.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
Hall of Fame Banquet
Holiday Inn Holidome
200 MacDonald Drive
Tickets are $25
Reception 6:30 – 7:00
Dinner and Ceremony
7:00 – 9:00 pm

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MEMORIAL STADIUM | LAWRENCE, KS | APRIL 18 – 21, 2007
Sports Calendar

■ Baseball

MARCH
20-21 Northern Colorado
23-25 Oklahoma State
27 at Missouri State, Springfield
30-April 1 at Missouri

APRIL
3 at Kansas State
5-7 Texas
10 Oral Roberts
13-15 Baylor
18 at Wichita State
20-22 at Texas Tech
25 vs. Missouri, at Kansas City
27-29 at Oklahoma

MAY
4 at Kansas State
5-6 Kansas State
9 Missouri State
11-13 Chicago State
18-20 Nebraska
23-27 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Softball

MARCH
24-25 at Oklahoma State
28 at Missouri State
31-April 1 Baylor

APRIL
3 Arkansas
4 Nebraska
7-8 at Texas
11 at Missouri
14-15 Texas A&M
18 Missouri
21-22 at Texas Tech
25 at Nebraska
26 at Creighton
28-29 Oklahoma

MAY
2 at Wichita State
5-6 at Iowa State
10-12 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Track & field

MARCH
25 at Hurricane Invitational, Tulsa

APRIL
5-7 at Texas Relays
13-14 at Sooner Invitational
19-21 Kansas Relays
27-28 at Drake Relays

MAY
5 at Nebraska Invitational
11-13 at Big 12 Outdoor, Lincoln

■ Tennis

MARCH
30 at Baylor

APRIL
1 at Texas Tech
7 at Missouri
11 Kansas State
15 Colorado
18 at Oklahoma
22 Texas A&M
26-29 at Big 12, Kansas City, Mo.

■ Men’s golf

MARCH
19-20 at the Western Intercollegiate, Santa Cruz, Calif.
26-27 at Stevinson Ranch Intercollegiate, Stevinson, Calif.

■ Women’s golf

MARCH
24-25 at Mountain View Collegiate, Tucson, Ariz.

APRIL
8-9 at Susie Maxwell Berning Classic, Norman, Okla.
16-18 at Big 12, Waco, Texas

■ Rowing

MARCH
24 Texas, SMU
31 Tulsa, Drake

APRIL
7 Kansas State
14-15 at Knecht Cup, Camden, N.J.
21 at Minnesota
29 at Big 12, Kansas City

■ Men’s golf

MARCH
19-20 at the Western Intercollegiate, Santa Cruz, Calif.
26-27 at Stevinson Ranch Intercollegiate, Stevinson, Calif.

Jordan Scott
WITH A SINGLE PIECE OF PAPER, ORIGAMIST JOEL COOPER TRANSFORMS
Along a sea of a thousand tiny folds, paper ridges rise and fall, and a complex pattern slowly emerges from triangle mountains, square valleys and twisted rivers. At a distance, the ridges form a lush landscape; up close, they inhabit an intricate mosaic.

Origamist Joel Cooper crosses conventional boundaries, combining art and mathematics to achieve stunning results—not only in his work but also in his personal life, where his unconventional calling has led to romance.

Cooper, a soft-spoken and unassuming artist, is one of the folding few who have opted for the infinitely complicated world of tessellation, the regular geometric division of a two-dimensional plain. Without cutting or gluing, they transform a single sheet of paper into a multitude of squares, triangles and hexagons.

“It’s an unusual genre. It’s sort of a subset of a subset, kind of the black sheep of the origami community,” says Cooper, ’92, who started tessellating seven years ago. “When I discovered it, I just didn’t want to do anything else, because it’s more detail-oriented and it appeals to my mathematical side more than any other field of art.”

As if tessellations weren’t difficult enough, Cooper, also a trained sculptor, applied the techniques of bronze casting to mold faces from the tricky designs. “Something just clicked, and at some point, I think I made a nose,” Cooper recalls of his first attempt at a three-dimensional shape. “Once you do a nose, you have to do a face to go with it.”

What came naturally to Cooper shocked the close-knit origami community,

Portrait and tessellation photographs by Jamie Roper
Mask photographs by Joel Cooper
winning him the Florence Temko Award at the 2006 Origami USA Convention in New York. “He’s in the top 10 people in the world in terms of ability and skill, so when I look at his work, it usually makes me feel like a kindergartner,” says origamist Eric Gjerde.

According to his mom, Julie, Cooper “has an agile mind and can be very analytical.” Like any good mother, she guards her collection of early Joel Cooper originals, including pop-up cards, cartoons and paintings, and she recalls that his teachers quickly noticed and encouraged his exceptional skill.

While at KU, Cooper expressed himself in more traditional media as a painter and sculptor. But after graduation, he found that his one-bedroom apartment was not conducive to either art form, so he turned to origami to fill the free hours away from his professional gig as an assistant in KU’s Watson Library. In 2000, the Internet led him to tessellation. From online photos, he taught himself the technique. “It’s the problem-solving aspect that keeps me going,” he says. “They’re all like solving puzzles or mathematical formulas.”

Each of Cooper’s creations takes days to complete. “Fortunately, I don’t have a social life, so that helps,” he admits.

First, he spends hours creasing a precise grid into the sheet, making in essence a folded piece of graph paper. Only after each pleat is perfectly placed does he start to work on the actual pattern. “It’s like a basic stitch,” he says, comparing the process to knitting. “It’s a repetitive process and, once you get going, it sort of takes care of itself.”

For his masks and other works, Cooper prefers a German archival paper sold in the U.S. as Wyndstone Marble, but he has been known to unwrap gifts carefully and create colorful pieces from the remnants. Lately, he has begun to experiment with alcoholic dyes and bleach applications that highlight the depth of his three-dimensional work.

Instead of an artist’s sketchbook, Cooper carries a small scrap of paper wherever he goes, and his fingers, which are surprisingly large for such delicate work, are in constant motion, deftly folding and refolding. Ever the modest Midwesterner,
he downplays his skill: “It’s really just a matter of building up a repertoire of folds, like chords you would use if you were making music.”

And, thanks to the popular Web service Flickr, Cooper’s compositions have brought him celebrity status among the origami enthusiasts. In January 2006, he opened a free account and posted photos to the site. “As soon as I put my stuff out there, things started to happen,” he says. Now he corresponds with folders and fans from as far away as Switzerland and Brazil.

Although he says he still has not perfected his mask technique, Cooper’s fans gladly pay for his creations. After exhibiting his work online, Cooper sold all of his masks and accepted a few commissions. At $350 a pop, the price doesn’t account for the hours spent, but it is a move in the right direction. “I’ve gotten a lot more response than I have with any of my attempts at ‘legitimate’ art,” he says.

The most important response is one money can’t buy. Tessellation led to love. Cooper met fellow tessellation junkie Jane Araújo through Flickr. After months of electronic correspondence, she invited him, along with other like-minded folders, to visit her in Brazil, where she organized an origami exhibition in Brasilia’s botanical gardens. Cooper returned to Kansas early last August. He describes the trip as “the best origami convention I’ve ever been to,” but the experience transcended mere artistic expression: Araújo is now his fiancée.

Though he swears they did not exchange folded love notes, a steady supply of Brazilian papers has arrived at his door since September. Araújo herself arrived in March, and the couple will marry in April. Mom couldn’t be happier. “His art opened doors he never expected,” she says.

And these days Cooper finds himself with a little less free time.

“Tessellation has a philosophical, intellectual aspect of it ... because of the rigors of that style of art,” says Cooper. Although Cooper and his cohorts recognize origami as an art form, it has yet to be fully accepted in the art world.

Visit Joel Cooper’s Web site at [www.flickr.com/photos/origamijoel]
I'm a Jay... Jay-Jay-Jay-Jayhawk...

At least he's on-key.
Today is GameDay with a capital G, and Digger Phelps, Jay Bilas and the rest of ESPN’s broadcast A-team are in the Field House. Joining them are several thousand KU fans bent on proving to the rest of the college basketball universe (tuning in at 10 a.m. to watch the sports network kick-off a full Saturday of game coverage) that when it comes to the rabid public expression of devotion to a team, nobody does it better than the Jayhawks.

GameDay is a traveling showcase of fan enthusiasm, a made-for-TV circus of hoops hysteria that counts on a team’s followers to turn out a full 10 hours before game time to scream their lungs inside out while ESPN pundits break down the day’s matchups. Jayhawk Nation does not disappoint. Preschool age daughters of alumni sport pompoms and cheerleader outfits, while sons wear jerseys. Students wave signs and oversize cutouts of players’ heads. Three KU freshmen who bill themselves as Rock, Chalk and Jayhawk are ushered onto the court to vogue and strut with elaborately greasepainted faces and chests before ESPN’s cameras. The stands brim with people who drove in from Kansas City and Hiawatha and Newton and Mound City, but perhaps no measure of devotion better illustrates the depths of this crowd’s passion than the fact that three college men got out of bed voluntarily at 5 a.m. on a Saturday morning to put on makeup and appear on national TV.

By the time the NCAA tournament fires up in March, heating such displays to a boil, college basketball fans will have spent countless hours and big-time bucks glorifying, exhorting, analyzing, bemoaning, excoriating, defending, cheering and muttering the occasional voodoo chant over their favorite teams. Office pools will exact a staggering toll.
on the nation’s GDP, and nonstop TV coverage of the early rounds will set off the pouting distemper among diehard viewers of pre-empted soap operas and giddy euphoria among the rest of us.

Among those watching closely will be Daniel Wann. A professor of psychology at Murray State University in Murray, Ky., Wann, PhD’92, is among the leading scholars in the small but burgeoning field known as the psychology of sport spectating. He spends his research time looking under the psychic hoods of people who live and breathe sports. What he’s found may surprise you.

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Soccer fans were running amuck in the streets of Europe when Wann entered KU’s doctoral program in social psychology in 1987. Professor Nyla Branscombe asked students to come up with a testable hypothesis for a class assignment, and Wann, surprised by the lack of passion other students displayed for topics they planned to spend years researching, decided he’d better focus on something he cared about. To a longtime sports fan, the mental state of rampaging soccer hooligans seemed a subject full of promise.

“I came to class and said, ‘It seems to me the more you’re wrapped up in your team,’” Wann recalls, “‘the more likely you are to go crazy when they’re competing.’”

As he and Branscombe began testing the idea, Wann found that very little research had been done on the topic. Despite the oversize role sports play (according to several polls, around 90 percent of Americans say they have at least some interest in sports), there had been almost no rigorous, empirical study of sports spectating. By the mid-’90s, when Wann wrapped up his PhD and entered academia, still only a handful of social scientists studied the subject—despite the fact that there are about 250 million sports fans in the United States alone.

The dearth of serious inquiry may have something to do with fans’ public image. Sports spectators usually make news only when they take the game too seriously—be they European soccer toughs or Midwestern college kids setting couches and cars afire to celebrate a national championship. Even the word’s etymology suggests as much: Fan is thought to be short for fanatic, “a person marked or motivated by an extreme unreasoning enthusiasm, as for a cause.” Extreme. Unreasoning. It’s a view that’s common, even among true believers themselves.

“Fans get a bad rap: They’re lazy, they can’t keep a wife, they don’t go to their kids’ school plays because they’d rather watch their team,” Wann says. But as he and Branscombe began studying fans, they discovered the stereotype was unwarranted. “We found there’s actually a positive relationship between how much individuals identify with Jayhawk basketball and some measures of psychological health.”

Fans who rated their interest in KU basketball very high in Wann and Branscombe’s study showed lower levels of alienation and loneliness and higher levels of self-esteem than people with low interest. In short, they were more socially engaged than non-fans, not less.

Wann’s work is grounded in group psychology and relies heavily on the concept of social identity. This theory holds that your self-image is determined in part by the groups to which you belong. Stop KU students on the street and ask who they are, Wann says, and many traits they list will be personal: I’m tall, male, a psychology major. But many will also cite their social groups: Baptist, Pi Phi, Jayhawk fan.

To root, root, root for the home team, then, is as critical and legitimate a factor in determining psychological health as
“You feel such a strong connection to your community that it’s hard to feel lonely as a basketball fan in Lawrence in March.”

Wann has published two books and nearly 100 articles on the psychology of fan behavior. He works as a consultant for the NBA, the PGA, Major League Baseball and other leagues, teams and corporations that want to understand what motivates fan loyalty, and he has advised the NCAA and other sports groups on fan violence. Rick Grieve, an associate professor of psychology at Western Kentucky University who collaborated with Wann on several studies, also credits him with attracting more researchers to the field and helping organize them into a special interest group. “Dan is the pioneer in the field, at least the pioneer of this era,” Grieve says. “When it comes to recognizing the person you go to when you want to know about fan behavior, Dan’s the guy.”

The Sports Spectator Identification Scale, a questionnaire Wann and Branscombe developed to pinpoint the level of fans’ psychological identification with a team, has been translated into 12 languages and used all over the world. For the past decade or so, he has been working on the Team Identification-Social Psychological Health Model, a theoretical model that explains how identification with a sports team increases well-being by establishing social connections for fans.

