Art Goes to War

*Spencer exhibition explores World War I graphic arts*

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- Boulevard brewer
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Volume 108, No. 2, 2010
Lift the Chorus

Two Jayhawks set example

Having left the cozy confines of the KU Medical Center for a new job in Lexington, Ky., just over a year ago, I cannot tell you how much receiving Kansas Alumni brightens my spirits. The publication remains true blue to its calling—to inspire and empower Jayhawks around the globe. Thanks for continuing the tradition of great reporting, University updates and people-driven stories that never fail to interest me.

The latest issue brought news of the passing of Governor Bill Avery, c'34, and Dave Shirk, c'39, g'51—two monumental Jayhawks.

I remember Governor Avery’s pep talks at every Jayhawks for Higher Education meeting. He was a remarkable leader whose love for the University helped define him. As governor he wasn’t afraid to raise taxes to support education, and that cost him politically. He was denied a second two-year term but that didn’t stop him from continuing to build a better Kansas.

To meet the governor in his beloved hometown, to see him late in life wearing a work shirt, work gloves and a straw cowboy hat, and to visit with him over coffee at the local café was to understand what a life well-lived looks like. He was a true Kansas original whose legacy endures in all of us whose lives were improved by his leadership.

Dave Shirk taught at my high school in Topeka and was therefore always Mr. Shirk to me. What endeared him to me was his ownership of Shirk’s barn outside of Lawrence. Some of my best memories of fall were forged at parties at Shirk’s barn. Whoever thought Kool and the Gang blaring from a PA system in a cow stall would equate with glamour? But for me and many other KU students, Shirk’s barn was where the best of college memories were made.

Mr. Shirk was also a relentless KU fan—attending every game for years. He, like Avery, led by example. He always had a smile on his face, a kind word to share and a loyalty to KU that made you understand that being a Jayhawk was more than just being a student at KU, it was a glorious lifelong pursuit.

The KU family has many things that unite us—victories on the scoreboard, a beautiful campus, compelling faculty, shared aspirations for a better state and nation—but when all is said and done, what makes me most proud to be a Jayhawk are the people who through their life’s work define what it truly means to be one. If anyone doubts that, they need only look to the example set by Governor Avery and Mr. Shirk.

David Adkins, c’83, l’86
Lexington, Ky.

Thoughtful leader

I was sorry to read in Kansas Alumni that Laurence Chalmers had died (“Keeper of the Peace,” Hilltopics, issue No. 1). The spring semester of 1970 has to be considered the most trying time in the history of KU, and Chalmers’ thoughtful and courageous leadership during that time prevented what could have been catastrophic violence. He deserves to be ranked as one of KU’s greatest leaders, and I will always be pleased that it is his signature on my diploma.

John Regier, c’71
Belmont, Mass.
March 2010

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As a restless KU senior, with a solid GPA and my degree requirements fulfilled, I convinced myself I had earned the right to coast a bit—work less and play more.

Unfortunately, I had enrolled in Art History. Coasting wouldn’t cut it. After a few weeks of sitting in the darkened auditorium in the Spencer Museum of Art, squinting and straining to memorize the facts and nuances of slide after slide, I realized I truly was in the dark. As a poor grade loomed on the horizon, I took the cowardly way out and dropped the class. The decision stands atop my list of academic regrets.

But I’m lucky. Every day I gaze at the Spencer from my office window, and through the years I’ve seen my fair share of exhibitions, occasionally escaping from work for a creative boost to cure my writer’s block. As a KU student, I could barely find my way to the museum; now the place is one of my regular haunts. I like to think I’ve almost made amends.

Some of the Spencer’s never-before-seen marvels are part of “Machine in a Void: World War I & the Graphic Arts,” a spring exhibition that is the focus of our cover story. Years in the making, the exhibition will shed light on a little-known period in European art. Faculty from several academic areas plan to incorporate the event into their classes—part of the museum’s ongoing efforts to reach across campus.

Collaboration is just one of the many ways in which the KU landscape has changed since my student days. As a two-time Jayhawk parent and wistful alumna, I have eagerly absorbed any details my children are willing to share, and I’ve gingerly (they might say otherwise) dispensed advice. One lesson: “If you adore the subject, don’t drop the course.”

Of course, I’d rather trade places than live vicariously. I’d gladly sit in class, thankful for the privilege.

Mindful of such alumni sentiment, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences last summer hosted the first Mini College, an immersion in classroom and campus life for alumni and friends. Organizers were thrilled when 130 students from 17 states participated. Staff members are preparing to welcome even more students during this year’s session, May 24-28. Online information is available at www.minicolege.ku.edu.

Billed as “the smartest trip you’ll ever take,” Mini College is summer school with the pizzazz of discovery and nostalgia in a setting dear to Jayhawk hearts. Students enroll in four courses each day, choosing from multiple options in history, anthropology, economics, the social sciences, visual arts and more. Campus and community tours add to the variety, and ample meals provide sustenance—banish all thoughts of yesteryear’s dorm food. For those who care to indulge in the complete experience, Lewis Hall suites on Daisy Hill are available for lodging. Like the food, the accommodations are a far cry from the spartan surroundings of decades past.

Judging by the 2009 reviews, Mini College is a tradition in the making. “Out of the 130 people who attended the first year, 124 turned in evaluation forms, and all of those said they would attend again,” reports Kristi Henderson, j’03, associate director of external relations. “They almost immediately started e-mailing us for this year’s dates. The responses have been amazing.”

So, if you yearn to return to the Hill, consider Lawrence as a spring destination. You’ll savor the academic life without fretting about a final exam, and though a week doesn’t entitle students to academic regalia or a walk down the Hill, there is a graduation party.
On the Boulevard

Young participants in the KU Natural History Museum’s one-day Science Summer Camps explore nature and science through demonstrations and hands-on activities, as well as experiments both in the museum and out in the field. The camps take place in June and are open to children ages 8-11. They include Forensic Fun, Geology Exploration and, new this year, Science Palooza.

Exhibitions

“C.A. Seward: Artist and Draftsman,” Spencer Museum of Art, through May 16
“Machine in a Void: World War I & the Graphic Arts,” Spencer Museum of Art, through May 23
“Qiu Anxiong: New Book of Mountains and Seas,” Spencer Museum of Art, through May 30
“Textures of Interpretation: Meaning and Materiality in Global Contemporary Art,” Spencer Museum of Art, through June 6
“Mobile Landscape: Kim Jongku,” Spencer Museum of Art, through July 25

University Theatre

MARCH
25-28, 31, April 1-2 “Undergraduate Student Projects”

APRIL
23-25, 29-30, May 1 “Anything Goes,” directed by John Staniunas

Lied Center events

MARCH
23 An Evening with Poet Mary Oliver
24 “Avenue Q”
30 Joy of Singing

APRIL
6 KU Symphony Orchestra
7 “CATS”
13 Kronos Quartet
22-23 University Dance Company
25 David Sedaris
27 KU Jazz Ensembles I, II and III
29 KU Symphonic Band & University Band

MAY
4 KU Wind Ensemble

Lectures

MARCH
25-26 “Changing the Slow Institution: The U.S. Senate, 1960-2010,” Dole Institute of Politics Presidential Lecture Series
29 Rory Stewart, Humanities Lecture Series, Kansas Union and Hall Center Conference Hall

APRIL
12 Sterling Hundley, Hallmark Design Symposium Series, 3139 Wescoe Hall
20 Kevin Willmott, Humanities Lecture Series, Kansas Union
26 Roger Wickes, Hallmark Design Symposium Series, 3139 Wescoe Hall

Special events

APRIL
11 Chancellor Inauguration, Lied Center
15-18 Class of 1960 Golden Anniversary Celebration
17 Gold Medal Club Annual Meeting and Reunion, Kansas Union
MAY
5 Class Ring Ceremony, Adams Alumni Center
6 Grad Grill, Adams Alumni Center
10 Student Alumni Association Finals Dinner, Adams Alumni Center
16 Commencement Lunch, The Outlook
24-28 KU Mini College, www.minicourse.ku.edu

MAY
5 Class Ring Ceremony, Adams Alumni Center
6 Grad Grill, Adams Alumni Center
10 Student Alumni Association Finals Dinner, Adams Alumni Center
16 Commencement Lunch, The Outlook
24-28 KU Mini College, www.minicourse.ku.edu

Academic calendar
MAY
6 Last day of spring classes
7 Stop day
10-14 Final exams
16 Commencement

Alumni events
MARCH
31 Topeka: ‘Hawk Talk

APRIL
2 Indianapolis Chapter: Alumni Night with the Indiana Pacers
7 Denver Chapter: Alumni Career Workshop
12 Ottawa: KU Debate Tour
13 Pittsburg: KU Debate Tour
14 Wichita Chapter: "Discovering Shakespeare's Letters" public symposium
14 Bentonville, Ark.: Northwest Arkansas Alumni Happy Hour
15 Tulsa Club: Alumni Happy Hour
18 Lawrence: Lynn Electric Kansas Marathon
24 Omaha Chapter: Joslyn Art Museum Highlight Tour
25 Wamego: Flint Hills Chapter Wine Tasting
26 El Dorado: KU Debate Tour
27 Wichita Chapter: Pre-game baseball tailgate, KU vs. Wichita State
29 Holton: KU Debate Tour
30 Lawrence: Hispanic Chapter Graduation Recognition Reception

MAY
1 Des Moines Chapter: Des Moines Art Center Highlight Tour
3 Winfield: KU Debate Tour
5 Emporia: KU Debate Tour
8 Indianapolis Chapter: Indianapolis Museum of Art Highlight Tour
15 Manhattan: Flint Hills Chapter pre-game baseball tailgate, KU vs. Kansas State
24 Dallas Chapter: Jayhawk Lonestar Classic Golf Tournament

Kansas Honors Program
MARCH
24 Atchison

APRIL
7 Colby
7 Medicine Lodge
7 Neodesha
8 Logan
14 Scott City

For more information about watch parties and other Association events, call 800-584-2957 or see the Association’s Web site at www.kualumni.org.

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Jayhawk Walk

Big brass band beats Brits

One of the great things about music, says senior percussion major Calvin Dugan, is that perfection, ever pursued, is never achieved. “You are never at the top of your game,” Dugan says. “You are always striving for another level.”

If Dugan and his Fountain City Brass Band bandmates weren’t at the top of their game at the 2009 Scottish Open Brass Band Championship, they were sure close. The Kansas City ensemble, which includes KU tuba/euphonium professor Scott Watson and three KU brass and percussion students, made front-page news across Britain last November, scoring an upset on par, in Watson’s estimation, with the U.S. hockey victory over the Soviet Union at the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Fountain City is the three-time defending U.S. and North American brass band champion, but winning the competition in Perth, Scotland, was the rarest of honors. No American brass band had ever won in the U.K., or, according to Watson, anywhere else in the world, either.

The fierce competitive environment—“Friends afterward,” Watson says, “but first a punch in the nose”—not only can’t be replicated in class, it can’t be replicated in the United States. Yanks never shared the Brits’ fervor for brass bands, many of which are descendants of beloved factory bands that competed to brighten the bleak days of early industry.

“Our students in this band now know they can produce in a pressure situation,” Watson says. “You are always striving to be the best, and they ended up being the best that day.”

Truly a college kid

Wesley, c’85, and Chasinee Arthachinda Jaeger, g’85, of rural Cherokee County, appreciate the college experience as much as any alumni could: They met on the Hill, while living in McCollum Hall in fall 1982, and have been together ever since. As thrilled as they naturally are to see their son, Alex, enroll in college, at nearby Pittsburg State University, they also realize his adventures will be different than theirs.

Alex is 11—and was 10 during his first week of classes in mid-January.

“He appeared to be a little nervous,” Wesley Jaeger says of Alex’s first day on the PSU campus, “but also excited.”

Wesley Jaeger says Alex zoomed through elementary grades, and at every step was working so far beyond his classmates that he was bored and ravenous for more. So the Jaegers home-schooled Alex for three years, including summers, and, after he scored well on standardized tests, helped him enroll in 16 hours at Pitt State, including calculus, biology, chemistry, two labs, piano and university choir.

Dad accompanies son to campus and sits outside his classrooms, though he adds that Alex takes his own notes and does his own homework.

“I think some of the other students are afraid to go up and talk to him, because they’re talking to a little kid,” Wesley Jaeger says. “But professors have come up and introduced themselves, and he’s enjoying working with his lab partners. I think things are going really well for him.”

Yes, Alex is a Gorilla, but considering his lineage and achievement, it’s perhaps appropriate to also welcome him into the flock as a truly special Baby Jay.
Marriage is a cakewalk

Since their wedding in 2008, Jack, b’08, and Mallory Hammersmith Hannah, j’08, bought their first home, adopted their first dog and made their first television appearance as contestants on the “Food Network Challenge: Newlywed Cakes.”

