Sara Paretsky
Mystery’s leading lady turns her eyes to Lawrence

- Geography’s go-to guy
- Wounded warriors
Globe Plotter
Jerome Dobson says geography classes are getting to be endangered species at some of the nation’s finest universities. His own career illustrates why writing off the spatial science is a bad idea.

BY TOM EBLEN

Warrior Scholars
A new collaboration between KU and the U.S. Army aims to help soldiers wounded in combat reclaim their careers—and their peace of mind—on Mount Oread.

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Back Story
Sara Paretsky rooted her innovative female private eye, V. I. Warshawski, on Chicago’s South Side, where she thrived. She looks for inspiration a little closer to home in her latest novel, Bleeding Kansas. Why? It’s no mystery.

BY STEVEN HILL
Cover photograph by Steve Puppe
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Be the difference for KU

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“There are five of us in my family. The scholarship made the difference in where I could go to school.”

Katie Blankenau, Lincoln, Neb.
National Merit Scholar
Chancellors Club Scholar, Class of 2011
Steve Hawley likes to joke about his friendly rivalry with fellow KU astronaut Joe Engle: They tease each other about highway signs along a certain stretch of I-70.

Engle, e'55, grew up in Chapman. Two exit signs near the town proclaim it as “Hometown of Astronaut Joe Engle.” Hawley, c’73, spent his formative years about 40 miles farther west, in Salina, which gives him an edge in the rivalry, he says: “Salina is at the junction of 1-70 and highway 135, so I’ve got four signs to Joe’s two.”

But Engle, whom Hawley includes among the astronauts who inspired him, recently upped the ante. “He sent me a picture of a grain elevator in Chapman with a space shuttle painted on it,” Hawley reports. “Salina has a bigger grain elevator, so I need to find the city manager.”

But true accomplishment isn’t only in the eye of the autograph-seeker. Countless Jayhawks have made names for themselves in their own professional and personal arenas. Many, like Paretsky and Hawley, have returned to KU time and again, giving back to their alma mater by sharing their knowledge with younger members of the KU family. Still others whose names may never be famous have used their skills to benefit others: Two such alumni, a scholar and a physician, are winners of this year’s Distinguished Service Citation (see story, page 36).

Dozens more names and stories of accomplished Jayhawks clog a file drawer in my office; they could easily fill every issue of Kansas Alumni for years to come. As we plan future issues, we often fret that there are never enough pages for all the stories we could tell.

With frustration, however, comes sweet satisfaction. When we view the procession of our fellow Jayhawks who have walked down the Hill and found success, one thing is certain: We’re in good company.

By Jennifer Jackson Sanner

First Word

Steve Hawley, c’73, autographs Salina Central High School student Tyler Walker’s space-themed watercolor painting during a tour of the state. Hawley returns to KU to teach this fall.
On the Boulevard

Exhibitions
“El Lissitzky: Futurist Portfolios,” through May 18, Spencer Museum of Art
“Reframing Society: Russian Constructivist Photography,” through May 18, Spencer Museum of Art
“Resounding Spirit: Japanese Contemporary Art of the 1960s,” through May 18, Spencer Museum of Art
“Betty Austin Hensley’s Flutes of the World,” April 5-May 25, Spencer Museum of Art
“Stop Look Listen,” through May 31, Spencer Museum of Art

“Make a Mark: Art of the 1960s,” through June 1, Spencer Museum of Art
“Re-imagined: Memory and Nostalgia in Postwar Japanese Art,” through June 1, Spencer Museum of Art

University Theatre

APRIL
3-6, 8-12 “The Bald Soprano” by Eugene Ionesco and “Linguish” by Edward Einhorn
25, 27, May 1-3 “The Shape of Things” by Neil LaBute

Lied Center Events

MARCH
26 Urban Bush Women/Compagnie JANT-BI
31 Miss Nelson Has a Field Day

APRIL
2 Elena Urioste, violin, Edwards Campus
8 “HMS Pinafore”
10 Gabriela Montero
12 East Village Opera Co.
29 Symphonic Band

MAY
1 “Movin’ Out”
6 Bales Chorale Concert, Bales Organ Recital Hall
6 University Band

Special events

APRIL
12 Rock Chalk Ball, New Grand Ballroom of Bartle Hall, Kansas City
19 Gold Medal Club Reunion, Adams Alumni Center

Fine arts student Daniel Scannell drew artistic inspiration from the evolution of the Jayhawk. Scannell’s plastic-cup sculptures were originally displayed in the Art and Design Gallery as part of his senior project, then went on display at the Grad Fair in the Kansas Union ballroom (above and right); the interesting adaptations of KU’s mascot have found a permanent perch in the KU Bookstores. Scannell’s version of the 1929 Jayhawk (bottom right) is based on the design that served as the University’s mascot for 12 years. KU student Eugene “Yogi” Williams, then a cartoonist for the University Daily Kansan, designed the 1941 mascot (top right), which became known as the “Fighting Jayhawk.”

STEVE PUPPE (3)
MAY
4 Class Ring Ceremony, Adams Alumni Center
8 Grad Grill, Adams Alumni Center
12 Tradition Keepers Finals Dinner, Adams Alumni Center
18 Commencement Lunch, The Outlook

Lectures

APRIL
2 Ian Buruma, Humanities Lecture Series, Kansas Union
7 Sean Donahue, Hallmark Symposium, 3140 Wescoe Hall
21 Ann Willoughby, Hallmark Symposium, 3140 Wescoe Hall
24 Carol Ann Carter, Humanities Lecture Series, Kansas Union
28 Jerry Bleem, Hallmark Symposium, 3140 Wescoe Hall

Murphy Hall
50th Anniversary events at the Lied Center

APRIL
1 Joy of Singing Concert
6 KU Choirs
17-18 University Dance Company
22 KU Jazz presents John Williams’ “My Fair Lady”
26 KU Symphony Orchestra
27 KU Wind Ensemble

Academic calendar

MAY
8 Last day of spring classes
9 Stop day
12-16 Final exams
18 Commencement

29 Wichita Chapter: A Night with the Arts
30 Pittsburg: 'Hawk Talk

MAY
5 Wichita Chapter: KU Debate Experience
6 Salina: North Central Chapter Hall Center Lecture
9 Wichita: Sundown Parade
17 Denver: Grill Out
20 Goodland: Northwest Chapter Alumni Banquet

Alumni events

MARCH
24 Atwood: 'Hawk Talk
25 Manhattan: 'Hawk Talk
26 Lawrence: 'Hawk Talk
29 West Palm Beach Club: Wine Tasting

APRIL
2 Winfield: South Chapter Meet and Greet with Chancellor Hemenway
10 Lansing: 'Hawk Talk
13 Paris: Alumni Happy Hour
13 Topeka: Shawnee County Chapter Wine Tasting
15 Hays: 'Hawk Talk
15 Topeka: 'Hawk Talk
16 Great Bend: 'Hawk Talk
17 McPherson: 'Hawk Talk
17 Hutchinson: Reno County Wine Tasting
21 Topeka: Shawnee County Chapter KU Debate Experience
22 Wichita Chapter: Baseball Tailgate
26 Garden City: Great Plains Chapter Golf Tournament and Dinner
26 Hong Kong: Chapter Kickoff
29 Emporia: 'Hawk Talk
29 Arlington: KU Alumni Night with the Rangers

Kansas Honors Program

MARCH
26 Atchison

APRIL
2 Oakley
3 Pratt
9 Neodesha
10 Logan
16 Scott City
21 Greensburg Honor Roll

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

The last frontier

“See the world” is sage advice that Robert Pine, d’41, c’46, took to heart. The 88-year-old resident of Boulder, Colo., and his wife, Dorothy, c’42, are recognized by the Travelers’ Century Club—a networking group for those who’ve visited at least 100 countries—as the world’s only couple to have visited all 315 of the club’s recognized countries and territories.

In a recent essay for International Travel News, Pine wrote, “The next great advance will be space travel. ... Perhaps in a few years the moon will be added to the Travelers’ Century Club’s lists of places to visit!”

After we saw his article, we had to check in on a couple with whom we had not spoken since our profile in issue No. 4, 2006. He reports that their last trip, to Afghanistan, occurred that fall; as for the moon, Pine suggests anything is possible.

“I grew up in horse-and-buggy days. My family had a Model T Ford,” Pine recalls. “So if we go as far in the next 50 years as we did in the last 50, who knows?”

The Pines aren’t as footloose as they once were, but, thanks to youthful imaginations, they’ll always be fancy free. Which is the sagest advice of all.

Rhino on a rampage

Halfway through his rookie season on the Professional Bowlers Association tour, Ryan “Rhino” Page had charged past dozens of veteran tenpinners to claim the No. 10 spot in the PBA points ranking. The former KU bowling team member placed second in two tourneys and chalked up more than $40,000 in winnings.

Page, ’07, is also rewriting PBA record books: At December’s Spartanburg Classic (where he missed first place by 10 pins) he became the first bowler in PBA history to advance to the finals twice via the qualifying rounds.

Widely considered the top nonexempt bowler on the tour, Page is virtually a lock for exempt status next year. Meanwhile, he hopes to finish in the top 16 (no nonexempt bowler has ever finished in the top 40), earning a spot in next year’s Japan Cup. No matter what happens, though, he’ll always have Spartanburg, And Wauwatosa, And Vernon Hills. All are stops on the big-league tour he’s dreamed of since taking up bowling at age 4.

“It’s kind of surreal, bowling against guys I watched as a kid,” he says. “We’re not competing for a ton of money, that’s not what it’s about. It’s about chasing the dream.”

Enjoy the ride, Rhino.
Hunter in the house

A tough year for 9-year-old Hunter Watson got a little sweeter with a surprise phone call in December from Bill Self.

Watson lost his 7-year-old sister, Chloe, to a brain tumor in October. Self encouraged the Salina fourth-grader to stay strong and offered him seats in Allen Field House for KU’s Jan. 8 game against Loyola. Hunter shot baskets with the Jayhawks during the pregame shootaround and visited the postgame locker room.

“It meant a whole lot to Hunter, because he’s a big KU fan,” says mother Heidi Feyerherm. “To meet those guys and hear words of encouragement from people you really look up to, for a fourth-grader that means a lot more than it does coming from your mom.”

Feyerherm videotaped the call that started it all and posted it online at youtube.com/watch?v=Po299lksr6M. Awestruck Hunter says little, but the smile on his face speaks a thousand words.

Heard by the Bird

“Jeeze, I really don’t know what to say to that. I don’t know whether to be proud, afraid or outraged.”

—Associate Athletics Director Jim Marchiony, in the Lawrence Journal-World, when told in January that a Missouri state senator had introduced legislation to make the Jayhawk the “official game bird” of the state of Missouri.

This dedication goes out to...

Sometime around Thanksgiving, David Ambler, retired vice chancellor for student affairs, returned home to a message that Gay Clock, assistant to Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, hoped to schedule a short visit by the chancellor. “What do you suppose I’ve done?” Ambler asked his wife, Mary Kate.

Before that meeting could be arranged, the Amblers saw Hemenway at his holiday reception in the Adams Alumni Center, so that’s where they heard the news: The Student Recreation Fitness Center, a building “for students, about students and by students,” would be renamed in his honor.

Says Ambler: “I about fell in the punch bowl.”

Under Ambler’s guidance, then-student body president Kevin Yoder, c’99, l’02, in April 1999 convinced students they should raise their fees to pay for a building they would never use—and only three years after a similar proposal had been soundly rejected. The $17 million, student-funded recreation center opened in 2003, a year after Ambler’s retirement.

Now it is undergoing a $6.3 million addition, and next fall will be rededicated as the David A. Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center.

Deserving though it is as recognition for Ambler’s dedication to student life at KU, Mary Chappell, director of recreation services, notes that the honor is shared by all staff members who, like Ambler, put in early mornings, late nights, long weekends and entire careers to help make KU a university for and about students.

“For 25 years Dr. Ambler was the champion of the student experience,” Chappell says. “I could go on for days about why this is the right thing to do.”

As could we, so take a bow, Dr. Ambler. Just watch that punch bowl.
Laura Stiles, a senior engineering physics major, beams as she describes the day two years ago when one of her professors surprised his class by introducing a special guest, Steve Hawley, c’73. “We all gasped,” she says. “There he was—a real astronaut.”

On Feb. 27, Stiles and other young scientists got another chance to hear Hawley, a veteran of five NASA shuttle missions, speak at KU. As a reception wound down at the Dole Institute of Politics, the students surrounded him, launching question after question and hanging on Hawley’s every word.

The astronaut was in no hurry to leave. In fact, the man who has logged 32 days in space seemed to feel right at home.

Soon Hawley will be home for good. After three decades at NASA, he will return to KU this fall as a professor of physics and astronomy, teaching in the department where he earned his degree with highest distinction 35 years ago.

The Dole Institute reception was the fourth and final stop on a daylong tour for Hawley and Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, who first announced Hawley’s return to Kansas at his hometown high school, Salina Central, before traveling to the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson and the Statehouse in Topeka, where Kansas senators welcomed Hawley back with a standing ovation.

Along the way, the astronaut connected easily with students of all ages, sharing his insights on the future of space exploration, whether life exists on other planets (he suspects it does), and the importance of critical thinking. After a career that constantly demanded that he “challenge an assertion and ask the next level of questions,” he says, he wants to help the next generation develop such skills.

When he is not teaching in KU classrooms, he will travel the state, encouraging young people to study his favorite subjects and pursue careers that will help boost the nation’s standing worldwide. “Steve has always made it a point to share his love of science,” Hemenway says. “He’s a frequent guest in Kansas schools, talking about the importance of science and math. There is nothing more important to the schools of Kansas than having good teachers of science and math, and as a nation, we must increase our knowledge of science, math and technology if we are going to compete in a global economy.”

Hawley flew his last mission in 1999, and during his career helped launch and fine-tune the
Hubble Space Telescope and deployed the Chandra X-ray Observatory. Most recently he has worked as NASA's director of astromaterials research and exploration science, overseeing research in planetary and space science. He presides over NASA’s collection of moon rocks, comet dust, Martian meteorites and solar wind particles. In May 2007, he was inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, following in the footsteps of fellow KU astronauts Ron Evans, e’55, and Joe Engle, e’55.

In 1978, NASA evaluated 10,000 applicants for the position of astronaut and selected only 35, including Hawley, who had just finished his PhD at the University of California. As an astronomer, he says, he thought the odds were against him because he was not a pilot. Still, he had to try. After five shuttle missions, Hawley says he won’t miss the adventure, and he’s thrilled that his life’s voyage has come full circle.

“Anybody who gets to live his dream is pretty lucky,” he says. “I’m very, very lucky to get to live my dream twice: I’ve had a chance to be an astronaut, and a chance to be a professor at KU.”

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

2 + 2 equals four-year success

Community college program helps KC students earn social work degree

Lorna Kerr always wanted to be a Jayhawk, and she wanted to make a career as a social worker. But the 33-year-old first-generation college student from Overland Park felt she had too much on her plate as a working mother and wife to make daily trips to Lawrence for classes on KU’s main campus. Plus there was the problem of fitting in.

“What do I say when someone invites me to a party?” she laughs. “OK, can I bring my husband and kids, too?”

So Kerr signed up for 2+2, a program in the School of Social Welfare that’s trying to broaden the school’s scope by partnering with KU’s Edwards Campus and Kansas City Kansas Community College to attract students who would not otherwise study at KU.

Lori Messinger, associate professor and director of undergraduate social welfare programs, says 2+2 grew out of a realization that the school was not reaching many people who could have a big impact on the field.

“There were lots of people we think would be wonderful social workers who were not going to come to the main campus,” Messinger says. “They are intimidated, they feel out of place, or it just doesn’t work for them as a working adult; it’s just not who they are. We wanted to provide some support and access for those students to get the training they need to be successful.”

The program also boosts diversity in the school. On the Lawrence campus, only about 12 percent of social welfare majors are students of color, according to Messinger. About 40 percent of 2+2 students are students of color, she says, and half are older than 30.

“We knew the numbers, in terms of racial and ethnic diversity, were not as high on our main campus as we wanted them to be. So for us this is a way to get more diversity in our program, to serve a community we think is important and create social workers who are going to work in that community and make a difference.”

Kerr and other 2+2 students enroll at KU through the Edwards Campus, and all classes are taught by KU professors at Kansas City Kansas Community College. The goal is for each student...
to earn an associate’s degree from the community college after two years and a bachelor’s degree in social welfare from KU after four years.

“I know that for me, it would not have been feasible to graduate from college if it weren’t set up like this,” says Kerr, who will be in the program’s first graduating class of 16 in May. Like a lot of 2+2 students, she finds the one-night-a-week classes perfect for her full schedule. Now a family support specialist at Healthy Families Counseling and Support, she plans to use her degree to move up in her profession.

For others, like Susila Gabbert, a Roeland Park senior who worked 10 years in the health care field, the degree is an entrée to the social work profession—and to further study in graduate school. After she graduates in May she hopes to start working on a master’s in social welfare.

That’s music to Messinger’s ears.

“Tha’s really our hope, that we’ll not just see them through the bachelor’s degree but see them through the master’s as well,” she says.

Messinger notes that a fair number of students in the program have been on the receiving end of social services.

“We have parents with kids in the schools, people who were teenage mothers, parents with special-needs children. They understand those experiences and know firsthand how important it is to have social workers who know what they’re doing.”

While Kansas City students like the smaller classes, familiar environment and proximity to home and to the community they’ll work in, Messinger must work to make them feel part of the KU community. The many Jayhawk alumni who serve as mentors help that cause. So does a full-time KU adviser, Maxine Elmore, who works at KCKCC.

Signs are the effort is paying off: Messinger recently polled students to find out how many would walk down the Hill in May.

“Every single one said they would. That says to me they want to be part of the tradition, and I find that very exciting.”

“I get annoyed when people don’t refer to us as KU students,” says Gabbert. “We’re definitely Jayhawks.”

GAP broadens

Sixty-eight students from 25 departments received certification this fall from KU’s Global Awareness Program. GAP recognizes students for study abroad, foreign language study and classes or extracurricular activities with an international focus. Since its founding, in 2004, the program has certified more than 450 students.