Wann believes this boost in well-being is most noticeable for those who follow a local team. “If you’re a Jayhawk fan living in Lawrence, every time you walk down the street you’re getting love,” Wann says. Everywhere you look—on pedestrians, in shop windows—you see KU gear. Wearing team colors, of course, is one of the most common ways people show allegiance to a team, and studies show that apparel sales skyrocket when a team wins a championship. Another researcher dubbed this phenomenon BIRGING—Basking In Reflected Glory. Wann calls it healthy.

“You feel such a strong connection to your community that it’s hard to feel lonely as a basketball fan in Lawrence in March.”

church attendance?

“I’ve always maintained they’re the same process,” Wann says. “Wanting to identify with something grander than the self—church, sorority, workplace—it’s all the same.”

Well, mostly the same. One difference, Wann says, “is that if you identify as a Baptist you’re not likely to find out tomorrow that Baptists lost by 30 to the Catholics.”

Something to think about the next time you want to skip church to catch a ball game.
"lonely as a basketball fan in Lawrence in March," he says. "Identifying with a local sports team gives you connections to others. It helps you build social capital. We know those are good things."

In fact, we live in an age when such social capital is harder to raise.

"Sociologists have pointed out that increasingly over the course of the 20th century we lived more and more alone," says Branscombe, who still studies the psychology of social groups at KU but has done no further work on spectators since collaborating with Wann. Becoming a sports fan, she notes, is an identity that people can achieve "with essentially no skills whatsoever. And it connects you to other people in a world in which we are increasingly isolated from each other."

What about Jayhawk fans exiled to California, Texas or other distant lands, where rooting for KU makes them outsiders? They aren't feeling any love as they walk the street and may even have to hide their allegiance for fear of persecution, Wann says. But he believes there are temporary benefits to gathering with other KU fans at watch parties.

"All of a sudden you're immersed in KU connections, and that temporarily creates lower levels of loneliness," he says. "You feel less alienated, because you're around your homies again. But once you leave, that effect goes away."

Wann himself follows from afar a team known for historic futility: He became a Chicago Cubs fan as a boy, an act of rebellion against his older brother and father, both followers of the St. Louis Cardinals. That raises another question: If we stake our self-esteem on the performance of a losing team, aren't we setting ourselves up for a world of hurt?

As it turns out, no. Perhaps the most surprising element of Wann’s research is that the social benefits of pledging heart and soul to a team do not depend on the team actually winning.

"I don't have a single living relative who was alive the last time the Cubs won a World Series," he says. "But you go to Wrigley Field and look around—those people feel connections that make them feel better about their social lives, above and beyond winning."

Still, losing hurts. Ask anyone who trudged out of the Field House in a black mood after Acie Law and his Texas A&M teammates ruined KU’s GameDay party with a 69-66 victory.

To ease the sting, fans develop many ways of coping, and Wann has studied them all. Blaming refs. Saying the other team played over their heads. Citing curses.

In fact, Wann is so familiar with the psychology behind these strategies he can no longer call on them when rooting for KU or his other favorite college team, the Murray State Racers. But he can take comfort in being surrounded by others who feel his pain.

"The day after the Super Bowl there is very little work being done in Chicago and very little work in Indianapolis," Wann says. "In both places they're standing around talking. In Indy, they're celebrating. In Chicago, they're healing each other's wounds."

Turning a life’s passion into a life’s work hasn’t dulled Wann’s interest in sports. A colleague at Murray State, after hearing him analyze a recent basketball game, told Wann he understood why he’d been such a prolific researcher. He’s his own best subject.

"I don't have the luxury anymore of the biases, because I study the biases," Wann says. But in the long run this study has made him even happier in the stands. "Now I enjoy every sporting event. If the game is a blowout, I just turn around in my seat and watch the fans."
What goes on in your mind?

Social identity theory holds that a significant part of one's psychological health is determined not only by personal well-being, but also by social well-being.

"Personal well-being is determined by things like how attractive, how smart, how athletic do I think I am," Wann says. "Social well-being is my sense of having connections to others. Am I satisfied with my social life, my friends, my group memberships?" Membership in civic groups, churches, social clubs, sports leagues—areas that have generally declined over the past century—count. So does rooting for a team.

Wann says psychological connection (identification) with a team is the extent to which we view the team as an extension of who we are. For highly identified fans, the team's wins become our wins, burnishing our sense of self-worth. Losses threaten our self-worth.

Because nobody wins all the time, fans have come up with ways of coping with the agony of defeat and savoring the thrill of victory. Here is Wann's analysis of the psychology behind five common fan behaviors.

1. Blame the refs
An objective observer would conclude a game's winner is simply better than the loser. But fans aren’t objective: We have lots invested in our team. "We’d rather cope in some way that allows us to still feel good about our group," Wann says. "We’re searching for thoughts and emotions that will help us get past that initial depression, anger and frustration at a loss." Blaming others may not be healthy, but it’s natural—and a first step toward an outcome that is healthy: acceptance. Better to blame the ref and move on than not move on at all.

2. Look the look
Wear a KU sweatshirt or paint your face crimson-and-blue: "Either way you’re just trying to get more into the role of the fan," Wann says. It doesn’t necessarily signify you have a stronger psychological connection to the Jayhawks if you choose head-to-toe greasepaint over a simple cheek tattoo, just that you wear you heart on your sleeve. However, if dressing the part gives you a stronger connection to the group—the other fans in the arena—then Wann says you are likely to feel less lonely. "The benefit really comes down to feeling a greater link to others."

3. Share the glory
The most powerful link fans can feel is to players and coaches themselves, and that emotional need is behind storming courts and razing goalposts. (Preventing this dangerous behavior is the focus of Wann’s consulting work with the NCAA.) "If they get there quick enough, they’re celebrating with the players. It’s all about the psychological connection. There’s something very pleasing about being on the field or court to celebrate with the team."

4. Keep your enemies closer
"Research suggests that fans like two kinds of games," Wann says. "They like to watch their team win, and they like to watch their rival lose. When you put the two together, more of your social identity is at stake. That’s why beating Missouri is so sweet: We won, they lost and we were responsible for their defeat."

5. Leave nothing to chance
Think that Danny Manning jersey you haven’t washed since ‘88 is the key to KU victory? You’re not alone. Wann says we nurture superstitions because they foster the illusion that we have some influence over games that are beyond our control. "It would be one thing if fans were telling us they do these things just for fun," Wann says. "But they’re doing them because they really truly believe these superstitions have a huge influence on the outcome of the game." –S.H.
Peril in Paradise

FIVE YEARS AFTER A MEDICAL CRISIS FORCED A DARING HELICOPTER RESCUE IN REMOTEST NEW GUINEA, INTREPID ALUMNI ORNITHOLOGISTS STILL PURSUE THE ADVENTURE OF SCIENCE

Ornithology doctoral student Brett Benz specializes in unique field studies of New Guinea’s fascinating bowerbirds, delightful little creatures who build and decorate elaborate courtship arenas to attract their mates.

He recently received the Wildlife Conservation Society’s Research Fellowship, worth $20,995. When he arrives in New Guinea later this year to begin his sixth season studying the island nation’s bowerbirds, he’ll first visit his benefactor’s in-country headquarters, in Goroka, an hour’s flight from the capital, Port Moresby.

There Benz, c’00, will share Jayhawk greetings with WCS co-director Andrew Mack. Thanks to numerous personal and professional connections, Mack in recent years became a research associate with KU’s Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, to which he sends the vertebrate specimens he collects in New Guinea.

Benz estimates that in the past four or five years, KU’s ornithology department has added nearly 1,500 specimens to what is now considered one of the world’s most important resources for the study of rare New Guinean birds.

“There are more than 800 species of birds on an island about the size of California, and we have about 800 species in the entire United States,” Benz says. “So there’s a lot of diversity happening in a very small area.”

While Benz is in Goroka, Mack will equip him with emergency medications and first-aid supplies. He will remind Benz that he now insists all researchers take their passport into the field, regardless of their fears of losing or damaging it while navigating the treacherous terrain. Mack also will tell Benz that when he arrives at his study site, in the Adelbert Mountains, he must locate a helicopter landing site, determine its Global Positioning System coordinates, and relay that information by radio or satellite phone to Goroka.

Benz remembers when things were not so strict for field scientists working in New Guinea’s dense forests, misty mountains and steep valleys, and he knows quite well why the rules changed. He was there the week in December 2002 when everything that could go wrong very nearly did.

So was Edwin Scholes, who almost didn’t live to laugh about the adventure Andy Mack now lovingly refers to as “the story of Ed and his appendix.”

By Chris Lazzarino
Scholes, PhD’07, is now a postdoctoral fellow at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. He studies birds of paradise, charismatic birds of remarkable variety in size, plumage ornaments and courtship behaviors.

Scholes constructs blinds in the birds’ native habitat—the jungles of mountainous New Guinea—to minutely document, and perhaps even decipher, the slightest variations in mating rituals, with the ultimate intent of understanding the evolutionary forces that created so much variation within a few dozen species.

“No matter what field you’re in, there are wonders of the world that attract your attention,” Scholes says. “If you’re a business graduate, perhaps there’s some great person or institution that you think is pretty spectacular. If you’re an architecture student, maybe it’s buildings from antiquity that put you in awe. For me, birds of paradise represent this biological wonder of the world.

“There’s nothing else like them out there, in terms of how unusually diverse they are and the way in which the diversity has come about.”

While looking at graduate schools, Scholes also searched for a way to fund his dream of doing field work on birds of paradise—which captivated him when he saw Sir David Attenborough’s 1996 wildlife documentary, “Attenborough in Paradise.” At the same time Scholes was accepted into KU’s ornithology graduate program, Mack agreed to help fund his first trip to the island nation north of Australia.

A few weeks after first landing in New Guinea, in 1999, Scholes made his way to the forest village where he would begin his field work on birds of paradise; after coming all that way in search of the bird of his dream, he discovered that one was already there waiting for him.

“I walked down to the little guest hut where I was staying, next to a little stream, very misty … kind of too unreal to be true,” Scholes says. “The mist lifts off, and I see something move; I look up and it’s not just my first bird of paradise, but it’s an adult male, which is usually the one you have to work really hard to see. I can’t believe it, my first bird of paradise is an adult male, sitting out in the open, on a branch, in the mist over a stream, on the edge of a forest.

“That first moment wasn’t like, ‘OK, I’m starting to collect data now.’ It was more of a life experience.”

Scholes continued to make annual trips, some as long as six months, with support from such sources as the Wildlife Conservation Society Research Fellowship and the KU Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center’s Panorama Fund. In 2001 he brought along Benz, a promising recent graduate of KU’s undergraduate ornithology program, who assisted Scholes while also considering his own interest in New Guinea’s bowerbirds.
“Ed is the only guy in the world doing field work on birds of paradise; that’s mind-boggling to me,” Mack says. “Nothing does what bowerbirds do, and there’s nobody in New Guinea working on them, really, except for Brett. So you can be a graduate student from the University of Kansas working on your PhD and you are the authority.”

Nothing came easy on Papua New Guinea when Scholes and Benz returned in 2002. Local landowners who controlled the site Scholes and Benz intended to investigate—Mount Suckling, near the remote, down-island stretches of New Guinea’s north coast—were difficult negotiators. Scholes spent weeks trying to secure their permission. Once it was granted, he hired local men to help haul supplies and staff the expedition, but interclan jealousies immediately flared.

Soon after setting up camp, Scholes tried to sleep through a storm while fighting pangs of abdominal discomfort. He awoke irritated, yet still he hiked to his observation post. Finally the illness drove him back to camp, where he encountered more bickering.

“That’s when I said, ‘Look, guys, I’m sick. I can’t deal with your complaints now. If you want to go, just leave.’ That’s when the local people left, and I just kind of laid around in my tent, not feeling any better.”

Scholes and Benz consulted first-aid books, and, suspecting the jungle’s infamous gastro-intestinal afflictions, Scholes treated himself with antimalarial medication and antibiotics.

“So he woke up about 2 in the night, in as much pain as he could bear,” Benz recalls. “We suspect that’s when his appendix actually ruptured, but it wasn’t clear to us at the time that that’s what was going on. Getting GI problems in New Guinea is pretty common.”

Scholes swallowed more antibiotics, and by the morning, though he still could barely walk, the extreme pain had diminished slightly. Turns out he had unknowingly saved his own life.

“I think you’d call it dumb luck,” Scholes says. “The doctors later told me that out of all the antibiotics I could have taken to slow down appendicitis, that’s the only one that would have worked the way it did.”

Benz (above) with local porters during a 2001 expedition with Scholes on New Guinea’s Huon Peninsula, where they were greeted by local tribesmen (facing page, top). In the top photo, note the grass airstrip carved into the opposite mountainside: Small planes land with the uphill grade, and gain speed for takeoff by facing downhill.
The first crisis had passed, but Scholes remained a very sick man. Rainy season was setting in. Even if a rescue helicopter could locate the site, 5,000 feet up a densely canopied rain-forest mountain, and somehow the weather remained clear enough for the chopper to come in close, a landing site still would have to be hacked out of the jungle. Trouble was, when the local workers left in a huff for their homes down on the balmy coast, they took with them all of the axes.