Delighted to be chosen as one of four couples, and not sure what to expect, the Hannahs flew to Denver last August for a whirlwind weekend. After on-camera interviews, Mallory and the other wives were whisked to a conference room as their husbands kneaded fondant (malleable frosting) with professional cake decorators. For eight hours, the teams worked to win over judges for the $10,000 prize, which could be claimed only if the wife correctly chose her husband’s creation.

Jack’s six-tiered cake represented the stages of his relationship with Mallory, from high school sweethearts in Spring Hill to KU graduates, with study abroad and athletics victories between. Even without a Jayhawk (trademark issues), the 3-foot confection emanated Kansas pride that Mallory couldn’t miss.

The Hannahs’ cake came in second, but the experience was its own sweet reward.

White Christmas

A fierce storm blanketed Lawrence with 9 inches of snow on Christmas Eve, making a jolly holiday for those gathered around a roaring fire with family and friends. For Mike Lang and his intrepid Facilities Operations crew, however, the winter wonder necessitated a 12-hour day in high winds and frigid temperatures as they toiled from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Christmas day to free campus thruways of blowing drifts.

“Our main concern was keeping roads clear for emergency vehicles,” said Lang, campus landscape manager. “The University is 24-7-365; there are researchers with work going on even on holidays.”

That Christmas storm was just the tip of the iceberg for those who keep campus humming: Snows on four of the next five days forced crews to work two weeks with no time off. “We’re still dealing with it,” Lang said in late January, “still moving piles of snow.” By then Facilities Operations had spent 7,538 man hours and $196,750 to battle winter.

All in a day’s work, evidently. “The thing about maintenance is we’re here to support the mission,” Lang said, noting that his crew and their families took the Christmas call-out in stride.

Ho-ho hum, you might say.

Star power

The women’s basketball team beat Colorado, 75-64, Jan. 27 in Allen Field House despite 21 points, seven rebounds and six blocks by CU forward Brittany Spears. The Buffs have relied on Spears since the start of Big 12 play, when point guard Whitney Houston took a leave of absence for undisclosed personal reasons.
The stickers, concert fliers and scribbled musings, the irreverent doodles and drawings that cover the walls at the KJHK studios are not merely graffiti: They are also visible evidence, accumulated across more than 30 years, of campus radio’s long, strange trip at KU.

Tucked away on a dead-end street in a lightly traveled corner of campus, The Shack (known more formally as The Sudler Annex) has since 1975 been not only KJHK’s broadcast home, but also an embodiment of the make-do, counterculture attitude that’s a hallmark of college radio in America. Walk through the door and you see immediately this is no slick corporate station with a strict playlist of mainstream hits. For a place where DJs have freedom to spin what they want, no matter how obscure, The Shack seems a perfect home base: A ramshackle clubhouse on the edge of campus that’s as torn, scuffed and frayed—and comfortable—as an old leather jacket.

But the “little cabin of cool at the top of the Hill” (as a former station manager described it) will soon cue up its own swan song. In April KU’s sound alternative will move to new studios in the Kansas Union.

“Definitely the one term that comes up again and again to describe our feelings is ‘bittersweet,’” says Station Manager Logan Nickels, Stillwater, Okla., senior in biochemistry. “There’s just no other word to describe it.”

Time caught up with the studio. Told to renovate or find a new home, KJHK leaders opted for a fresh start with new equipment.

“It’s necessary, because the building is sliding down the hill and it would cost as much to renovate as to move,” Nickels says. “If we move we can get all new, state-of-the-art equipment and a more visible location on campus. It’s a chance to let students know there are opportunities to be involved with KJHK.”

Construction began in November on the new studios, located in the southwest corner of the Kansas Union’s third floor; a week of grand opening events (downtown concerts, in-studio performances and “marquee guests” on the talk and sports shows) will take place in April. The $450,000 project will be paid for by KJHK with the help of a 10-year loan from the University. A fundraising drive is now underway through the Office of Student Success (www.vpss.ku.edu/Giving/index.shtml) to defray construction costs.

The 1,400-square-foot space will include two production studios, reception and office areas, a bigger music library and a larger broadcast studio.
with room for live performances. The “floating” studios have dead space between the walls, floors and ceilings of the broadcast areas and the Union to eliminate vibrations that could affect sound quality.

New high-tech equipment will be a welcome change from the unreliable gear now in use. “We have an engineer on call for things that break down,” Nickels says. “It’s pretty common for something to go drastically wrong.”

The move brings the station closer to KU Memorial Unions, which took on responsibility for KJHK from the School of Journalism in 2004. Journalism stepped in in 1988 when a burst of on-air profanity landed the station in trouble with the FCC.

“Part of the mystique has always been the fact that it’s off the beaten path,” says Tom Johnson, f’05, who works for KU Memorial Unions as the general manager of KJHK. “You’re up there by yourself with no ‘adults’ around. The lack of oversight has lent charm to the current location.

“I’m sure they’ll miss that. But that said, I don’t think [the new location] will change what comes out of the speakers. I don’t determine programming for KJHK; the students do.”

Nickels echoes the sentiment, suggesting that better sound quality should be the only change listeners notice.

“We’ll sound even better on the air with the new equipment, but as long as the students who run the station are committed to putting out the same sounds, there should be no worry about the identity of KJHK changing.”

Still, for all the technology gains and spiffy new space, Nickels allows that much will be lost. New graffiti expressing sadness at the move pops up every day on the walls of The Shack, he says.

KJHK staff will try to save some of the old building’s history. A sticker-covered door will be transported to the new offices, and photographs will capture a bathroom collage of 1980s concert fliers and other features that can’t be moved. But The Shack’s rock ’n’ roll skin wasn’t tattooed overnight; it evolved as students made their mark year by year. The same gradual process may unfold at the Union, Nickels says, though the studio’s visibility to Union visitors presents new challenges.

“We’ll be a little more in the public eye, so we want to make sure we present our image correctly, that we’re not offending Mrs. Robinson’s third grade class walking by.”

Koo-koo-ka-choo.

Online, just in time

Unique English-Haitian dictionaries aid earthquake relief efforts

Because Professor Bryant Freeman retired two years ago as director of KU’s Institute of Haitian Studies, Jonathan Perkins, director of the Academic Resource Center, feared Freeman’s unique English-Haitian Creole dictionaries and textbooks might one day be forgotten and slip out of print.

So last fall Perkins, g’94, PhD’06, began digitizing the texts, including a dictionary of medical phraseology, and posted PDFs for free download at www2.ku.edu/~haitiancreole. There they sat for months, virtually unnoticed—until Jan. 12, when the earthquake destroyed Port-au-Prince, killing hundreds of thousands and leaving the future of Haiti very much in doubt.

“If you believe in miracles, believe in that one,” Freeman says of Haiti’s prospects for recovery. “I just don’t know. The cathedral, for example, took 50 years to build. In 30 seconds, rubble. Haiti is often called a basket case. Well, that was in good times, before the earthquake. Haitian history henceforth is going to be divided before Jan. 12 and after Jan. 12.”

Freeman founded the Institute of Haitian Studies in 1992. His dictionaries are the only resources of their kind, especially the medical text he spent more than a year researching. It

“The world tends to forget and the Haitian government doesn’t help, but Haitians are resilient. They are used to hardship. And where else could they go? They have no choice. It’s there or nothing.”

—Bryant Freeman
includes typical entries and charts for anatomy, ailments, and doctor-patient dialogue, as well as explanations of voodoo beliefs still integral to medicine in Haiti. Following the earthquake, word about the online dictionaries quickly spread among visiting doctors, and, because many sites have no computers, Internet access or even electricity, Freeman also granted permission for another free version that will be made available on mobile phones.

“I’m telling people not to go to Haiti unless they are a doctor, a nurse, or an engineer who can help clear rubble,” Freeman says. “My dentist asked if he should go, and I said, ‘No, dentistry in Haiti mainly consists of extraction, and extractions can wait.’ He’d be part of the problem, not part of the solution, just as I would.”

Freeman’s heartbreak over the fate of a country he’d visited perhaps 100 times since 1958 was eased 13 days after the quake, when he finally got word that his adopted son, 18-year-old student Wender Loriston, had been traveling in the countryside when the disaster struck and was safe and uninjured.

“I assumed he was dead. I assumed the worst,” Freeman says. “I called and called and called, but cell telephones just weren’t working.”

Also thankful for their safety are Ann Varghese, c’01; Debbie Baker, g’00; and Karen Christensen Buhler, d’09, and her husband, KU sophomore Adam Buhler, a University Daily Kansan staff photographer.

Varghese, c’01, an international program coordinator for IMA World Health in New Windsor, Md., was trapped for 55 hours with two co-workers in the rubble of Port-au-Prince’s Hotel Montana. Though two colleagues they had intended to meet that evening were killed, Varghese and her IMA co-workers were eventually rescued by French firefighters and emerged unharmed.

Varghese relaxed and recharged with family and friends in Wichita before returning to Maryland, where elated IMA employees celebrated her arrival with a smiley-face balloon.

“This is the work I love,” Varghese told the Baltimore Sun. “They need our help more than ever. Just seeing what it looked like when I left, there’s no way I could turn my back on it now.”

Baker, assistant director of the Central Plains Center for BioAssessment at Kansas Biological Survey, was on her third mission trip to Haiti, where she teaches ecology in a rural village. The village remained well stocked with food, and her host family at last count was housing 34 family and friends rescued from the Port-au-Prince chaos.

“We felt the quake,” Baker says. “It was really strong where we were, but nothing was damaged. We had no idea at the time what was going on in the city.”

The Buhlers were volunteering at the Pazapa Center for Handicapped Children in Jacmel. The 30-kilometer road to Port-au-Prince was destroyed, so they ended up evacuating by helicopter to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Adam Buhler’s remarkable photographs can be found online by searching his name at www.kansan.com.

“Part of us is still there in a way,” Adam Buhler told the UDK in the story that accompanied his photographs. “We left so quickly and at such a devastating time that we couldn’t help but feel that way. This will be the first of many trips.”

—Chris Lazzarino

El rojo y azul

En Español, a Spanish-language version of KU’s Web site, is now live at ku.edu/español. The resource for Spanish-speaking students and parents includes much of the same information as the main site, along with a welcome message from Danny Anderson, interim provost and executive vice chancellor, and a promotional video, “Somos Kansas.”
Winning pair
Gifts advance Cancer Center effort for NCI designation

Two major donations this winter put the KU Cancer Center more than a third of the way to meeting the $92 million goal it has set for pursuing National Cancer Institute designation.

In December Joe and Jean Brandmeyer, ’60, of El Paso, Texas, gave $10 million to create an endowed chair of radiation oncology and support other patient care and research priorities the center needs for NCI designation.

In January the Hall Family Foundation of Kansas City committed $18 million to the KU Cancer Center and the Midwest Cancer Alliance. The gift, which center director Roy Jensen called “game-changing,” allocates $12 million to help recruit top physicians and researchers and $6 million to fund a facility in Fairway used for Phase I clinical trials.

The gifts bring total private contributions for NCI designation to $37 million.

Achieving designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center from the NCI would allow KU to give patients more access to clinical trails, help attract world-class cancer researchers and clinicians capable of delivering the most advanced treatments, and gain increased access to federal research funding. The University will apply for the designation in September 2011.

Cancer Center leaders moved quickly to put the money to use. In February, they announced that a top radiation oncologist and KU alumnus, Parvesh Kumar, e’82, m’86, would come to KU from the University of Southern California to serve as the Joe and Jean Brandmeyer Chair and Professor of Radiation Oncology and interim deputy director of the center.

“Our success in recruiting and building a world-class cancer center is working and people are recognizing that we are creating something special here,” says Jensen. “They want to be a part of that. Filling the radiation oncology chair is crucial in applying for NCI designation, and the opportunity to recruit Dr. Kumar back to Kansas with his exceptional experience in the field of radiation oncology is a dream come true.”

Visitor

Puncher and pitchman

Boxing legend George Foreman joined sportswriter and author George Kimball, ’67, and Robert Rodriguez, g’96, PhD’06, associate director of KU’s McNair Scholars Program, for a discussion of boxing’s history, future and influence.

WHEN: Feb. 4
WHERE: Lied Center

BACKGROUND: After winning Olympic gold in 1968, Foreman twice reigned as world heavyweight champion during one of the glamour division’s greatest eras. He parlayed his fame and charisma into a grill endorsement that has earned him untold millions of dollars. When Rodriguez, author of a book on boxing regulations, noted that today’s heavyweight champs are “almost not household names in their own households,” Foreman zinged, “Well, I got a grill in most people’s households.”

ANECDOTE: While visiting with McNair Scholars before his Lied Center appearance, Foreman was asked why he named all five of his sons George. He replied, “You ever heard of Ali? Frazier? You try getting hit upside the head by those guys. See how many different names you can come up with for your kids.”