Watchdog bites back

New Yorker’s Hersh uses KU speech to bluntly criticize Iraq war

Seymour M. Hersh, a revered investigative reporter, did as much as anyone to expose the Abu Ghraib torture scandal of 2004. Yet even Hersh concedes that he and his colleagues were trumped a year earlier by amateur commentators when President George Bush, then-Secretary of State Colin Powell and others justified war against Iraq.

“We failed totally,” Hersh said Feb. 8 in Stauffer-Flint Hall, shortly before accepting the William Allen White Foundation’s National Citation. “You didn’t have to go very deep into the blogs to find a lot of criticism about what was being said, but the straight press did a very bad job on it.”

Instead of maintaining the neutrality demanded by his day job, Hersh used his speech in Woodruff Auditorium to attack with a fusillade of commentary that would never be allowed to appear under his reporter’s byline. After referring to the Bush administration as “the reign of King George II,” Hersh said of the Iraq war, “It’s a
Well versed

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and critic Paul Muldoon spoke on “The Eternity of the Poem.” Muldoon’s appearance, co-sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities and Kansas Public Radio, was part of the Hall Center’s Humanity Lecture Series.

WHEN: Feb. 27

WHERE: Woodruff Auditorium

BACKGROUND: Born in Northern Ireland in 1951, Muldoon was educated at Queen’s University in Belfast and moved to the United States in 1987. His 10 books of poetry include Moy Sand and Gravel, which won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize, and Horse Latitudes, published in 2006. He is the Howard G.B. Clark Professor at Princeton, Chair of the University Center for the Creative and Performing Arts and poetry editor at The New Yorker.

ANECDOTE: Noting poetry’s reputation as a difficult art form to understand, Muldoon argued that our appreciation of more popular arts—film and music, for example—is not as effortless as we may think. In fact, we enjoy a blockbuster movie or top 40 hit because we have been educated and prepared to do so.

QUOTE: “I think this happens because we have been assailed by [movies and music], we’ve been surrounded by it, the culture is full of it. It has happened to us unwittingly. And what has not happened to us, frankly, is we have not been soaked in and subsumed by poetry. Our experience of poetry is generally very limited.”

—Paul Muldoon

Visitor

“One reason why I do myself look up words constantly is that I often find that I think I know what a word means and in fact it turns out that I don’t.”

—Paul Muldoon

mess, it’s intractable, and it’s going to go on for years. How we get out of it, we don’t know.”

Hersh, a 70-year-old Chicago native, has won every significant prize in American print journalism, including a Pulitzer for exposing the My Lai massacre in 1969. Though praised for reporting fatal breakdowns within the U.S. military, Hersh also has been accused throughout his career of giving comfort to America’s enemies.

“Mr. Hersh’s stories did have a negative impact on the U.S. image abroad, but they told us what we needed to know about our own government and how its own policies made casualties of our own soldiers,” Professor Ted Frederickson said. “In my opinion, today we honor the reporter who has been the most effective watchdog of our time.”

Hersh’s three lengthy Abu Ghraib articles of May 2004 pulled the scandal into full public scrutiny and affirmed his watchdog reputation. He explained that the torture photographs he acquired for The New Yorker were given to him by the mother of a young woman who had returned from her guard duties at the Baghdad prison a shell of her former self; she left her husband and young child, moved to another town and began heavily tattooing her arms and torso.

The soldier’s shaken mother—whom Hersh said had reached out to him after government officials ignored her pleas for help—told him, “It was as if she was trying to change her skin.” Hersh said he’d encountered the same heart-breaking distress 25 years earlier, when the mother of one of the My Lai soldiers growled, “I gave them a good boy, and they sent me back a murderer.”

Continued Hersh: “What we come away with is this horrible notion that we haven’t begun to understand what’s going on with these young people who are coming back. ... The numbers are staggering. A whole generation of young men and women is not going to be functioning.”

As for U.S. journalism’s failures at the dawn of war against Iraq, Hersh encouraged students to avoid similar mistakes by emulating the feisty spirit of their school’s namesake, Pulitzer Prize-winning editor and commentator William Allen White, 1890.

“I hope you young journalists understand that there’s nothing quite like what we can do if we do it right. We have an amazing ability to change things,” Hersh said. “Mr. White would know what I’m talking about.”

—Chris Lazzarino
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will recognize four alumni in April with the Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award, the highest honor the college gives to graduates.

The honorees are:

Mary Dawson, PhD’57, a paleontologist at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, who is acclaimed for research conducted around the world, with an emphasis on Arctic regions and eastern Asia. She earned her doctorate degree in zoology.

James Gunn, j’47, g’51, an influential science fiction writer who has written 28 books and published more than 100 short stories. He is professor emeritus of English and director of the Center for the Study of Science Fiction at KU. He completed a bachelor’s degree in journalism and a graduate degree in English on the Hill.

Thomas Rudkin, c’73, one of two engineers who wrote the first version of the PowerPoint software program. He serves on KU’s International Programs advisory board, and with his wife, Jann, c’73, on the advisory board for the KU Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute. Rudkin earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics.

George Sheldon, c’57, m’61, longtime chair of surgery and professor of surgery and social medicine at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The Salina native graduated from KU with degrees in history and medicine.

Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway has signed an agreement with Peking University that sets the stage for KU to exchange faculty and students with one of the most prestigious universities in China.

Jianhua Lin, executive vice president and provost of Peking University, will visit Lawrence this spring to discuss establishing new study abroad programs, sending Chinese graduate students to KU and developing an exchange program for faculty and scholars at the two schools. The trip follows Hemenway’s visit to China last summer.

“I am very excited about what lies ahead for our faculty and students who gain access to one of the world’s great universities,” Hemenway said, “and for the many students who will come and enrich KU through their studies here.”

A 2007 ranking by the Times of London rated the Beijing school fifth in Asia and among the top 40 universities in the world.

KU has exchange programs with three other Chinese schools—Nanjing University, Nankai University and Zhengzhou University.
ADMINISTRATION

Warren is choice to lead research and graduate studies

After a nationwide search, KU’s own Steve Warren will serve as vice provost for research and graduate studies.

Warren, c’74, g’75, PhD’77, had been interim provost of the unit since since Jim Roberts, e’66, stepped down last summer. Warren came back to Mount Oread in 1999 from Vanderbilt University, where he was a professor of special education and deputy director of the John F. Kennedy Center for Human Development; in 2001 he became director of KU’s Schiefelbusch Institute for Life Span Studies.

In his new role, Warren oversees an academic unit recently reorganized to bolster the connection between research and graduate studies. It includes seven designated research centers on the Lawrence campus, two state surveys, four affiliated centers and 10 research service laboratories.

Directing the Life Span Institute was “enormously satisfying,” Warren says, but he couldn’t pass up the chance to work with researchers Universitywide.

“KU has made enormous strides as a research university in recent years,” he notes, “yet our impact on many levels can be so much greater in the years ahead.”

BUDGET PRIORITIES that Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway outlined for the current legislative session include a proposal to expand the School of Pharmacy, renewal of funding for KU’s bid to earn a National Cancer Institute designation for its cancer center, and support for UKan Teach, a program that expedites teacher certification for math and science majors. In addition, KU seeks funding for deferred maintenance projects and for expanding programs in health sciences, accounting and engineering. Though the Kansas Board of Regents and Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, g’80, have expressed support, the outlook at the Statehouse is less certain. “There are a lot of contentious issues in the Legislature this year, and people are very aware of the fact that the entire Legislature is up for re-election, Senate as well as House,” Hemenway says. “That has a considerable impact on how smoothly things move and how contentious issues are. But I’m always hopeful.”

U.S. NAVY CAPT. C. LADD WHEELER, e’82, took command of the USS Theodore Roosevelt in January. Wheeler becomes the 11th person to captain the Roosevelt, a 97,000-ton nuclear-powered aircraft carrier based in Norfolk, Va.

FORMER SEN. BOB DOLE, ’45, has donated $500,000 to the institute that bears his name. Dole’s gift boosts the endowment of the Dole Institute of Politics to $8.5 million. The institute plans to build a $20 million endowment, with interest earned on the funds supporting the annual Dole Lecture, Dole Leadership Prize and Presidential Lecture Series. “I hope my contribution will underscore my commitment to bipartisanship and will encourage others to participate,” Dole says.

CURTIS KLAASSEN, University Distinguished Professor and chair of the department of pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics, will receive the Bernard B. Brodie Award in Drug Metabolism this April from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The award recognizes Klaassen’s contributions to drug development and his research on environmental concerns such as human exposure to pesticides.

KATHLEEN MCCLUSKEY-FAWCETT, g’73, g’77, will step down as senior vice provost in June to become an honors faculty fellow. McCluskey-Fawcett, who has served at the dean and vice provost levels for nearly 20 years, will teach courses and advise students in the University Honors Program. An internal search is underway for her replacement.

A $5 MILLION EMINENT SCHOLAR GRANT from the Kansas Bioscience Authority will help support the research of Blake Peterson, who joined the faculty this spring as a Regents Distinguished Professor in medicinal chemistry. While at Penn State, Peterson made important discoveries in delivering drugs across membrane barriers and other novel drug delivery techniques. KU will match the KBA grant, which is intended to invest in scholars who demonstrate professional distinction and a high level of activity in research that has commercial potential.
Freshman center Cole Aldrich laughed as he recalled his high school playing days in Minnesota. With a hint of Northern inflection, he fondly described his mother clamoring from the stands to convince officials that “they’re beating up on her little baby.”

“She’d yell, ‘Ref, he’s pushing! Cole, push back!’ Her voice always stood out to me,” he says. At 6-11, 240 pounds, the McDonald’s All-American came to KU equipped with the stature and potential to become a big-time inside contributor off the bench, and Aldrich has proven, despite the absence of his maternal protector, that he has no trouble holding his own in the paint. Even averaging fewer than 10 minutes a game, he’s had four or more rebounds 12 times; during the March 3 rout of Texas Tech (109-51, the most lopsided game in Big 12 history), he had 11 points and 11 rebounds in 17 minutes.

“Whether I get two minutes or 15 minutes or 25 minutes, I just try to get out there, run the floor, have some fun and grab every rebound I can,” Aldrich says. “Any amount of playing time is good for me.”

Aldrich is one weapon in a four-man arsenal of post players on this season’s roster. Joining him in his supporting role is senior center Sasha Kaun, who hit nearly 65 percent of his free throws in 22 games after starting the year at less than 40 percent. First off the bench with sophomore guard Sherron Collins, Kaun is climbing the KU charts in blocked shots, having moved ahead of Raef LaFrentz to eighth place.

The two centers have been instrumental in filling the void for a team that tends toward foul trouble. Sophomore forward Darrell Arthur racked up at least four fouls in half of KU’s league contests. Nonetheless, he leads the team in scor-
“Who on our team is not tough? ...We didn’t play tough on the glass one night. That doesn’t mean we have soft guys.”

—coach Bill Self

Coach Bill Self found himself answering media questions about whether the KU bigs would be tough enough to handle a higher level of competition.

“Who on our team is not tough? That should be the question. We didn’t play tough on the glass one night,” Self says. “That does not mean we have soft guys.”

Though Self doesn’t doubt their toughness on the court, off the court is a different story: The KU big men have a soft spot for Mom. Jackson and Arthur display their affection with tattoos, while Arthur and Aldrich both attribute their basketball beginnings to Mom’s guidance. Kaun is enjoying some long-awaited time with his mother, Olga, since she arrived in the United States from Russia in early January. Jackson’s mother, Shawn, has supported the senior through a tough couple of years at KU despite her own struggles.

“She’s been a great motivation for me just because of everything that she’s been through,” Jackson says. “As long as I’m here for her, she’ll be there for me.”

Somewhat of a family unit in itself, the four-man frontcourt has come up big for KU this season, averaging 35 points per game and nearly doubling opponents’ points in the paint each game. According to Self, though, the four have yet to realize their full potential.

“I’ve been real pleased with our big-men production, but I don’t remember very many times this year that we’ve had all our big guys really hitting on all cylinders in the same game,” Self says. “We’re just scratching the surface of what they could be as a collective unit.”

The KU frontcourt will need to be in top form for the NCAA Tournament. After a 20-0 start (a record that’s third-best in school history), thoughts of winning a tournament championship endure, especially for those anticipating a grand finale to their KU careers.

When asked about his expectations, Jackson replied, “Just to have a great season, and when it’s all over, come back and hang the banner up in Allen Field House.”

That would certainly make Mom proud.

—Katie Moyer

Up and away

Vaulter Jordan Scott soars toward rarefied KU company

atching up over lunch one recent afternoon, pole vaulting legend Jeff Buckingham, ‘84, a former U.S. record holder, asked friend and former teammate Tom Hays whether his KU-record outdoor vault—18 feet, 10.75 inches, set in 1983—might fall soon to Jordan Scott, a three-time Big 12 champion and the latest in the long line of Jayhawk vaulting stars.

Three-time Big 12 champ Jordan Scott is a proven winner, but not at all costs: “I love trying to be the best sportsman I can be. There’s a different camaraderie in pole vaulting than most sports. We all go out there and have a lot of fun.”
“I told Jeff that it was my job to do what I could to see that it happens,” recalls Hays, d’90, assistant track and field coach for vertical jumps. “I also told him I didn’t think Jordan had looked at the records yet.”

If Scott is unaware of the school marks awaiting his assault, he won’t be for long. Until Scott, no freshman had won a Big 12 pole vault title; he did it both indoor and outdoor. He won the first conference title up for grabs in this, his sophomore year, jumping 18 feet, one-half inch in the conference indoor meet in Lincoln, Neb.

He won three consecutive Georgia high school titles and last June set the meet record at the USA Junior Championships, topping by a quarter-inch the 18-1 mark set in 1993 by Lawrence Johnson, who three years later went on to set the U.S. record at 19-7.

(The national record that Johnson broke was set in 1994 by KU’s Scott Huffman, j’88: Huffman, a 1996 Olympic and three-time U.S. champion, and Pat Manson, e’91, who has cleared 18 feet for a world-record 22 straight years and counting, were both ranked among the top five U.S. vaulters from 1993-98, and one or the other was No. 1 in four of those six years.)

Pole vaulting, it might be said, is akin to golf: While some elite competitors endlessly fuss with the minutia of technique, someone who’s concerned only with victory blows past them. As evidenced by his string of titles at every level, Scott is a winner, not a fusser.

“Technique and strength go so far,” he says, “but when there are a lot of people around the same height and it’s really anybody’s game, then it comes down to who is willing to try harder.”

Says Hays: “If it’s between you and him to make a bar, he usually makes that bar. Now, sometimes he may not jump as high when there’s not as much competition. We’re working on that, too.”

Scott came to track and field in his freshman year of high school in Watkinsville, Ga., after he and his buddies had grown weary of soccer. Since his father, Richard, had been a track athlete in school, Jordan was eager to try.

“I was horrible in every event,” Scott says. “I wasn’t fast, I wasn’t strong. I was just little and scrawny. But it was fun.”

A few weeks into his initiation, Scott tried the pole vault: “I was still horrible, but it was the most fun horrible event.”

After his three state titles, colleges from across the country (including Georgia) flooded Scott with brochures; when he read about coach Hays and the KU vaulting program, and visited campus, Scott chose Kansas. For his part, Hays says he was sold when he saw that Scott had the prototype physique he prefers in vaulters: tall, lean, strong.

“Some people are fast but don’t have the horsepower. Jordan is in the upper third in the country in terms of speed, and he also has the horsepower. He’s a very physical kid. It’s taken us a year and a half just to get him on the right pole, because when he really hits it, the pole becomes too little.

“When I trained with Buckingham, he would set out a plan, and he’d be two weeks into it and suddenly he’d try to fast-forward. Jordan is in the same mold. My task as coach is to get him to stay the course. If he does that, it’s going to be awesome.”

As instructed by his coach, Scott resists talking about certain heights (beyond immediately achievable marks that are short-term goals); instead, he’s about the meets. He wants NCAA indoor and outdoor championships to go with his conference titles; and from there, he wants to emulate his idol, the great Ukrainian world-record holder, Sergei Bubka.

“He was fast, strong and had the most guts. I want to be up there like that. Just fearless. I want to win the Olympics and break the world record. Everybody has those goals, but nothing that I’ve seen so far has told me I can’t do it.”

—Chris Lazzarino
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Sports Calendar

■ Softball

MARCH
14-16 vs. Buffalo and Louisiana Tech, Kansas Invitational
18 Bradley
21-22 at Oklahoma
26 Missouri State
29-30 Texas Tech

APRIL
2 at Creighton
5-6 at Baylor
10 at Arkansas
12-13 Texas
16 at Missouri
19-20 at Texas A&M
22 at UMKC
24 Wichita State
26-27 Oklahoma State
30 at Nebraska

MAY
3-4 Iowa State
9 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Baseball

MARCH
19-23 vs. Illinois, Dartmouth, Central Connecticut, Northwestern, at Florida Spring Classic, Bradenton
25-26 Chicago State
28-30 Texas A&M

APRIL
1 Wichita State
4-6 at Baylor
8-9 Northern Colorado
11-13 Texas Tech
15 Baker
16 Missouri State
18-20 at Nebraska
22 at Wichita State
25-27 at Oklahoma State
29 vs. Missouri, at Kansas City

■ Track & field

MARCH
21 at Wake Forest Invitational

APRIL
2-5 at Texas Relays
12 at Oklahoma
16-19 Kansas Relays
24-26 at Drake Relays

MAY
2 at Arkansas Invitational
3 at Jordan Invitational, Palo Alto, Calif.
16-18 at Big 12, Boulder, Colo.

■ Men’s golf

APRIL
11 at North Carolina State Invitational
25 at Big 12, Trinity, Texas

■ Women’s golf

MARCH
17-18 at Betsy Rawls Invitational, Austin, Texas
29-30 at Mountain View Collegiate, Tucson, Ariz.

APRIL
6-8 at Maxwell Berning Classic, Norman, Okla.
25-27 at Big 12, Stillwater, Okla.