The pattern had been set: What could go wrong, did.

What could go wrong, did. Weather worsened, by the day and even by the hour. GPS coordinates relayed to the helicopter pilot contained tiny formatting errors, sending the chopper 10 or 15 kilometers off course. But
...but it wasn’t a large enough space to set down. With the chopper hovering about thigh high, the pilot signaled Scholes to climb aboard. Scholes fought his way through the rotors’ powerful downdraft and finally reached a door handle; when he yanked it open, the downdraft slammed it shut. A local man in the relief crew reached Scholes and held his bag and propped the door open, and Scholes made like MacGyver and threw himself onto the skids and climbed inside.

“It was not as graceful as you see from Hollywood,” Scholes says. “I pretty much looked like a klutz.”

But finally he was free of the mountain and, remarkably, happy for the opportunity to see the terrain surrounding his research site from the air, especially since the pilot flew slowly enough for Scholes to enjoy the view. Then he signaled Scholes to put on the headset.

“He says, ‘First, are you OK?’ and I said, ‘Yeah, I’m fine. I feel fairly stable.’ And he says, ‘Well, that’s good, but I’ve got two bits of bad news. One is, we don’t have enough fuel and it’s late in the day. I can’t fly to Port Moresby, even if the chopper had found the camp, it couldn’t have gotten close enough to help; there simply was no place to land, though Benz hiked tirelessly in search of a suitable evacuation site.

“That went on for days,” Scholes says. “Finally we had been in communication long enough that the helicopter knew where we were, and a second group of workers showed up. They didn’t bring an axe, but they did have bush knives.”

Benz found a rock outcropping about the size of a large dinner table. No trees grew on the rock spire itself, but branches came up from below, so Benz had to hang over the edge to hack them off.

Scholes struggled to hike, with Benz’s assistance, 30 minutes up the mountain to the improvised landing site. Perhaps an hour of clear weather remained before clouds could be expected to return. They lit a signal fire, and, with the phone’s batteries about to die, Scholes made his last call to Andy Mack:

“OK, now we’re ready for you.”

The helicopter found the rock spire, but it wasn’t a large enough space to set down. With the chopper hovering about thigh high, the pilot signaled Scholes to climb aboard. Scholes fought his way through the rotors’ powerful downdraft and finally reached a door handle; when he yanked it open, the downdraft slammed it shut. A local man in the relief crew reached Scholes and held his bag and propped the door open, and Scholes made like MacGyver and threw himself onto the skids and climbed inside.

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I heard about all the other things that happened. At that point I said, ‘Man, you really should be dead.’ There were about 15 places where it could have gone either way, and it went well for him. We got lucky. It’s a fun story. It turned out well and we can all have a good laugh about it.

“But for a while there, we were all chewing the Rolaids.”

Scholes and Benz have returned to New Guinea every year since their adventure. They are, in many ways, old-school scientists, focusing not on DNA or molecules, but on the entire organism, the wonder of it all.

They go. They observe. They record. They analyze. They come home. And then they go out and do it again.

“The thing I really like about Ed is, in an era where systematics is being defined almost entirely by molecules, he’s looking at behavior, and he’s using new tools, digital video, to do it,” Mack says. “To me, that’s the exciting thing, and it’s the same with Brett.

“You can see what hard work it is, and they’re going out and doing it. It’s bucking the trend of what the field wants, which is a fast molecular answer, a quick fix. They’re working with interesting things that are hard to work with and hard to get to.

“For what they do, adventure is the right word. It’s exactly the right word.”

What could go wrong, did.

After refueling with a 50-gallon drum of jet fuel stashed in a jungle village for just such an emergency, the chopper pilot flew to Alotau, the exact opposite direction from Port Moresby, and landed in the garden of the town’s nicest hotel.

Once Scholes was safe in a room and freshly showered, he began calling the outside world. A local doctor checked in on him, confirming his appendicitis.

The next morning, Scholes’ adventures began anew when the van hustling him to the airport, 20 miles away, blew out a tire; a stranger helped him hail a ride in the back of a truck.

Once at the airport, Scholes discovered he had not been added to the flight’s manifest and the airline did not sell tickets on site; after learning of Scholes’ desperate plight to reach a hospital, a sympathetic airline manager handed him a boarding pass. Scholes was at last aboard the day’s only flight to Port Moresby, where an officer from the U.S. Consulate dealt with airlines and immigration officers to get him on a Qantas flight to Australia.

Problem was, Scholes didn’t have his passport, only a photocopy. Hence Andy Mack’s rule: No more leaving passports in the safety of the Goroka office.

Once in Cairns, Scholes saw that a taxi, not an ambulance, awaited him.

“What hospital?” the driver asked, to which Scholes replied, “I have no idea.”

What could go right, did.

Scholes underwent surgery that night, and he was met in Australia by Bostwick, who is now his wife and the mother of their son, Nolan, born Oct. 6, 2006.

Bostwick was scared by the weight Scholes had lost, but only one thought mattered: “He was safe.”

“It was a year later before I saw Ed again,” Andy Mack says, “so that’s when I heard about all the other things that happened. At that point I said, ‘Man, you really should be dead.’ There were about 15 places where it could have gone either way, and it went well for him. We got lucky. It’s a fun story. It turned out well and we can all have a good laugh about it.

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“For what they do, adventure is the right word. It’s exactly the right word.”

Even when what can go wrong so very nearly does.

On the Internet:

Scholes maintains a superb Internet resource, filled with stunning photography, explanations of his research, and information about the history of human interaction with birds of paradise, at thebirdsofparadise.org.

A map of Papua New Guinea can be found at ausaid.gov.au/country/png/images/png-map.jpg.

The official tourism site, one of the best sources of information in a country with extremely limited Internet capability, is pngtourism.org.pg.
Since 1941, the University and the Alumni Association have bestowed the Distinguished Service Citation upon alumni and University friends who have displayed the courage to change the world around them. This year’s recipients carry on the tradition, boldly leading others in their quests to benefit humanity. The 2007 DSC winners are: Dana Hudkins Crawford, c’53, Denver; Wes Jackson, g’60, Salina; Christine Knudsen, c’91, Geneva, Switzerland; and James E. and Virginia G. Stowers, Kansas City, Mo.

Nominees for the award, the highest honor given by the University and the Alumni Association, are reviewed by representatives from the Chancellor’s office and the Alumni and Endowment associations. The winners will receive their awards at the All-University Supper May 18 and will join in the Commencement procession May 20.

In the 1960s, Denver’s downtown area was slowly deteriorating. Crawford did not stand idly by. Long before the words “urban renewal” and “downtown revitalization” were common at city council meetings nationwide, she pioneered the concepts, starting with a few friends and a few buildings in historic Larimer Square.

Armed with only an idea and sheer determination, she sold others on her vision, succeeding where many said she would fail. From abandoned buildings and neglected streets grew a revived district that harks back to its proud past while providing today’s citizens a vibrant place in which to live, work and play. LoDo, as the area is affectionately known, serves as a model for communities nationwide, inspiring cities to preserve their historic sites.

For her efforts, Crawford has received the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Award and the Louise DuPont Crowninshield Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She also has been inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame, and Colorado Preservation created an award in her honor. She has volunteered on numerous boards, including the Colorado Historical Society, the State Historical Fund and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In addition to her KU degree, Crawford completed a Harvard-Radcliffe business management program.

Jackson also seeks to change the environment, focusing on rural rather than urban issues. In 1976, he founded the Land Institute in Salina. To protect the heartland, where fierce weather and generations of farming have taken their toll on the soil, Jackson’s research attempts to re-create pristine prairie. Using natural systems as a guide, he advocates ecologically sustainable agricultural practices that will yield quantities similar to those produced by conventional methods. His “natural systems agriculture” concept would revolutionize the farming industry worldwide and ensure food sources for generations.

In addition to the Land Institute, Jackson has adopted the Kansas town of Matfield Green. As the owner of many of the town’s shops and buildings, he demonstrates methods through which shrinking rural communities can prevail. He also established the Sunshine Farm, an experiment to explore the practicality of conservation that is designed to see whether a working farm can produce all of its own energy. And each year, his Prairie Festival shares his concepts and
the voices of nationally renowned environmentalists with the public.

Life magazine described Jackson as one of “the most important Americans of the 20th Century,” and Smithsonian magazine listed him among the “35 Who Made a Difference.” In 2000, Jackson was the International “Right Livelihood Laureate” courtesy of the Swedish Parliament. In 1992, he received the MacArthur Fellowship, often called the “genius grant,” from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Jackson has written extensively. His books include Becoming Native to this Place, Altars of Unhewn Stone, and New Roots for Agriculture. His work also appears in several scientific journals such as Science and Nature. Along with his KU degree, he holds a bachelor of arts from Kansas Wesleyan University and a doctorate degree from North Carolina State University.

Knudsen invests in the world’s future by caring for the youngest among us. For 12 years, she has led efforts to speed the recovery of children in regions where war, disease and disaster have wreaked havoc. Her work with Save the Children and the United Nations has taken her across the globe to lead response teams. In 2003, Knudsen found herself on the front lines, among the first 20 international staff allowed to enter Southern Iraq. In 2005, she again raced to aid the suffering. Living in the same squalid conditions as the tsunami victims she helped, Knudsen immediately established a strategy for reuniting families and ensuring that children were paired with their true relatives.

She has not only worked in the field, but also within bureaucratic channels to coordinate programs, develop manuals and establish protocols to help improve the future safety of the most vulnerable children.

While chair of the InterAction Working Group on Protection, she gathered more than 180 U.S.-based non-governmental organizations. As the key spokesperson for Save the Children, she testified in front of Congress and represented the organization on television shows on NBC, CNN, PBS and BBC. She has continued to advocate for children’s rights in the Cornell International Law Journal, Scientific American and The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and received a master’s of international relations from Johns Hopkins University and a degree in modern literature from the Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV) in addition to her KU degree.

James and Virginia Stowers also help the world’s vulnerable citizens. Both cancer survivors, they know firsthand the anguish of patients and their families. In 1994, they founded the Stowers Institute for Medical Research to find a cure for cancer and a variety of debilitating illnesses. Today, the institute attracts the finest minds to study genes and their interaction in living cells.

The University is a vital partner in the Stowers’ crusade. Many of the organization’s scientists, doctors and researchers also have joined the KU faculty, assisting in KU’s effort to obtain National Cancer Center designation and the Kansas City area’s drive to become a hub for life sciences research and treatment.

Both have received numerous honors for their work to meet medicine’s most daunting challenges. James, founder of American Century Investments, received honorary degrees from Rockhurst University, University of Missouri School of Medicine, University of Saint Mary and Washington University in St. Louis. He graduated from the University of Missouri with bachelor’s degrees in chemistry and medicine. Virginia, a former nurse, holds honorary degrees from the University of Missouri, University of Saint Mary, the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Rockhurst University as well as the Research College of Nursing. She earned her certificate of nursing from the Research Hospital School of Nursing.

In addition, the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Touched by Cancer Foundation have recognized the couple for their leadership.

The winners will receive their awards May 18 at the All-University Supper and will march in the Commencement procession May 20.
100,000 & counting
Kansas Honors Program marks milestone in Larned

Marchesa Roney, the University’s vice provost for student success, for the past 30 years has kept a special book next to her desk: a personalized American Heritage dictionary that was presented to her by the Kansas Honors Program on April 28, 1976. For her, the dictionary is a special memento.

“It has become an important reminder of the first time I can recall being recognized for being a good student,” Roney says. “It also has become a symbol—one that reminds me to stretch myself, to take some risks and to try my hardest.”

Thirty-six years ago, the KU Alumni Association established the Kansas Honors Program (KHP) to recognize Kansas high school students graduating in the top 10 percent of their class. With the help of about 150 alumni volunteers, the Alumni Association hosts 40 events each year to celebrate the achievements of about 3,500 students in all 105 Kansas counties.

On Feb. 8, the program recognized Audrey Allison, a Larned High School senior, as the 100,000th Kansas Honor Scholar. “It really proves to me on a personal basis how hard I’ve been working these past four years,” Allison says. “It’s a way of just paying off for all the hard work I’ve been doing.” In addition to the dictionary and a certificate signed by Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway and Association President Kevin J. Corbett, c’88, Allison received special gifts as the 100,000th scholar: a basket of KU goodies and a $50 gift certificate to KU Bookstores.

At each KHP event, students, their families and school administrators gather with local alumni for a dinner or reception. A special guest from the University—often the chancellor, the provost or a dean—speaks to the group, encouraging the scholars to pursue higher education within the state’s Regents system.

Heath Peterson, d’04, a Hugoton native and the Association’s director of Kansas programs, presented Allison her dictionary in February. “It is a long-standing tradition in the state,” he says. “We really value academic excellence, and this is a great way for us to honor the students and their hard work.”

Allison will attend KU in the fall and plans to major in genetics. “The researching would be really fun,” she says. During her years at Larned High School, she participated in the cheerleading squad, volleyball team, drama club, 4-H, student council and the National Honor Society. Allison will be her family’s first Jayhawk; both of her parents are University of Missouri graduates.