QUOTE: “The writer puts it all together and makes us who we are, more than the left hooks and the right hands and the jabs. ... They tell a story that is going to stick around a lot longer than the left hand or the left hook. It’s up to the writers to [tell] what really happened.”

—Chris Lazzarino

“I understood [boxing] would only be a vehicle for publicity for me to continue earning after my boxing days would end. The last thing you do before they ‘dust to dust’ you is earn.”

—George Foreman
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will bestow its highest honor on four alumni during the Deans Club Banquet April 9.

Recipients of the 2009-'10 Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award include major figures from Washington politics and Hollywood entertainment and the sports and art worlds:

- Ann Hamilton, f'79, Columbus, Ohio, a visual artist known around the world for her large-scale multimedia installations. Hamilton earned her KU degree in textile design and also completed a graduate degree at Yale. She won a MacArthur "genius grant" Fellowship in 1993 and a $250,000 Heinz Award in 2008. Other awards include a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Fellowship and a United States Artists Fellowship, and she was chosen to represent the United States at the Venice Biennale in 1999.

- George William “Bill” James, c’73, d’75, Lawrence, baseball thinker and senior adviser to the Boston Red Sox. James, who earned degrees in English, economics and education at KU, is widely hailed as the father of Sabermetrics, a school of thought that uses statistics and other objective measures to question some of the game’s most widely accepted conventional wisdom. James made his mark when he introduced The Baseball Abstract in the mid 1970s, and he is the author of The New Bill James Historical Baseball Abstract, The Bill James Gold Mine 2009 and many other books.

- Steven Mills, c’51, Beverly Hills, Calif., president and producer of New Vision Entertainment. Mills began his entertainment career in 1953 at Kansas City station KCTV but quickly moved to Los Angeles to work as a producer-director-program manager at ABC affiliate KABC. Throughout his long career he produced more than 600 movies and miniseries for television; his work on the 1990 movie “The Incident” won him an Emmy Award, and he was also involved in the popular miniseries “Lonesome Dove.” Mills’ KU degree is a bachelor’s in liberal arts and sciences.

- Kathleen Sebelius, g’80, Washington, D.C., secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Sebelius, who earned a master’s degree in public administration, served as governor of Kansas from 2003 to 2009, when she resigned to join the Obama administration as the cabinet secretary responsible for...
Gifts to the Greater KU Fund help attract high-achieving students like Jessica to KU. They also reward outstanding faculty and help KU meet its most urgent needs.

Your $1,000 annual gift to the Greater KU Fund will establish or maintain your membership in the Chancellors Club. Giving is easy—call us at 800-661-5870 or give securely online at www.kugiving.com.

“I’m a big fan of the Chancellors Club. It’s more than my scholarship; it’s a wonderful outreach from KU alums to current students. I owe a lot to many caring people.”

Jessica Ludwig, Overland Park, Kan.
National Merit Scholar
Chancellors Club Scholar, Class of 2012
The new place to stay when you return for work, play or KU events. The Oread, named for its position atop Mt. Oread at the north end of the University of Kansas campus, includes everything to celebrate, dine and stay in casual elegance — whether it’s grabbing breakfast to go, a slice of pizza, ice cream and cookies, or your favorite Jayhawk memorabilia.

- 99 guest rooms
- bookstore
- rooftop bars
- nightclub
- media room
- bar rentals for private events
- state-of-the-art fitness center
- weddings and receptions
Milestones, money and other matters

Susan Craig and Kevin Willmott were honored in March with Governor’s Arts Awards. Craig, c’70, is art and architecture librarian at KU, and Willmott, associate professor of film and media studies, is a writer, director and producer of films. The governor and the Kansas Arts Commission bestow the awards annually on Kansans who are distinguished artists, arts patrons and arts educators.

A $12.3 Million Award from the National Institute of Standards and Technology Construction Grant Program will help build a “green technologies” research facility for the School of Engineering south of Learned Hall. The Measurement, Materials and Sustainable Environment Center will house research projects in biofuel development, remote sensing of polar ice and other environmentally oriented projects. The 34,600-square-foot lab will be built to achieve a LEED silver rating for sustainable design, with natural lighting, solar shade and “green” roof technology. KU must raise $6.5 million in matching funds to add to the award, which is part of the $787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus package.

Gail Agrawal, dean of the School of Law since 2006, will leave KU July 1 to become dean of law at the University of Iowa. During her tenure on the Hill the law school revised the first-year curriculum, increased support for faculty scholarship and boosted giving from roughly one in 10 alumni to one in six. Stephen Mazza, the school’s associate dean for academic affairs, will serve as interim dean until a national search chooses a replacement.

A $1 Million Grant from the National Institutes of Health will allow KU researchers to make gains in drug development by finding molecules capable of delivering drugs to specific cells in the body. Blake Peterson, the Regents Distinguished Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, and Brian Ackley, assistant professor of molecular biosciences, will lead the two-year project.

Princeton Review ranks KU among the top 50 public universities in America for best educational value in its 2010 survey. The well-known college guidebook also chose KU as a best buy in the Midwest.

Dan Gailey, associate professor and director of Jazz Studies in the School of Music, is the new director of the Midwestern Music Academy, which hosts junior high and high school students from across the region at summer music camps on Mount Oread. The academy will mark its 75th anniversary this year by expanding its offerings to elementary schoolchildren.

Karl Boyd Brooks, PhD’00, associate professor of history and environmental studies, was appointed regional administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by President Obama. He will head the Kansas City, Kan., regional office that oversees Kansas, Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska. Brooks is the author of Before Earth Day: The Origins of American Environmental Law, 1945-1970 (“Laws run through it,” Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 5, 2009).
Sherron’s legacy
Senior amasses most wins in KU history

Moments after the Jayhawks’ final home game of the season, a convincing 17-point win over No. 5 Kansas State March 3, Bill Self took the floor to congratulate the team on clinching KU’s sixth-straight Big 12 regular-season title—and recognize the star of Senior Night, KU’s beloved No. 4, Sherron Collins.

Self recalled the coaching staff’s visits to Chicago to recruit Collins, describing the young player as a “hard-headed, moody, stubborn, cocky pain in the butt.” Self told the crowd that the same adjectives still applied, but the emotion in his voice revealed that the words had become terms of endearment.

During a March 1 press conference, Self had made Collins’ impact clear: “He’s been an absolute joy to coach. ... I love the stubbornness. I love the competitive spirit. And I know at the end of the day he’s going to fight as hard as he can, each and every day.

“He’s meant as much to me as any player I’ve ever coached.”

For KU, the win over the Wildcats marked 59 consecutive victories on Naismith Court—the nation’s longest active streak. Early next season, the Jayhawks will have a chance to beat KU’s all-time consecutive home game winning streak of 62. While the victory signified a continuation of the Jayhawks’ noteworthy home-court dominance, for Collins it represented the end of an era. Since he ran through the tunnel of Allen Field House for the first time in 2006, Collins has helped achieve four Big 12 regular-season titles and two Big 12 postseason championship titles; he and his teammates advanced to three NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 appearances, two Elite Eights and one Final Four. And he dished out one of the most crucial assists in Kansas basketball history during the final seconds of regulation before the Jayhawks won the 2008 NCAA national championship in San Antonio.

Collins has become the winningest player in KU history, reaching a record of 126-18 when the Jayhawks smothered the Missouri Tigers, 77-56, March 6 in Columbia to conclude the 2009-'10 regular season. During postseason play, he has a chance to leave his mark in the national record book for the most wins during a four-year career. Collins needs six victories to tie Shane Battier and his Duke teammates, who claimed 133 wins from 1998 to 2001.

He has matured into his role as the vocal leader and gritty point guard for one of the most tradition-rich basketball programs in the country. He likely will become the highest-scoring guard in school history, with more than 1,800 points as of early March. Collins also has broken into the top five KU career rankings list for 3-point field goals made, the top 10 in assists, and the top 20 in steals.

The senior can reflect on his time at KU not only in terms of victories and records, but also in life lessons. As a freshman, a reticent Collins quickly formed a bond with teammate Brady Morningstar and became an honorary member of the Morningstar family, who embraced him at a time when he was struggling to
“He’s meant as much to me as any player I’ve ever coached.”
—Bill Self

But with that grief also has come the joy of fatherhood. In 2008, Collins celebrated the arrival of a healthy son, Sherr’mari; in February, his daughter Sharee’ was born.

“I think I became a better person and a better father at KU,” Collins says of his journey. “I am going to take a whole life experience from Kansas, especially from my coaching staff. They have really been father figures to us.”

Collins also leaves KU with a degree. He will walk down the Hill this spring and become the first member of his immediate family to graduate from a university.

While KU fans certainly have recognized Collins’ accomplishments, freshman Xavier Henry says the senior will delay celebrations. Henry, second-leading scorer for KU, explains simply, “He’s waiting for something bigger.”

As Kansas Alumni went to press, the top-ranked Jayhawks headed into the Big 12 tournament with a 29-2 record, including just one conference loss, and their sights set on winning KU’s 2,000th game. Beyond that victory, Collins will summon his competitive spirit, his passion for the game and lessons learned from a storied KU career, and do everything in his power to lead this talented team to yet another milestone.

—Katie Coffman

make the transition from the big city to life in Lawrence.

After adjusting with the help of his new KU family, Collins was forced to play through the pain of losing loved ones. During his freshman year, Collins’ newborn son, Sherron Jr., died, and this past January, his grandfather died just before KU faced Texas Tech.

Tony Thompson last year led the Big 12 in batting average (.389), home runs (21) and RBIs (82), becoming the first Triple Crown winner in conference history. He’s 6-foot-4 and a lean 219 pounds, bigger and stronger than the typical power-hitting third baseman. And yet Thompson, unanimous first-team All-American in preseason voting, doesn’t see himself as a power hitter.

At least, not in the typical sense. For Thompson, a junior from Reno, Nev., the goal isn’t clearing the fence. He’s aiming for the gaps on either side of the center fielder, and if a ball happens to leave the yard now and again, all the better.

“I think of doubles as a power stat,” Thompson says. “If you can hit the gap, you’re going to be successful at all levels, and a power hitter to me would be a guy who can hit lots of doubles and every once in a while hit one out.”

Thompson, first-team All-Big 12 as a sophomore, unfortunately has plenty of time to consider such baseball nuances. He sustained a hairline fracture when he...
Tony Thompson cites a shorter swing path among the technical reasons for his power surge in 2009. His 2010 debut awaits recovery from a hairline fracture of his left kneecap. Thompson twice came to bat with two outs, runners on second and third and first base open; rather than avoiding big damage and giving Thompson first base, the Sooners chose to pitch to him, and both times paid for it by giving up three-run home runs. “He won’t get those opportunities this year,” Price says.

After winning three of four from Iowa at Hoglund Ballpark, the Jayhawks opened the 2010 season 7-3. With Thompson out, coaches and players all say they’re eager to see more than originally expected from sophomore James Stansfield and freshmen Jake Marasco and Jordan Dreiling. Price also will pay close attention to production in the middle of the lineup, especially from junior left fielder Jimmy Waters and senior designated hitter Brett Lisher. If others aren’t hitting for average and power, opposing teams will feel free to pitch around Thompson when he returns.

Thompson set school records last season for home runs and total bases (186), and had the second-most doubles (27) and hits (96) in KU baseball history. He says he was seeing the ball well, had quick hands and good strength, a shorter swing path that helped him fight off 90-mph fastballs, and the patience to lay off bad pitches.

“Tony just exploded last year,” says second-team All-Big 12 right fielder Brian Heere, who batted .394 as a sophomore in 2009. “Whenever he came up to bat, all eyes were on him. He was absolutely fun to watch.”

Other Jayhawks to watch include freshman right-hander Tanner Poppe, of Girard, and sophomore right-hander Colton Murray, of Overland Park. Price says Poppe is clocking fastballs up to 94 mph: “The ball sounds different out of his hand, that’s how hard he throws. And he’s developing an off-speed pitch. He has the best arm of anybody who has walked on this campus since I’ve been here. I would not be shocked if he’s in the rotation by the time we start Big 12 play.”

Of Murray, also a power pitcher, Price says, “When he’s good, he’s a special young man. He’s made more progress in one year than anybody we’ve had here.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Updates

Three weeks after losing freshman guard Angel Goodrich to her second season-ending knee injury, the women’s basketball team suffered an even worse blow during practice Feb. 4, when superstar guard-forward Danielle McCray, the preseason Big 12 player of the year, tore a ligament in her left knee, ending her KU career. The Jayhawks finished the regular season 15-14, and McCray confirmed that she intends to pursue a pro career.