■ Tennis

MARCH
20 Iowa
28 Oklahoma
30 Oklahoma State

APRIL
5 Baylor
7 Texas Tech
11 at Texas
13 at Texas A&M
18 Nebraska
20 Iowa State
24-27 at Big 12, College Station, Texas

■ Rowing

MARCH
22 at Tulsa
29 at Texas

APRIL
12 vs. Kansas State, at Kansas City
19-20 at SIRA’s, Oak Ridge, Tenn.
26 at Minnesota

MAY
4 at Big 12, Austin, Texas

Heading into the Jayhawk Classic (March 3-8) and Kansas Invitational (March 14-16), junior outfielder Dougie McCaulley (2) and her softball teammates had opened their spring season 15-5.
Sara Paretsky has a problem. The writer who created hard-hitting, quick-witted private investigator V. I. Warshawski has just been ambushed, point-blank, poleaxed by a question so thorny that a woman who’s written 14 novels, a short story collection and a book of essays in a wildly successful 25-year career is momentarily—stunningly, uncharacteristically—at a loss for words. She’s laughing too hard.

If it came down to it, who would you root for in the World Series, Ms. Paretsky: the Kansas City Royals or the Chicago Cubs? You see, this silver-haired maven of the hardboiled detective novel, who almost single-handedly upended the genre of Sam Spade and Philip Marlowe to make room for a female detective, is as Chicago as Studs Terkel, Wrigley Field and hot dogs crowned with tomatoes and sweet pickle relish. Her V. I. is the quintessential urban woman, a product of the city’s working class South Side who is equally at home in high-rise offices and dark back alleys. Paretsky herself—outspoken, confident, elegantly put together—is the picture of big city urbanity. She’s been to cappuccino school, for Pete’s sake.

And yet, there’s more than a little Kansas in this Chicago icon. She was 7 when Lawrence celebrated its centennial, and with her Cordley grade-school class she re-enacted scenes from the town’s pre-Civil War founding, when women smuggling ammo past pro-slavery forces sewed bullets into their crinolines. The drama of that time stayed with her, and it lends both historical context and a title to her new novel, Bleeding Kansas. Published in January, the novel is only her second outside the V. I. series and the first set in her home state. The story of three families who’ve farmed the Kaw River Valley since the 1850s is set against a backdrop of divisive social issues—the sort that lately have landed Kansas in the national headlines.

“I’m an expatriate; I read about it from far away,” says Paretsky, c’67, of reports of funeral protests and evolution debates and subpoenaed health records. “I’m like those Americans in Harry’s Bar in Paris, looking up the baseball scores.”

So, how does a lifelong fan, a long-suffering Cubs supporter who loves to cite her grade-school batting average when discussing her devotion to the game, square Kansas roots with Chicago loyalty? “I don’t know,” she says at last, clearly delighted by the prospect of such an improbable matchup of underdog vs. underdog. “I suppose I’d go insane.”

By Steven Hill

Photograph by Steve Puppe
“When we got back to Kansas, and the wheat harvest was coming in, I felt such a sense of relief. ... The prairie feels open; it’s a landscape that inspires in you a sense of freedom.”

—Sara Paretsky

Paretsky was in her 30s, working at a Chicago insurance company, when she sat down to write *Indemnity Only*, the hardboiled detective novel that introduced V. I. Warshawski to the world. At the time, she was a bit of an underdog herself. Private-eye novels were considered a man's world.

“Marsha Muller's Sharon McCone came just a touch earlier than V. I., but not much,” says Pat Kehde, g'80, former co-owner of The Raven Bookstore, a Lawrence shop that caters to mystery readers. Paretsky, Muller and Sue Grafton are considered the top three writers in the genre, she says. “They started the trend to have female private eyes and they are still the gold standard.”

*Indemnity Only* appeared in 1982, to strong reviews, and Paretsky went on to write another pair of V. I. books before quitting her job. Word has it her boss was none too pleased—because she made the Wall Street Journal before he did.

Warshawski was a new breed: a woman P. I. who was not afraid to use her fists when circumstances demanded. The daughter of a cop who grew up in an ethnic Polish enclave near the city’s steel mills, she could talk tough and did not back down when bullied by thugs, corrupt union bosses and white collar criminals. She also was a staunch feminist who, like Paretsky herself, earned an advanced degree from the University of Chicago. She was the thinking woman's gumshoe.

With each of the 12 V. I. books that followed, the pop-culture status of the character and her creator grew. “V. I. Warshawski,” a movie starring Kathleen Turner, appeared in 1991; in 1995 BBC radio aired adaptations of two novels. Paretsky has turned up as a New York Times Crossword answer—prompting a handwritten letter from puzzler and V. I. fan Bill Clinton. She has won numerous awards, most recently a Gold Dagger from the Crime Writers Association of Great Britain for her 2003 novel, *Blacklist*. In 2002 the association gave Paretsky the Cartier Diamond Dagger for lifetime achievement, an honor she shares with John le Carré, P.D. James and Elmore Leonard.

As the pile of prizes and honorary degrees grew, so did her reputation as an advocate for women writers. In 1986 she founded Sisters In Crime to aid and abet women mystery writers. It started with 40 women and grew to 3,400, with 48 chapters in the United States, Canada, Germany and England. The group offers newsletters and guidebooks for authors *(Shameless Promotion for Brazen Hussies 2 and Breaking and Entering in the New Millennium among them)*. Its first effort remains one of its most important: monitoring book reviews in newspapers and magazines to ensure women get a fair shake.

“At that time, a third of the members of the Mystery Writers of America were women, so we thought a third of the reviews should be books by women,” says Mary Lou Wright, charter member of SIC and former co-owner of the Raven. “We could barely scrounge up 10 per-cent.”

Sisters In Crime data proved that women were underrepresented, and they used it to persuade editors and reviewers to do a better job.

Now the Mystery Writers of America, which is open only to published authors, is half female, according to Wright, and women regularly outnumber men in the...
New York Times Book Review’s crime column. “A lot of that is due to Sara,” Kehde says. “She’s very brave, and very thoughtful about stuff like that. She doesn’t just fly off the handle and then let it subside. She’s dogged.”

bleeding Kansas debuted at No. 1 on the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association best-seller list, even though it’s not a mystery. Yet hardcore V. I. fans, who expect a certain type of story from Paretsky (“Mystery readers are not all that different from soap opera fans in that way,” Wright giggles), will find much in the novel that rings familiar.

“The multigenerational narrative bristles with the kind of prickly social issues that give substance to Paretsky’s detective stories,” Marilyn Stasio writes in the New York Times Book Review. “But the pointed absence of her Chicago private eye may indicate that some of the social conflicts currently polarizing the American heartland can’t be resolved in the fair-and-square manner of genre tradition.” Publishers Weekly calls the book a “timely tale of fear and conflict in heartland America,” saying “Paretsky taps a different vein and strikes gold.”

Paretsky steps away from the taut plotting and terse vernacular that detective novels traditionally demand, enjoying greater freedom to play with language, explore new characters and write about the beautiful Kansas prairie she loves.

“This book is a departure for me, and yet it feels as though it also is a part of my work,” she says. “I think what possibly characterizes my work is what happens to ordinary people who aren’t decision-makers or power players when events outside their control wreak havoc in their lives.”

Havoc is plentiful in Bleeding Kansas. Things are tense between the Grelliers and Schapens, whose families have lived on neighboring farms for 150 years. Jim Grellier is a hard-working farmer who cautions his family against gossip. “You can’t farm in the valley if you’re on bad terms with your neighbors,” he says, so often that his wife and kids complete the refrain for him. Susan Grellier is what the Victorians called an “ardent spirit.” Her passions are fierce, but fleeting. She starts a co-op and adds organic sunflowers to

Burn Marks, 1990: Sparks fly as arson and real-estate development mix.

Guardian Angel, 1992: This time it’s gentrification and union fraud. Will the bad guys never learn?

Tunnel Vision, 1994: V. I. discovers a homeless family living in her office building basement and takes on her most personal case yet.


the farm’s traditional crops, and her interest in the Grelliers’ pioneer roots—including journals from the Bleeding Kansas era—provides historical context.

The Schapens, on the other hand, are fundamentalist Christians with a mean streak. The family’s elderly matriarch, Myra, blogs about the sins and misfortunes of her neighbors, and the Grelliers are frequent targets. The Schapens’ intolerance is whipped to fever pitch when Gina Haring, a New York lesbian and New Age Wiccan, moves into a nearby farmhouse and starts dancing naked around bonfires.

When Susan decides to join Gina in protesting the Iraq war, her teenage son, Chip Grellier, rebels against his mother’s latest passion and joins the Army. He’s killed in action in Iraq, and Jim struggles to hold the family together as it spins out of control.

To pioneer history and contemporary social issues, Paretsky adds the tumult of the early 1970s, when war protests and race riots roiled Lawrence. She casts Kansas as a mirror of the larger country, a place where tensions arise when opposing cultures—free state and slave, liberal and conservative, hippie and square—exist side by side. For Paretsky, it’s not that Kansas is the only place such social issues play out; it’s just the most visible. And the closest to her heart.

“To me, to write about these kinds of questions,” she says, “I couldn’t do it anywhere but here.”

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Sara has always been interested in political issues, and all her books have at their core a political idea that she wants to talk about,” says Pat Kehde. “She’s not just telling a good story; she’s trying to wrap that story around a political idea or social cause and explore that.”

In Indemnity Only, the murders stem from an insurance scam. In Deadlock, the scheme is shipping fraud; in Burn Marks, unscrupulous developers commit arson. “From the get-go she’s been all over the idea that just because a guy has a suit on doesn’t mean he’s not a criminal,” Kehde says.

Even more bluntly political is Paretsky’s Writing In An Age of Silence, a collection of essays published in 2007 by British publisher Verso Books. Many of the essays started as public talks criticizing the U.S. Patriot Act and the erosion of civil liberties after 9/11. The book, which also takes an unstinting look at Paretsky’s often difficult Kansas childhood, is a finalist for the National Book Critic Circle’s autobiography prize.

On March 20, 2003, the night the United States invaded Iraq, Paretsky was to speak at the Toledo, Ohio, public library. She was asked to change her proposed remarks, she says, because the library felt that, with war imminent, criticism of the Bush administration would insult local military families. This was days after the Dixie Chicks roused a firestorm of condemnation for criticizing the war, and Paretsky, who received e-mails accusing her of hating America after V. I. tangled with the Patriot Act in Blacklist, was leery of inciting further disavowals from fans. But she decided that she could not let her voice be quieted—especially when the topic of her speech was censorship and silence.

She gave the talk, “shaking so badly that I had to clutch the podium,” and when she finished the 500 people who’d come out in a driving rainstorm to hear her responded with a standing ovation.

Paretsky’s first glimmering of social consciousness came in Lawrence, where her father, David, was the only Jewish tenure-track professor at KU when he was hired in the 1950s. Her mother, Mary, children’s librarian at the Lawrence Public Library, got involved in social action after the family experienced housing discrimination in the city. They later moved to a farm south of town, the setting of Bleeding Kansas.

“My mother had been very active in the move for open housing in Lawrence,” Paretsky says. “She was a courageous woman in that way, standing up, speak-
ing out.” Another strong role model was Emily Taylor, longtime dean of women at KU. Paretsky recalls a dinner with Taylor and other women students; the dean asked each what they planned to do with their lives. Paretsky says it was the first time anyone had posed her the question.

“I suppose she looked conservative as feminism got more radical, but she had a steadfast vision for women’s equality and human equality that she really tried to make happen in the lives of students she worked with,” Paretsky says. “She was a very bracing influence on a lot of women like me who came to school very confused at not having a destiny outside a domestic one. She was like a bucket of cold water poured on our heads.”

Further sparking her interest in social issues was a visit to Chicago, during the summer between her junior and senior years at KU, when she worked for the Presbyterian Church of Chicago at a day camp for city youths. It was 1966, the height of the Civil Rights movement. During a march by Martin Luther King Jr., she saw the depth of white outrage at the changes King was trying to bring: Riots tore through her neighborhood, where parishioners tried to burn down a rectory because the pastor preached racial equality. Paretsky helped put out the fire. “That summer changed my life forever,” she writes in Writing In An Age of Silence. She had always sided with the underdog, and “my Chicago summer made the raw neediness of underdogs palpable to me.”

Paretsky was born in 1947, two years after the end of World War II, while her father was learning that his entire European family had been wiped out in the Holocaust. That horror cast a long shadow on her childhood.

“Growing up it was a constant terror,” she recalls. “I was named for two great-grandmothers who were murdered, and I’m thinking, ‘It could happen to me. I could disappear and no one would ever know who I was.’”

That summer in Chicago was the first time she realized that others shared her fear of never being heard from.

And Sara Paretsky decided she’d never be muzzled again.

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Chicago is the city where she’s made her name, and it’s there she’s at home. She enjoys walks along the lakefront with her dog, loves “playing Grannie” to granddaughter Maia. And though there’s a bit of Susan Grellier in Paretsky (“I’m like Susan; I’d love to have a vision. But I’m not willing to fast for 40 days to induce one,” she says with a laugh), there’s also more than a little Gina Haring—the sharp tongue and strong opinions, the eye for stylish clothes and, yes, the cafe-quality cappuccino maker that’s a prized possession. Paretsky even took classes with a Chicago barista to learn how to get the most out of the gleaming machine that enjoys pride of place in her kitchen.

She’s been gone from Kansas 40 years (twice as long as she lived here), but the state stays with her. “It’s still in my bones,” she writes in the intro to Bleeding Kansas.

She has come back often, to visit her parents, family and friends. Her mother died in 1998, her father in 2000, and it was during a trip home to care for them that she began thinking of a Kansas novel. She was a frequent visitor to KU libraries and the farm of John and Karen Pendleton while researching the book.

In 1976, after she married Courtenay Wright, a particle physicist and former protégé of Enrico Fermi, the two drove from Chicago to visit his family in British Columbia. The route took them through some of North America’s most stunning scenery. “When we got back to Kansas, and the wheat harvest was coming in, I felt such a sense of relief,” Paretsky recalls. “All the magnificent places, oceans, mountains, felt oppressive to me. The prairie feels open; it’s a landscape that inspires in you a sense of freedom.”

Chicago is where she lives, “it’s where I know my life,” she says. “But when you’re in a big city, the urban landscape doesn’t permit you ever to step back and have that sense of who you are as an individual and what it is you have to measure up to in order to be true to your deepest held beliefs.”

For that, Paretsky says, she looks to Kansas.
GIS (Geographic Information System) is a collection of computer hardware, software and geographic data for capturing, managing, analyzing and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

—GIS.com
The G in GIS stands for geographic, root word geography—and don’t you forget it!

So says Jerry Dobson, professor of geography and a man doing battle on behalf of his discipline. He has much to say.

Start with the fact that many of the so-called elite private universities in the United States no longer teach geography. In Dobson’s opinion, the dearth of programs isn’t just a shame. It verges on criminally negligent.

In his view, “The United States is now a mighty global power crippled by abysmal ignorance of its vast global domain. Intelligence failures are all too common. Diplomatic blunders alienate allies and enrage foes. Ignorance of foreign places and people guides U.S. policies toward them and their policies toward us. It’s manifested in politicians of both parties, diplomats, government analysts, scholars, journalists and voters alike.”

Dobson is not merely a KU professor sounding off. He is president of the American Geographical Society, and he is more than willing to mount his bully pulpit to preach the benefits of geographical knowledge.

Why on earth is the sermon necessary? Dobson offered the answer last fall during a presentation at KU’s Dole Institute of Politics. He stunned much of his audience when he explained that after World War II many esteemed universities—including such Ivy League icons as Harvard and Yale—had expunged the discipline of geography, even as universities were enjoying an era of unprecedented expansion.

“Of the top 20 private universities, only two currently have geography departments, though 15 of the top 20 public universities do,” Dobson says.

KU does have a thriving department of geography, based in Lindley Hall. Terry Slocum, department chair and associate professor, says that about 1,000 students take geography courses every semester. Those who earn bachelor’s degrees in geographic science can choose from plenty of jobs that pay well. The department also includes an active graduate program for both master’s and doctoral students.

By Tom Eblen
Dobson was a relatively recent addition to the roster of KU geography faculty. “It worked out pretty well for us,” Slocum says with a smile.

But it wasn’t easy. Dobson had worked at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., from 1975 to 2001, rising to the rank of distinguished research and development staff member. He was a prolific researcher and writer, and his work was widely known in the geographic community. His career path, however, was not the usual route to academia, despite the fact that Dobson had both master’s and doctoral degrees in geography.

But when Dobson spoke at KU in the late 1990s, he was mightily tempted. Robert McColl, then department chair of geography, heard his speech and posed a question: “What would it take to get you to come to KU?”

It took three years for McColl to manage the magic of that transition. The provost at that time, David Shulenburger, had developed a plan to bring in outstanding scholars, McColl remembers. And KU badly needed a geographer who specialized in GIS because KU’s GIS expert had been recruited away.

So Dobson moved first to the Kansas Biological Survey, where he conducted research and taught. Two years later he joined the geography faculty when McColl greased the skids by taking early retirement on the condition that his place on the faculty and his salary could be allocated to Dobson. McColl says he knew “Jerry had the depth as well as the breadth of knowledge.”

Boy, was he right. Last fall, Dobson was one of two KU faculty members named fellows of the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science. Adrian L. Melott, professor of physics and astronomy, also was honored.

The AAAS credited Dobson for his “diverse work on geographic information systems, advanced remote sensing and large-area change analysis, as well as for exemplary editorial and administrative work in geography.”

Dobson often shares his analysis in prominent publications. For Directions Magazine in 2005, he described the bombing of Baghdad:

“On the night of March 21, 2003, and for two weeks thereafter, the largest barrage in history rained down on Baghdad, Iraq, with such precision that the lights stayed on.

“... Today’s geographically savvy weapons ... brought a quantum leap in the precision with which selective destruction can be administered anywhere on Earth. ... The implications, both good and bad, for foreign policy, international relations and global ethics are staggering.”