Kansas Honor Scholars also qualify to compete for the Woodward Scholarship, which the Association established in 1997. The $4,000 scholarship is awarded to one man and one woman each year, thanks to a bequest from Herbert Rucker Woodward, a’27.

Both Peterson and Roney expect the program to continue for a long time. “This is one of the ways KU serves the state of Kansas,” says Roney. “It takes time to recognize outstanding students and gives them a tool that will help them continue their success.”

Roney says she has heard from many alumni who echo her special feelings for their own KHP dictionaries: “From those comments, I really do believe the Kansas Honors Program makes a lasting difference in people’s lives.”

—Lisa Tilson

Audrey Allison celebrated her status as the 100,000th Kansas Honor Scholar Feb. 8 in Larned. She is a senior at Larned High School and lives in Belpre with her parents, Kevin and Carrie, both University of Missouri graduates. Their celebration continued March 14, when the Association and KU honored the Allisons at the Statehouse in Topeka during the annual KU in the Capitol event.
Strength in Numbers

40,000 REASONS WHY KU IS STRONG

Alumni Association members support programs to:
- honor and recruit talented students
- connect current students with alumni mentors
- help new grads get settled in careers and homes in new cities
- make the case for higher-education funding

As a loyal and accomplished Jayhawk, you help ensure that future generations will share the KU experience. KU’s growing prestige adds value and respect to the degree you worked so hard to earn.

Thank you for your commitment!
Preparations underway for KC’s Rock Chalk Ball

The invitations are out, and alumni are trading in their snow boots for dancing shoes in preparation for the Rock Chalk Ball, which has moved from February to April 28. Max Falkenstien, ’47, this year’s honorary chair, will welcome alumni and friends back to the Overland Park Convention Center for an evening that celebrates the University’s achievements, traditions and the KU faithful.

Net proceeds from the event will support Alumni Association programs, including efforts to recruit students and provide services to students on the Hill.

Rock Chalk Ball beneficiaries and their guests will start the night early at the VIP pre-party, where they’ll rub elbows with the former Voice of the Jayhawks as well as former KU football player and 1993 first-round NFL draft pick Dana Harrington, ’93, and some exciting items on the block this year for the silent and live auctions. Alumni will have the opportunity to bid on a Drew Gooden signed jersey, a Flying Jayhawks trip for two to Peru, Sicily or the Bavarian mountains, a three-night/four-day getaway to Tahoe with two premier ski passes, and even a three-night/four-day getaway to Tahoe with two premier ski passes.

Auction chair Sarah McColley Harrington, ’89, has some exciting items on the block this year for the silent and live auctions. Alumni will have the opportunity to bid on a Drew Gooden signed jersey, a Flying Jayhawks trip for two to Peru, Sicily or the Bavarian mountains, or even a three-night/four-day getaway to Tahoe with two premier ski passes.

Television sports announcer Gary Bender, ’64, will return to his alma mater, where he began his career calling KU football games, to emcee the event. Big Jay and company will hit the dance floor with the KC All Stars, who will provide some of Kansas City’s finest live music.

For more information or to make your reservations for the Rock Chalk Ball, visit www.rockchalkball.org, call 800-KU Hawks or e-mail kualumni@kualumni.org.

—Katie Moyer
Jayhawk Generations

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

To be included, the student must:
• be a freshman in the fall of 2007
• have at least one parent who is an Alumni Association member
• have at least one parent who attended KU (that parent need not have graduated)

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

Third Generations and beyond:
Mail in your son or daughter’s résumé, along with information detailing high-school activities. Please provide information about your KU ancestors. Mail a photograph of the student and college-era photos of parents who attended KU. Photos of grandparents should be sent for fifth-generation students only. We will return all photos after the feature is published in issue No. 5, September 2007.

Deadline for all materials is June 30.
Mail materials to Jayhawk Generations, KU Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Questions? Contact Katie Moyer at 800-584-2957 or kmoyer@kualumni.org.
1934
Paul Borel, e’34, celebrates his 95th birthday this month. He and Miriam, assoc., his wife of 67 years, continue to live in Southern Pines, N.C. Paul, a devoted golfer, scored a hole-in-one in May 2006.

1935
Laurence Smith, c’35, l’37, volunteers at St. Joseph’s Medical Center and at the Shepherd’s Center in Kansas City.

1942
Polly Bales, ’42, received a Distinguished Service Citation Jan. 26 from the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas. She was honored for her longtime service to the state and its art, music, history and civic organizations. Polly lives in Logan, where she has led the Kansas Honors Program for many years.

1947
Max Falkenstien, c’47, the Voice of the Jayhawks for 60 years, was honored Jan. 26 as Kansan of the Year by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas. He and his wife, Isobel Atwood Falkenstien, ’50, live in Lawrence.

James Gunn, j’47, g’51, director of KU’s Center for the Study of Science Fiction, recently was selected as grand master of science fiction by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. He and Jane Anderson Gunn, j’47, make their home in Lawrence.

1951
Marcene Dameron Grimes, c’51, wrote Ill Blows the Wind, a novel about wind power development in the Kansas Flint Hills. She lives in Tecumseh and is executive director of the Alzheimer’s Association in Topeka.

1953
Clyde Lovellette, ’53, was honored last fall when a park in Terre Haute, Ind., was rededicated in his honor. Clyde lives in Munising, Mich.

1955
Jordan Johnson Jr., p’55, is a pharmaceutical consultant in Las Vegas.

1956
Sanford Markham, c’56, m’60, lives in Iowa City, where he’s assistant dean of student affairs and curriculum at the University of Iowa.

1957
Norman Arnold, b’57, manages the circulation department at the Kansas City Star. He lives in Overland Park.

Beverly Dusen Goss, f’57, owns Redstone Art Center in Redstone, Colo.

1958
John Bowers, d’58, g’59, recently was named a distinguished scholar of the National Communication Association. He’s a professor emeritus at the University of Colorado, and he lives in Bend, Ore.

1960
Charles Bowlus, c’60, g’70, wrote The Battle of Lechfeld and its Aftermath, which was published last year. He is a professor of history at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock.

1961
Barbara Thomas Freeland, c’61, a retired microbiologist, makes her home in Leawood.
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James McMullan, a’61, recently spent nine months sailing in Key West. He’s retired in Island Heights, N.J.

1962
Karen Stewart Johnson, c’62, l’65, serves as mayor of Westwood.
Richard Wood, c’62, works as a writer in Denver.

1963
Thomas Schroeder, c’63, g’68, PhD’73, recently was inducted into the Indiana Teacher Educators Hall of Fame. He’s retired associate dean of Ball State University’s Teachers College in Muncie, where he continues to make his home.

1964
Marilyn Murphy, d’64, practices law with Hymson Goldstein & Pantilat in Scottsdale, Ariz.

1965
Richard Ewy, l’65, recently stepped down as managing partner of Foulston Sieffkin, where he continues to practice law. Richard and Joan Stromberg Ewy, d’65, live in Wichita.

MARRIED
Susan Lawrence, c’65, to Graham McDonald, Nov. 12. They live in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada.

1966
James Keil, c’66, m’70, practices medicine at the Lynch and Niobrara Medical Clinics in Lynch, Neb., where he lives.

MARRIED
Nadine Snyder, s’66, to Richard Baldwin, Aug. 19. They live in Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

1967
Robert Pearson, b’67, recently was elected director-at-large of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy. He’s a tax partner with BKD in Kansas City.
Carol Crown Ranta, c’67, edits the
folk-art volume of the Encyclopedia of Southern Culture. She and her husband, Richard, live in Memphis, Tenn.

1968

Drue Jennings, d’68, l’72, recently was named Kansas Citian of the Year by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. He’s senior counsel at Shughart Thomson & Kilroy, and he makes his home in Prairie Village.

Ora “Gretta” Nuttle Ross, d’68, volunteers at the Johnson County Library. She lives in Mission.

1969

Lee Johnson, b’69, recently was appointed to the Kansas Supreme Court. He makes his home in Topeka.

Robert Taylor, c’69, recently became a director of Blue Valley Bank Corp. He lives in Mission Hills and is also president and CEO of Executive AirShare Corp.

1970

Marilyn Darling Vaughan, d’70, teaches first grade for the Blue Valley Unified School District. She recently was designated a master teacher by Emporia State University, and she makes her home in Leawood.

Judith Carter Wynhausen, d’70, g’82, has been selected to participate in the National Storytelling Network Conference next summer in St. Louis. She lives in Joplin, Mo.

1971

Jerry Fife, e’71, is a sales representative for Point Grey Research in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Denise Dotson Low-Weso, c’71, g’74, PhD’98, recently was named poet laureate of Kansas. She’s a professor at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence.

1972

Richard Bergen, EdD’72, a Salina sculptor, was honored Jan. 26 as a Distinguished Kansan by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas. Bergen designed “Ad Astra,” the bronze Kansa Indian that stands atop the Kansas Statehouse.

Pamela Meador Mattson, d’72, l’75, is a professor at Tulsa Community College. She and her husband, Lynn, live in Sand Springs, Okla.

1973

James Boyle, f’73, owns Safe Haven Home Inspections. He lives in Fenton, Mo.

Mary Ann Casem, f’73, is a professor of graphic design and advertising at Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Ga.

Thomas Doyle, j’73, lives in Mission Hills. He’s CEO of Nuvidia in Overland Park.

Karen Park Gilpin, n’73, directs the nursing department at Neosho County Community College in Chanute. She and her husband, James, b’72, live in Iola.
Kathryn Pruessner Peters, l’77, recently joined the Kansas City law firm of Kutak Rock.

1978
Mary Brockelman Wartman Bianchi, n’78, directs the department of women and children for the St. Joseph Health System in Sonoma County. She lives in Santa Rosa, Calif.

Mark Gabrick, c’78, is president of the Gabrick Group in Lawrence.

Dennis MacFarland, c’78, works as an

William “Bernie” Herpin, e’73, serves as a council member-at-large of the Colorado Springs City Council.

1974
Richard Heil, g’74, PhD’84, retired recently after 41 years as a professor of political science at Fort Hays State University, where he also served as department chairman for the past nine years.

Diana Currey Muller, c’74, teaches third grade at Tierra del Sol Elementary School in El Paso, Texas. She was included in the 2005-’06 edition of Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. Diana and her husband, Gene, g’69, PhD’82, live in El Paso, where he’s a professor of history and border studies at El Paso Community College.

1977
Fred Conboy, c’77, is executive director and chief development officer at the Community College of Southern Nevada. He lives in Las Vegas.

1974
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Profile

Prosthesis research makes therapist ‘most influential’

The image has stuck with Kathy Stubblefield for more than 30 years: dozens of people racing down sidewalks in their wheelchairs—jumping curbs, laughing and enjoying life.

Stubblefield, f’78, was living in Germany when the city of Heidelberg was gearing up for the 1972 Paralympic Games, an international competition for athletes with disabilities. She had befriended a group of Swedish physical therapists involved in the event.

She was so touched and motivated by the athletes’ spirit that she moved back to the United States and began working on her degree in occupational therapy at KU. Today she is lead occupational therapist in the Neural Engineering Center for Artificial Limbs at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Stubblefield is part of a team working to develop a neural-controlled “bionic arm” pioneered by Todd Kuiken. The innovative work makes prosthetics for patients who have lost an arm above the elbow, reorganizing peripheral nerves in existing muscle so the muscle can be used to control the powered prosthesis.

Her role as part of a “targeted muscle reinnervation” study is to work with patients to test and monitor what the engineers build. Her work led Therapy Times to name her one of the “25 Most Influential Therapists” of 2006.

Stubblefield has a great deal of empathy for her patients and never judges their degree of loss, saying that even people who lose a finger can suffer greatly. She believes her job is to help them move on when they are ready to do so.

“No prosthesis can truly be what your arm or hand were,” she says. “But we can give hope to people who have lost so much.”

The most challenging part of her job, Stubblefield says, is keeping up with the engineering and science related to prosthetics. But she also is challenged by creating ways to restore quality of life to her amputee patients.

She has one patient who has been instrumental in the institute’s ongoing research. He lost both of his arms and said what he misses most is holding his grandchildren. He was an avid fisherman before his loss, so Stubblefield approached engineering students at Northwestern University and asked them to create a fishing device that her patient could operate with his feet.

The invention gave him back a piece of his old life.

Her work has been her life’s passion.

■ Kathy Stubblefield, lead occupational therapist at the Neural Engineering Center for Artificial Limbs, was recognized as one of the “25 Most Influential Therapists” of 2006 for her work with “bionic arm” recipients like Claudia Mitchell.

“The image of those people in Germany is something I will always carry with me,” Stubblefield says. “They all had lost something and yet they were healthy and strong. It’s something I hope for all of my patients.”

Dodderidge, j’83, is a Lenexa free-lance writer.
auto lab technician at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park. He lives in Shawnee.

Michael Meacham, l’78, is executive director of the master’s of health administration program at Pennsylvania State University in University Park. He lives in State College.