Senior Jordan Scott won his fourth-consecutive Big 12 indoor pole vault title by clearing 17 feet, 9.25 inches on his third attempt. Also winning Big 12 indoor titles at Iowa State were freshmen Alena Krecy (weight throw), Mason Finley (shot put) and Taylor Washington (600-yard run). Junior Iuliia Kuzhil set a school record of 52.8 seconds while finishing second in the 100-yard backstroke at the Big 12 championships at Texas A&M. ... Soccer defender Estelle Johnson was drafted 22nd overall by the Los Angeles Sol ... Three-time All Star Tamecka Dixon announced her retirement from the WNBA after 13 seasons. Dixon, c’99, currently plays for GMA Napoli and leads the Italian League in points and steals. ... Paul Smyth, b’09, a pitcher in the Oakland A’s organization, was named Short-Season Reliever of the Year. He did not allow an earned run in 36 1/3 innings, across 25 games in two leagues.
Sports Calendar

■ Track and field

**MARCH**
- 26 at Razorback Spring Invitational, Fayetteville, Ark.

**APRIL**
- 1-3 at Texas Relays
- 9-10 at John McDonnell Invitational, Fayetteville, Ark.
- 14-17 Kansas Relays
- 22-24 at Drake and Penn relays

**MAY**
- 14-16 at Big 12 Outdoor, Columbia, Mo.

■ Baseball

**MARCH**
- 20-21 at Saint Louis University
- 23 Creighton
- 26-28 at Baylor
- 30 Arkansas-Little Rock
- 31 Missouri State

**APRIL**
- 1-3 at Texas A&M
- 7 at Creighton
- 9-11 at Texas
- 13 at Missouri State
- 16-18 at Nebraska
- 21 vs. Missouri at Kauffman Stadium, Kansas City
- 23-25 Texas Tech
- 27 at Wichita State
- 30-May 2 at Oklahoma State

**MAY**
- 7-9 Missouri
- 14 Kansas State
- 15-16 at Kansas State
- 18 at Arkansas-Little Rock
- 21-23 Oklahoma
- 26-30 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

First-year football coach Turner Gill directed two uniform changes for his debut season: no player names on jerseys or red stripes on helmets.

■ Softball

**MARCH**
- 18-21 at San Diego Classic
- 27-28 at Texas A&M

**APRIL**
- 2-3 Texas
- 7 at Missouri
- 10-11 at Baylor
- 14 Nebraska
- 15 at Creighton
- 17-18 Oklahoma State
- 22 at Nebraska
- 24-25 Texas Tech
- 28 Wichita State

**MAY**
- 1-2 at Oklahoma
- 8-9 Iowa State
- 14-16 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Women’s golf

**APRIL**
- 2-4 at Ole Miss Intercollegiate
- 23-25 at Big 12, Norman, Okla.

■ Men’s golf

**MARCH**

**APRIL**
- 5-6 at Shocker Classic, Wichita
- 12-13 at Mizzou Intercollegiate
- 23-25 at Big 12, Trinity, Texas

■ Tennis

**MARCH**
- 19 at Texas A&M
- 21 at Texas
- 26 Iowa State
- 28 Nebraska

**APRIL**
- 1 at Kansas State
- 9 at Missouri
- 11 at Colorado
- 16 Oklahoma State
- 18 Oklahoma
- 23 Texas Tech
- 25 Baylor
- 29-May 2 at Big 12, Austin

■ Softball

**MARCH**
- 18-21 at San Diego Classic
- 27-28 at Texas A&M

**APRIL**
- 2-3 Texas
- 7 at Missouri
- 10-11 at Baylor
- 14 Nebraska
- 15 at Creighton
- 17-18 Oklahoma State
- 22 at Nebraska
- 24-25 Texas Tech
- 28 Wichita State

**MAY**
- 1-2 at Oklahoma
- 8-9 Iowa State
- 14-16 at Big 12, Oklahoma City

■ Rowing

**MARCH**
- 27 at Texas

**APRIL**
- 3 Kansas Cup, Kansas City
- 10 vs. Old Dominion and Rhode Island, at Lewisberry, Pa.
- 24 at Minnesota

**MAY**
- 1 at Big 12, Oklahoma City
Paris, 1916. All around, war raged. Armed conflict for domination of the continent was nothing new; of course, but this time it proved to be a beast never before seen.

Gone forever were idealistic notions of quick, clean victory achieved with only minor modifications to Europe’s accepted standards of warfare. Instead there was just ... death, delivered by machines and methods never before imagined.

Bombs dropped by zeppelin squadrons. Vicious gas that ripped life from lungs. High-powered machine guns engineered to slaughter entire Platoons, even companies, of brave young men. Tanks. Hand grenades. Submarines targeting civilian passenger liners. Fatalities grew by tens of thousands, then hundreds of thousands, and, soon enough, millions.

Henry de Groux, then a 49-year-old Belgian-born artist living in Paris, had every reason to despise Germany, which had overrun Belgium in the war’s prelude and used it as a launching point for a sweeping attack on Paris. But de Groux, an educated man, was something of a Germanophile, deeply moved, like so many others before and since, by Wagner’s music and Goethe’s writing.

When he produced a portfolio of 40 etchings titled “The Face of Victory,” and included it in his November 1916 exhibition at Paris’ Galerie La Boetie, de Groux chose only to demonize the monstrous war itself, not Germany, not its soldiers.

In the portfolio’s preface, he wrote that the “opulent excess of perfect horror” then consuming Europe was an
“undeniable and colossal absurdity like a machine functioning in a void.”

From de Groux’s own words comes the title for the Spencer Museum of Art’s exhibition “Machine in a Void: World War One & the Graphic Arts.” Five years in the making, “Machine in a Void,” which runs through May 23 in the museum’s Kress Gallery, features about 200 works, most from the Spencer’s own rich collection of early 20th century European graphic arts.

Many of the featured artists, including de Groux, have been lost to time. Even the renowned authority Timothy Benson, curator of the Rifkind Center for German Expressionist Studies at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, confesses that he is not familiar with de Groux and others in the exhibition and is eager to know more.

“There are some famous names,” Benson says, “but some of the artists who are in this exhibition, most of us, even the specialists, don’t know much about. That will be a real contribution.”

The Spencer Museum in 2005 acquired about 50 etchings de Groux made in preparation for his war portfolio, yet the exhibition’s true genesis traces back to an observation that Stephen Goddard, the Spencer Museum of Art’s senior curator for prints and drawings, made years ago: Why is it, Goddard wondered, that exhibitions and publications on early 20th-century European art either end in 1914 or begin in 1918?

“They’re leaving out this period of four years when the war was going on,” he says, “as if people had just stopped. Certainly artists weren’t standing still that whole period, and it turns out an enormous amount of material was made. A lot of it was propaganda and by artists who were involved with magazine illustration who aren’t really known for any primary artistic contributions, but they were producing an awful lot of graphic material during the war.”

Perhaps the most prominent artist in “Machine in a Void” is Otto Dix, the brilliant German painter, draftsman and printmaker. Dix was a machine gunner and platoon commander in France, Flanders, Poland and Russia, and a survivor of the horrendously bloody Battle of the Somme. His drawing “Explosion” was made during the war, in 1918, and the exhibition also includes two drawings related to his influential 1924 portfolio of 51 etchings titled “Der Krieg” (“The War”).

“The war was a horrible thing,” Dix said in a 1963 interview, “but there was something tremendous about it, too. I didn’t want to miss it at any price. You have to have seen human beings in this unleashed state to know what human nature really is.”

Other notables in the exhibition include former KU professor Albert Bloch, an American-born member of the Blue Rider group; Blue Rider founder Franz Marc, who was killed at the Battle of Verdun; Vassily Kandinsky, who left Germany for his native Russia during the war and later returned to teach at the
Bauhaus in Weimar; and the Swiss legend Paul Klee, who began military service in 1916.

One of the intriguing unknowns in the exhibition is a French artist and pilot named Maurice Busset, who began his military career in 1914 as an aerial scout. In his moments of refuge during the long war—a time, he later wrote, “when the future no longer existed”—Busset retrieved from his leather jacket a steel knife and block of wood, and reminded himself that he was, at heart, an artist.

Busset’s remarkable color woodcuts, exhibited in several portfolios after the war but largely forgotten since, aimed, in his words, “to show some new expressions of art, provided by flying machines.” That new expression of art was not lost on Lorie Vanchena, associate professor of Germanic languages and literatures, who describes them as “disturbing” and “fantastic.”

“I’ve been working in German literature and history for a long time,” Vanchena says, “and I’ve seen exhibitions in this country and various countries in Europe, but it’s still hard for me to imagine what it’s going to be like to see all these prints exhibited in one gallery.

Southern California native whose parents enrolled him in classes at the Pasadena Art Museum, Steve Goddard recalls that “art was always one of the activities that was not too far from reach.” He studied jewelry and silversmithing at Grinnell College, in Iowa, and intended to focus on printmaking in graduate school at the University of Iowa.

Thanks to a classroom conversion by “a very fine teacher,” Goddard ultimately set aside printmaking to pursue a PhD in art history. His dissertation research took him to Belgium, where he stretched a one-year fellowship into two years of deep immersion in Northern European art, traditions and people.

After his Belgian sojourn, Goddard landed a yearlong postdoctoral position in the Yale University Art Gallery, where his first big assignment was the installation of an exhibition on loan from the Spencer Museum of Art, “Dutch Prints of Daily Life.” As his year at Yale neared conclusion, in summer 1984, Goddard received a phone call from KU. Linda Stone-Ferrier, now chair of KU’s Kress Foundation Department of Art History, offered him a job as the Spencer’s curator of prints and drawings, and the chance to teach Northern Renaissance art history, then Goddard’s specialty.

A quarter-century later, Goddard looks back and says, with a modest smile, “It was a very good fit.”
He returned to Belgium to research his 1993 exhibition on a late-19th-century Belgian exhibition society known as “Les Vingt” (“The Twenty”). The group exhibited the era’s avant-garde artists, including Henry de Groux. Goddard again returned a decade later, this time researching 19th-century German lithographs; while examining a private collection, he was offered a peek at something entirely unexpected ... in fact, unknown.

“The couple who owned these works said, ‘We have something else we think you’ll like, since you did this work on Les Vingt,’” Goddard recalls. “So it turns out they have a big collection of etchings by Henry de Groux, made during the war. That really caught my imagination. It all seemed really novel, and I was fascinated.”

Only after extensive research was Goddard able to find prints from the finished portfolio in other collections. Even so, the KU holdings are unique works in progress, with the artist’s hand-written notes. The collection also includes a number of images whose finished prints were censored and destroyed, and only now are receiving their first public viewing.

“What fascinated me was that these were not necessarily hateful images,”
l'espion
Goddard says of the de Groux prints. “They certainly lament war, and they certainly show it, but this idea that it’s something almost in a passive voice that happened to humanity, not something that people were doing, captivated me.”

As the 100th anniversary of World War I approaches, “Machine in a Void” will help acquaint faculty and students with resources available in the Spencer Museum of Art. Of course, Goddard and his colleagues wrote notes so visitors can learn about the artists and place their work in context—background material that for some of the lesser-known artists required strenuous research—but he otherwise hopes to avoid directing their experience.

“The way I like to do these, to the extent that I can, is not to state a thesis and then illustrate it, but to set up the images and give information and then let it happen up here,” Goddard says, pointing to his head. “Let people have their own little aha! moments, instead of being taught something.”
Celka Straughn, the Spencer Museum’s Andrew W. Mellon director of academic programs, says fields of study that could benefit from “Machine in a Void” include such diverse areas as geography, theatre, aerospace, pharmacy, emergency and plastic surgery, prosthetics, psychology, ecology, and, of course, art history, printmaking and graphic design.

The exhibition’s book and film discussion series will include *The Sun Also Rises*, *Mrs. Dalloway*, and Willa Cather’s *One of Ours*. Also scheduled are a town-and-gown forum titled “The Long Shadow of the Great War,” a panel discussion with KU’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and a children’s art appreciation class.

“Steve works really well with integrating cross-disciplinary ideas and inviting participation from across campus,” Straughn says. “We want all of KU to think creatively about the objects in this exhibition, as well as the museum as a whole.”

World War I, in the view of many, represented what is now seen as the true start of the 20th century. The war collapsed ancient empires of Russia, Austria-Hungary and Germany, and spurred the evolution of democratic nation-states. Despite the horrors that for four years
ripped Europe to shreds, the Weimar Republic, which emerged from the German revolution of 1918, rekindled Utopian hopes for a new society. Also renewed were prewar artistic revolutions, especially for abstract images that, in Timothy Benson’s estimation, “move in the direction of looking for a new language, for a new reality, a new social reality.”

“Once these artists found themselves in the midst of war, they need to figure out how to express it,” Benson says, “because it was something they had never experienced before. They expected it to last maybe a few months, be kind of an adventure, get them away from the kind of staid, very traditional society that preceded the war. And they found themselves in this sort of living hell.”