Dobson refers to the firepower that hit Baghdad as the geographic bomb—or G-Bomb. In his words, “The G-Bomb demands GIS, a digital model of the earth that makes sense of all geographic information.” GIS adds the precise three-dimensional geometry and descriptive attributes of all features such as elevation, buildings, land cover, population, satellite imagery, and boundaries. It also includes GPS-derived latitude and longitude coordinates of troops in the field and missiles in flight.

This is geography at work—the same geography that has led to a surge in consumer-friendly GPS and Internet access to maps of all sorts, especially through Google Earth.

The population database so integral to such tools didn’t just suddenly appear. From 1997 through 2001, Dobson led the team that developed the LandScan Global Population Database at the Oak Ridge laboratory. After moving to KU, he continued to refine population data down to building and block level. In daily life, such precision helps us get where we’re going. In the heat of battle, it replaces indiscriminate bombing, significantly reducing casualties.

The editors of Geospatial Matters: Exploring the Implications of a Digital Earth describe Dobson as “a leading geographic pundit.” The volume includes 29 of his reprinted columns, in which he asks not what but why. Geographers must not only see the trees, he says, but also understand the forest.

In a 2006 issue of the magazine ArcNews, Dobson again jabs at geographic ignorance. “Geography is to space what history is to time,” he writes. “It is a spatial way of thinking, a science with distinctive methods and tools, a body of knowledge about places, and a set of information technologies that have been around for centuries. Geography is about understanding people and places and how real-world places function in a viscerally organic sense. It’s about understanding spatial distributions and interpreting what they mean ...”

Dobson doesn’t hesitate to take on those who are geographically challenged. Responding to a college president who defended the exclusion of geography from the curriculum, he says, “The vast majority of geography-deprived Yale graduates, for instance, can muddle on for years without hampering their chosen careers until they accidentally declare war on the wrong country or misjudge the nature of hurricanes and

**“Geography is to space what history is to time.”**

—Jerry Dobson
tsunamis or alienate longstanding allies or commit some other geographic blunder that wreaks havoc on major world regions.” Vintage Dobson.

Viewed through the lens of a former student, John Kostelnick, now an assistant professor of geography at Illinois State University, Dobson leaves an indelible impression. Kostelnick, PhD’07, was a student in a graduate seminar in fall 2001, Dobson’s first semester at KU.

“I was immediately impressed with the magnitude of the projects he was working on, such as LandScan, the most detailed global population database ever developed,” Kostelnick says. “I will always remember going to the seminar on the morning of September 11. We had all heard of the attack on the World Trade Center, but the details were still sketchy. Jerry demonstrated a 3-D simulation of a terrorist attack on Israel with a chemical weapon, and the projected impact that the attack would have on the population.”

A project Dobson already had been working on became the perfect theme for that fateful day.

KU doctoral student Matt Dunbar, c’00, g’05, recalls a phone call from Dobson, who asked Dunbar whether he had a passport and could travel within a week. He did, and he could. Dunbar accompanied Dobson to the Balkans to conduct population research as part of refining the resolution of LandScan.

Another trip also sticks in Dunbar’s mind. After a long, exhausting flight from the United States over the North Pole to Hong Kong, “Jerry wanted to take another four- to five-hour flight into the interior of China.” They did. Who needs rest when travel opportunities arise?

One of Jerry Dobson’s sons, Maj. Craig Dobson, is a physician who served a tour in Iraq. Although his brother, uncle and father are geographers, Craig Dobson somehow escaped that gravitational pull. But he remembers his father’s lessons.

“When I was deployed in 2003 to Fallujah, Iraq, I used the concepts my father taught me to analyze the area where I was to spend my tour,” he says. “I bought a map, a book on Middle Eastern history, an English translation of the Koran and language tapes for Arabic. As we drove in convoys across the countryside, I thought about how the distribution of water, arable land and oil led to different population centers and resulted in conflicts.”

Craig’s geographer brother, Eric Dobson of Knoxville, Tenn., says “I always tell my friends that I am the way I am because when I asked my father why the sky is blue, he replied, ‘Rayleigh scattering,’ and proceeded to describe the physics behind our perception of color.”

Did he think he would become a geographer? “I had no intention of becoming a geographer until I found that I had a natural aptitude for computer-based geography. From that point forward, which was not in small part due to my father, I was hooked.”

If the brothers share a thirst for discovery, their mother, Gwen, knows why. “Jerry loves to travel. All of our vacations were ‘road trips.’ We traveled and camped across the U.S. with the boys in tow,” she recalls.

“Jerry always wanted to see over the next hill or around the next curve. He would always trick me into moving on when he had promised that we could stay in one place for two or three days. ‘Jerry would say, ‘If we get up early and drive all day, we can stay four days in the next town.’ I always fell for it and then when we had seen the next town he would announce that ‘If we got up early … .’”

For Jerry Dobson, the path to a career in geography started when, as a college journalism major, he took Introduction to Geography. One day his roommate mentioned that he was going to transfer to Geography. “A light went off,” Dobson recalls, and he transferred the next day. Journalism’s loss was geography’s gain.

—Eblen is the retired general manager and news adviser of the University Daily Kansan.
Three years ago, in April 2005, U.S. Army platoon leader Wesley Fine was serving at a combat outpost in Iraq’s Al Anbar Province. Just as he and other officers were gathering for a briefing, a rocket-propelled grenade landed within their camp’s perimeter, followed by an 82 mm mortar shell that dropped close to Fine.

“When that blast blew into my face, I was shocked at first, and I thought, ‘Oh my gosh.’ Then the pain started kicking in,” Fine recalls. “I wish I had been knocked unconscious, but I wasn’t.”

His unprotected face was seared by the mortar’s shock wave, and his face, chest and shoulders were lacerated by shrapnel. By the time he was littered to a first-aid station, the evacuation helicopter was already on its way. It wasn’t long before he was being treated by doctors at a larger base, beginning a long journey that eventually took Fine home to Hawaii, where he thought he was needed to help tend his ailing father.

Fine had lost an eye, and he chose to retire from the Army. But he found few opportunities and struggled with ongoing strife within a tradition-bound family and community.

“If I’d been planning on leaving [his platoon during a combat deployment], emotionally I would have been able to slowly move away from the lifestyle,” Fine says from Hawaii, and suddenly the memories overtake him. Choking on tears, Fine continues: “Everyone in my platoon treated everyone with the same respect. They were like my younger brothers. The connection we had was like a family. And the next thing you know, you’re gone.”

Fine forces his thoughts away from the pain of losing his platoon (he never mentions the pain of losing his left eye in combat), and instead he discusses his next adventure: graduate studies in international relations on Mount Oread.

“Once I leave Hawaii,” he says, “I don’t think I’m coming back. The only person I’m going to miss is my mom.”
Everyone else has been a drain on me.

“I couldn’t have asked for anything better than this transition to Kansas. I’m looking for something new. I really need to be there, in Lawrence, in that campus atmosphere. I just can’t wait.”

★ ★ ★

Fine and seven Army comrades compose the inaugural class of a unique graduate program, the Wounded Warrior Education Initiative, created and sponsored by both the University and the U.S. Army.

The program builds upon the KU-Fort Leavenworth Program—a 2004 agreement that formalized a long history of mutual support between KU and the Army’s Command and General Staff College, based within Fort Leavenworth’s Combined Arms Center. In late September, Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway and other KU officials flew to Washington, D.C., to meet with Robert Gates, secretary of defense, and other high-ranking leaders. There Hemenway proposed an initiative to help soldiers wounded in combat continue their careers by completing graduate studies in fields useful to the Army.

Gates, a former Big 12 colleague as president of Texas A&M University, enthusiastically supported Hemenway’s proposal. So, with remarkable agility for two institutions of such girth, the Army and KU announced the Wounded Warrior Education Initiative in a February ceremony in Eisenhower Auditorium, in the CGSC’s new Fort Leavenworth home, the Lewis & Clark Center.

When told by Pete Geren, secretary of the Army, that the program being launched that day had first been proposed four months earlier, hundreds of assembled Army majors gasped.

“This is a new journey that we in the Army and the University of Kansas are taking together, in partnership with these outstanding Americans who have given so much in service to our country,” Geren said, indicating the wounded soldiers selected for the program, who were seated behind him on the auditorium stage. “It’s an exciting day for the Army. It’s an exciting program for our nation. And it’s an exciting day for these soldiers, as they anticipate a future with an opportunity that didn’t exist until a very short time ago.”

The eight soldiers chosen by the Army will have their tuition paid and receive Army salaries (or, for those who’ve chosen to retire due to their injuries, a Department of Defense civilian employee salary). Once they have earned their degrees, they will continue their Army or Defense Department civilian careers for at least two years for each year of subsidized school.

“It seems to me self-evident that the
“After I was injured, I wondered how I would fit in. Now with this opportunity to study at KU, I can see the road ahead so much more clearly than I could six months ago.” —Capt. Gates Brown

country owes these men and women a debt,” Hemenway says, “and that it’s appropriate for the University to reach out in some small way to recognize their special status and tell them what an honor it will be to have them here.”

David Lambertson, a former U.S. ambassador to Thailand who came to KU in 1996 as director of international development, came out of retirement at Hemenway’s request to serve as interim director of the KU-Fort Leavenworth Program. Although the grad-school initiative is not the only exchange being planned, it certainly carries the heaviest burdens and greatest opportunities.

“We do have a responsibility to follow their progress closely, not just enroll them and forget them,” Lambertson says. “The transition back into academic life isn’t going to be real easy for some of them after 10 years away.

“A substantial benefit for KU is that we are going to have a minimum of eight soldiers who paid a heavy price for their service. They are going to have unique perspectives on those conflicts, on the role of military in society, on all kinds of things that thoughtful KU students think about in the abstract and will now have someone real to speak with about.”

Capt. Tim Hornik, a Chicago native, trained as an air-defense artillery officer. In our current wars, enemy airpower is about the only thing U.S. and allied troops need not worry about.

“In the Army, everyone is ultimately infantry,” Hornik says. “We all basically went through the same training; the only difference is, I know how to use a different missile.”

Hornik, a lieutenant when he was sent to Baghdad in September 2004, was given responsibility for a platoon of about two dozen soldiers, equipped with two Bradley fighting vehicles and a Humvee. They were assigned to Victory North’s Route Irish.

Or, in more common parlance, the notorious road between Baghdad International Airport and the International Zone.

On Nov. 11, 2004—Veterans Day, and the day before Hornik’s birthday—his platoon came under fire from an unseen sniper. He scolds himself now, but Hornik, ever the courageous and vigilant officer, stuck his torso out the top of the bulletproof Bradley to scan the area with his binoculars.

The sniper shot him in the head.

Six blocks later, Hornik’s troops delivered their gravely wounded lieutenant to the biggest hospital in the International Zone; Hornik says the first Army surgeon to treat him did marvelous work and saved his right eye. As for the left, “no one aside from God himself could do anything with that one, because the optical nerve was severed.”

Hornik now serves as an operations officer at Fort Hood, in central Texas. He spent the past couple of years preparing for graduate school, to be ready to pursue a master’s in social welfare and a new career as an Army counselor. Hornik and his wife, Capt. Cate Smith, a quartermas-
After graduating from Pittsburg State University’s Army ROTC program in May 2004, Capt. Gates Brown spent a year in Korea. The Army then sent him to Fort Bragg, in North Carolina, where Brown helped create a reconnaissance squadron attached to one of the Army’s famed fighting forces, the 82nd Airborne Division’s 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

Brown and his platoon arrived in the provincial capital Baquba, 30 miles northeast of Baghdad, in August 2006.

Trained as a tank officer, Brown says he never thought he’d get to interact with locals. It’s too awkward, and dangerous, to dismount. With a changed mission, however, Brown found himself circulating among the citizenry of two towns he was assigned to patrol.

“In Iraq, the essence of counterinsurgency is that you become a person instead of being looked on as a faceless occupier,” he says. “It’s a different mindset than we’ve had in the past. It’s a very exciting time.”

In January 2007, Brown’s team was sent to assist a convoy of supply trucks that had come under attack near his sector. On the way, Brown’s Humvee, the lead vehicle, rolled over a 120 mm pressure-detonated mortar shell. The armored truck was pierced by only one piece of shrapnel, which didn’t strike anyone inside.

“It felt like we fell off a cliff,” Brown says. “I realized that was obviously not what happened, and once I understood it was an explosion, I told my driver that we needed to continue through the site, because an [improvised explosive device] is an ambush. You don’t know whether the explosion is the end of the attack or the beginning of the attack.”

The crippled truck made it only 600 more meters, but that was enough, and as Brown began assessing the damage, he was somewhat surprised to realize that he was the only injured soldier: the blast’s shock wave rocked the truck so ferociously that he sustained seven fractures below his right knee.

“It didn’t really hit me until I was in the recovery room, in Iraq, when they gave me a satellite phone to call my mom in Kansas,” he says. “The minute I started talking to her, I lost it. Until that time, I didn’t really understand what had happened. When they told me I was going to Germany, and I wasn’t coming back, everything hit home. The platoon I had trained pretty much since the platoon was created ... I wasn’t going to be with them anymore.

“Quickly I had to make the transition from being a leader, making sure everybody is OK before you’re OK, worrying about how your decisions will impact others, to all of a sudden realizing you have to worry about yourself. That was not an easy thing to do.”

Brown and his wife, Marty, a physical therapist, live in Shawnee, and will move to Lawrence this summer. Here he will study military history, with emphases on counterinsurgency, armies in occupation and armies in transformation. “All of them,” Brown says, “have kind of defined my short military career. It’s going to be very interesting to look back at how people dealt with these changes in their own time periods.”

Once he has his master’s degree, Brown will teach at Fort Leavenworth while working on his PhD.

“After I was injured, I wondered how I would fit in,” he says. “Now with this opportunity to study at KU, I can see the road ahead so much more clearly than I could six months ago.”

Brown says he is “anxious” about returning to a college campus, but promises to gladly discuss his combat experiences with any interested student, as long as information exchanges go both ways.

“Very few generations have been exposed to military operations as much as today’s college students have,” Brown says. “When I was little, Desert Storm was the big thing, and that was 99 hours and then parades for a couple of days. These students have seen years of front-page coverage.

“What do they think of military operations, and what do they think about military people?”

Whatever it is they think now, it’s likely a lot of student and faculty perspectives are about to broaden and deepen. Heroes in our midst will tend to do that.
Two alumni who have helped improve understanding of diverse cultures will receive the 2008 Distinguished Service Citation, the highest honor bestowed by KU and the Alumni Association for humanitarian service. They are Eric Sundquist, c’74, Sherman Oaks, Calif., and Roger Youmans, c’55, m’58, m’65, Princeton, N.J.

Each year the Association invites nominations for the DSC until Sept. 30; representatives from the chancellor’s office and the Alumni and KU Endowment associations review all nominations and make their selections. Sundquist and Youmans will be the guests of honor at the All-University Supper May 16.

As a teacher and author, Sundquist has highlighted the voices of racial and ethnic minorities in American literature and has been a driving force behind the study of multicultural literature. Currently the UCLA Foundation Professor of Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, Sundquist has written or edited nine books and has won a senior fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a rare honor for a literary scholar.

In 1993, his book, To Wake the Nations: Race in the Making of American Literature, won the James Russell Lowell Prize from the Modern Language Association as the best book published that year. His most recent work, Strangers in the Land: Blacks, Jews, Post-Holocaust America, won the Weinberg Judaic Studies Institute Book Award. He received the prestigious Mellon Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award in 2006; the $1.5 million award over three years helps fund his ongoing research and teaching related to the Holocaust’s role in American and modern culture. He is currently writing a book for Yale University Press titled King’s Dream, a study of Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech.

Sundquist came to KU from McPherson, and he credits his study of music in high school and at KU with introducing him to diverse cultures. He earned master’s and doctoral degrees from Johns Hopkins University. There he began teaching English and humanities courses before moving on to the University of California, Berkeley, where he became a full professor in six years. He later held a named professorship at Vanderbilt University and taught at Northwestern University as a professor of English and African-American Literature.
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The Association’s efforts dovetail with those of the University, which in recent years has increased its international recruitment of students. Daphne Johnston, associate director in the Office of International Student and Scholar Services, coordinates international undergraduate admission and travels often to Asia, where Jayhawk networks exist in Korea, Japan and China.

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New groups unite far-flung Jayhawks

Alumni chapters take hold in international outposts

Following a successful event Dec. 13 to launch a new KU alumni chapter in London, the Association will host an inaugural event April 13 for the Paris chapter, then head to Hong Kong to officially organize a chapter at an event April 26.

Jamie Winkelman, assistant director of alumni programs, says the new chapters are a response to growing interest expressed in recent years by alumni who live abroad. Though various groups of alumni have met occasionally through the years, Winkelman and Mike Davis, senior vice president for alumni, student and membership programs, wanted to organize official chapters that could expand the Jayhawk network, and they set a goal to create three groups this year. Following extensive research, Winkelman began conversations with key volunteers to determine how the Association should adapt the model for its national chapters to meet the needs of international alumni. “We want to foster more involvement and generate alumni presence internationally,” Winkelman says.

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Studies before joining the UCLA faculty. Like Sundquist, Youmans through his career has sought to heal racial differences and other inequities. During his undergraduate years at KU, Youmans did his part for integration years before the Civil Rights movement gained momentum. As a Summerfield Scholar and varsity tennis player, he joined the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity—the first intercollegiate greek fraternity for African-Americans. When news of his membership in Alpha Phi Alpha spread, a burning cross appeared on the lawn of the fraternity. Later, as a first-year medical student, he traveled across the South with his fraternity brothers and experienced racism and discrimination firsthand.

In 1961, he took a leave of absence from his KU surgical residency and traveled to Africa, where he worked as the medical director of the Sona Bata Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo shortly after the nation gained its independence. After receiving a diploma in tropical medicine from the Princess Astrid School of Tropical Medicine in Belgium, he returned to Congo, working 10 years in bush hospitals. He braved desperate conditions to deliver surgical care, improve the medical infrastructure and establish surgical training programs for Congolese physicians. He also worked in Ghana and Nigeria as a visiting professor of surgery and as a medical missionary in South American nations.