1979

Martha Senter Gage, g’79, PhD’89, serves as president of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. She’s director of teacher education and licensure at the Kansas Department of Education in Topeka. Martha and her husband, Ralph, j’64, live in Lawrence, where he’s chief operating officer of the World Company.

Chris Johnson, c’79, g’87, PhD’95, works as a financial-aid system administrator at KU. He and Lucinda Nabors Johnson, j’87, make their home in Lawrence.

Mark Timken, c’79, is a senior criminologist for the California Department of Justice in Berkeley. He lives in Albany.

1980

Laura Glover Kaiser, h’80, is president of the Kansas Parent Teacher Association. She lives in Overland Park.

1981

Scott Mach, l’81, is a partner at Kansas City’s Popham Law Firm. He and Patty Cray Mach, c’80, live in Shawnee. Deb Stilgenbauer Miller, f’81, owns

Global mining giant picks Carroll as next CEO

After earning her KU master’s degree in geology, Cynthia Blum Carroll worked for five years as a petroleum geologist in Colorado, Alaska, Wyoming, Utah and Montana. Yet her globetrotting adventures had barely begun.

Carroll, g’82, began her ascent of geology and mining’s corporate side after entering Harvard’s MBA program in 1987, culminating with her recent appointment as chief executive officer of London-based Anglo American, the world’s third-largest miner. Carroll had been president and CEO of Canada’s Alcan Primary Metal, whose parent company had first hired Carroll as a business analyst in 1988.

“Anglo American is a world-class mining company,” Carroll said, soon after her appointment was announced in late October. “It has an outstanding workforce that are very, very proud to be working for the company, and, I think, very motivated and energetic.”

Anglo American, founded in 1917 in South Africa, had, until Carroll’s hiring, always employed a South African as its chief executive. Chairman Sir Mark Moody-Stuart said Carroll’s hiring, described as a surprise to some international mining analysts, was proof that his company was eager to conduct a worldwide search.

“Someone who’d worked in different countries, who had contacts and business in different countries, is clearly essential for a global company like us,” Moody-Stuart said. “And we said someone who’s worked in large, capital intensive, long investment cycle industries. So, not necessarily mining. But we were very fortunate because Cynthia Carroll has a background as a geologist.”

Among other projects, Carroll has overseen development of new facilities in South Africa, China, Canada, Oman, Ireland and France; at Alcan’s Primary Metals Group, her responsibilities included all of the company’s primary metal facilities, research and development, and technology and power generation. Under Carroll’s direction, her group’s 18,000 employees, who work in 20 countries, reduced lost-time accidents by more than 80 percent.

“I am very committed to safety performance,” Carroll says. “And I am team-oriented, and I really enjoy working with people around the world.”

Anglo American’s diversified products include gold, platinum and copper. The company in August announced a 44 percent increase in earnings, according to the Times of London, along with a $5 billion return to investors.

“It’s an honor to take the helm at Anglo American,” Carroll says. “Anglo American has a unique collection of assets, skilled and dedicated people, financial and technical strengths, and a strong underpinning of value and sense of responsibility.”

After moving to London in early January, Cynthia Carroll joined the board of directors of Anglo American, the world’s third largest mining company. She studied under the company’s retiring chief executive, Tony Trabat, before taking over as CEO March 1.
Blueware and 3 Under Entertainment. She lives in Dublin, Ohio.

1982

Kurt Anselmi, d’82, teaches physical education for the Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District. He lives in Cypress, Texas.

Pamela Magee Bushouse, g’82, retired last year as vocal music director at Free State High School in Lawrence.

Jon Stutz, p’82, works as a pharmacist at Sonora Regional Medical Center. He lives in Sonora, Calif.

Reed Voorhees, a’82, a’83, is vice president of Cannon Design in St. Louis.

1984

BORN TO:

Robert VanHoecke, b’84, and Lisa, daughter, Alexandra Nicole, July 26 in Vienna, Va. Robert is CEO of Regulatory Economics Group in Reston.

1985

Greg Reesor, c’85, manages business decision support for Alliant Energy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He lives in North Liberty.

1986

Keela Maison Allison, c’86, is junior plan check engineer for the Oxnard, Calif., Department of Development Services.

Barbara Evans, PhD’86, recently was promoted to professor of biology at Lake Superior State University in Sault Saint Marie, Mich.

Christopher Hutchens, c’86, is a vice president and shareholder at Charlton Manley in Lawrence, where he and Suzanne Mossberg Hutchens, d’92, make their home.

Liliana Mayo-Ortega, g’86, PhD’96, recently was named one of 10 outstanding people by El Peruano, the national newspaper of Peru. She’s an adjunct
assistant professor in the Institute for Life Span Studies.

Kurt Valentine, c'86, l'90, serves as prosecuting attorney for Cole County. He lives in Jefferson City, Mo.

1987

Angela Firner Tyroler, '87, recently was promoted to director of career services at Bryan College in Topeka.

1988

Patrick Smith, e'88, is a senior project engineer at J.E. Dunn Construction in Denver.

1989

Karoline Knock Felts, c'89, is a membership assistant at the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas.

Lillie Pardo, c'89, j'89, teaches kindergarten at the Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts in Los Angeles, Calif.

1990

Michelle Cawley Masoner, j'90, recently was promoted to counsel at Bryan Cave. She lives in Shawnee.

BORN TO:

John Impens, b'90, and Heather, son, Jack, Oct. 6 in Kansas City, where he joins a brother, Schuyler, who'll be 2 in April. John is assistant vice president of Bank of the West.

1991

BORN TO:

Michael, c'91, and Debbie Shepek Haws, j'91, daughter, Ella Grace, Aug. 19 in Overland Park. Mike works for Unisys Corp., and Debbie is group account director for Geoff Howe Marketing.

1992

BORN TO:

Brian Robison, c'92, and Madeline,
daughter, Mariana Loving, May 4 in Dallas, where she joins a sister, Amelia, 3. Brian is a partner in Vinson & Elkins.

1993

John DeWitt, c’93, is a management services officer for UCLA Healthcare Enterprise in Los Angeles. He lives in West Hollywood.

Todd Jensen, d’93, works as district sales manager for Solvay Pharmaceuticals. He lives in Westfield, Mass.

Angela Newman, c’93, is community resources developer for First Step Fund in Kansas City.

BORN TO:

Karen Smith Strecker, c’93, m’97, and Kevin, son, Willard, Aug. 15 in Wichita, where he joins a sister, Michaela, 2. Karen practices medicine at the Center for Women’s Health.

1994

Dana Hernstrom Liska, c’94, is a veterinarian and a clinical lecturer at the University of Florida Veterinary Medical Center in Gainesville.

ADOPTED BY:

Shannon Schwartz, j’94, and his partner, Calvin Kuan, a son, Duncan Zephyr Kuartz, who was born Sept. 5. They live in Mountain View, Calif.

BORN TO:

Laura Miles Hibberts, p’94, and Steven, son, Olsen Lee, May 20 in Baldwin City, where he joins a brother, Ornsen, 5. Laura is a pharmacist at Allegre Pharmacy in Ottawa and Lebo.

1995

Cheryl Hernandez Duran, c’95, works as a physical therapist for Corporate Care in North Kansas City. She lives in Shawnee.

BORN TO:

Julie Myers Spiegel, b’95, and William, sons, Samuel Paul and Jack William, Oct. 25 in Manhattan, where Julie is a financial analyst and CPA at Frontier Farm Credit.

1996

Kevin Cunningham, d’96, is an endodontist at Olathe Endodontics. He lives in Overland Park.

BORN TO:

Jeremy Bezdek, b’96, and Emily, son, Samuel, April 7 in Wichita, where he joins a brother, Jackson, 4, and a sister, Emma, 2. Jeremy is marketing manager for Flint Hills Resources.

Bradley, c’96, m’00, and Gretchen Good McInlay, h’98, son, Ted Bradley, July 31 in Leawood, where he joins a sister, Charlotte, 2.

1997

Anne Clark Cather, c’97, is a manager with Accenture. She lives in Ashburn, Va.

Lawrence Libman, j’97, works as a sales manager and loan officer at Homestead Mortgage in Arlington Heights, Ill. He lives in Buffalo Grove.
Jessica McNickle, c’97, practices law with Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City.

Michael Scott, c’97, is president of Scott Custom Audio Video in Overland Park.

Derek Seaman, e’97, lives in San Diego. He’s a senior consultant with PointBridge Solutions.

BORN TO:
Donald, e’97, and Kristin Thaete Law, f’03, son, Ryan Baker, and daughter, Parker Grace, April 12 in Glenwood, Ill. Donald is an environmental engineer with the Environmental Protection Agency.

1998

BORN TO:
Niccoli Rockett Anderson, c’98, and Matthew, son, Gordon Daniel, July 17 in Denver.

Erin Fox Klein, d’98, g’00, and Andrew, b’99, daughter, Ella Genevieve, Dec. 29 in Edmond, Okla., where she joins a brother, Andrew IV, 3. Erin is a physical therapist with Surgical Specialists of Oklahoma, and Andrew is a unit manager for Altria.

Jennifer Pownall Schwaller, c’98, and John, e’99, daughter, Sarah Catherine, Aug. 1 in Charlotte, N.C. Jennifer is an environmental scientist with Ralph Whitehead Associates, and John is a development project manager for Grubb Properties.

Craig, d’98, and Amy Leiszler Weishaar, d’98, g’02, son, Ryan Patrick, July 23 in Lawrence, where he joins a sister, Molly, 3. Craig is assistant vice president of business development with Security Benefit Group in Topeka.

1999

Matthew Swatek, b’99, is an investment adviser representative for MetLife Resources in Springfield, Mo. He lives in
Africa trip reveals calling for young alumnus

Zane Wilemon first visited Kenya on a yearlong medical mission in 2000, shortly after graduation from KU. The biology/pre-med major wanted to help the citizens of the AIDS-ravaged country as an aspiring doctor.

Once there, he began to envision another way to serve.

“The religious faith of the Kenyan people is incredible, and receiving that really changed my perspective on the best way to use my gifts to help people,” Wilemon says. “Ministry seemed to be the best way to do that.”

Wilemon returned to the United States and enrolled in the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. He also founded Comfort the Children International, a nonprofit group that is trying to improve life for the citizens of Maai Mahiu, an impoverished Kenyan village on a major trade route known as the AIDS highway.

Wilemon has returned every year since with a team of doctors and other volunteers to deliver donated supplies to an orphanage, build classrooms and give medical treatment to a populace that has an alarmingly high incidence of AIDS. The group has shipped five tons of books to Kenya, Wilemon says, to start the country’s first public library outside of Nairobi.

In January 2006 he hosted three KU architecture students—Dan Bedard, a’06; J.J. McAllister, a’06; and Tyson Pyle, a’06—who traveled to Maai Mahiu with Philippe Barriere, assistant professor of architecture, as part of their fifth-year architecture design studio. After meeting with villagers and reviewing local building materials, they designed a community center, which is to be the first in a planned complex of buildings that will include a market, cafe, chapel and traveler lodging.

Wilemon hopes to foster a partnership between architecture students and faculty at KU and the University of Nairobi to complete design work on the rest of the Maai Mahiu complex, which in turn may serve as a model for similar projects in impoverished towns across the Third World. Wilemon believes these centers, built with the design know-how of KU architecture students and the materials and labor of local people, represent the highest ideals of CTC.

“Our organization is built around relationships, just going and being with the people where they live, meeting them where they are, seeing what they need rather than what we perceive they need,” says Wilemon, who will graduate from seminary in May and be ordained as an Episcopal priest soon after.

“It’s essentially about transformation through relationships. Through that communion of shared community comes hope that somebody cares. Through that hope comes empowerment and opportunity.”

Profile

BY STEVEN HILL

William Marshall, c’00, and his wife, Denise, make their home in Sanford, Fla. He’s a territory sales manager for Shofu Dental Corp.

Stacey Elder Tarkington, j’00, recently became vice president of marketing at TRI-KES Wallcovering Source in Dallas.

BORN TO:

Brianne Brown Cook, b’00, and Casey, g’05, son, Cayman Jacob, Oct. 11 in Lawrence. Brianne is a physician assistant with Family Medicine Associates, Nixa with his wife, Cindy, and their children, Jacob, 4, and Celeste, 1.

2000

Robert Bishop, b’00, works for the Lenexa real-estate firm ERA Manning & Associates.

Anthony Bushard, g’00, PhD’06, is an assistant professor of music at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

Matthew Goff, c’00, lives in Las Vegas, where he’s lead manager for Harrah’s Entertainment.

2001

Ethen Domke, c’01, practices law with Klenda Mitchell Austerman & Zuercher in Wichita.

Heather Rasmussen, g’00, PhD’05, and Doug Kubert, daughter, Miabella Kubert Rasmussen, July 2 in Olathe, where they live. Heather is an evaluation coordinator for KU’s Institute of Educational Research in Lawrence.
Class Notes

MARRIED
Shanna Shoemaker, b'01, and Joseph Grant, c'01, Sept. 16 in Mission. They live in Prairie Village.