Opulent excesses of the war to end all wars ultimately proved to be definitive proof that a mechanized world was changing in colossal and absurd ways that artists would struggle to describe.

Because unlike machines, artists could never function in a void.

“Artists who are soldiers may be working [psychological trauma] out for themselves,” Straughn says, “but they are also working it out for the culture as a whole.”

Otto Dix, 1891-1969
“Explosion,” 1918

Franz Marc, 1880-1916
“Reitschule” (“Riding School”), 1913

Johannes Molzahn, 1892-1965
“Klingen” (“Sound”), 1919

Artist Unknown, postcards
“Les Monstres des Cathedrales,” 1914-1918
Greg Simpson’s is a career chock-full of honors and achievement. His prestige on campus was certified last July when he was named interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A professor of cognitive psychology and for 10 years chair of the department of psychology, Simpson, PhD’79, is also an associated faculty member with the Child Language Program and the Center for East Asian Studies.

His research focuses on the word-recognition processes necessary for reading. Simpson edited a book, published 50 articles and chapters, delivered more than 60 conference presentations and has been invited to discuss his research at universities worldwide. In 2005 he received a Kemper Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching.

Yet one honor eludes him: Mini College lecturer. “I was rejected last year,” he says with a hearty, I-told-you-so laugh. “I submitted a presentation for this year, so I’m hoping to have better luck.”

Mini College, a campus immersion of lectures and tours for alumni and friends of the University, begins its second weeklong session May 24. It was first proposed by former College dean Joseph Steinmetz, who had been impressed with a similar program at Indiana University, where he’d worked for 19 years. When Steinmetz departed KU last summer for Ohio State University, Simpson was named his replacement.

“I found the rejection letter, and I re-sent it to him,” says Jessica Beeson, c’05, Mini College organizer and project coordinator in the College dean’s office. “I said, ‘See, I was really nice.’”

And yes, Beeson confirms that she won’t make the same mistake twice: Not only will Dean Simpson—who also happens to be a finalist for the permanent deanship—deliver a College update to the entire group this year, but he’ll also teach a course on his research specialty, comparing reading processes in different writing systems.

No more Mini College rejection letters. It’s good to be the boss.
A s organizers prepared for the June 1, 2009, start of the inaugural Mini College, they hoped to attract 50 to 75 participants drawn mostly from the area; instead, 130 alumni and friends from 17 states signed up.

“It exceeded everyone’s expectations for the first year,” says Christie Appelhanz, ’98, the College’s director of external relations. “We were just looking for ways to connect with people. We do cocktail parties and football things and all of that sort of stuff, and nothing was as powerful as this. We actually got to show what the College does and really share what we do.”

Tuition for the first year was $175; this year’s rate is $225. Educators can receive two continuing education units for $25, and participants can elect to stay five nights in Lewis Hall for $390.

The project is self-funding, meaning expenses don’t exceed incoming revenue, so all involved hope and expect that Mini College can weather any budget crises and establish itself as a campus tradition.

“We’re expecting about twice as many people this year as last,” Simpson says. “As long as it keeps generating this kind of interest, we’ll keep doing it. We don’t see any reason not to.”

Beeson says one of Steinmetz’s original goals for Mini College was “to offer something to KU alumni and the community that gets them up here that doesn’t have anything to do with athletics. And it does bring people to campus for this really fun, engaging week. They feel like they get VIP treatment, behind-the-scenes looks at different places on campus, all for a pretty low cost. They’re thrilled to come here and see the research that’s

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO
taking place and get a better feel for the academic side of KU."

Gail Spaits, b’76, a medical underwriter who lives in Kansas City, Kan., says she attends football games in part to give her a reason to visit campus. A Mini College alumna who has already signed up again this year, Spaits says a week spent on campus was exactly what she needed.

“IT’s always fun to come back for football, but even then you are going to the Hill and the stadium and not really anywhere else,” she says. “This is more about the whole campus, the campus that we knew as students, not just the stadium.”

With a complete roster of courses available online, at www.minicollege.ku.edu, participants pore over the offerings and select two courses for each morning and afternoon session. Courses are taught by College of Liberal Arts and Sciences faculty from the humanities and natural and social sciences, and are standalone presentations on a particular area of interest for the teacher; what they are most definitely not is the first class session of, say, Psych 101 or American Lit.

Don Steeples, McGee distinguished professor of geology and senior vice provost for scholarly support, will again teach a session based on a rather unusual presentation he gave to colleagues during a yearlong worldwide tour, “Some Stupid Experiments I Have Done.” Also back for Year Two will be Susan Kemper, distinguished professor of psychology and senior scientist of the Gerontology Center. Kemper’s session, “Use It or Lose It,” explores cognitive aging interventions that are hyped by mass media, and it proved to be one of the most popular sessions of Year One.

“It’s a very lively audience,” Kemper says. “Everybody was there because they wanted to be there, and they were really engaged with the topic. It was lively from my side and lively from their side, as well. I can’t wait to do it again.”

Mini College alumna Mary-Lucille Mantz, c’59, c’60, recalls that in one of her classes last year, the professor noted how odd it was to look out on a class-

room of students writing in notebooks. “He told us, ‘I’m used to seeing laptops,’” Mantz recalls, “and there wasn’t a single laptop there.” Dean Simpson adds that one faculty participant gushed after the first Mini College, “And they don’t even know how to text during a lecture!”

A slim survey of other courses offered include memoir writing, led by Jerry Masintons, professor emeritus of English; clay pottery firing, with visual arts lecturer Marshall Maude, f’96, g’03; prairie ecological research, taught by Helen Alexander, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology; art on campus, with Liz Kowalchuk, associate dean of the School of the Arts and associate professor of visual art education; and an exploration of quantum mechanics, string theory and the 5th dimension, led by Michael Murray, assistant professor of physics and astronomy.

That sampling, it must be noted, is culled only from the classes offered on Day One.

“The participants get a great sense of the research taking place here, which I think is an opportunity that doesn’t happen very often, unfortunately,” Jessica Beeson says. “It’s one thing to read it in a pretty catalog, it’s another thing to come and hear these people talk about it themselves, and to be able to grill them a little bit and then move on to the next one and do it again, all week long.”

Says Bill Lacy, director of the Dole Institute of Politics, “They get an opportunity to see what we’re all doing. It’s almost like a snapshot in time, seeing where the University is right now.”

It might also be noted, just for the record, that faculty—who, as Simpson knows from experience, must submit written proposals far in advance to even be considered, and teach these sessions long after their spring semester grades have been turned in—are doing so without compensation.

“We don’t get a penny,” Don Steeples says. “Nor would we expect a penny. I look at it not so much as an opportunity for lifelong learning as I do our obligation to inform those who fund us.”

John Younger, professor of classics and chair of women, gender and sexuality studies, led one of last year’s hit classes, “Building the Parthenon.” He won’t be able to attend this year, though, because he’ll be leading students on a trip in Greece.

“It’s actually kind of a disappointment that I’ll be on the trip and can’t do this,” Younger admits. “I had a ball. They were pretty well informed, and even those who weren’t informed were thinking, and that was nice. The questions they had for me really got me going.”

An unexpected bonus, Younger discovered, was that, unlike the undergraduates he teaches, Mini College students actually got his jokes, and he promises to have more ready when he returns in 2011.

“Being back in the classroom and on campus was obviously very exciting for them,” he says. “That was energizing, really energizing.”

Along with the elective courses, Mini College 2010 will also feature keynote speakers Monday through Thursday. Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little will speak at the Monday lunch, and Randy Scott, PdD’84, executive director of Genomic Health, opens the Tuesday session with a talk about his genome research.

On Wednesday, NASA veterans Steve Hawley, c’73, professor of physics and astronomy, and his wife, Eileen, lecturer
in journalism, will offer their insider perspectives on the space shuttle program. Michelle Heffner Hayes, f’91, associate professor of dance, concludes the Thursday session with a flamenco workshop.

Also scheduled are Quantrill’s Raid bus tours led by historian Paul Stuewe, g’76, g’79; tours of the Natural History Museum, Spencer Museum of Art and the Booth Family Hall of Athletics; a jogging tour of campus and a beginner’s yoga session; a graduation party and farewell lunch, and lunches throughout the week.

“The way they fed us all the time,” says Mini College alumnus Pam Richardson, j’96, “I felt like I was visiting an aunt or something.”

Lynn Russell, a graduate of the University of Iowa’s nursing program, married a Jayhawk, Henry Russell, c’68. Both Midwesterners by birth, they lived in North Carolina for 20 years before deciding in spring 2009 to retire in Lawrence.

“I really had never been on campus,” Russell says, “and after all those years of hearing my husband talk about all the various buildings and landmarks, I finally got to see them all up close. I had classes in Wescoe Hall and went to something in Spooner Hall, and we hung out at the Union. That was really the most fun of all, just doing all the KU stuff. Everyone was so excited. They all had fond memories, and they all shared. It was wonderful.”

Russell was so enraptured by her behind-the-scenes tour of the Spencer Museum of Art that she decided to become a docent, and as part of her training is now taking an art history course.

“It was just like being at camp for a week,” Russell says of Mini College. “We got to be totally self-absorbed, have fun, and choose to take whatever we wanted to learn about.

“All the relatives on my husband’s side have always been giving me grief about not being a Jayhawk. Now, after the Mini College, I can consider myself an alumna.”

Pam Richardson and Gail Spaits have been friends since kindergarten, but weren’t able to attend KU together. They finally remedied that at the first Mini College, and even roomed together in Lewis Hall. They’ll be return in May.

“We stayed there and didn’t think about anything back home,” Richardson says. “It was just the luxury of it, once you’re grown up and in that state of life to leave all that behind and be a student again, and not have daily worries.”

Says Spaits, “It was a chance to be part of KU again. Those of us in the working world, most of us don’t get a lot of opportunity to experience academia. With Mini College, we did. And we didn’t have to worry about taking tests.”

Like Lynn Russell, Denny Aguiar, of Prairie Village, is married to a Jayhawk, but, outside of 25 years of supporting KU and rooting on Jayhawk athletics, isn’t one himself. An alumnus of the first Mini College and already signed up for Year Two, Aguiar will again take time away from his agricultural commodities business to indulge his passion for lifelong learning.

“No. 1, it’s the best time of year over there. It’s beautiful, glorious, gorgeous,” Aguiar says. “And you’re back in college. You’re going back in time, back to the most carefree time of your life.”

A return to campus isn’t what attracted Richard Crank, c’89. A project manager in KU Libraries’ acquisitions and serials department, Crank spends every working day atop Mount Oread. When he saw the roster of classes offered, especially sessions with filmmaker Kevin Willmott, associate professor of film and media studies, Crank decided to take a week’s vacation and sign up.

Crank threw himself into the coursework, and perhaps surprised himself by savoring the campus life he normally takes for granted.

“I have to say, I admire students who can get from one place to another as quickly as they can,” he says. “And as long as I’ve been here, I actually got lost in Wescoe.”

Among the many sessions that left an impression on Crank was on the psychology of downsizing, led by David Ekerdt, professor of sociology and director of the Gerontology Center. Though Ekerdt’s research is aimed at retirees who are moving into smaller housing, Crank saw that it applied to his own life, in an apartment filled with treasured mementoes. After careful consideration, Crank chose to give a 2,000-year-old carved stone, which he inherited from the late English professor Edward Grier, to the Spencer Museum of Art, and he donated more than 100 framed AIDS awareness posters to the Spencer Research Library.

Of his days undergraduate days at KU, Crank says, “I loved the experience in every way. It’s nice to have this opportunity to just go back through that experience again.”

And yet, in the end, Mini College might prove to have left an even deeper imprint. Crank says that during a work-related exercise he participated in years ago, everyone was told to come up with their own epitaph.

“I thought long and hard, for hours and hours,” Crank says. “And finally I decided on, ‘He learned, he taught.’ After I went through Mini College, I realized that experience fits with that.”

If an inspired alumnus doesn’t mind sharing, perhaps Mini College could adopt his epitaph as its own motto. Learn. Teach. It all happens together, for a lifetime.
I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer.

—Abraham Lincoln

One afternoon in the City of Light, John McDonald decided he’d seen enough art for one day. That morning he’d already enjoyed a trip to one of Paris’ many museums with his wife, an art history major, who had another gallery walk lined up for the afternoon. McDonald, f’76, came to KU in 1971 to study ceramics and left five years later with a degree in painting and printmaking, snagging a prestigious scholarship on his way out the door that enabled him to travel Central and South America, where he taught school and soaked up the local art and culture. But he’d always been more interested in making art than in pulling his chin amid roomfuls of the stuff. “A process-oriented guy,” he calls himself, “with more of a builder-doer mentality.” So that fine day in the early ‘80s he opted instead for a stroll down Parisian boulevards. And that’s how John McDonald found himself for the first time in a Belgian beer bar.