In the United States, Youmans was a surgeon at California hospitals before he returned to the Midwest. He taught surgery at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine and the Oral Roberts University School of Medicine, where he received awards for outstanding teaching each year from 1983 to 1987.

His experiences led him to write numerous articles and books, including When Bull Elephants Fight: An American Surgeon’s Chronicle of Congo in 2006.

Youmans currently serves on the board of the United Front Against Riverblindness—a disease prevalent in Africa’s tropical areas—and the boards of Health Teams International and Blessings International, both based in Tulsa.

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“Our most effective form of recruitment is the
communication among successful, happy alumni, current KU students, faculty and staff and their family and friends,” Johnston says. “Over time, we have developed a larger number of overseas alumni in certain Asian countries.”

In Macau, on the southern coast of China, Johnston returns often to Pui Ching high school, which has regularly sent students to Mount Oread. Two of the school’s counselors are KU alumni, and other Jayhawks are eager to visit their high school for college fairs and share their KU experiences, Johnston says.

In nearby Hong Kong, Jayhawks already have created a chapter board and committees in preparation for the chapter’s first event in April. Gia Jolita Sun leads the chapter.

“KU is known for being a quality institution that celebrates diversity,” says Sun, b’02, g’03. “Many of us, born and bred in Hong Kong, have returned to this part of the world and hope to carry on with the KU traditions and spirit.”

Chapter events will include happy hours, community activities that promote KU and mentoring programs.

The London chapter has already established a meeting place, at Bodean’s BBQ Smoke House restaurant. Bryan Tyrell, c’84, works as the catering manager there and tunes the establishment’s TVs to KU basketball and football games.

Christine Stinson, j’75, London chapter leader, hopes the group will continue to grow. Working with Winkelman, she is planning wine tastings, pub walks along the Thames, London theatre outings, “and of course this year’s Big 12 and NCAA tournament watch parties at Bodean’s,” she says.

International chapters also will provide opportunities for U.S. alumni traveling with the Association’s Flying Jayhawks program to connect with alumni abroad. Winkelman hopes to join receptions with itineraries for trips that include visits to chapter cities. The Association has researched opportunities to start chapters in Canada, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand in the near future.

Campus blooms will welcome Gold Medal Club members back to the Hill April 19.

The Association is hosting reunions for several KU groups in the months ahead. Details will be mailed soon, but please mark these dates:

- April 19 Gold Medal Club
- Oct. 3-4 Summerfield and Watkins-Berger Scholars, Class of 1979 and earlier
- Oct. 9-12 Class of 1958
- Oct. 24-25 Class of 1988
The following Jayhawks have committed to the KU Alumni Association as new life members. This list includes those who became life members beginning Jan. 1 through Feb. 29, 2008. Life membership dues are $1,000 single and $1,500 joint; 12-month installment plans are available. For more information, please visit www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Michael E. Aplin
Ronald D. & Lisa J. Aul
Debrah L. & Paul D. Barr
Matthew T. & Marina Lamkey Bell
Jeanne L. Berg
Charles H. Bill II
Charlotte Hall Burkhart
Charles H. Bill II
Jeanne L. Berg

The KU Alumni Association exists to strengthen the University of Kansas by informing, engaging and mobilizing the KU community.

Your membership in the Association is the single most powerful way to make all of KU stronger, including the value of your own degree.

Thank you, life members

Michael W. Davis, d’84, g’91, Sr VP for Alumni, Student and Membership Programs
Heath Peterson, d’04, Director of Kansas City Programs
Jill Simpson Miller, d’01, Director of Kansas City Programs

COMMUNICATIONS
David Johnston, j’94, g’06, Director of Internet Services and Marketing
Chris Lazzarino, j’86, Associate Editor, Kansas Alumni Magazine
Jennifer Sanner, j’81, Sr VP for Communications and Corporate Secretary
Susan Younger, f’91, Creative Director

FINANCE
Dwight Parman, Sr VP for Finance and Human Resources and Treasurer

HOSPITALITY SERVICES
Bryan Greve, Sr VP for Hospitality

RECORDS
Bill Green, Sr VP for Information Services
Stefanie Shackelford, Vice President for Alumni Records

SPECIAL EVENTS
Lora Stoppel, Vice President for Special Events

E. Grant Larkin, c’78, Garden City
Melissa Rodgers Padgett, c’83, Lawrence
Walter F. Riker III, c’70, J’78, Aurora, Illinois

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Tedde Tashoff, c’78, New York, New York
Becky VanWyhe Thomas, e’86, Baldwin City
Sue Shields Watson, d’75, Wichita

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Tom H. Collinson, c’00, Pittsburgh
Tedde Tashoff, c’78, New York, New York

DIRECTORS TO JULY 2009
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Becky VanWyhe Thomas, e’86, Baldwin City
Sue Shields Watson, d’75, Wichita

DIRECTORS TO JULY 2010
E. Grant Larkin, c’78, Garden City
Melissa Rodgers Padgett, c’83, Lawrence
Walter F. Riker III, c’70, j’78, Aurora, Illinois

DIRECTORS UNTIL 2011
Jeffrey P. Briley, d’74, Overland Park
Howard E. Cohen, b’79, Leawood
Jay Howard, b’79, Austin, Texas
Bradley G. Corel, j’97, Austin, Texas
Curtis R. McClinton Jr., d’62, Kansas City, Missouri
Winifred S. Pinet, c’80, g’82, Plymouth, Michigan

DIRECTORS TO JULY 2012
Paul “Bud” Burke, b’56, Lawrence
Ray D. Evans, b’82, g’84, Prairie Village
Karen M. Humphreys, c’70, f’73, Wichita
James A. Trower, b’76, Salina

HONORARY MEMBERS
Gene A. Budig, EdD, Princeton, New Jersey
Laurence Chalmers Jr., PhD, San Antonio, Texas
Archie R. Dykes, EdD, Leawood
Delbert M. Shankel, PhD, Lawrence

Administrative Staff
Kevin J. Corbett, c’88, President

ALUMNI CENTER
Timothy E. Brandt, b’74, Director of Adams Alumni Center

ALUMNI, STUDENT & MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS
Jennifer Alderdice, g’99, Assistant Vice President of Student Programs

The University of Kansas
1929  
Dorothy Decker Anderson, c’29, lives in Lawrence, where she recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

1937  
Jane Shwartz Axel, f’37, makes her home in Huntington Beach, Calif., where she was named 2005 Artist of the Year.  
Carolyn Bailey Berneking, f’37, continues to perform piano duets with a partner at music events in Lawrence, where she lives.

1948  
Kenneth Danneberg, b’48, retired from Danneberg Energy Companies. He lives in Denver.

1949  
Sara Weitzer Shaw, g’49, serves on the board of Charlestown Community Inc. She lives in Catonsville, Md.

1950  
Gomer Stukesbary, p’50, and his wife, Becky, celebrated their 60th anniversary last fall. They live in Ness City, and he’s a pharmacist consultant for B&G Consulting.

1951  
John Bannigan, j’51, lectures about world affairs to community groups and civic associations. He and his wife, Rose, live in Arlington, Va.

1955  
Geraldine Walterscheid Liebert, p’55, was recognized recently by the Kansas Board of Pharmacy for 50 years of service to the profession. She lives in Coffeyville.  
James Moorhead, a’55, is a semi-retired architect in Lone Tree, Colo.

1957  
Robert Boyd, e’57, is a professor in the graduate business school at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.  
Lee Manney Nelson, c’57, c’58, is founding director of the travel program for the University of Texas Alumni Association. She lives in El Paso.

1960  
Charles Bowles, c’60, m’70, is a professor of history at the University of Arkansas, where Barbara Frey Bowlsus, ’61, teaches German. They live in Little Rock.  
Saundra Hayn, c’60, teaches at Milpitas High School in Milpitas, Calif.  
Robert Klamm, e’60, does consulting for Precision Nameplate in St. Charles, Mo. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Lake St. Louis.  
Kenneth Rock, c’60, is a professor emeritus of history at Colorado State University. He lives in Fort Collins.

George Schluter, b’60, recently became president of the Home Builders Association of Greater Kansas City. He and Mary Ellen Fowler Schluter, b’63, live in Kansas City.

Gary, b’60, f’68, and Sandra Collins Thompson, ’91, recently moved to Tualatin, Ore., to be closer to their grandchildren.

1961  
Edward Reilly, c’61, recently was inducted into the KU Army ROTC Jayhawk’s Battalion Wall of Fame. He chairs the U.S. Parole Commission and makes his home in Bethesda, Md.

1962  
Delbert, b’62, and Avonne Lewis Harkness, ’63, live in Lewisville,
Remember the season all year!

Commemorative Orange Bowl Newspaper Edition

Own a piece of history with this commemorative framed copy of KU’s Orange Bowl victory coverage by the Lawrence Journal-World. This front page of the Sports section has “Orange Bowl Edition,” the date and the final score. This is sure to be a collector’s favorite and is limited to just 50 copies, so don’t delay! Frame measures 16” x 25 3/4”, with UV glass. Available in gold tone or blue metal frame.

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- $136 Jayhawk Society or Life Member

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This limited-edition stadium blanket pays homage to KU’s attendance at eleven bowl games, including the 2008 Orange Bowl.

Made of thick, 100% virgin wool, this blanket is custom woven for the Association by Routt County Woolens of Colorado. The blanket measures 48” x 52” plus a stylish 3” fringe. Comes with a protective clear vinyl bag and carrying handle.

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Prices and availability subject to change. No C.O.D. or P.O. box deliveries. Merchandise may be returned or exchanged within 30 days of receipt. Kansas residents add sales tax. Shipping and handling added to all orders.
Texas, where he works for NADA.

1963

Richard Currie, c’63, retired as professor of English after 40 years at the College of Staten Island. He continues to live in Staten Island, N.Y.

Janey Shipley Hawks, f’63, wrote Sculpted Threads, a book about fiberart, which was published recently by Martin- gale & Co. She lives in Tulsa, Okla.

William Lampton, b’63, g’67, retired last year from a 31-year career as a CPA. He lives in Lincoln, Calif.

1965

Larry Armel, b’65, l’68, serves as an independent director for the Marshall Funds in Milwaukee. He lives in Leawood.

Michael Hubbard, c’65, makes his home in Rhinelander, Wis., where he’s a retired U.S. Air Force pilot and a United Methodist minister.

Stephen Shade, b’65, and his wife, Dale, live in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., where he’s retired.

John Yarnell, e’65, is senior associate at Volkert & Associates in Jefferson City, Mo.

1966

Daniel Green, e’66, directs projects for Kaiser Permanente in Honolulu.

Patricia Cram Nelson, n’66, retired last year from the New Mexico Department of Health. She lives in Albuquerque and does consulting work for state agencies.

Stephen Shaffer, e’66, is president of SRSconsulting in Bartlesville, Okla.

1967

Sandy Buda, d’67, g’75, works as a factory representative for Riddell Sports in Omaha, Neb. He and Nancy Schroll Buda, d’68, g’69, make their home in Bellevue.

Virginia Biesner Colburn, d’67, and her husband, Larry, d’67, g’73, recently retired from teaching in the Shawnee Mission school district. They live in Prairie Village.

Beatrice Osgood Krauss, g’67, serves
as executive director of research and grant support for Hunter College’s school of health professions in New York City.

Charles Thayer, b’67, recently was named chairman of the American Association of Bank Directors. He’s chairman and managing director of Chartwell Capital Ltd. in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

1968
Loneta Wilson Schmollinger, d’68, retired recently after teaching social studies for 37 years in Smithville, Mo. She lives in Platte City.

Michael Sweatman, d’68, g’75, has retired from the New York Giants, where he was a special teams coordinator. He and his wife, Teri, live in Mashpee, Mass. Dennis Taylor, c’68, moved recently to Helena, Mont., after retiring as city manager of Eugene, Ore.

Frank Viscek, b’68, and his wife, Marilyn, live in Kansas City, where he’s retired.

1969
Marilyn Asklund, d’69, continues to make her home in Topeka, where she retired recently after a 38-year career teaching social studies.

Jeanette Cool, f’69, g’73, is executive director of the Sam Mazza Foundation. She lives in San Francisco.

1970
Sandra Arbuthnot, c’70, and her husband, Michael Michaud, recently moved to Lawrence. For the past 18 years, she has worked at U.S. embassies in France, Japan, Switzerland and Austria.

Robert, c’70, g’72, PhD’74, and Terry Ryan Axline, d’70, g’73, make their home in Albuquerque, N.M. He’s retired from Sandia Labs.

Franklin Dunn, c’70, is vice president for administration at Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, Va. He lives in Virginia Beach.

Ronald Everly, a’70, is a senior associate at FaithfulGould in Seal Beach, Calif.

Marshall Jackson, s’70, g’89, works as a counselor for Kansas City Kansas Community College. He and Gayle Watson Jackson, ’82, live in Lawrence.

Gerald Koellstedt, c’70, continues to make his home in Auburn, Ala.

Timothy Vocke, c’70, serves as district chairman of the Boy Scouts of America’s Crystal Lake Division. He practices law and is a reserve judge in Rhinelander, Wis.

1971
David Andersen, j’71, is a principal at DCA Management Consulting in Atlanta.

David Colgan, c’71, recently received the Gwen Rosebeary Award from the Building Industry Association of Orange County, Calif. He’s a partner in the Irvine law firm of Nossaman Guthner Knox & Elliott.

M.E. Langel Dickerson, d’71, g’77, EdD’85, a retired professor of English at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, makes her home in Eureka Springs, Ark.

George Dugger, c’71, is a health care data analyst for the Kansas Department of Aging in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

Ruth Grothusen Obadal, f’71, is chief of the Puyallup Fire Department in Puyallup, Wash.

John Regier, c’71, practices law and is a partner in the Boston firm of Mintz Levin Cohn Ferlis Glovsky & Popeo.

Carla Rupp, j’71, works as a freelance travel writer in New York City.

Charles Toomey, c’71, recently became president of Toomey Technology. He lives in Coatesville, Pa.

MARRIED
Christina Broderson, c’71, g’76, and Thomas Cotter, c’72, Dec. 22 in Golden, Colo. They live in Littleton.

1972
Janet Ghilino Bates, f’72, lives in Newton, where she’s a quilt artist.

Ronald Darcey, b’72, a retired con-
KANSAS ALUMNI

Class Notes

troller with Tyson Foods, makes his home in Nashville, Ark.

Kathy Collins Reilly, d’72, a retired teacher and lawyer, lives in Des Moines.

Steven Vickers, j’72, recently was inducted into the Drum Corps International Hall of Fame. He’s owner and publisher of Drum Corps World in Madison, Wis.

1973

Cribbs Altman, a’73, a’76, owns the Lauck Group in Dallas.

Robert Chudy, g’73, is interim director of international services at the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

Stephen Kirk, a’76, g’75, serves as president of Kirk Associates in Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.

David Meredith, f’73, is senior graphic designer at Gill Studios in Lenexa.

Leslie Kurtenbach Mills, j’73, works as a patent and trademark secretary at Janah & Associates. She lives in Corte Madera, Calif.

1974

Steven Averbuch, p’74, is executive director of oncology for Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J. He lives in North Wales, Pa.

Bernard Becker, c’74, lives in Topeka, where he’s vice president and chief of human resources at Stormont-Vail HealthCare. He also serves as a public member of the Kansas State Board of Nursing.

William Brown, j’74, is a regional video engineer for Mediacom Communications in Des Moines.

Laura Bea Stevens, c’74, m’76, CEO and CFO of Bea Medical Group in Sunnyvale, Calif., makes her home in Los Altos with her husband, Grover Bryan, a’71.

1976

Ken Krehbiel, j’76, is associate executive director for communications for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Reston, Va. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Melissa Ness, d’76, s’81, chairs the Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund in Kansas. She lives in Topeka and is president of Connections Unlimited.

1977

Deborah Butler, j’77, works as a contract administrator for Black & Veatch in Overland Park.

Deborah Reid Mountsier, d’77, is an audiologist at Heartland Area Education Agency 11 in Ankeny, Iowa.

John O’Connor, j’77, works as a U.S. Postal Service letter carrier in Gardner.

1978

Laurie James Dack, b’78, manages accounts for SKC in Lenexa. She and her
husband, Randy, d’78, g’85, live in Overland Park.

Griffin Macy, e’78, is chief operations officer at CASE in Norfolk, Va. He lives in Virginia Beach.

1980

Mick Haugen, j’80, owns DigitalWorks Consulting in Wichita.

Susan Heuchert, p’80, works as a pharmacist at Bi-Wise Pharmacy & Compounding Shop in Clearwater, Fla.

Robin Smith Kollman, j’80, is public-relations facilitator for Libertyville Elementary Schools District 7 in Libertyville, Ill.

1981

Edward Fensholt, j’81, l’84, is senior vice president and director of compliance services for Lockton Benefit Group in Kansas City.

Greg Mosier, l’81, recently was named the Puterbaugh professor of ethics and legal studies at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Caroline Bilderback Sosin, n’81, is clinical manager at Banner Thunderbird
Medical Center in Glendale, Ariz.

Anthony Tilson, j'81, directs loss control for Total Risk Management in Kansas City.

1982

Greg Shaw, e'82, is a staff test solution specialist at CertTech in Overland Park.

Mary Snyder, b'82, lives in Kansas City, where she’s vice president at BNY Mellon.

1983

Kent Foerster, ’83, is an environmental protection specialist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. He and Beth Regier Foerster, g’80, live in Topeka.

Clayton Hunter, j’83, directs resource development for United Way of Wyandotte County. He lives in Kansas City.

Barbara Costello Loehr, p’83, p’07, manages the pharmacy at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She lives in Overland Park.

Col. Joseph Moore, c’83, serves as chief of resource and sustainment for the U.S. Marine Corps in Tampa, Fla.

Earl Richardson, j’83, recently received the Paul E. Wilson Advocacy Award from the Kansas Association for...
Justice. Earl studies law at KU.