2002
Christopher Mandernach, b'02, c'05, manages sales for Freightquote.com in Lenexa. He lives in Leawood.

MARRIED
Nichole Graham, c'02, d'02, to Sam Cain, Nov. 17 in O’Fallon, Ill. She’s a marketing manager for American Technology Services, and they live in Alexandria, Va.

BORN TO:
Jennifer Page Daily, c'02, and Mark, c'03, son, Harrison Lane, July 2 in Reno, where Mark coordinates annual giving for the University of Nevada.
Jordan Scott Gwaltney, c'02, and Kevin, daughter, Madison Kaye, June 13 in Dodge City, where Jordan is an optometrist with Wolf, Hatfield & Gwaltney.

Profile

BY NATE MARTIN

Designer guitar straps help launch fashion house

It’s not difficult to understand why lots of people came to believe that Wendy Mullin, c’93, started her clothing company by making guitar straps. In the mid-90s, a striking number of popular alternative rock musicians began sporting plaid, striped and brightly colored guitar straps emblazoned with “Built by Wendy” emblems. Intrigued, fashion and music journalists sought out the source of the straps, and now, a decade later, the press archive on her company’s Web site includes coverage from Rolling Stone, Vogue and The New York Times.

Although many infer that Mullin’s fashion career began with her guitar straps, Mullin in fact arrived at KU an experienced seamstress, a talent she learned from her mother. The Chicago native made money by altering clothes “every day after class” for students, professors, friends and strangers, and the income went toward producing clothes that she sent to record stores in Chicago, Minneapolis and Kansas City. Built by Wendy was born.

In 1992, Mullin moved to New York City. She rented space in a record store where she worked, and sold clothes and guitar straps to hipsters in the New York music scene. Some of her customers were wannabe rock stars; others, including both guitarists from the influential group Sonic Youth, were the real things. Today, rockers The White Stripes, rappers The Beastie Boys and director Sofia Coppola all wear Mullin’s gear.

“I made some guitar straps because I had a lot of musician friends, and the ones out there were not to my liking,” Mullin says. “So I made some and put them in the shop.”

Mullin has three stores of her own—in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Los Angeles—and an online catalog (www.builtbywendy.com). In 2003, Wrangler Jeans hired Mullin to design its Wrangler 47 line for designer boutiques.

Mullin’s latest creative achievement, a how-to book titled Sew U (Bullfinch Press, 2006), encourages her fans to do as she did and make clothes for themselves. It’s an instruction manual steeped with 20 years of trial-and-error experience, and includes three of Mullin’s patterns for readers to try.

“Many of my customers are artistic people, so it seemed like something that might interest them,” she says.

Currently, Mullin is designing her fall collection and working on a second sewing book.

She’s established a solid foundation in the fashion world through her steadfast creative output—with a little help from a media-hyped guitar strap fad—so don’t be surprised to see more and more people dressed in clothes that were built by Wendy.

—Martin, a journalism graduate student from Rock Springs, Wyo., recently completed an internship with Stop Smiling magazine.

Nicholas, d'02, and Jennifer Barker Hosler, f'02, son, Preston John, Aug. 31 in Overland Park. Nicholas is a shop supervisor for Wood ‘N’ Stuff Cabinets in Lecompton, and Jennifer teaches elementary-school music in Kansas City. They live in Lawrence.

2003
Lauren Cuchna, c'03, works as a marketing assistant for Komori America in Rolling Meadows, Ill.
Ryan Everoski, e'03, is a software
The tale of *The Three Little Jayhawks* will delight KU fans of all ages!

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engineer for Cerner in Kansas City. Sara Lounsberry, c’03, lives in Palatine, Ill., where she’s an executive assistant for Siemans Building Technologies.

2004
Joseph Clausing, e’04, works as a design engineer for Flack and Kurtz. He lives in Las Vegas.
Sean O’Grady, j’04, coordinates promotions for Clear Channel Radio in Tampa, Fla.

BORN TO:
Joshua Lusk, b’04, e’04, and Sally, son, Kennerick Evan, June 30 in Yulee, Fla., where he joins a sister, Alaina, 3. Joshua is a submarine warfare officer in the U.S. Navy.

2005
Becky Durkalski, d’05, teaches elementary school for the Lombard School District 44. She lives in LaGrange, Ill.
Christopher Frum, ‘05, does consulting for Allstate. He lives in Deer Park, Ill.
Carl Van Zant, b’05, is an investment adviser representative for J.P. Morgan. He lives in Kansas City.

MARRIED
Jamie Fransen, e’05, to Alan McQueen, Oct. 7 in Kansas City. They live in Stevensville, Mich., and Jamie is an engineer with Whirlpool in Benton Harbor.

2006
Kyle Brandt, b’06, is an underwriter at Northbrook Bank. He lives in Arlington Heights, Ill.
Mindy Brissey, c’06, works as a currency reporting analyst for Bank of America. She lives in Kansas City.
Sarah Morris Cox, c’06, is an officer with the Salina Police Department.
Ashleigh Dyck, c’06, j’06, works as an office manager and media buyer for ASA Marketing Group. She lives in Mission.
Nicole Eckert, d’06, is district manager for Cook Medical. Her home is in Mission.
Thomas Houts, b’06, works as an office associate for Colliers Turley Martin Tucker in Kansas City.
Johnny Khan, c’06, is an account manager for Jet International. He lives in Wilmette, Ill.
James Lewis, c’06, lives in Raleigh, N.C., where he’s a manager with Enterprise.
Carol Lillich, c’06, is a case manager for Douglas County Partners in Castle Rock, Colo.
Chris Maute, b’06, works as a freight broker for C.H. Robinson in Northbrook, Ill.
Gregory Meitl, a’06, is an administrator for Performance Contracting. He lives in Overland Park.
Joshua Miller, b’06, lives in Overland Park and is a premium payables analyst for Lockton in Kansas City.
Lacey Morris, b’06, is a statistical ana-
Tyst for Armed Forces Insurance. Her home is in Leavenworth.

Tyson Pyle, a’06, works as an intern architect for Architecture Denver in Denver, where he lives.

Adam Reese, c’06, is an analyst for Jones Lang LaSalle in Denver.

Marisol Romero Romo, c’06, works for 94.5 Country/City 4 TV in Topeka.

Nikola Reinfieldds Rowe, j’06, is an area supervisor for Kohl’s in Lawrence.

Lisa Tevis, j’06, works as a marketing communications specialist for Capitol Federal Savings in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

William Tuley, c’06, is an account executive for Fisher Investments. He lives in Burlingame, Calif.

Erica Wolfe, c’06, j’06, works as assistant account executive for Zillner Marketing Communications in Lenexa.

2007

Jared Ernzen, c’07, is a new-business representative for Freightquote.com in Lenexa.
In Memory

1920s

Ruth Altergott Armstrong, c’25, 101, Dec. 1 in Tyler, Texas, where she was a retired teacher. A sister and several nieces and nephews survive.

Elbert “E.W.” Smith, c’27, 99, Dec. 27 in Emporia, where he was a former publisher and retired salesman. A son, seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren survive.

1930s

Earl Carney, c’30, g’32, 99, Nov. 1 in Scottsdale, Ariz., where he was retired from a career with the Veterans Administration. His wife, Eldra, and a daughter survive.

Janice Poole Daniel, c’31, g’33, 95, Nov. 28 in Tulsa, Okla., where she had served on the school board for several years.

Annette Reid DeFever, b’39, 88, Nov. 14 in Independence. She is survived by two sons, Larry, e’64, and Steve, p’72; two daughters, Nancy DeFever Komenda, d’65, and Diane DeFever Klingman, c’76, m’79; a brother; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Ralph Elson, b’39, 90, Sept. 1 in Oak Ridge, Tenn., where he was retired director of the Atomic Energy Commission’s contract division. Surviving are his wife, Ruby, twin daughters and three grandchildren.

Warren Fisher Sr., b’39, 93, Nov. 9 in Albuquerque, N.M., where he was retired chief appraiser at the Federal Housing Administration. He is survived by his wife, Lucile, a daughter, a son, 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Brewster Hendricks, c’30, 97, Nov. 4 in Bartlesville, Okla., where she was a retired secretary with Phillips Petroleum. Two nieces and a nephew survive.

Clair Hyter, ’34, 94, Nov. 9 in Hutchinson, where he was a retired attorney and president of Central Plains Insurance. He is survived by a son, Charles, d’65; a sister; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

John Le Claire, e’31, 98, Nov. 3 in Overland Park. He had a 33-year career as a pilot with TWA. He is survived by two sons, Jack, e’57, and Richard, ‘70; a daughter; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Margaret Bailey Oldham, ’35, 92, Oct. 20 in Hood River, Ore. She is survived by a son; a brother, Robert Bailey, b’38, l’48; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Dorothea Sanders Pankratz, ’36, 95, Jan. 5 in Lawrence, where she was a flower show judge. She is survived by a son, Howard Jr., j’67; a daughter, Mary Pankratz Nichols, ’72; a sister, Hortense Sanders, b’38; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Lillabelle Stahl, c’33, 92, Dec. 31 in Osage City. She lived in Burlingame and had been a corporate secretary at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka for 48 years. Three stepgrandchildren and six stepgrandchildren survive.

Herman Sutherland, ’34, 93, Dec. 28 in Mission Hills, where he ran Sutherland Lumber Company and was a 50-year board member of Children’s Mercy Hospital. He also was a trustee of the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by a son, Craig, ’72; a brother, John, ’46; a sister, Donna Sutherland Pearson, ’38; five grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

Mary Kanaga Warren, c’39, 87, July 2 in Colorado Springs, She is survived by two sons, Michael, b’64, and Bruce, c’67; a daughter, Ruth, c’71; a brother, William Kanaga, e’47; and six grandchildren.

Edward Williams, c’35, m’41, 94, Dec. 31 in Muskegon Heights, Mich., where he practiced medicine for more than 40 years. He was the first African-American graduate of KU’s Medical School, and he is survived by a brother, Jack, c’49, l’50.

Virginia Arnold Zelman, c’33, 96, Dec. 2 in Topeka. Survivors include her husband, Samuel, assoc.; a son, William Horton, c’67, m’71; and a grandson.

1940s

George Bartholow, b’47, 85, Dec. 27 in Shawnee Mission. He lived in Overland Park and founded Bartholow Office Supply. He is survived by his wife, Gladys; two sons, Robert, d’69, and Brent, ‘74; and five grandchildren.

Joseph Hearin, b’48, 82, Aug. 18 in Bethesda, Md. He lived in Springfield, Va., and was a retired U.S. Army colonel. Surviving are his wife, Gloria; a son; a sister, Lila Hearin Rash, ‘42; and three grandsons.

Opal Wells Hesselbarth, b’46, 83, Nov. 10 in Grand Junction, Colo., where she was a homemaker. She is survived by her husband, Maynard, c’47, s’49; two sons; four sisters, Alice Wells Lassman, b’46, Eleanor Wells Curtis, ’50, Wilma Wells Johnson, ’45, and Annette Wells-Gaston, g’56; two granddaughters; and two great-granddaughters.

David Jones, e’49, Sept. 29 in Andover, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Kitty; two sons; a brother, Don, e’50; a sister, Alice Jones Stephenson, c’41; and two grandchildren.

Charles Kaiser, g’45, PhD’46, 89, Sept. 29 in Bartlesville, Okla., where he was retired from a career with Phillips Petroleum. He is survived by his wife, Velma, three daughters, two sons, a stepson, a stepdaughter, two sisters, 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Edwin Kirchhoff, c’49, g’51, 85, Oct. 26 in Dallas, where he was a retired professor of economics at Dallas County Community College. He is survived by his wife, Evalyn, a son, two stepsons, a sister, five grandchildren and a great-grandson.
Mary Hudelson Manley, b’44, 84, Dec. 28 in Hiawatha. She was retired from the Brown County Co-op and is survived by two daughters, two sons and five grandchildren.

Bill Meyer, j’48, 81, Nov. 14 in Wichita. He was retired editor and publisher of the Marion County Record and a trustee of the William Allen White Foundation in Emporia. He is survived by his wife, Joan Wight Meyer, assoc.; a son, Eric, j’75; a sister; a grandchild; and a great-grandchild.

Donald McConnell, e’49, 82, Nov. 5 in Lawrence, where he was retired associate director of KU’s Housing Department. Surviving are his wife, Bertie Ross McConnell, assoc.; a son, Donald Jr., b’80, g’83; a daughter, Judith McConnell-Farmer, d’70; a sister, Doris McConnell Owens, f’53; six grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

R.H. Prewitt Jr., c’48, 82, Nov. 20 in Lee’s Summit, Mo., where he was a retired independent oil and gas operator. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Neely Prewitt, ’49; a daughter, and three sisters.

Bob Roberts, e’49, 85, Nov. 4 in Kansas City, where he was a mechanical engineer at Bendix from 1949 to 1983. He is survived by his wife, Joanne Beamer Roberts, c’48; a son; two daughters; and six grandchildren.

Robert Russell, c’41, m’50, 88, Dec. 6 in Raytown, Mo., where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Betty, a son, a daughter and seven grandchildren.