“It was a real eye-opener,” he recalls. “I went back almost every day and tried all the different beers. That’s when I first thought, ‘Wow, why can’t we have something like this in the United States?’”

McDonald had grown up in the farm town of Osborne, in north-central Kansas, where Colorado-brewed Coors claimed a huge market-share; at the time of his Paris visit he considered Bass and Heineken edgy beers. In the Belgian bar he tapped into one of Europe’s oldest craft-brewing traditions. He sampled sour beers and beers made from wild yeast strains, each served in a specific glass designed to bring out the best of each unique brew.

His travels in Europe and Latin America changed McDonald’s attitude about beer. He learned of traditional techniques practiced by small breweries.

Brew Master

The craftsman behind Kansas City’s hometown beer honed his eye for artistry on the Boulevard in Lawrence

BY STEVEN HILL | PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE PUPPE
He discovered the Campaign for Real Ale, a back-to-basics consumer revolt that riled England in the early '70s when beer drinkers rebelled against British brewing industry consolidation and rejected mass-produced beer for “live” ales served from wooden casks.

He brought what he learned back to Kansas City (where he then worked as a carpenter) and started homebrewing in his woodshop at 2501 Southwest Blvd., in a warehouse that once was home to his father’s industrial supply business. In 1988, he turned his beermaking hobby into a business, founding Boulevard Brewing at the central-city site. The next year he sold his first keg of Pale Ale to a Mexican restaurant down the street.

Twenty years later, McDonald has transformed Boulevard into the eighth-largest craft brewery in the United States and the largest in the Midwest. Enjoying double-digit growth almost every year, Boulevard now sells seven year-round and five seasonal beers in 21 states, and the company recently rolled out a line of upscale specialty brews called the Smokestack Series.

“They’re what we call a regional craft brewery,” says Paul Gatza, director of the Brewers Association, which promotes small, independent American brewers. “They no longer qualify as a microbrewery; they’ve outgrown that term because their beers are a little more popular than that.” Growth, often the kiss of doom for a business that favors quality over quantity, has not been a problem for Boulevard, according to Gatza. Getting bigger has meant getting better.

“Their success has allowed them to experiment with these high-end, esoteric beer styles in the Smokestack line that are loaded with flavor,” he says. “Not all brewers can do that because they don’t have the resources.”

Though increased sales led the brewery to expand beyond its original site, acquiring storage and bottling facilities around Kansas City and even a vineyard in rural Missouri, the company has kept its headquarters and brewery on the boulevard that gave the brand its name. A $26 million expansion in 2006 and installation of new fermentation tanks this spring have added much-needed capacity; now Boulevard can brew 200,000 barrels of beer annually. (They sold 140,000 barrels in 2009 and hope to sell 148,000 this year.) The Southwest Boulevard site has room to expand to 800,000 barrels if demand follows. McDonald is betting it will.

“Look at what’s going on in the food world; people are interested in cooking again,” says McDonald, himself a cook, a gardener and a man who likes a good meal, as long as it’s not “too frou-frou.” “They want food with real taste. They want to buy local. They’re becoming more and more ecologically minded. So I’m real optimistic: People are getting
smarter, and I think they’re saying, ‘Maybe if I support a local or regional brewer that’s going to be a good thing.’”

Mass marketers look at beer drinkers and see 20-somethings best wooed with football-playing horses, talking frogs and magic refrigerators. John McDonald sees smart people who just might want to change the world.

I would give all my fame for a pot of ale and safety.
—William Shakespeare

“I’ll tell you one thing about me—and I attribute this to going to art school, really—I look at things very closely,” McDonald says. He’s showing a visitor around, pointing out with obvious pride and enthusiasm the improvements and additions Boulevard has made in the past few years. On a blustery, lead-gray winter afternoon, this is a good place to be. The warm, moist air is downright tropical compared with the raw wind outside, and the yeasty, malty smells of mash and wort and grain remind one of baking bread. And beer.

“I think that’s one thing you learn as an artist, how to see,” he continues. “I can go through a brewery and find 100 things I don’t want and a few things I do. I think that’s a lot of a business, picking and choosing what you’re gonna do, how you’re gonna do it, what equipment you’ll buy and where you’ll put it. I’ve seen a lot of breweries that were not very well thought out.”

Like the startup he toured several years ago. Place had the kiss of death on it before the brewers even fired up the first kettle. But McDonald shared some tips; sent the owners a copy of The Practical Brewer, a beer-making bible the overmatched newbies had obviously never consulted; and wished them well.

“The guy doesn’t have a ruthless bone in his body,” says Jeff Krum, Boulevard’s chief financial officer. “He’s always believed the best thing for our business is for our segment, the craft segment, to thrive.”

Krum was among the first people McDonald approached back in the ’80s with “a crazy idea” to start a brewery. “John recognized from the beginning that not everybody is going to like our beer. He says often, ‘Not everybody will like our beer, but there’s no reason everybody shouldn’t like us.’ His whole approach to business is based on that idea. Treat everyone with respect and do things the right way.”

In his carpentry days McDonald was known as a cabinetmaker with a passion for exacting work. His brewery, which mixes a craftsman’s predilection for hands-on care and an artist’s eye for detail, bears his imprint. The original brewhouse, where Boulevard made its first beer in a 1930s-era copper kettle from Germany, is still in use. The new wing melds state-of-the-art bottling and brewing machinery with prize-winning architecture in a fetching modernist melange of glass and gleaming stainless steel. Massive oak beams used as accents throughout reflect McDonald’s enduring interest in woodcraft.

The philosophy is simple: Taste is paramount. Embrace labor-saving ideas in areas (like bottling) where efficiency makes sense; use the best of traditional and modern methods (even where more costly and time-consuming) for anything that affects taste. Boulevard uses whole hops to enhance the aromatic qualities of its beers, and also adds a small amount of yeast just before bottling in a secondary fermentation process called bottle conditioning. Like most craft brewers, Boulevard doesn’t use the less-expensive adjunct grains rice and corn that are favored by big brewers. European beer-making traditions combine with American ingenuity and inventiveness: Think funky, not gourmet. Boulevard beers are cosmopolitan, yes. But snooty? Not at all. If anything, McDonald and his fellow craft brewers bring rejuvenating flair and daring to an art as old as the Pharoahs.

“Here’s what’s great about being a brewer today,” he says. “We have German equipment, because they make the best; we have a Belgian brewer, because they make the best beer; and we’re Americans, so we don’t have this thousand-years-long brewing culture—we can do whatever we want.”

A Midwestern can-do mentality is at work, too. When money was tight, McDonald recalls, he salvaged old dairy tanks and fitted them to work in the brewery. Until a few years ago, when computerization complicated the process, it wasn’t uncommon to find him pitching in on a brew or stacking cases on pallets.

“I’m a process-oriented guy,” he says. “That’s what I still like about the brewery. I don’t like finance so much; I don’t love the sales side. I like the physical part and what’s going on with the beer and the improvements we’re making here.”
By surrounding himself with people like Krum, who handles finances, and Bob Sullivan, who handles sales, McDonald has been able to focus on what he loves.

“His passion has never been about being wildly successful or even making money,” Krum says. “He’s a hands-on guy who loves to create things.”

He was a wise man who invented beer.

—Plato

In an industry almost pathologically obsessed with marketing, Boulevard swims against the tide—at least when compared with the big three beermakers that, according to Beer Marketer’s Insights, an industry trade newsletter, control 84 percent of the U.S. market.

On that topic, McDonald, an otherwise genial sort whom Krum calls “an uniquely humble and self-effacing human,” is not shy about sharing his opinion.

“The big breweries, they’re run by the marketing and business people; they’re no longer run by the brewers,” he says. “One thing we really pride ourselves on is our beers come from the bottom up; they start with the brewers.”

Research and development at Boulevard is pretty simple: The brewers sit around a table trying new beers and coming up with ideas.

McDonald lured his master brewer, Steven Pauwels, to Kansas City from Belgium. Pauwels says his boss gives him and his 13-member team free rein to explore and create new flavors. “In the end that’s what we do: We’re not making alcohol, we’re creating flavors,” Pauwels says.

Before the expansion, the brewery strained to meet demand. “We were working so hard to turn out our regular beers that we were not seen to be innovative or exciting,” Krum recalls. Meanwhile, Pauwels says, a second generation of brewers crashed the craft beer party, “younger guys who were very loud and aggressive and making bolder beers than we were making.” In contrast to this youth movement, he says, Boulevard looked like an “old brewery.” When the new brewhouse came online Pauwels and McDonald saw a chance “to make Boulevard sexy again” by experimenting with bolder beers with richer flavors. Thus was born the Smokestack Series.

The specialty beers are sold in 750 ml wine bottles with cork stoppers. The 14 varieties so far have included Two Jokers, a Belgian style witbier spiced with cardamom, lavender and grains of paradise; Long Strange Tripel, a heavily malted brew with three times the alcohol of conventional beers; and Bourbon Barrel Quad, a limited-release whiskey barrel-aged wonder that mixes vanilla, toffee and caramel flavors with sour cherries.

In the face of such bawdy complexity, the old debate “Tastes great, less filling” seems a tad inadequate.

Which brings us to beer ads. Boulevard doesn’t command the kind of budget that would allow McDonald to purchase Super Bowl commercials, but he’d surely pass even if he had the jack. Such ads aren’t about beer, in his opinion. And beer—well, that’s what McDonald is most definitely about.

“We’re trying to teach people what beer is all about and what makes it special,” he says, “but I think we’re fighting 50 years of dumbass advertising by big breweries that sold a product strictly on lifestyle: If you drink this beer you will look like this, or have this much fun.”

To accomplish that education goal, Boulevard hosts monthly lunches that pair beer with food prepared by Kansas City restaurants. Brewery tours are among the city’s hottest tickets. And a full-time expert visits pubs and teaches bartenders how to pour a proper glass and maintain draft beer quality—once universal skills that are dying arts, according to McDonald.

“That teaching benefits not just Boulevard but all craft brewers,” says Paul Gatza of the Brewers Association. “In that way they are taking a leadership role for smaller companies. It’s another example of how they use the resources that come from getting bigger.”

You can’t be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline. It helps if you have some kind of a football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer.

—Frank Zappa

Bigger, of course is relative. Boulevard execs have a ready statistic to bring folks back to earth: The biggest brewery in America, Anheuser-Busch, which made nearly half of the 209 million barrels of beer sold in the U.S. market in 2009, brews more beer in one day than Boulevard sells in a year.

That doesn’t make any less impressive what Boulevard accomplished in 20 years. Consider the audacity of what McDonald and his partners undertook,
way back in 1989, when they made the leap from brewing a few gallons of beer in a back room to starting a brewery in the home state of America’s biggest beer producer.

At the start of the 20th century, 1,500 breweries were making beer in America—which sounds like a lot until you realize that number represented a sharp decline from a peak of around 4,000 in 1873. According to Gatza, consolidation set in with the advent of refrigeration and rolled on pretty much unabated until 1920, when “Prohibition came along like a freight train and wiped everything out.” Numbers rose to around 800 after repeal, but consolidation—big breweries gobbling up small ones—again led to dwindling numbers and dwindling choices for beer drinkers. By 1980 only 42 companies were making beer in America, mostly the same pale lager.

Just as they had in England, beer enthusiasts in America fought back by making their own. Homebrewing boomed in the late ’70s, and by the early ’80s that movement morphed into the new trend of microbrewing.

Two things fueled the boom, Gatza says, both part of McDonald’s tale.

“First, more people were traveling the world and tasting an English bitter or a German weiss and they knew there was a lot more to beer than pale lagers,” Gatza says. “As the world shrunk, people got the idea they didn’t have to accept the status quo.”

Second, the homebrewing boom gave people confidence that they could make these beers themselves.

As McDonald came home from his travels to start brewing in his woodshop, the first small-scale startup breweries were popping up in the Pacific Northwest and Colorado. By the time he began putting together investors, 74 microbreweries were up and running. When Boulevard opened in 1989 the number had risen to 174.

“We’ve been fortunate to have a strong wind at our backs, starting when we did in an industry that was rapidly growing,” says Krum. The cultural moment, too, was right. “From 1900 to the 1970s was a time of homogenization. When I was a kid you ate Wonder Bread and your parents drank Folgers Coffee. Now there are dozens of artisanal breads and coffees. It’s part of a cultural shift.”

In 2009 some 1,500 craft breweries (the most in 100 years, according to the Brewers Association) were making beer—and making the American beer scene the toast of the world.

“There are a lot more taste choices now,” Gatza says. “There’s a much greater understanding of beer styles made all over the world, and American brewers in the past 30 years have dived into those styles and in a lot of cases Americanized them. There was not much in the way of Belgian-style ales made in America 100 years ago, but now there are 100-plus breweries making it.”