**Richard Woodward Jr., ’83, is an advertising account executive with the Kansas City Star.**

**MARRIED**

Karen Farrar, b’83, to Bradford English, Dec. 29 in Kansas City, where they live. Karen directs alumni relations for the college of arts and sciences at UMKC.

1984

Lee Carvell, e’84, develops polymer applications for Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. He and his wife, Brenée, live in Bartlesville, Okla., with their children, Melissa, 17, and Tyler, 13.

Karen Finch, c’84, works as principal consultant for Knowledge Infusion in Los Gatos, Calif.

Steve Ghormley, j’84, is a subcontract administrator for Gulfstream Aerospace in Savannah, Ga.

Daniel Grelinger, e’84, manages engineering for Cerner Corp. in Kansas City. He and Deanna Sanderson Grelinger, e’85, live in Gladstone, Mo.

**Edward Hubert, c’84, g’02, is an environmental services manager for Tetra Tech in Kansas City.**

1985

Todd Thompson, b’85, is general manager for International Paper in Portland, Ore. He lives in Vancouver, Wash.

Sousa Taylor Williams, c’85, g’93, works as Web manager for KEYE-TV in Austin, Texas.

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**Profile**

**BY TAMMY DODDERIDGE**

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**Exec’s career soars with aircraft company**

Many young boys dream of flying airplanes when they grow up, but Bob Taylor wasn’t one of them. For him the dream came later in life, and he’s still living it.

Taylor, of Mission Hills, is chairman and CEO of Executive AirShare Corporation, a fractional-ownership aircraft company headquartered in Kansas City. The regional company lets businesses and individuals reap the benefits of private aircraft ownership while sharing the cost with other owners. Owners get a certain number of days and flight hours per share.

“We provide a specialized service to our clients,” says Taylor, c’69. “We’re the seventh-largest fractional operator company in the U.S. There aren’t very many companies that do what we do.”

A licensed pilot since 1999, Taylor started the company in 2001 after a prosperous 30-year career in finance. He was working as president of Executive Aircraft, an airplane sales and maintenance company, in 1998 when his idea took flight.

“I just fell in love with the business,” he says. “I fell in love with airplanes.”

Determined to carve out a niche for himself, he conducted extensive market research and started a fractional sales division for Executive Aircraft. The division continued to grow until he purchased that part of the company and established Executive AirShare.

The company operates out of four hubs—Kansas City, Wichita; Tulsa, Okla.; and Dallas/Fort Worth—with a staff of 50, including 30 pilots and six mechanics.

Taylor grew up in a family of finance majors. His oldest brother and twin brother have degrees in math or economics. Taylor followed suit, earning a bachelor’s degree in math and economics from KU and an MBA from Michigan.

A CPA, Taylor was chairman and CEO of Railroad Savings Bank, and senior vice president and chief financial officer of Rent-A-Center. His financial expertise remains an important asset to his work, and to other organizations in the Kansas City area.

“I have two lives, really,” says the 61-year-old. “One is my AirShare business and the other is my work on three public boards.”

The boards are Inergy L.P., Elecsys Corporation and Bank of Blue Valley. He also serves as a trustee for the KU Endowment Association and on the board of advisers for the School of Business.

Though his daily work keeps him busy, he and his family fly to KU’s postseason football and basketball games. He doesn’t plan to retire anytime soon, but he often teases that he’d like to spend more time in the back of the airplanes instead of selling them.

Dodderidge, j’83, is a Lenexa freelance writer.
Class Notes

1986
Timothy McGrath, b’86, is an account executive with National Bank of Kansas City. He lives in Overland Park.
John Sippel, ’86, lives in St. Louis. He’s president of Sippel Technologies in Bridgeton.

1987
Rochelle Collier Brown, c’87, is an organizational development process leader for Honeywell in Folsom, Calif.
Robert Fee, c’87, recently was elected president of the Kansas Association of Insurance Agents. He’s vice president of Fee Insurance and makes his home in Hutchinson.

1988
Mary Padilla, j’88, directs marketing for Movida Communications. She lives in Overland Park.
Waden Weinzirl, b’88, is regional director of corporate retail operations for SuperValu/Save-Alot in Earth City, Mo. He lives in St. Charles.

1989
Jeffrey Amen, g’89, is vice president at Western Union in Englewood, Colo.
Harlan Harper, s’89, serves as youth pastor at Presbyterian Church of Stanley in Overland Park. He lives in Olathe.
David McGrath, c’89, is regional manager for IHI Environmental. He lives in Oakland, Calif.

BORN TO:
Steven, a’89, and Emily Roberts

Life lessons inform Juneau’s work for students

Growing up as a Japanese-born kid in the small town of Herington in the late 1950s and ’60s, Ted Juneau knew what it was like to be “a little bit of an outsider.” His experiences helped shape his philosophy as an educator: Respect everybody for who they are.

After more than 30 years in public education championing diversity and “underdogs,” Juneau, g’93, now creates opportunities for minority students as basketball coach and athletic director at Haskell Indian Nations University. He was hired in July to evaluate the athletic department and began his current duties in October.

“It’s an incredible and exciting place to help the [Native American] cause,” says Juneau. “The work kind of caps off everything I’ve done and everything I believe.”

Inspired by his fifth-grade teacher, Juneau chose a teaching and coaching career after graduating from Fort Hays State in 1972 with a psychology degree (emphasis on mental retardation). He was proud to be a teacher, assistant principal and principal at Topeka High, Lawrence High and Central Junior High.

“No matter if you’re rich, poor, black or white,” Juneau says, “these are truly places that give kids opportunities.”

His career has been defined by helping disadvantaged kids from diverse backgrounds. Early work with special-ed students at Topeka High influenced him later in the classroom and on the court. As principal at Lawrence’s Central Junior High, he developed invaluable after-school programs on a shoestring budget and made it a point to talk with every student.

After leaving Central in 2005 to work two years as project director for the Institute for Educational Research and Public Service at KU, Juneau moved to Haskell, where the athletics programs have struggled since transitioning from a junior college to a four-year NAIA school in 2000.

Juneau shares with Haskell’s student-athletes a story from his own college days. A year after he transferred from Wichita State, his former Shocker football teammates died in a plane crash.

The lesson, says Juneau, “is how fragile life is and how important it is to give your best every time you do something.”

As basketball coach, Juneau could use the hoops talents of his close friend and former player at Lawrence High, Danny Manning, c’92. Juneau has been indelibly linked to the KU great since 1984, when Juneau’s Manning-led Lions played in the state championship game.

“I feel very privileged that people would connect me with being Danny’s coach,” Juneau says. “I’ve also coached a lot of great kids. I’m proud of them all.” — Garfield, c’88, is a Lawrence freelance writer
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Lawrence Chamber of Commerce
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bjohnson@lawrencechamber.com
Dead news: Old newspapers found their way to the “morgue” after shelf lives had passed. As the crypt’s keeper, librarian Jean McKnight made sure issues of the University Daily Kansan stayed organized and easily accessible to those who wanted to dig into the past.

Malin, g’96, daughter, Joy Elenor, Dec. 27 in Baldwin City, where she joins a sister, Grace.

1990
Sunni Alford, h’90, works as a certified hand therapist for Select Physical Therapy in Olathe.
Marisa Chandley, j’90, works as a senior marketing manager for Viega in Wichita. She lives in McPherson.
Richard Knubley, c’90, is branch manager at Brenntag Southwest. He lives in Wichita with Leigh Borden Knubley, c’90.
Hans Nettelblad, a’90, recently was appointed to the Kansas Energy Council. He works as an associate with BNIM Architects in Kansas City.
Keith Yehle, c’90, director of government relations at KU, recently was named to the advisory board of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. He lives in Lawrence.

1991
Tari Malmgren, p’91, p’06, is scientific affairs liaison for Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs in Addison, Texas.
Thomas Van Benschoten, b’91, lives in Wilmette, Ill., where he’s a pilot for NetJets.

BORN TO:
Rebecca Ackerman-McCorry, c’91, and Evan, daughter, Avery Lynn, Oct. 9 in Wichita, where she joins a sister, Ashton, 8.

1992
Jadi Dlugosh Miller, d’92, serves as principal of Everett Elementary School in Lincoln, Neb.

1993
Corey McCarthy, b’93, g’98, works as controller for the National Cable Television Cooperative. He and Paige Yarbrough McCarthy, b’92, live in Overland Park.
John Noltensmeyer, c’93, is operating manager of Digital Phalanx. He lives in Dallas.
Robert Phelps, l’93, recently was appointed a clerk for the U.S. District Court in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Stephen Six, l’93, was appointed by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, g’80, to serve as Kansas attorney general. He lives in

Brian Perott, c’92, recently was named managing director of Financial Counselors Inc. He and his wife, Abigail Park, c’94, make their home in Tulsa, Okla.
Brad Ramsey, e’92, is vice president of engineering for NuStar Engineering in San Antonio.

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785-832-0806
Kevin Toal, c’93, makes his home in Maryland Heights, Mo. He’s an assistant professor at St. Louis Community College.

BORN TO:
Jason, c’93, m’97, and Shannon Peterson Kimball, c’96, son, Logan Kenneth, Oct. 1 in Atlanta, where he joins a brother, Ian, 2. Jason is a hospitalist at St. Joseph’s Hospital, and Shannon is a research specialist with the Georgia Department of Education.

Bradley, c’93, and Heather Harris Silver, c’93, son, Noah Jacob, Sept. 6 in Overland Park. Brad is a property inspector for Kaw Valley Field Services, and Heather is office manager at Datamax.

Larry Kleeman, b’94, c’94, l’97, is president of Citycode in Wichita.

LaRisa Chambers-Lochner, c’95, recently became a development officer at the KU Endowment Association. She and her husband, Brian, ’95, live in Lawrence, where he owns Lochner Construction.

Monica DeVreese, b’95, is brand manager for Simple Shoes in Goleta, Calif. She lives in Santa Barbara.

David, c’95, l’99, g’99, and Heather Siegel Stras, c’95, s’99, make their home in Plymouth, Minn., with their sons, Brandon, 7, and Benjamin, 1.

Sarah Smith Graff, c’95, d’96, and Stephen, son, Seth Alexander, Sept. 22 in Frisco, Texas.

Weston Hyter, b’95, and Yami, daughter, Zandra Marie, Aug. 9 in Mill Valley, Calif., where she joins a sister, Zara, 3.

Kendell Warren, c’95, and Angelina, daughter, Abigail Marie, Nov. 27 in Petersburg, Va. Kendell teaches history at
Prince George County School, and Angelina teaches third grade.

1996
Cara Exley Bray, ’96, h’02, works for Johnson County Anesthesiologists in Olathe. She and her husband, Jack, m’83, live in Prairie Village.
Casondra Reiter Campbell, s’96, manages human resources for R.R. Donnelley. She lives in Kearney, Mo.
David Dodson, ’96, directs Salem Partners Wealth Management in Tarzana, Calif.
Matthew Miller, a’96, manages regional sales for Dentsply International. He lives in St. Louis.
Darryl Monroe, c’96, is an area scout for the New York Yankees. His home is in Decatur, Ga.
John Price, a’96, works as an architect for Hartshorne & Plunkard Architecture in Chicago.
Elizabeth Swed Robertson, j’96, practices veterinary medicine in Lee’s Summit, Mo., where she and her husband,

Lindsay, e’94, make their home with their children, Isabella, 6, and Alexandra, 2. Lindsay is an engineer with W.L. Casell & Associates.

BORN TO:
Irene Prilutsky Shnayder, j’96, and Rolan, a son, Samuel, Jan. 3, 2007. She is a national account executive with Clear Channel Outdoor in New York City.

1997
Michelle Blair, d’97, works as a finan-

Profile
BY STEVEN HILL

Alumna helps women build worldwide trade

On her first trip to Uganda, during her undergraduate days at KU, Kate von Achen fell in love with the war-torn African country.

“Almost immediately after crossing the border I had the feeling of being home,” von Achen says. “The feeling got stronger and stronger, and when I left I wondered how I’d ever get back.”

According to World Vision, a non-profit Christian relief and development group, a civil war that began in the early 1980s has left 1.6 million Ugandans homeless; 80 percent of the population live in crowded camps, cut off from farm-lands that are their traditional means of support.

After finishing her political science degree at KU, von Achen, c’06, returned to Uganda to pursue a master’s in peace and conflict studies at Makerere University in Kampala. She co-founded One Mango Tree, a company that aims to help Ugandan women improve their lives by creating a Western market for their tailoring skills.

“We’re trying to empower women affected by the war, which has been going on more than 20 years,” von Achen says. “Most of the people I’ve met want jobs, they want work, but it’s not available.”

She is one of three U.S. women who run One Mango Tree. As field coordinator, von Achen does most of the ground work in Uganda. The company employs five women in the northern town of Gulu, an area dominated by Indigenous Displaced Persons camps. Von Achen supplies them with colorful Congolese waxprint fabric to make purses, aprons, yoga mat bags and other products designed for Western consumers.

In December, von Achen hosted a sale of One Mango Tree merchandise at Lawrence’s Bourgeois Pig. The vivid goods, priced from $6 to $30, sold out.

“One $30 peace purse equals about 65 dozen Ugandan shillings, which is more than most people make in a month in Kampala,” von Achen says. “So it makes a huge difference. The money I gave to the tailors was a lot even to me, but to them—they are on the verge of being rich by Gulu standards.”

Von Achen and her partners take no salary, though they eventually hope to make their enterprise profitable—and thus sustainable. They follow a fair trade model that passes as much money as possible to the tailors, who are already reinvesting in their business by buying fabric and an additional treadle sewing machine. Onemangotree.com expands their marketplace from a dusty market stall to the World Wide Web.

Money isn’t the only benefit, von Achen stresses. “Giving these women sustainable work, having them feel a sense of self worth, safety and security, is huge,” she says. “They haven’t had that for 20 years. It’s the most fulfilling thing I’ve ever done.”

Kate von Achen is helping Ugandan women create a global market for their handmade accessories, which meld traditional African fabrics with Western style. Her company, One Mango Tree, sells the products online at onemangotree.com.
Class Notes

Kay Lytle Jenista, ’97, is a nurse educator at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She commutes from Lawrence.

MARRIED
John Stockham, c’97, and Melia Johnson, d’04, g’06, Dec. 1 in Lawrence, where they live. He’s an information technology analyst at KU’s LAN Support Services, and she is an educational technology specialist for the Blue Valley Unified School District in Overland Park.

BORN TO:
Jill Newport Helmle, c’97, and Chad, son, Jude Martin, July 27 in Santa Barbara, Calif., where he joins a brother, Beck, 4. Jill is a doctoral candidate at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Jennifer Joseph Johnson, j’97, and Scott, daughter, Caroline Simons, July 27 in Denver, where she joins a brother, Beck, 4.

Jill Newport Helmle, c’97, and Chad, son, Jude Martin, July 27 in Santa Barbara, Calif., where he joins a brother, Beck, 4.

Profile

BY PAMELA BABCOCK

Davis finds and delivers spirituality in NFL career

A

s team chaplain to the New England Patriots, Don Davis, c’99, knows about miracles. He preaches and sometimes prays for them. But on Super Bowl Sunday in February, he had to run from one.

After most games, Davis gathers players to pray on the field. But when the New York Giants pulled off a miracle upset of the unbeaten Patriots, the scene was too chaotic. He and the Pats fled to the locker room.

What do you say after a stunning loss that deprived your team of the second perfect season in NFL history? You say thanks, Davis says.

“We just prayed, thanking Him for no injuries and for a good game, and for having the ability to go out and compete,” recalls Davis, also an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the team.

“We feel God is still good, and God is still God, no matter whether you win or you lose.”

Davis didn’t acquire such serenity easily. Failure and injury nearly cut short his 11-year NFL career. But he also felt the euphoria of winning two Super Bowls with the Patriots—a team he retired from in 2007.

Born in Kansas City and a four-year starter for KU, Davis was thrust into the NFL and all the temptation a high-profile sports career offers.

“The behavior, with drinking and partying, they just increase. It’s easy to get caught up in it,” Davis recalls. The low point came one Monday in 1998. In week 10 of the season, he was released from the New Orleans Saints because of an injury.

“I was three years into my career and was thinking, ‘Well, that dream is over,’” Davis recalls. The following Thursday, he signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. It was a move that altered his life.

One major salvation was then-coach Tony Dungy, a devout Christian and former pro player. Davis says Dungy helped him get back to “where my roots were and the church, disciplined eating habits, and everything else. It was almost like looking in a mirror and seeing the person I wanted to be.”

As chaplain, Davis plans weekly Bible studies, speakers for chapel services the night before games and one-on-one discipleship “with certain guys—because sometimes, we all need help.”

Davis admits it’s not easy to craft a message that will resonate with all players. Some are devout. Some skeptical. Some searching in between.

Married with two daughters, he says that in his wild days, he could act “one way in one group” and completely opposite someplace else. That’s all changed.

“What you see is what you get,” Davis says. “Life is about consistency. And that’s my message to kids and all kinds of folks, whether they’re religious or not.”

—Babcock is a freelance writer in the New York City area.
1998

Michele Costanza, g’98, PhD’06, is a research scientist for Northrop Grumman Technical Services in Leavenworth. She lives in Basehor.

Corey Evans, c’98, works as center director for the Boston Arts Academy.

Blythe Ridenour Jones, c’98, ’02, and Christopher, b’99, ’02, make their home in Westwood with their son, Walt, 1. Blythe and Chris are both associates at the law firm of Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City.

BORN TO:

Jill Williams Casas, f’98, and Douglas, son, Ian Jack, April 26 in Albuquerque, N.M.

Matthew, c’98, m’03, and Shelly Mesearaul Stumpe, b’99, daughter, Amanda Grace, Aug. 3 in Memphis, Tenn., where she joins a brother, Joel, 3.

Matthew, b’98, g’03, and Allison Arbuckle Taylor, j’98, and son, Luke Charles, Oct. 17 in Prairie Village. Matt is a financial adviser at Merrill Lynch, and Allison is an associate director at AT&T.

1999

Theresa Baumgartner, s’99, works as a paraeducator for Interlocal 615 in Hiawatha.