Harry Talley, b’48, 80, Dec. 6 in Green Valley, Ariz. He was retired from the administrative staff of Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., and earlier he had been business manager of the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, S.D., and at Olivet College in Olivet, Mich. He is survived by his wife, Toveylou Sessions Talley, d’50; a daughter; two sons; six grandchildren; and three great-granddaughters.

Mary Varner Warwick, c’49, 79, Dec. 26 in Kansas City. She had served on the national Board of Directors for the KU Alumni Association and had been a long-time alumna volunteer for Pi Beta Phi sorority. Survivors include her husband, Harold, b’49; a son, Hadley, c’77; a daughter, Linda Warwick Manco, b’80; a sister, Barbara Varner Frizell, c’47; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Bernard Wildgen, m’41, 89, Aug. 25 in Holland, Mich. He practiced ophthalmology in Muskegon for 40 years and was chief of staff at Mercy Hospital. Three sons, three daughters and 16 grandchildren survive.

Shirley Wills, c’46, 81, Nov. 25 in Kansas City, where she was a librarian at Linda Hall Library for nearly 40 years. Several cousins survive.

1950s

Carl Anderson, b’56, 72, Dec. 28 in Wichita, where he was retired from a career with Boeing and in the trucking business. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Catherine Anderson Crittenden, ’85; a son, Carl, g’99; and six grandchildren.

Jack Beeman, b’50, 81, Nov. 24 in Russell. He is survived by his wife, Velma; a daughter, Jaci Beeman Feil, d’80; and three grandchildren.

Mary Symes Christie Braun, ’57, 71, Oct. 26. She lived in Cambridge, Ohio, and worked as a music therapist at Hospice of Guernsey. Two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren survive.

John Burnett, e’50, 81, Oct. 27 in Oro Valley, Ariz., where he was retired from a career with Lockheed Aircraft. He is survived by his wife, Marion; a daughter; three brothers, two of whom are Wayne, e’51, and Norman, e’58; two grandsons; and two great-grandsons.

Carol Dergance Davidson, c’50, 79, Dec. 7 in Conifer, Colo. She is survived by her husband, David, c’49, g’51; two daughters; two sons; and eight grandchildren.

George Gareis, e’57, 77, Nov. 22. He lived in West Lafayette, Ind., and was a retired electrical engineer at Purdue University. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Tuggle Gareis, ’56; two sons; a daughter; a brother; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Robert Greenhaw, e’51, 79, Nov. 13 in Overland Park. He lived in Leawood and had worked in the building industry. He is survived by his wife, Molly Greenhaw, s’80; a son, David, c’76; a daughter, Martha Greenhaw Wofford, d’71; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Paul “Pete” Harnar, ’56, 72, Dec. 14 in Lawrence, where he had owned Spanish Crest Apartments. He is survived by his wife, Retta Jones Harnar, ’56; a son, Jeffrey, c’81; two daughters, Kelley Harnar O’Connor, c’82, and Kristyn Harnar Nieder, d’87, g’96; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Harry Hunt, d’55, 74, Nov. 5 in Sun City, Ariz., where he was retired after a 29-year career in education. Two daughters, a sister and two granddaughters survive.

Raymond Lednicky, e’52, 83, Nov. 5 in Lenexa. He lived in Lee’s Summit, Mo., and is survived by a son, a brother and two granddaughters.

Donna Beall Martin, n’50, 77, Sept. 10 in Lamar, Mo., where she was a retired nurse. She is survived by her husband, Gene, two sons, three daughters, a brother, two sisters, 19 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Doris Long Mettler, n’50, 85, Sept. 2 in Grand Rapids, Mich. A son survives.

Wayne Parker, m’56, 78, Jan. 13, 2006, in Salida, Colo. He lived in Buena Vista and was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Anne, four sons and two grandchildren.

Naida Craig Perkins, f’51, 77, Nov. 11 in Scottsdale, Ariz. Survivors include two sons; a daughter; and two brothers, one of whom is Orval Craig, ’61.

James Schellenberg, g’55, PhD’59, 74, Nov. 6 in Terre Haute, Ind. He was a university faculty member for 44 years, teaching Western Civilization at KU from 1957 to 1959 and later teaching sociology at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, where he retired as a full professor in 2001. He is survived by his wife, Christine
Alberti Schellenberg, assoc.; three sons; and a daughter.

**Webster Smither, e’51,** 81, Dec. 4 in Overland Park, where he was a retired quality control engineer. He is survived by a daughter, Alicia Karol, '83; a son, Webster, '80; and two grandchildren.

**Shirley Brown Swedlund, c’51,** 77, Nov. 24 in Mission. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth, b’50; a son; two daughters, one of whom is Vicki, ’79; two grandchildren; and three stepgrandchildren.

**Ann Wallace Talley, c’55,** 73, Nov. 27 in Marilla, N.Y. She is survived by her husband, Robert, c’55, g’56; four sons; two sisters, Mary, d’63, and Janeth Auer, ’60; two daughters, one of whom is Alicia, ’82; and 13 grandchildren.

**George Wallace, c’50,** 78, Nov. 12 in Leon, where he was a retired disaster director for the American Red Cross. He is survived by his wife, Paulene, a stepson, a stepdaughter, six stepgrandchildren, and 14 stepgreat-grandchildren.

**Mary Hook Ward, n’54,** 76, Oct. 23 in Hazelhurst, Ga., where she was a retired nurse. Several cousins survive.

**James Wheat, d’51, g’59,** 78, Nov. 11 in Overland Park, where he taught art at Shawnee Mission West High School for 38 years. He is survived by three daughters, two sons and 10 grandchildren.

**1960s**

**William Auer, e’60,** 70, Nov. 28 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was retired from a career in the oil and gas industry. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Parsons Auer, ’60; two daughters, one of whom is Susan Auer Mitchell, c’88, g’94; two sons; two sisters, Mary, d’63, and Janet Auer Levitt, d’61; and 11 grandchildren.

**William Birner, g’61,** 69, Nov. 16 in LaPlace, La., where he was a retired attorney. He also had taught theatre and had written a book, 20 Plays for Young Children. He is survived by his wife, Brenda, two sons, a daughter, a sister and four grandchildren.

**Kenneth Canfield, c’63,** 65, Nov. 8 in Santa Fe, N.M., where he owned the Canfield Gallery. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; four daughters, one of whom is Sarah, f’00, s’02; a sister; a brother; and four grandchildren.

**Jane “Sugar” Schmidt Chalus, n’68,** 66, Nov. 14 in Cherry Hills Village, Colo. She is survived by her husband, Denny, m’67; two daughters; a son; a brother; and three grandchildren.

**Douglas Kuper, c’60,** 67, Oct. 27. He lived in Potter Valley, Calif., where he worked for Sony Technology Development. Survivors include his wife, Lee, and a sister, Marlene Duper Hendrick, ’57.

**Allice Noland Land, d’61, g’68,** 97, Dec. 7 in Hillsboro, Ore. She taught elementary school in Lawrence for 40 years before retiring in 1975 and moving to Hillsboro. A daughter, two grandchildren, three stepgrandchildren, six great-grandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren survive.

**Andrew Lyons, c’65, l’68,** 63, Nov. 26 in Leawood, where he was a lawyer and co-owner of Clay and Bailey Manufacturing. He is survived by his wife, Carol; two daughters, one of whom is Kristine, b’88; two stepdaughters, Kari Shumate Ains, s’95, and Stephanie Shumate Thompson, ’00; a sister; and six stepgrandchildren.

**Charles McIlwaine, b’61,** 67, Nov. 22 in Evergreen, Colo., where he was retired vice president of communications for the Coleman Company. A nephew and a niece survive.

**Robert Neth Sr., c’66,** 82, Nov. 12 in Lee’s Summit, Mo. He spent 16 years in the U.S. Navy before becoming executive director of continuing medical education at KU and later at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas. Surviving are his wife, Rosie; two sons; a daughter, Deborah, d’74, g’75; two brothers; and two granddaughters.

**Ralf Nicolai, g’69, Ph.D’69,** March 30, 2006. He lived in Athens and had headed the department of Germanic and Slavic languages at the University of Georgia. Survivors include his wife, Aneta Carillo Nicolai, ’67; two sons; a brother; and two grandchildren.

**Nancy Harper Schneider, d’66,** 62, Nov. 18 in Des Moines, where she was retired after a 33-year career in education. She is survived by her husband, Joseph, and a brother.

**Connie Skinner, g’60,** 75, Nov. 26 in Topeka, where he was a public-school teacher, associate principal and principal for 36 years. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; three sons, one of whom is Cory, j’86; a sister; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Nancy Hurley Smith, c’69, g’75,** 59, Dec. 10 in Lawrence, where she had been the variety-page editor for the Lawrence Journal-World and had published a gardening newsletter, Back in Thyme. She is survived by her husband, Richard, c’69; two daughters, Alison Smith Reber, c’94, and Adrienne Smith Oudenampsen, c’02; a brother, Jack Hurley, j’70; and two granddaughters.

**Kathleen Schwartzkopf Sylwestner, d’65,** 63, Nov. 28 in Lawrence, where she lived. She had been director of music therapy at Topeka State Hospital and later did counseling at Catholic Community Services in Lawrence. She is survived by her husband, Harold “Jim,” g’64, Ph.D’70; two sons; her father; a brother, Lynn Schwartzkopf, a’68; and two sisters, Miriam Schwartzkopf Davies, d’61, and Janet Schwartzkopf Young, d’66.

**Yvonne Walker-Taylor, g’65,** 90, Oct. 20 in Wilberforce, Ohio, where in 1984 she became the first woman president of Wilberforce University. She also was the first American woman to succeed her father as president of a university and later was a distinguished professor of education at Central State University. Survivors include a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

**Kenneth Wilson, a’65,** 64, Nov. 11 in Eureka. He had been an architect at Mastercraft and is survived by a daughter, a son, a sister, a brother and three grandchildren.
1970s
Paul Brown, m'70, 61, Nov. 13 in Olathe, where he was co-founder of Associates in Family Care and later practiced with College Park Family Care. He is survived by his wife, Wanda, two daughters, two brothers, two sisters and two grandchildren.

Michael Conley, '78, 51, Oct. 7 in Overland Park. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Parrette Conley, d'78, two daughters, six brothers and four sisters.

Ronald Haun, b'70, g'77, 58, Nov. 24 in Dallas, where he was an accountant with the General Accounting Office. His father, Richard, '39, survives.

Stephen “Spiffy” Sturgeon, c'71, 58, Nov. 14 in Kansas City. He lived in Laurie, Mo., and had taught photography at Longview College. Surviving are his wife, Candy, a daughter, a son, a brother and two sisters.

Linda Lamb Van Nice, '74, 54, Oct. 1 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence and is survived by her husband, John, j'73; two sons, Jason, c'00, and Brandon, c'06; her parents; a brother; and a grandson.

1980s
Kozette Miller Barcus, c'82, 50, Nov. 2 in Dallas. She lived in Overland Park, where she was retired from working as a stockbroker and in the insurance industry. She is survived by her husband, Mark; her parents; and two sisters, one of whom is Kandace Miller Bragg, c'84, g'88.

Irma Olson Boyer, l'84, 55, Aug. 23 in Leavenworth. She had worked for the Federal Parole Commission and for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Survivors include her husband, Mark, three brothers and a sister.

Helen Pilgram Elsbury, g'84, 84, Dec. 1 in Overland Park, where she was a retired nurse and health educator. She is survived by her husband, Clarence; two daughters, one of whom is Connie Pilgram Zaun, '68; a stepdaughter; a stepson; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Thomas Grady, b'80, 48, Nov. 4 in Phoenix. He is survived by his parents, Donald, assoc., and Barbara Grady, assoc.

Timothy Hjort, l'85, 56, Dec. 9 in Wichita. His mother and a sister survive.

Debbie Belusky Johnston, j'85, 44, Nov. 2 in Overland Park. She is survived by her husband, Eric, j'84; a son; a daughter; her mother, Monica, assoc.; her grandmother; and two brothers, one of whom is Michael, c'84.

Forrest Jolly Jr., g'88, 70, Jan. 4 in Meriden. He was a retired teacher and is survived by his wife, Grace Stouppe Jolly, '92, and a sister.

Douglas Orrison, b'82, 50, Nov. 2 in Overland Park. He is survived by his mother, Lois, and a brother, Timothy, c'78.

Valeri Gideon Zerger, g'86, 46, Nov. 7 in Rose Hill. She is survived by her husband, Randall, e'88, g'90; two daughters; a son; her father, Clifton Gideon, '61; two brothers, one of whom is Greg Gideon, g'86, l'89; and two sisters.

1990s
Geraldine “Gerl” Lickteig Ha, c'99, 62, Dec. 28 in Kansas City. She had been a flight attendant for Continental Airlines for 19 years and had owned a flower business in Honolulu. Surviving are her husband, Wayne, a daughter, a brother and a sister.

Michelle Raney, '94, 52, Nov. 2 in Lawrence, where she had been a public-school nurse until retiring in 1996. She is survived by her husband, Isaac “Bud” Stallworth, s'78; two sons, one of whom is Jehren Raney, c'03; three stepsons; and her parents, Richard, b'50, p'52, and Kathleen Larson Raney, c'50.