Says McDonald, “The United States has the best beer culture in the world now, even over Belgium and Germany, I think, and definitely over England.

There’s more going on in the U.S. today than anywhere else in the world—the amount of brewers, the experimentation that’s going on.”

McDonald isn’t interested in taking over the world. Rather than add more states, Boulevard will expand market share in states it already serves.

“I like selling beer close to home,” McDonald says. “I hope we get farmers out in western Kansas drinking Smokestack beer.”

To think of cowboys in Bird City and Ulysses, ranchers in Cimarron, Burdette and Bazine pulling a cork on a bottle of Long Strange Trippel or Saison Brett or Harvest Dance brings a smile. “I’d love to see that,” he says.

It’s not so farfetched considering the straightup American labels heartlanders swore by are now foreign-owned. With the sale of Anheuser-Busch to the Belgian-Brazilian company InBev, Boulevard now bills itself as Missouri’s largest American-owned brewery.

Buy American sentiment and the increasing popularity of the local and slow food ethos promise good things for craft brewers, McDonald believes. “I see a huge opportunity for people to look at beer the same way they look at food. I think Americans are going to support locally owned breweries.”

Could a humble mix of water, yeast, hops and malted grains be a vehicle for change?

“Why not,” he says, again with the grin. “Buy local beer and reduce your carbon footprint.”

Now there’s an ad slogan John McDonald can live with.
A n accomplished banker and a groundbreaking scientific researcher have been named recipients of the 2010 Distinguished Service Citation.

The Citation is the highest honor that the University of Kansas and the KU Alumni Association can bestow upon an individual to acknowledge outstanding achievements for the betterment of society and on behalf of humanity. It has been awarded since 1941.

This year’s recipients are Anderson W. Chandler, b’48, chairman, president and director of Fidelity State Bank and Trust Company in Topeka, and Benjamin D. Hall, c’54, professor emeritus of biology and genome sciences, rhododendron and azalea evolution and biogeography at the University of Washington.

“Anderson Chandler and Ben Hall have had long and distinguished careers dedicated to helping people lead better lives,” says Kevin Corbett, c’88, Alumni Association president. “The Distinguished Service Citation is a fitting way for KU to recognize these outstanding alumni.”

Chandler was selected, in part, because of his service to the Jayhawk Area Council of Boy Scouts of America. He has been on the council’s board of directors since the 1950s and served on the national board of directors since 1993. He underwrites a Duty to God Award, which encourages Boy Scouts to grow stronger in their religious beliefs.

At KU, Chandler has served as a KU Endowment Association trustee since 1985, established a professorship and lecture series in the School of Business and has served on the board of the KU Memorial Union Corporation.

Chandler’s other far-reaching philanthropic and volunteer work includes donations and service to the Topeka YMCA, Topeka schools, United Way, Downtown Topeka Inc., Rotary Club, Washburn University and the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library.

“Because of his leadership, service and personal qualities, Andy is a sterling role model for those wanting to make a positive difference,” William R. Docking, c’73, g’77, wrote in nominating Chandler.
Meanwhile, Hall spent almost all of his career at the University of Washington, where he served on the faculty from 1963 until his retirement in 2007. His discoveries have helped develop vaccines for cervical cancer, insulin used by millions of diabetic patients, and diagnostic agents used to assure the safety of blood in blood banks worldwide.

In addition to his research, Hall served as chair of the Department of Genetics at UW. The university named a research facility in his honor in 2007.

Hall initiated the Mary Harkey Hall Award in Plant Biology at KU in 2003. The award, given in memory of Hall’s mother, provides financial support to graduate students studying botany.

“It seems clear that Ben Hall, following his graduation from KU, has led a scientific life that has been enormously productive and creative in the generation of fundamental science, and yet he has also been able to participate in the exploitation of his findings in the medical sphere so that many millions of patients are leading better lives,” Craig Lunte, chairman of the KU Department of Chemistry, wrote in a letter supporting Hall’s nomination.

The Alumni Association and University leaders will honor Chandler and Hall at a dinner Sept. 10 in Lawrence. The event also will include the presentation of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion for service to KU. Combining both award ceremonies in an early fall celebration, the Association hopes to showcase the University’s outstanding alumni and the service they provide, both to KU and to the world

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Jayhawks rally
Hispanic alumni launch new chapter with 2010 events

To help recruit and retain Hispanic students and to connect nearly 2,500 Hispanic KU degree-holders, the Association has formed the KU Hispanic Alumni Chapter. The group’s executive committee met with Association staff Feb. 12-13 at the Adams Alumni Center to approve bylaws and plan inaugural events.

Fred Rodriguez, assoc., Lawrence, leads the chapter as president. He is the University’s interim associate vice provost for diversity and equity and executive director of the KU Multicultural Scholars Program.

To organize the chapter, Rodriguez worked with Alumni Association staff liaisons Mike Davis, d’84, g’91, senior vice president for alumni and membership programs; Stefani Gerson, c’06, g’08, coordinator of student programs; and Anny Culnane, d’09, coordinator of alumni programs.

“The energy and excitement that permeated the executive committee during the weekend was so refreshing,” Rodriguez says. “As a result, we left our meeting with not only a sense of accomplishment but also a uniform agreement on our short-term and long-term direction and plans. Our goal is to make this chapter one that will serve and support all Hispanic alumni for many years to come.”

The chapter will host a graduation banquet for Hispanic 2010 KU graduates at 5:30 p.m. April 30 at the Adams Alumni Center. The group also is planning a reunion weekend Sept. 24-25 in Lawrence, in conjunction with the KU-New Mexico State football game and Family Weekend and Band Day.

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Members of the Hispanic Alumni Chapter gathered for the first time Feb. 12-13 at the Adams Alumni Center. At top, board members Camille Bribiesca Platz, c’96, g’98, Alfred Murguia, c’00, and Greg Valdovino talk about the chapter’s goals. At left, back row, officers David Ochoa, j’06, g’08, and Platz; front row, Monique Garcia, c’96, Fred Rodriguez and Philip Orlando, DMA’82. Above, Rodriguez, Platz and Ochoa chat during a reception.
In addition to Rodriguez, the chapter’s executive officers include:
—Monique Garcia, c’96, Wichita, vice president. She is a marketing communications specialist with ICM Inc.
—Philip Orlando, DMA’82, Wichita, treasurer. He is director of academic affairs for the University of Phoenix.
—Camille Bribiesca Platz, c’96, g’98, Dallas, recording secretary. She is a paralegal with American Electric Power. In addition to her role with the KU Hispanic Alumni Chapter, she is a member of the KU Alumni Association’s national Board of Directors.
—David Ochoa, j’06, g’08, Lawrence, communications secretary. He is associate development director for the School of Pharmacy at KU Endowment.

The following KU staff and alumni are members of the chapter executive committee:
—Toni Casados, Garden City, is a coordinator with the Office of the Provost.
—Sonia Garcia, c’99, New York City, N.Y., is a special agent with the U.S. Department of Justice.
—Octavio Hinojosa, c’96, Vienna, Va., is executive director of Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C.
—Juan Izaguirre, g’03, Lawrence, is assistant director of KU Office of Multicultural Affairs.
—Alfred Murguia, c’00, lives in Kansas City, Kan.
—Greg Valdovino, assoc., Lawrence, is assistant director of the KU Office of Admissions and Scholarships.

The chapter’s Web address is www.kualumni.org/kuaa_chapters_home.html.

To become involved in the KU Hispanic Alumni Chapter, contact the Association at kualumni@kualumni.org or 800-584-2957.

45 years and counting

Betty Otto was honored in February for 45 years of employment with the Association. Otto, pictured above with Association President Kevin Corbett, c’88, has held various positions in the Records Department. “Whatever it was I was asked to do,” she says, “I loved it.”
New wave

Inaugural events serve alumni in all reaches of Kansas and across the nation

Jayhawks around the country have new ways to celebrate their Jayhawk spirit, thanks to programs and events launched by the Association.

In February, Southwest Kansas Chapter ’Hawks gathered for the inaugural Southwest Jayhawk Tumble.

Several new golf tournaments are scheduled this year as well. KU alumni will hit the links in Dallas (May 24), Castle Rock, Colo. (June 21), St. Louis (June 28) and Hutchinson (Oct. 11) for first-time events.

Visit www.kualumni.org for more information about these and other exciting new events!

Welcome to the team!

Anny Cullane, d’09, has joined the Alumni Association staff as coordinator of alumni programs. The St. Louis Park, Minn., native will work with the Hispanic Alumni Chapter and Rock Chalk Ball, among other duties.

The inaugural Southwest Jayhawk Tumble brought together Jayhawks for a fun evening Feb. 19 in Ulysses. Pictured are, clockwise from top, Debbie, d’79, and Erick Nordling, c’79; auctioneer Steve Higgs; Catherine Moyer and Dick Veatch; Brian, b’86, and Rosa Mitchell, s’85; wines available for tasting; and Jake Strecker, d’06, assistant director of Kansas programs.
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Your membership in the Association is the single most powerful way to make all of KU stronger, including the value of your own degree.

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Ray D. Evans, b’82, g’84, Prairie Village
Karen M. Humphreys, c’70, d’73, Wichita
James A. Trower, b’76, Salina

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Henry Menghini, c’87, Pittsburgh
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Debbie Foltz Nordling, d’79, Hugoton
Camille Bribiesca Platza, c’96, g’98, Dallas, Texas
Richard Putnam, c’77, l’80, Omaha, Nebraska
Larry D. Stoppel, c’73, Washington

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Kevin J. Corbett, c’88, President

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

ALUMNI, STUDENT & MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS
Michael W. Davis, d’84, g’91, Sr VP for Alumni, Student and Membership Programs

Nikki Epley
Director of Reunion Programs
Heath Peterson, d’04, d’09, Assistant Vice President for Alumni and Student Programs

COMMUNICATIONS
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Dwight Parman Sr VP for Finance and Administration

HOSPITALITY SERVICES
Bryan Greve Sr VP for Hospitality

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

Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who became Life Members beginning Nov. 3, 2009, through Jan. 4, 2010. For more information on Life Membership, please visit www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Danny J. Anderson
Darcy Gregor Benway
David A. & Sarah Zimmerman Blakesley
Michelle Cadmus Bodie
G. Wayne Burge
Cheryl A. Cage
David L. Case
William M. Chase & Betse M. Gage
Kerrie Crites Greenfelder
Sandra J. Herrington, & Daniel L. Brashear
Timothy J. Hruban
Paul M. Hwang
Kimberly S. Jackson
Justin T. Keller
Mark F. Lierz
Janet R. Lisher
John L. Lyne
Kristen Maceli
Charles E. Mackey
Maren E. McCort
Droste D. Milledge Jr.
& Holly Barnes Milledge
Jason M. & Sue Murnane
Beth E. Nettels
Brian M. Osgood
Michael J. Pace Jr.
Nicholas J. Peterson
Scott W. & Janine Gengenbach Porter
Cynthia J. Prier
Daniel C. Schulte
& Mary E. Giovanni-Schulte
Robert M. & Margaret Welch Sheppard
Carl R.J. & Barbara H. Sniffen
Trenton L. Stumpff
Michelle P. Tiford
Nicholas S. Walker
Robert M. & Margaret Welch
David C. Williams
Michael S. Woods

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Mark F. Lierz
Janet R. Lisher
John L. Lyne
Kristen Maceli
Charles E. Mackey
Maren E. McCort
Droste D. Milledge Jr.
& Holly Barnes Milledge
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Graduation Gifts from the Hill

Give the gift that lasts a lifetime!
New graduates are eligible for a half-price life membership in the KU Alumni Association. Give your Jayhawk the lifetime gift of staying connected to their alma mater. They’ll receive all the great membership benefits as well as special offers exclusively for Life Members. This offer expires June 30, 2010, so sign up your new graduate today! Go to kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Visit www.kualumni.org to shop for more great KU gifts!

Captain’s Chair $350
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Fossil Watches $85-115

To order, visit www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.
Class Notes  BY KAREN GOODELL

1937
Carolyn Bailey Berneking, f’37, received the inaugural preservation award last spring from the Lawrence Preservation Alliance for successfully nominating seven properties in Douglas County to the National Register of Historic Places. She lives in Lawrence.

1954
Rodney Davis, ‘54, g’59, co-edited The Lincoln-Douglas Debates. He is co-director of the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., where he and Norma Glass Davis, f’54, make their home.

1955
Alice Eastwood Davis, c’55, a retired technical editor, makes her home in Irvine, Calif.

1956
Robert Lawson, c’56, g’61, PhD’66, g’84, wrote a novel, The Bridge of Dreams, and The Collected Sonnets of Robert N. Lawson, both of which were published recently by Woodley Press. He lives in Topeka.