Amy Schmidt Lewis, c’99, is program director for The Harmony School in Princeton, N.J. She lives in Three Bridges.

Jeffrey Morrison, b’99, g’05, and Mary, live in Lawrence with their sons, Asa, 5, Shepherd, 3, and their twin daughters, Neely and Eden, 1. Jeffrey owns campus-cloth.com.

Nicholas Walker, b’99, works as a site IT manager for Flint Hills Resources in Odessa, Texas.

MARRIED

Patrick Hosty, b’99, to Whitney Gee, Dec. 1 in Kansas City. They live in Prairie Village.

BORN TO:

Kelly Richardson Crichton, d’99, g’01, and Dusten, d’02, son, Kade Thomas, Dec. 17 in Omaha, Neb. Kelly is a staff physical therapist at Allgent Health, and Dusten is a resident director at Creighton University.

David Pfeuffer, d’99, g’03, and Brooke, son, Thomas Seth, Sept. 29 in Lawrence. David is a consultant for The Scooter Store in Overland Park.

Michael, b’99, and Miranda Schuster Wilhelm, p’02, daughter, Aurora, Dec. 26 in Shawnee. Michael is a program manager for Sprint Nextel, and Miranda is a pharmacist at Hen House Pharmacy.

2000

Robert Easterling, c’00, supervises intake for the Kansas Human Rights Commission in Topeka.

MARRIED

James Bridwell, c’00, to Alicia Churchwell, Nov. 24 in Guthrie, Okla. They live in Alexandria, Va., and Jay serves in the U.S. Air Force.

Jana Gruver, c’00, to Terry Rombeck, Sept. 29 in Lawrence, where they live. She’s an occupational therapist at St. Francis Health Center in Topeka.

Sarah Penny, j’00, to Wyatt Smith, Oct. 27 in Lawrence. They live in Arlington, Va., and Sarah works in the White House.

Lindsay Puett, b’00, and Seth Peattie, ’00, Oct. 12 in Kansas City, where they live. Lindsay manages membership programs for Bluetooth SIG.

Jill Sullivan, c’00, and Charles Drucker, c’01, Dec. 15 in Chicago. They live in El Paso, Texas, where Charles serves in the U.S. Army.

BORN TO:

Aaron Williams, c’00, and Kiersten, son, Braden Tyler, Sept. 7 in Lawrence, where Aaron is an optometrist.

2001

Kelly Bock, h’01, is a contract coder for KForce in Wichita.

Paul Gottesburen, c’01, is a formulation chemist for ITW Dymon in Olathe.

David Mitchell, c’01, g’03, works as a...
management analyst for the city of Highland Park, Ill.

Nancy Smith-Blair, PhD’01, works as an associate professor of nursing at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

MARRIED

Keith Van Horn, c’01, to Melissa Wenger, Nov. 17 in Lawrence, where Keith owns a dental practice.

BORN TO:

Noel, j’01, and Misha Smith Anderson, c’01, son, Connor Lee, April 25 in Bel Aire, where they live. Noel is campaign account manager for United Way of the Plains in Wichita, and Misha is an optometrist with Grene Vision Group.

Jeremi Smith Jacquinot, b’01, and Michael, daughter, Elise Renee, April 29 in Erie, where they live. Jeremi is a medical coder at Labette County Medical Center in Parsons.

2002

Wendy Bruch, j’02, manages marketing for DaVinci Roofscapes in Kansas City.

Aidan Loveland Koster, c’02, g’06, I’06, is administrative manager for graduate medical education at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, where she and her husband, Christopher, c’02, m’06, live with their daughter, Emma, 3.

Scott Lowe, g’02, works as a public-relations specialist for Old Dominion University. He lives in Virginia Beach, Va.

Brandee Smith Stephens, j’02, is a communications specialist for Black & Veatch in Kansas City. She lives in Bonner Springs.

MARRIED

Jennifer Cornelius, c’02, and Brian Herder, c’03, Dec. 15 in Lawrence, where they make their home.

Russell Pine, c’02, and Julie Bunn, c’04, I’07, Oct. 20 in Overland Park, where they live.

BORN TO:

Michael, b’02, I’05, and Kimberly Grollmes Smith, d’04, daughter, Emma Marie, Oct. 14 in Olathe. Michael is an attorney with Sanders Conkright & Warren, and Kimberly works as a nurse.

2003

Matthew Braaten, c’03, is an applications specialist for Meditech in Westwood, Mass.

Allison Butler, b’03, manages business development for Pepsi Bottling Group. She lives in Mission.

Natalia Reynolds, a’03, designs Old Navy stores for Gap Inc. in San Francisco.

Rebecca Roemeling, b’03, is a sales planning analyst for CBS in New York City.

Tara Southwick, c’03, g’08, teaches in the Park Hill School District. She lives in Kansas City.

MARRIED

Alyson Pleviak, h’03, g’05, and Wade Carr, c’04, b’05, Dec. 22 in Topeka. They live in St. Louis, where Alyson is an occupational therapist at Rehab Care and Wade studies law at Washington University.

2004

Torsten Bassell, c’04, practices law with Stoll, Nussbaum & Polakov in Los Angeles.

Tony Bombardier, p’04, owns Crossroads Pharmacy in Belleville.

Sarah Brenner, f’04, works for Child Health Corporation of America. She lives in Kansas City.

Richard Crandall, c’04, is a corporate internal auditor for Dickinson Financial Corp. in Kansas City.

Ramie Doran, b’04, recently was promoted to vice president and private banking relationship manager for Bank of the West in Kansas City.

Jamalee Huntley, p’04, is a pediatric clinical pharmacy specialist at St. Johns Regional Health Care Center in Springfield, Mo.
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Class Notes

Nicole Knopick, b’04, works as a commercial real-estate associate for McRoberts & Co. in Dallas.

Amanda McDowell, c’04, practices at the McDowell Chiropractic/Acupuncture Clinic in Broken Arrow, Okla.

Nikki Overfelt, j’04, edits copy for the Topeka Capital-Journal. She lives in Olathe.

Jay Quickel, g’04, manages retail merchandise and marketing for Hallmark Cards in Kansas City.

Jacob Smith, c’04, works for Farmers Insurance Group in Olathe.

Tarrah Speer, j’04, is a senior meeting planner with Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Companies in Englewood, Colo.

Zachary Zillner, c’04, lives in Chicago and is general manager of Kona Grill in Oak Brook.

MARRIED

Heidi Fischer, p’04, to Matthew Heckman, Sept. 22 in Lawrence, where they live. Heidi is a pharmacist at St. Francis Health Center in Topeka.

BORN TO:

Tony Bombardier, p’04, and Kim, daughter, Ally Rae, Sept. 26 in Belleville, where Tony owns Crossroads Pharmacy.

Lindsey Smith Hoover, c’04, and Jason, daughter, Payton Christine, July 10 in Eudora. Lindsey is a communications specialist at KU.

2005

Cathy Boswell, g’05, is an advanced registered nurse practitioner for Overland Park Cardiovascular.

Michelle Burhenn, j’05, works as a reporter for the Morning News of Northwest Arkansas. She and her husband, Ryan Malashock, j’03, live in Lowell.

Christine Davidson, j’05, makes her home in Bucyrus. She’s assistant media manager for VML Inc.

Benjamin “Bear” Goodell, d’05, works in baseball operations for the Kansas City Royals. His home is in Kansas City.

Hannah Houlik, c’05, is a project
assistant for Pepper Construction in Chicago.

Jeffrey Hrabe, d’05, works as a products and services sales support specialist for Waddell & Reed in Mission.

Adam Irwin, c’05, is a senior economic consultant for Deloitte & Touche in Boston.

Lauren Morrell, j’05, makes her home in New York City, where she’s a senior sales representative for Anthropologie.

Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, s’05, is development director for KU’s Spencer Art Museum. She lives in Lawrence.

Raymundo Rojas, l’05, works as executive director of the Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center in El Paso, Texas.

Tara Schupner, c’05, j’06, edits copy for the Steamboat Pilot & Today in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Erica Stein, j’05, works as an assistant media planner and buyer for Cramer-Krasselt in Chicago.

MARRIED

James Ingraham, c’05, and Lindsey Bynum, c’06, May 26 in Shawnee. They make their home in Prairie Village.

Christopher Veit, e’05, and Jessica Virtue, c’06, j’06, Dec. 20 in Lawrence, where they live. He’s an engineer with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, and she works in the operations excellence department of Applebee’s International.

BORN TO:

Crystal Jackman Dunbar, n’05, and Andrew, son, Aydan, Sept. 1 in Colony. Crystal is a nurse at Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

2006

Christopher Beal, c’06, directs global corporate affairs for the Elanco division of Eli Lilly and Company in Greenfield, Ind.

Stephanie Frost, c’06, manages events for Loose Mansion in Kansas City.

Katherine Ibsen, j’06, is an editor with Sunflower Publishing in Lawrence.

Daniel Madrid, b’06, recently was promoted to team coordinator with Cerner in Kansas City.

Joseph Monaco, g’06, is a public-infor-
William Moore, ’06, manages midstream development for Inergy LP in Kansas City.

Erin Nied, ’06, directs membership for Robstan Group in Kansas City.

MARRIED
Megan Cartwright, a’06, and Jordan Stobaugh, c’07, July 14 in Lawrence. They live in Durham, N.C., where she’s an intern architect with Finely Design and he’s pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at the University of North Carolina.

Molly Mackey, c’06, to Matthew Calorich, Oct. 27. They make their home in Denver.

2007
Sarah Glatfelder, d’07, coordinates marketing for Eurosport in Hillsborough, N.C. She lives in Chapel Hill.
Lesley Rhine, g’07, works as a physical therapist with Athletico in Chicago.

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

a  School of Architecture and Urban Design
b  School of Business
c  College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
d  School of Education
e  School of Engineering
f  School of Fine Arts
g  Master’s Degree
h  School of Allied Health
j  School of Journalism
l  School of Law
m  School of Medicine
n  School of Nursing
p  School of Pharmacy
PharmD  School of Pharmacy
s  School of Social Welfare
DE  Doctor of Engineering
DMA  Doctor of Musical Arts
EdD  Doctor of Education
PhD  Doctor of Philosophy
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assoc.  Associate member of the Alumni Association

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2008

**Italy's Mountains & Lakes**
April 9–17

**Treasures of Japan**
April 10–20

**Paris**
April 12–20

**Saxony Cruise**
April 18–26

**Holland & Belgium**
April 22–30

**Cruising the Canary Islands**
April 23–May 1

**South Africa**
April 26–May 5

**Danube River Cruise**
April 28–May 6

**Copenhagen, Denmark and Stockholm, Sweden**
April 29–May 7

**Voyage of the Western Mediterranean**
May 1–8

**Provence and the French Riviera**
June 9–18

**Cruise the Passage of Peter the Great**
June 15–27

**The Great Journey through Europe**
June 23–July 3

**Ukraine**
July 2–15

**Alpine Mountains and Lakes**
July 14–22

**Village Life in the Dordogne**
July 27–August 4

**Cruising the Baltic Sea and Norwegian Fjords**
June 4–16

**Village Life in Burgundy and Provence**
Oct. 3–11

**Italian Riviera and Tuscany**
Oct. 4–12

**Tuscany**
Oct. 15–23

**Normandy and Brittany with Paris**
Oct. 21–Nov. 1

**South American Tapestry**
Oct. 22–Nov. 5

**New York Theatre Thanksgiving Tour**
Nov. 25–29

**Holiday Markets of Vienna and Salzburg**
Nov. 28–Dec. 6

**Village Life in Switzerland**
Sept. 25–Oct. 3

**Dates are subject to change.**

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In Memory

1930s

Helen Lockhart Egy, c’37, 92, Dec. 23 in Topeka. She is survived by her daughter, Nancy Egy Jacobs, c’65; two grandsons; and two great-grandsons.

Keith Frazier, b’39, 90, Nov. 17 in Roseville, Calif., where he was retired from William Volker and Company. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Jones Frazier, b’40; three daughters; and eight grandchildren.

Stella Cutlip Kern Fry, c’35, 93, Jan. 7 in Topeka. She is survived by a son; two daughters; a stepson; two stepdaughters; one of whom is Elizabeth Fry Schoeni, ’62; seven grandchildren; six stepgrandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

M. Wren Gabel, c’31, 98, Nov. 23 in Rochester, N.Y., where he was retired from Eastman Kodak. He is survived by his wife, Esther Conger Gabel, c’32; two daughters; a son; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Pearson, c’38, 90, Jan. 1 in Bellevue, Idaho, where he was retired. Surviving are his wife, Betsy Dodge Pearson, f’43; a daughter; and two sons, one of whom is Ridley, ’76.

Doris Dockstader Rooney, ’30, 98, Jan. 6 in Dodge City. She is survived by two sons, Noel, b’56, and Bernard III, ’55; seven grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

1940s

William Allen Jr., ’43, 86, Nov. 11 in Stuart, Fla., where he lived. He had owned Bill Allen Chevrolet in North Kansas City for 35 years before retiring in 1988. Surviving are his wife, Karin; two sons, one of whom is William III, c’69; a daughter, Martina Allen Lang, b’85; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Merle Bailey, ’43, 86, Dec. 19 in Wichita, where he was a retired Boeing engineer. He is survived by two daughters; a son, Steven, c’80, b’81; a brother; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Mary Morris Boyd, c’48, 81, Dec. 15 in Wichita, where she worked in real estate. She is survived by her husband, James, b’42, l’48; two sons; a daughter, Martha Boyd Gregg, ’76; and six grandchildren.

William Conroy, c’49, l’52, 82, Oct. 29 in Houston, where he was retired from Gulf Oil. Survivors include a son; a daughter; two brothers, one of whom is Richard, ’51; two sisters and four grandchildren.

Arthur Cook, c’42, g’47, PhD’57, 92, Jan. 6 in Signal Mountain, Tenn., where he was a retired professor and a former labor arbitrator. He is survived by his wife, Jean Francisco Cook, c’48, g’54; a daughter, Elizabeth Cook Cayce, ’79; a son; and three grandchildren.

Norman Edmonds, b’40, 90, Jan. 6 in Lawrence, where he was retired from Edmonds Grocery and Frozen Food Lockers. He is survived by three sons, Stephen, b’65, Joe, p’63, and Mark, c’69; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

William Francis, c’47, 84, April 2 in Houston, where he was retired from Gulf Oil. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; a son; a daughter; a brother, Richard, ’49; and five grandchildren.

Carl Gibson, b’49, 83, Nov. 14 in Jewell. Surviving are his wife, Beverly “Boo” Gaines Gibson, ’45; three sons, two of whom are Douglas, c’71, and John, c’78; a daughter; a brother, Desmond, p’48, g’50; a sister, Marilyn Gibson Blincoe, ’51; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Eunice Lovett Kelley, b’41, 87, Sept. 25 in Junction City, where she had been mayor and ran a clothing store. She is survived by a daughter, two sons; a stepdaughter; two stepsons; a brother, Roger Lovett, c’50, l’51; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mary Anne Martin Marshall, ’48, 82, Nov. 12 in Kansas City, where she was a retired librarian and chemistry teacher. She is survived by her husband, Robert, c’48, EdD’61; a son; a daughter; and two grandchildren.

Margaret Logan McCarthy, ’48, 83, Sept. 20 in Wichita. She is survived by four daughters, Diane McCarthy Tenny Knowles, p’75, Sharon McCarthy Uhlig, b’77, Tama McCarthy Davies, b’81, and Janice McCarthy Fischer, ’78; two brothers, one of whom is Neal Logan, c’59, m’63; and nine grandchildren.

Frank McGrath, g’49, 87, Nov. 11 in Lawrence. He was president of the Copper Foundation and is survived by three sons, Barry, c’65, Roland, m’72, and Randy, g’80; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jeanette Coons Nigg, c’44, 86, Oct. 25 in Helena, Mont. She is survived by her husband, Donald, c’43; a son, David, e’72, g’77; a daughter, Nancy Nigg Rude, h’76; and five grandchildren.

Betty Wright Smith, c’43, 87, Oct. 6 in Arkansas City. She is survived by a son; a daughter; two brothers, one of whom is Morgan Wright, c’49, l’50; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

1950s

Emmett “Marty” Duncan Jr., b’50, 81, Nov. 18 in Naples, Fla., where he was retired from Owens Corning fiberglass. He is survived by his wife, Joann Pendleton Bowman Duncan, ’56; two sons; a daughter; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Cynthia Baldwin Luchtefeld, ’89; a stepson; two grandchildren; and six stepgrandchildren.

Beulah Baum Franks, g’57, 88, Nov. 21 in Lenexa, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, Charles, ’46; a son; a daughter, H. Tia Franks, d’70; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Guy Goodwin, c’51, l’53, 79, Dec. 10 in Washington, D.C., where he was chief of the U.S. Justice Department’s special litigation section during the Nixon administration. Surviving are his wife,
Frances McDonald Goodwin, g’53; a daughter; and three grandchildren.

**Charles Kassinger**, d’50, 84, Dec. 6 in Boulder, Colo, where he was a retired music teacher. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Sloan Kassinger, f’49; two sons; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**Jerry Kuehnle**, e’50, 86, Nov. 22 in Overland Park, where he was retired from Bendix. He is survived by his wife, Nancy McGraw Kuehnle, c’53; a son; a daughter; and a brother.

**Clifford Malone**, c’50, l’52, 81, Nov. 15 in Wichita, where he was a retired lawyer. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor Brown Malone, c’49; six sons, five of whom are Patrick, c’72, Kevin, l’80, Timothy, m’79, Barry, c’85, and Shawn, c’95; a daughter; Diane Malone Moser, n’81; a sister; a brother; 19 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Jane Johnson Nance**, d’58, 71, Jan. 1 in Pittsburg. She is survived by her husband, David, e’59; two sons; and two grandchildren.

**Thomas Pratt**, c’55, 75, Jan. 2 in Kansas City, where he had owned Pratt Hardware. He is survived by his wife, Gretchen; three daughters; a son; three stepdaughters; a stepson; a brother; three grandchildren; and seven stepgrandchildren.