Shannon Stoll Weaver, d'97, 32, Jan. 5 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence and worked in publishing and as a consultant for Arbonne International. Surviving are her husband, Marquies, '03; a son; a daughter; her parents; two sisters; and her grandparents.

2000s
Megan Barnett, d'05, 25, Dec. 15. She lived in Kansas City, where she was studying for a doctorate in physical therapy at Rockhurst University. She is survived by her father, Mark Brown-Barnett, p'73; her stepmother, Patricia Brown-Barnett, assoc.; a brother, Chad Barnett, p'03; a stepbrother, a stepmother, and her stepgrandparents.

Jason Schrowe, c'01, 27, Nov. 11 in Chicago. Among survivors are his parents; a sister, Jennifer, c'01; and a stepbrother.

The University Community
Marlys Heide Harder, 85, Dec. 6 in Lawrence, where she volunteered at Kansas Audio Reader and at KU’s Helen Foresman Spencer Museum of Art for many years. A daughter and four grandchildren survive.

Erik Larsen, 95, Oct. 18 in Beverly Hills, Fla. He was a professor of art history at KU from 1967 until retiring in 1980, and he was an expert on Dutch and Flemish paintings of the 17th century. He is survived by his wife, Katharina, a son and a granddaughter.

G. Baley Price, 101, Nov. 7 in Lawrence, where he was a professor of mathematics at KU from 1937 until 1975 and had chaired the math department from 1951 until 1970. He is survived by a son; five daughters, Cora Lee Price Kluge, c'60, Lucy, c'68, Edwina Price Eisert, c'71, Doris Price Burgert, c'75, d'76, and Diane Price Fukunaga, c'75, d'76, g'87, PhD'89, 14 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Heinrich Stammler, 93, Nov. 29 in Lawrence, where in 1962 he became the first chairman of KU’s new department of Slavic languages and literature. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Ursula Hoffman Stammler, '78; a daughter, Andrea Stammler Lewis, '94; a son, Christopher, '88; and three grandchildren.

Associates
Carol Arbuckle Hohl, 63, Nov. 12 in Prairie Village. She is survived by her husband, George, '63; three sons, two of whom are Christopher, e'95, and Matthew, '01; her mother; a brother; and two grandchildren.
In many small Chinese villages, including the one where Pok-Chi Lau’s ancestors lived, the lure of steady work in the coastal cities has emptied homes of all but a few family members, usually the very young and the very old. On a study abroad trip last summer, Lau and 24 students who visited such a village found that beds were easy to come by. Other amenities Westerners take for granted were not.

One student stayed in a home that contained a hot water heater, but the sole resident—an elderly grandmother unaccustomed to such luxuries—didn’t know how to use it. She boiled water on a wood stove to give her visitor hot water for a towel bath.

“This student was so humbled by this experience,” says Lau, professor of design, who organized the trip with fellow professor May Tveit.
This was so memorable for her, and in that there was something other than photography at work. That’s what I wanted. Photography was just a vehicle to experience understanding.”

Memorable, too, are the photographs students took during their monthlong travels around the country. About 140 were showcased in “Made in China: Observations and Understanding,” which concluded a three-month run at the Spencer Museum of Art in February. Similar shows are planned for Topeka, Wichita and China.

Lau has taught photography at KU for 30 years and in 2002 published Dreams of the Golden Mountain, a book of black-and-white photographs documenting the lives of North America’s Chinese immigrants over the last quarter of the 20th century, a time when many Chinese saw America, not their own country, as the land of prosperity. He led the study abroad trip to expose young Americans to the new Chinese migration and the faces behind the Made in China product labels.

“I took my students there to see the migration of people from the mountains, from the villages, so they understand how and what and who is making all these things that we buy,” Lau says.

The eye-opening cultural experience his student encountered in a tiny village is exactly what he was after.

“We are so spoiled. We take so much for granted, and we dispose of so many things per day—newspapers, juice cans, computers,” Lau says. “There are huge economic and cultural differences (between the U.S. and China) and some students will never see that.”

Economic gaps exist within China, too, as the student work shows. Signs of prosperity and Western influence mix with images of poverty and traditional life. Juxtapositions abound: Sleek steel-and-glass towers and dilapidated tin-roof shacks, a faded painting of Mao beneath a Pepsi banner, McDonald’s restaurants and street vendors hawking fresh vegetables and plucked lowl.

The larger contrast between Chinese and American life is ever present, especially in the implicit gulf between the young college students behind the camera and the equally young factory workers in front of it.

“The students saw people their own age working in factories, making the things they wear and use,” Lau says of the group’s rare access inside Chinese manufacturing. “They come home and realize their apartments are full of these things, and they feel guilty. Yet if they stop buying, people are without jobs.”

Many individual photographs are stunning, more stunning is the collective picture generated when all the images hang side by side. Students in art and art history, architecture, political science, design, linguistics and anthropology made the trip. The result is an eclectic take on Chinese culture.

Most had no photography experience, but they clearly rose to Lau’s challenge.

“I urged them, ‘If you do not open up your heart and mind, then you are not making photographs; you’re just making tourist pictures.’”

After Lau and his students sifted through hundreds of images to settle on the final choices, Tveit and her exhibition design students fashioned a vibrant, eye-catching show. Gallery walls were painted the bright red of the Chinese flag, with slips of yellow paper (suggesting both Post-it notes and shirt tags) like yellow stars against the red field. These tags contained students’ written reflections, which hint at complicated reactions to China that lasted long after they returned to Kansas.

“Put a face,” read one tag, “on every product you see.”

—Steven Hill
Bound for glory

Family legacy inspires student to create award-winning gospel music

For proof of music’s healing powers, consider pianist James Cockman III.

Last summer, his great-grandmother, 99-year-old Leona Helvey, died. In the week following her funeral, Cockman, a KU doctoral student in piano performance, prepared two original hymns for the Gospel Music Association’s national Music in the Rockies competition.

After driving all night from southern Missouri, he arrived in Estes Park, Colo., squeezed in a few hours of practice, and performed before thousands of gospel musicians. He won the overall grand prize for instrumental performance and the national award for an instrumental solo/ensemble performance.

“The pieces came to me after her funeral and, Lord willing, I hammered them out,” recalls Cockman, a student of Professor Jack Winerock.

For the first composition, Cockman melded “Abide With Me,” a favorite family hymn, with Frederick Chopin’s Etude Op. 10 No. 9 and Franz Liszt’s Concert Etude No. 3. The second piece included familiar works by American composers George Gershwin, Scott Joplin and Louis Moreau Gottschalk, along with the hymn “He Set Me Free,” a theme that guided Cockman during a stressful week. “I wanted the messages of the hymns to be prominent,” he says. “My great-grandmother wanted to be set free.”

The compositions highlighted Cockman’s grace in improvisation and transcription, and he performed them without sheet music, a skill that comes easily, he says, because he first learned to play music by ear, after receiving a keyboard at age 8. “Jazz and other arrangements are fun for me to play without music,” he says, “because I can visualize the patterns.”

Gospel music is a family tradition Cockman hopes to continue, perhaps through ministry. Meantime, he thinks of his great-grandmother, who often listened to him practice. “She would have liked the two trophies,” he says. —Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Flying solo, only more so

Group develops unmanned aircraft for Antarctic research

Aerospace engineering students and faculty hope to design, construct and deploy an unmanned aircraft capable of hauling ground-penetrating radar and computers over hundreds of miles of the forbidding west Antarctic ice sheets. Ultimately, their research could one day help launch a revolution in pilotless aircraft—a boon to scientists, farmers, international peacekeepers and even cargo haulers.

Rick Hale, associate professor of aero-
space engineering, and graduate student William Donovan, e’04, are leading a core group of five KU faculty and about a dozen graduate and undergraduate aerospace students in developing the “Meridian Unmanned Aerial Vehicle” for use by KU’s Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS).

Hale and Donovan spent the winter break testing a small-scale model in Antarctica, and some of their findings were surprising. Weather during the Antarctic summer was not nearly as bleak as Hale had feared, especially considering the fact that aeronautical systems already are designed to endure 40-below temperatures when operating above 30,000 feet; and because of extremely low humidity, wing-surface icing is not considered a serious threat.

Hale and Donovan did discover that the utterly featureless landscape made remote-controlled takeoff and landing nearly impossible. Future aircraft will be equipped with a satellite communications system that will relay altitude and speed; ultimately, automated takeoff and landing systems would replace all radio-controlled functions that are now the responsibility of a ground-based “pilot.”

CReSIS, funded by the National Science Foundation at $19 million for five years and led by Prasad Gogineni, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, deploys ice-penetrating radar to measure the rate of melting of Antarctic’s ice sheets. KU faculty and students and their colleagues from other CReSIS institutions have been using regular aircraft, with human pilots, to conduct most of their field work.

The pilotless vehicle—a so-called “autonomous platform”—will allow the radar to be flown for many hundreds of miles at about 3,000 feet, a mission with far too much risk of disorientation for a human pilot, while consuming about 90 percent less fuel than a manned aircraft. Upon its return, a computer hard drive with a terabyte of data is easily removed and replaced, and the aircraft is refueled and sent back on its way.

Every course in the KU aerospace curriculum is tackling these challenges, with help from engineering students in nearly every other discipline. Students will fabricate the first full-scale aircraft this spring and summer, aiming for an Aug. 30 target date for flight. After extensive testing and training in military airspace near Salina, the team will continue to train in Lawrence through the 2007-’08 academic year before heading to Greenland in summer 2008.

If those field tests are successful, the full-scale Meridian aircraft would begin assisting Antarctic research after the fall 2008 semester.

“This is the greatest project we have going,” Hale says. “Not only is it exciting, globally significant research, but if we can get this working, then we can make a real difference in transportation.”

Potential applications include economically feasible cargo service to small-town airports, crop and forestry studies, landmine detection, pipeline inspections and aerial surveys. Hale also hopes to begin developing “extraordinarily stable” aircraft to fly into hurricanes and for high-altitude sensing.

“This is all going to take some time,” Hale says. “People don’t want an uninhabited aircraft flying over their heads right now, and that’s as it should be because they’re not reliable; they’re not safe. One day they will be, and this is a step in that direction.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Snakes on a plain

Joseph and Suzanne Collins want to put a snake in your pocket. Thirty-eight snakes, to be precise.

Joseph, ’72, adjunct herpetologist at KU, and Suzanne, ’82, created A Pocket Guide to Kansas Snakes, a compact field guide that catalogs the 38 species that call Kansas home. The 69-page book organizes the snakes by taxonomic family and includes sections on size, range and habits. Vivid photographs of each species by Suzanne Collins and Bob Gress highlight the handy volume.

“Pocket guides are a great way to get people involved with wildlife conservation, because the more people become familiar with a fauna, the more they have invested in it,” Joseph Collins says. Ten Kansas species are designated as threatened or in need of conservation.

The Great Plains Nature Center of Wichita published the book; sponsors include the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Westar Energy and the Center for North American Herpetology, the clearinghouse for academic research founded by Joseph and Suzanne.

To get a free copy, stop by the Raven Bookstore in Lawrence, or send a check for $1.50 to cover shipping and handling to Snake Pocket Guide, Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 East 29th Street North, Wichita, KS, 67220.

—Steven Hill
The photographs have curled and the pages have bronzed over the years, but the thrill of ultimate achievement beams as fresh as yesterday on the faces of the boys of '52.

"Along the Road to Helsinki," a scrapbook put together by Don Pierce, c'43, KU’s sports information director from 1946 to 1964, documents the 1952 KU team that won the NCAA title and went on to capture gold for the USA at the Olympics in Helsinki, Finland.

Ann Pierce, '68, recently discovered the book among some 40 boxes of KU memorabilia that belonged to her late father. Much of the material she donated to the Booth Family Hall of Athletics. "But this wouldn’t be any good behind glass," Pierce says of the scrapbook, which preserves newspaper articles, souvenir programs, photos, letters and an 18-page account of the season that Don Pierce wrote before the Olympics.

She loaned it to the Alumni Association; you’ll find highlights from the keepsake in our Ultimate Guide to KU Basketball at kualumni.org.

Among the treasures is a letter coach Phog Allen wrote to his players after the NCAA title game, which the Jayhawks won, 80-63, over St. John’s.

"It’s been great fun. But twenty-five or thirty years from now you boys will radiate and multiply the recollections of your struggles and your successes and your defeats and your dejections," Allen wrote. "All these will be rolled into a fine philosophy of life which will give you durable satisfactions down through the years."

Doc may have understated the time frame, but he got the sentiment right. Fifty-five years after they conquered the basketball world, the thrill that was fresh in 1952 endures. It’s written all over their faces.

World beaters

A long-lost scrapbook renews ‘durable satisfactions’ of Jayhawks’ 1952 championship run

Phog Allen celebrates the 1952 NCAA championship with Bill Houglan, Bill Lienhard, Charlie Hoag, Dean Kelley, Bob Kenney and Clyde Lovellette.
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