**Jack Shears**, e’54, 76, Oct. 8 in San Francisco, where he founded Shears & Window. He is survived by a son; a daughter; two brothers, William, e’40, and Robert, c’42, m’44; a sister, Elizabeth Shears Ashby, ’50; and four granddaughters.

**Kenneth Wingerd**, b’56, 73, Dec. 25 in Overland Park, where he was retired from industrial sales. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Bowe Wingerd, ’76; two sons; two daughters; a brother, Bruce, c’60, l’63; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**1960s**

**Merle “Pat” Cooper**, e’60, 79, Nov. 10 in Kansas City, where he owned M.D. Cooper and Associates. He is survived by his wife, Frances Leach Cooper, assoc.; two sons; a sister; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Beverly Lingenfelter Imler**, ’68, 61, Dec. 1 in St. Louis. She is survived by her husband, David, assoc.; a daughter, Leslie Imler Wobbe, b’90; a son; her mother; a sister; and two grandchildren.

**James McKeen**, ’60, 69, Nov. 12 in Colorado Springs. He is survived by his wife, Mary Avison McKeen, c’57; two sons; four daughters; and 14 grandchildren.

**Kelman Miller**, e’63, 67, Oct. 20 in San Diego, where he was retired from the aerospace industry. He is survived by his wife, Dee; three daughters; a son; a sister, Karen Miller Jordan, d’59; and eight grandchildren.

**Judith Sims Turentine**, c’64, 65, Dec. 7 in Leesburg, Fla. She is survived by her husband; a son; her mother; two brothers; a sister, Nancy Sims-West, d’81; and two grandchildren.

**1970s**

**Jan Geary Droegemeier**, g’76, PhD’84, 57, Oct. 31 in Wichita, where she did psychological testing and assessment. She is survived by her husband, Doug; two sons; and a brother, Richard Geary, f’68, g’70.

**Geoph Kozeny**, a’72, 57, Oct. 22 in San Francisco. Among survivors is his wife, Ginny; and two sisters, one of whom is Penelope, b’76, g’78.

**Pleasant Voorhees Miller III**, c’75, 54, Nov. 10 in Kansas City, where he was a travel agent. He is survived by his mother, Alice Shankland Miller, ’47; a brother, David, j’78; and a sister, Allison Miller Rizell, n’81.

**Jordan Walls**, n’74, 56, Nov. 3 in Lawrence. She lived in Shoreline, Wash., where she was a psychiatric nurse. She is survived by her husband, James; a son; her mother; two sisters; and a brother.

**Ralph Weir III**, ’76, 53, June 18 in Colorado Springs, where he was vice president of Weir Management. Surviving are his parents, Ralph, e’44, and Barbara Barber Weir, c’44; a sister, Susan Weir Ancker, ’68; and a brother, Daniel, assoc.

**1980s**

**Dan Lambert**, s’81, 56, Oct. 29 in Arkansas City. Four brothers and five sisters survive.

**Robert O’Keefe**, c’87, 43, Dec. 5 in Mishawaka, Ind. He worked for AM General Corporate. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. Surviving are a son; his mother, Prudence Sieg, s’84; his father, Michael, g’77, g’79; and a brother.

**2000s**

**Travis Dowdy**, c’02, 30, Nov. 18 in Worland, Colo. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and is survived by his wife, Lindsay, two daughters, his parents, a brother, a sister and his grandparents.

**The University Community**

**Ralph Byers**, 52, Dec. 15 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor of mathematics. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Bayer, ’77; two daughters; his mother; a sister; and two brothers.

**Marion Dresser Howey**, b’38, 91, Jan. 6 in Lawrence, where she had been head of government documents at KU. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Judith Howey Theis, ’67; a son; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Opendra “Bill” Narayan**, 71, Dec. 24 in Kansas City, where he was a distinguished professor and chairman of microbiology, molecular genetics and immunology at the KU Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Moonie; a son, Dhanesh, g’98; two daughters; two brothers; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

**Viola Shirer**, assoc., 82, Nov. 29, and **Hampton “Tony” Shirer**, m’48, 83, Dec. 9 in Lawrence, where Tony taught cardiodpulmonary physiology and biomedical instrumentation at KU until 1991. They are survived by a son, Hampton, c’72; three daughters, Louise, c’80, Virginia, ’77, and Carolyn Shirer Boyd, ’83; and three grandchildren.

**Robert Stump**, 86, Dec. 23 in Lexington, Ky. He had been a professor of physics at KU. Surviving are his wife, Jeanne Gass Stump, g’66, PhD’72; four sons, three of whom are Roger, c’73, PhD’82, Gregory, c’76, and Jordan, c’85, g’87; a brother, six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
Prairie primer
Field guide teaches how to read nature’s ‘living book’

Walking the Douglas County farm where his family has lived for six generations, Ken Lassman wades through a field of Indian Grass, the feathery seed heads of the tall prairie perennial flaring bronze in the winter sun, and talks of struggling to establish this now-thriving stand in the 1980s under the Conservation Reserve Program. Further up the slope, in an old cornfield planted to brome, he plucks broom sedge and dogbane, their presence a cautionary tale of soil depleted by row crops and erosion. On a ridge that looms steeply behind his house, where deer tracks divot new snow, he recalls a time not long ago when only three trees grew on a sidehill now smothered in cedars.

“Each native species of plant is a kind of chronicle of the local, a living book that can tell you a story about this place,” Lassman writes in Wild Douglas County, a thoughtful, eloquent look at the natural history of the Lawrence area.

But to read that book you must first know the language.

“If you go to a sporting event and you don’t know the rules, if they’re speaking a different language and you’re sitting there scratching your head, bored, then you’re probably not going back,” Lassman says. “There’s no reason to go back unless you learn the language. Same thing with the outdoors.”

Helping people learn the rules and language of nature has long been a kind of passionate avocation for Lassman, c’77, h’91, an occupational therapist and director of habilitation services at Kansas Neurological Institute in Topeka.

In the 1980s he began leading nature walks and group presentations on Kansas ecology, and he published Seasons and Cycles, a calendar that gave week-by-week reports of the doings of local plants, insects and mammals and traced annual migrations of the sun and moon. Lassman’s idea was to paint a broad picture of the cyclical nature of the environment, while recommending specific things to look for at a particular time of year.

Much of the material in the calendar, now out of print, has been incorporated into Wild Douglas County.

The changes Lassman has seen on his own farm are only a small part of the transformation of the Kaw River Valley he outlines in the book.

When white settlers arrived in Douglas County in the 1850s, they quickly set about imposing their will on land inhabited by Plains Indians and largely shaped by forces of wind, fire, water and sun. The native tallgrass prairie that covered 83 percent of the county was plowed under for farmland. (Only about 1 percent of the original grasslands remains today.) Within the first 20 years of settlement, more than half of the old-growth, oak-hickory woodlands that sheltered the remaining 17 percent of Douglas County were cleared.

Replacing the soft-edged natural boundaries of ecoregions, biomes and watersheds were the straight lines set down by man: the Midwestern grid of map borders, power lines and property
boundaries.

In *Wild Douglas County*, Lassman sets out to reconnect with the very visible (but often overlooked) world that exists underneath man’s arbitrary grid. And he proposes ways his readers can do the same.

The book is meant to be read afield, and it’s organized by several perspectives: Chapters on ecoregions, watersheds, woodlands and prairie allow readers to learn about where they are reading. A “Seasons of the Kaw” section traces the weekly progression of plant and animal life, allowing readers to focus on when.

Passages of lyrical nature writing mix with in-depth explanations of the region’s geology and biology. Lassman provides detailed directions to specific local stands of old-growth timber and native prairie grass, along with tips on where to look for if you visit. He also offers ideas and resources for joining preservation efforts. His overarching point is that nature is essential to our survival. To ensure its survival, we have to act.

“We plan for highways; we plan for the needs of our communities,” he says. “Well, part of our community is the often unrecognized ecosystems we live within. If we want them to be a vital part of our future, we have to plan for them, too.”

—Steven Hill

**OREAD READER**

**We the people**

*Study finds both hype and hope in political blogs*

Describing political blogging in a book that took three years to research and write and another year to publish is like reporting a NASCAR race with stone tablets,” writes David Perlmutter in *Blogwars*, a study of the rising popularity and influence of Web blogs on American politics. Indeed, Perlmutter—professor and associate dean for graduate studies and research in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications—notes the near impossibility of accurately quantifying how many blogs are on the Internet, how many thousands of people visit the most popular sites or, even, what exactly a blogger is. But he gamely tries, delivering what is billed as the first full study of this mercurial new form of mass communication.

Blogs have a reputation as a magnet for partisan extremists and an outlet for harsh speech and vitriolic attacks on political opponents. So it’s no surprise that Perlmutter characterizes many of the political bloggers he met as “warriors” who “take politics more seriously than politicians.” Yet he notes that bloggers come in many stripes. A form that started as a way for those with no journalism training to bypass big media and share their opinions with a mass audience, he points out, has largely been adopted by the media and by political candidates themselves. This trend has created opportunities for bloggers—once by definition consummate political outsiders—to become political players: speechwriters, consultants and kingmakers.

But perhaps no role is as essential as that of citizen journalist. Perlmutter writes that not only do bloggers “supplement (and sometimes supplant) regular reporters” by reporting on events mainstream journalists ignore, but they also have served as watchdogs of the media (perhaps most famously in the case of Dan Rather’s debunked report on George W. Bush’s military service). Quoting a lengthy blog passage from a North Carolina communications professor who closely critiques a *New York Times* article on the war in Afghanistan, Perlmutter

**An Apple for teacher**

*Coming someday to an iPhone near you: online courses in teacher education.*

KU’s eLearning Design Lab, a collaboration between the School of Education and School of Engineering, is developing online courses for teachers that take advantage of the new Apple gizmo’s promise to put the Internet in your pocket. The project follows the lab’s success at delivering course content through another popular Apple machine, the iPod.

“Almost as an afterthought, we said let’s make course modules available for downloading on the iPod,” says James Miller, co-director of the lab and associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science at KU. “It proved to be enormously popular. Everybody loved it.”

Designing courses for on-demand online consumption is just one more way the University can knock down barriers to course delivery, he says. It’s also a good way to liven up the research process.

“Part of the fun is figuring out what you can do with these new technologies when they come out,” Miller says. “Sometimes it sparks ideas. That’s what research is.”

—Steven Hill
writes, “You may disagree with her, but at least she is conducting close, line-by-line analysis, which is something sorely missing from professional press criticism.”

Ultimately, Blogwars challenges the idea that blogging is a hugely effective political tool, but argues that bloggers do play a role in strengthening our democracy. They are critical thinkers who question conventional political and journalistic wisdom. And because they do so in an interactive format that opens their own expertise and opinion to comment, the implicit message to readers would seem to be, “Do as I do.”

Don’t, in other words, believe everything you read.

—Steven Hill

Master and muse

An acclaimed dancer honors KU’s Elizabeth Sherbon

As a young choreographer, Bill Evans spent the summer of 1968 on the Hill, teaching at KU’s Midwestern Music and Art Camp. After students performed two of his pieces in Hoch Auditorium, the elegant Elizabeth Sherbon, d’30, matriarch of KU’s dance program, sought him out to introduce herself and praised his work.

She invited him to serve as a panelist for an American Dance Symposium—heady stuff for the 28-year-old Evans. “It was a great opportunity that changed my life,” he recalls. Sherbon also asked Evans to return to KU for a solo performance, the beginning of his 40-year relationship with KU dance.

Evans, whom Dance Magazine in 2004 named one of the nation’s top three tap dance artists, returned to KU in February for a weeklong residency in the department of music and dance. He taught modern dance classes and choreographed a piece for selected members of the University Dance Company.

The dancers will perform his work in the UDC’s spring concert at 7:30 p.m. April 17-18 at the Lied Center. The dance, which Evans calls a “celebration of African rhythm” to a piece called “Jazz Jamaica,” melds tap with Sherbon’s specialty, modern dance. During her 20 years in New York City, she performed in the companies of modern dance legends Martha Graham and Jean Erdman. After returning to Kansas in the mid-1950s to teach dance in Wichita, Sherbon moved back to Lawrence and her alma mater in 1961.

The celebration weekend also will include solo tap performances by Evans both nights at the Lied Center and at a special concert April 19 in the Elizabeth Sherbon Dance Theatre in Robinson Center. His third performance, which requires advance registration, will help rededicate the theatre in honor of Sherbon’s 100th birthday. Sherbon retired from KU in 1975 and remained in Lawrence; she died at age 92 in 2000.

Evans describes his mentor as “gracious but tough as nails.

“She had to be. In that era, she was trying to establish a dance program at a public university, and it was seldom that anyone made it easy for her. Onstage she exuded a sense of serenity that was remarkable—quite raw. You couldn’t take your eyes off her.”

All eyes are on Evans one snowy February morning, as he teaches a modern dance class for 27 students in the Sherbon theatre in Robinson. Teaching clearly brings joy to the dancer, who for
16 years was a professor of dance at the University of New Mexico, leading a contemporary UNM ensemble while directing and performing worldwide with his own professional company.

Nimbly stretching his lanky limbs, Evans narrates his movements by coaxing students to extend their imaginations as well as their bodies. He reminds them that dance, like other art forms, connects artists and audiences in powerful, unseen ways.

“We dance so we can touch people’s hearts and minds,” he says, “so they can see and think and feel alive.”

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Dream lives on

After Narayan’s death, researchers vow to find his long-sought AIDS vaccine

His colleagues in the School of Medicine’s department of microbiology, molecular genetics and immunology promise to carry on his quest for an AIDS vaccine. As for filling other voids left by the loss of Opendra “Bill” Narayan, the prognosis is less hopeful.

“It’s very difficult not to have him here,” says Shilpa Buch, associate professor of molecular and integrative physiology. “All that I have learned about HIV has been under his mentorship. I would call him my guru. It is a challenge, but I take it with great enthusiasm to keep his legacy going. He would have wanted it no other way.”

Narayan, one of KU Medical Center’s most prominent researchers since arriving here in 1993 from Johns Hopkins University as the Marion Merrell Dow Distinguished Professor, died of a heart attack Dec. 24. He was 71, but, according to colleagues, had never seriously considered retirement. At the time of his death, Narayan was principal investigator for three National Institutes of Health grants, worth a total of $16 million over five years; each has been handed over, pending final NIH approval, to fellow KU researchers.

“Dr. Narayan’s research program had been moving forward at a terrific pace, making great advances in the development of the HIV vaccine,” says Paul Terranova, KU Medical Center’s vice chancellor for research. “You lose a little ground when this happens, but we have planned very carefully and I feel confident the momentum will continue.”

Narayan, a native of Guyana, earned a doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Toronto in 1963 and a doctorate in mechanisms of viral disease from Ontario’s prestigious University of Guelph in 1970. In 1973 he began pioneering research on the “lentivirus” in sheep; 15 years later, when it was discovered (due in part to his research) that HIV is also a lentivirus, Narayan immediately changed course.

In a lengthy tribute published in his field’s most prestigious professional journal, colleagues described Narayan as a “globally renowned HIV researcher” and a “towering figure in HIV pathogenesis and vaccine research” who made “seminal contributions in the areas of neuroAIDS and therapeutics.” In 2006 his neurovirology colleagues bestowed upon him their Pioneer Award.

His fellow researchers at KU and around the country also cite Narayan’s dedication to fostering careers of women scientists, plus two key lessons he shared with those working in his lab: the time limit for moping after a failed line of experimentation was 24 hours, then “chin up and move on,” and that “telling a story,” rather than relying solely on dry laboratory data, was the overlooked key in applying for grant funding.

“He took interest in our work, which really made us want to do better,” Buch says. “Nothing excited him more than talking about science, but even if he was working in his garden, then he was doing that with passion.

“That is the word you would put with him: passion.”

Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway recalls Narayan telling him that he awoke every morning and consciously thought about what he could do that day to find a cure for AIDS, especially for ravaged areas of Africa.

“That gives you a sense of the nobility of his vision,” Hemenway says. “The only solace we have is that his colleagues are picking up the research effort he has created. We’re hopeful that they are driven by their shared vision of the cures that Bill intended to achieve.”

—Chris Lazzarino
The most important timepieces in Allen Field House are, of course, the game and shot clocks. While those modern digital marvels frantically click through the minutes and seconds until yet another ‘Hawks hoops victory, their distinguished forebear elegantly, and almost anonymously, rotates its hands through the years and decades.

In our pilgrimages to our beloved basketball shrine, where there is always an onrush of sight and sound, do we even notice the old Longines clock, now hanging on the basketball barn’s west wall?

When he fell under Allen Field House’s spell while here to preview the 2003 Final Four, Jim Caple, senior writer for ESPN.com, sure did:

“... It’s absolutely beautiful. Like Wrigley Field, only with championship banners. Why, it’s so old school that there’s a Longines clock on the wall. You expect to see players in Chuck Taylor’s and tight satin shorts run from the locker room ...”

Longines analogue clocks once were spiffy equipment for American sporting venues. Yankee Stadium had one, until its 1970s renovations; so did Cincinnati’s Crosley Field, until it was closed in 1970. Bill Mazeroski won the 1960 World Series for his Pittsburgh Pirates with a home run that sailed over Forbes Field’s Longines clock.

While those arena icons are now merely matters for memory, the Allen Field House clock keeps on ticking.

Les Rollins, Facilities Operations’ instrumenta- tion supervisor, says it was installed on the south wall shortly after Allen Field House was built. “We used to have to walk out on a beam and stand on the air handler to set the time,” he says. Rollins rebuilt the clock in the 1990s when when it was moved to the west wall.

There isn’t much else left from times gone by. The indoor track is long gone; courts and baskets have been replaced countless times; even the entire east entry has been made over into the marvelous Booth Family Hall of Athletics—which might one day, when the time is right, be the perfect repository for our lovely Longines.

The 1955 arrival of Allen Field House’s Longines clock was documented (though names of people posing with it were not); 53 years later, the KU Longines, now perched on the west wall, is an up-to-the-second reminder of bygone times.
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