1957
George Klein, g’57, wrote Rocknocker: A Geologist’s Memoir, which was published recently by CCB Publishing. He lives in Sugar Land, Texas.

1958

1964
Kay Rupert Sommerfeld, c’64, is retired in Wichita.

1965
Barbara Bauerle Glanz, d’65, recently was named a Legend of the Speaking Profession by the Veteran Speakers Association. She’s president of Barbara Glanz Communications in Sarasota, Fla.

1967
Stephen Lake, c’67, is a veterinary pathologist with Xanometrics in Stilwell.

1969
Nicholas Eliopoulos, c’69, produced a documentary, “Mary Pickford: The Muse of the Movies,” which received an honorary award from the International Press Academy. He is a producer and director with Hollywood Central in Olathe.

1970
Paula Dwyer Davis, s’70, recently was sworn in as a judge of the Kansas City Immigration Court. She and her husband, John, m’94, live in Leawood.

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

Mary Daniels Johnson, d’71, works in field support communications and training with the Alliance for Retired Americans in Washington, D.C. She lives in Falls Church, Va.

Patricia Melvin LaGree, d’71, works as a proofreader with Pearson Education. She and her husband, Kevin, c’71, live in Des Moines, Iowa, where he’s senior pastor of First United Methodist Church.

1972
Barry Adamson, b’72, wrote Freedom of Religion, The First Amendment and the Supreme Court: How the Court Flunked History, which was a finalist for the 2009 Henry Paolucci/Walter Bagehot Award from the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. He lives in Lake Oswego, Ore.

Brent Green, c’72, is president of Brent Green and Associates in Denver.

Paula Wagner, d’72, works as an account executive for Emdeon Business Services in St. Louis.

1973
Rebecca Hygh Brown, d’73, is a staff development specialist for the Springfield, Mo., public schools.

Alice McMillan Lockridge, d’73, works as an exercise pathologist with Seattle City Light. She lives in Renton, Wash.

Paul Moxley, l’73, practices law with Parsons, Kinghorn & Harris in Salt Lake City. He recently was elected to a third term on the Alta Town Council.

Susan Krehbiel William, c’73, b’81, l’90, is a shareholder in the Topeka firm of Coffman, DeFries & Nothern.

MARRIED
Deborah Lickteig, g’73, to Robert...
Ask Jan About the Benefits of the Brandon Woods at Alvamar Lifestyle

As Brandon Woods’ Marketing Director, I’d like to share some fresh insights about this exciting, one-of-a-kind community. I would also enjoy answering your questions in person, so give me a call today!

“How is Brandon Woods at Alvamar different from other communities in Lawrence?”

We offer the largest array of living options in Lawrence. Whether you want to live in an equity-owned townhouse, or enjoy a rental apartment home, Brandon Woods has the right residence to meet everyone’s unique needs. Unlike any other community in Lawrence, residents can attend KU Continuing Education classes at no cost and some are even on-site. Enjoy our indoor heated pool, as well as aqua aerobics classes, and dine in our Woodlands Restaurant which offers an extensive dining selection that is both delicious and healthy. Residents also enjoy priority access to our on-site pharmacy with a full-time pharmacist on staff.

“How will your community enhance my lifestyle?”

Our community provides many social, educational and recreational opportunities built around healthy living. Our positive approach to wellness helps enrich residents’ lives—so you are free, strong, and healthy to delve into your favorite pastimes or expand your interests. Best of all, because Brandon Woods is a maintenance-free community and we handle many routine chores, you have more time to engage in things that matter most to you.

“Does your community include priority access to quality health care?”

Yes, residents benefit from priority access into all levels of living and services at Brandon Woods which includes rehabilitative therapy services, Medicare-certified home health services, assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care. Medicare-certified home health services are provided by Life Care Home Health located in the main lobby at Brandon Woods.

“How do I get on the Wait List?”

If you’re ready for a healthy perspective on life, you’re ready for Brandon Woods. To become a member of our Wait List, or to schedule a personal tour and enjoy a complimentary lunch in our Woodlands Restaurant, call Jan at (785) 838-8000 or (800) 419-0254.

Brandon Woods at Alvamar
1501 Inverness Drive
Lawrence, KS 66047
www.BrandonWoodsLCS.com
(785) 838-8000
Class Notes

Haskins, Nov. 7 in Leawood. They live in Olathe.

1974
Pamela Elliott Pendergast, f’74, works for SAFC Biosciences in Lenexa. She lives in Prairie Village.

Judson Maillie, b’75, l’80, is managing partner of the Business Owners Advisory Group in Chicago.

Cathy Wright Thrasher, p'75, works as a pharmacist at KU’s Watkins Memorial Health Center. She and her husband, Gregory, ’71, live in Lawrence.

1975
Shelley Rosse Ferland, d’76, is a pilot at JetBlue Airways. She lives in Evergreen, Colo.

Vallapa Shaisiri Herzog, c’76, s’80, a retired social worker, makes her home in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

1976
1977
Susan Talley Guthrie, ’77, is a development specialist at the University of Texas-Austin.
Carol Stallard Hudler, j’77, recently was named president and publisher of The Tennessean in Nashville.
Kurt Vollertsen, c’77, p’80, owns Ward Drug Store in Oberlin.

1978
Mark Hamilton, b’78, is vice president of ambulatory operations at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics in Madison. He recently was appointed to the American College of Healthcare Executives’ Council of Regents.
David Limardi, g’78, city manager of Highland Park, Ill., recently was inducted as a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.
Stephen Wendling, b’78, directs finance for HFF in Houston. He lives in Spring, Texas.

1979
Harlan Armstrong, b’79, is president of American Leasing in Lakewood, Colo.
Frederick Goenner, b’79, l’82, a senior commercial adviser for Shell International in Houston, makes his home in Katy, Texas.
Stephen Griffin, c’79, l’83, is a professor of law at Tulane University in New Orleans.
Laura Stevens Hobbs, j’79, manages technical editing and is a senior communications analyst at Cincinnati Financial Corp. in Fairfield, Ohio.
Gregory Kincaid, c’79, l’82, wrote “A Dog Named Christmas,” which aired as a CBS movie last winter. He lives in Olathe and practices law with Norton, Hubbard, Ruzicka, Kreamer & Kincaid.

1980
Gregory Anderson, PhD’80, is a senior adviser at Afton Chemical Corp. in Richmond, Va. He lives in Midlothian.
Brenda Jo Brueggemann, c’80, d’81, g’83, wrote Deaf Subjects: Between Identities and Places, which was published last year. She’s a professor of English at Ohio State University in Columbus.

1981
Mike Moore, ’81, wrote Twilight War: The Folly of U.S. Space Dominance, which earned two national book awards last year. He and Sandra Smith Moore, PhD’88, live in Palmyra, Mo.

1982
Bruce MacGregor, c’82, is senior care manager for WellPoint in Colorado Springs, Colo. He lives in Elbert.

1983
Michael Atkins, c’83, g’89, is CEO of Open Technology Solutions in Englewood, Colo.
Kwang Sun Kim, g’83, PhD’86, lives in Cheonan City and is a professor of mechatronics at Korea University of
Technology and Education. He recently received a Distinguished Engineering Service Award from the KU School of Engineering.

1984
Philippe Adam, g’84, is executive vice president of strategy and development at Accor-Tour Maine Montparnasse in Paris.
Laura McCorkill, d’84, recently became an administrative associate at KU’s School of Music. She lives in Lawrence.
Albert Rettenmaier, e’84, is president of Integrated Energy Solutions in Overland Park.

1986
Jane Barber Bebita, j’86, is a partner in Chemo-Couture. She lives in Valencia, Calif.
Scott Herring, c’86, founded True Focus Solutions in Manhattan Beach, Calif.
Susan McBride, j’86, wrote a novel, *The Debs*, which recently was published...
Class Notes

by Delacorte Press. She lives in Brentwood, Mo.

Craig Neal, b’86, works as a senior analyst at Franks International in Houston.

Michael Slaney, b’86, is managing partner of ClearDevelopment Partners in Dallas.

1987

Michael Brown, c’87, owns Veterinary Ophthalmology Services in Little Falls, N.J. He lives in Montclair.

Rochelle Collier Brown, c’87, is an organizational development process leader for Honeywell in Alpharetta, Ga.

Benjamin Simecka, c’87, lives in Olathe and is vice president of OCCU-TEC.

David Valenti, c’87, is managing partner of Valenti Corporate GC in Austin, Texas.

1988

Sally Streff Buzbee, j’88, recently was promoted to deputy managing editor for the Associated Press in New York City.

1989

Mark Heinrich, g’89, commands the U.S. Navy’s fleet and international supply centers in San Diego.

Peter Stonefield, c’89, owns Asia Pacific Engineer Consulting Service in Valencia, Calif.

1990

Christopher St. John, b’90, is president of Lawyers Title of Topeka.

Mark Staudacher, c’90, m’95, lives in Elburn, Ill., where he’s an associate anesthesiologist with Kane Anesthesia Associates. He and his wife, Heather, have three children, Jacob, 13, Olivia, 2, and Chase, 2.

1991

John Birkhead, ’91, directs student ministries for the United Methodist Church of Green Trails in Chesterfield, Mo.

Michael Liber, g’91, teaches physical education and coaches football and wrestling at Central Middle School in Kansas City. He lives in Lenexa.

Angela Jacobson Watson, b’91, is vice president of sales at United Parcel Service in Alpharetta, Ga.

Deborah Casey Yancer, g’91, chairs the health sciences division of Union College in Lincoln, Neb.

1992

Matthew Finnigan, j’92, practices law with the U.S. Department of Labor in Denver. He and Suzanne Ryan Finnigan, j’94, live in Superior, Colo.

Michael Hess, c’92, g’94, is office leader for HNTB in Overland Park. He and Kathleen Gilman Hess, n’84, live in Stilwell. She’s a medical transcriptionist for Reed Medical Group in Lawrence.

Amy Timmerman, c’92, directs operations for Spanish Beisbol Network Inc. She lives in Boston.

1993

David Bean, b’93, is a CPA with Bean
At Kansas City haven, hope is not just a name

For a group of friends on the east side of Kansas City, Mo., every day seemed like the one before—a struggle against drugs, crime, joblessness. Just kids, they could identify the kind of gun by its sound. Evening football games were punctuated by shootouts so close, players could smell the gunpowder. Jailed fathers, drug-addicted moms, nights spent sleeping in the streets were the norm.

For Chris Jehle, raised in an affluent area of Kansas City, educated at KU and living in the suburbs where he worked as a church outreach minister, it was a foreign life.

Until he moved in.

“I needed to be a neighbor,” he says, “not just somebody driving in and out.”

Jehle, s’92, had met the small group of friends while substitute teaching in their neighborhood. Sensing a connection, he stayed in touch, visited regularly, led a Bible study, encouraged academics and tried to be a friend. Yet it wasn’t until he experienced the substandard housing, unemployment and violence that he truly understood what the children were up against.

“I was blown away by the challenges they faced every day. They didn’t know if they would be alive in a few years, let alone graduate from high school.”

Despite the obstacles, Jehle urged them to pursue their dream of a community center—a haven amid turmoil.

“It needed to be a place that offered them hope,” Jehle says. “And they needed to be the ones to make it happen.”

The kids pooled dollars, raked leaves, shoveled snow, walked the streets selling pop and candy, and opened a savings account. Soon donations started coming in, and in 1998, The Hope Center opened, with Jehle as chief executive officer.

The Hope Center now ministers to about 100 kids each week, offering a secure environment for learning and growing. Education and study are core components, as are leadership and character development. A clinic, the Hope Family Care Center, recently opened, and the organization is pursuing a charter school.

Jehle and his wife, Tammi, also a long-time Christian youth worker, are currently attending seminary, training to open a church in the neighborhood.

But even as The Hope Center expands, Jehle’s sense of accomplishment comes from his initial ministry to the children he still calls neighbors.

“When we first came here everyone wanted to be a rapper or basketball player,” he says. “But now you hear teacher, doctor or other things. The kids now have a vision.”

—Parks is a freelance writer in Leawood.
There’s no place like home.

There’s a reason so many people call Kansas home. From our thriving communities to our progressive job opportunities, we make it easy to love life. Discover for yourself at ThinkKansas.com/ku, an innovative Web site full of features and videos about why Kansas is such a great place to live, work and play. Best of all, getting there is easy. All you have to do is click, and you’ll be on your way.

KANSAS
as big as you think
and Aristocratic Culture in the Carolingian World, which recently was published by Cornell University Press. She is an assistant professor of history at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

1995
Vikki Dillard Gambrill, n’95, is a nurse anesthetist with Advanced Specialty Anesthesia in Lawrence. She lives in Kansas City.
Paula Green-Wombwell, d’95, teaches English at Genesis Christian Academy in Tonganoxie.

BORN TO:
Kendell Warren, c’95, and Angelina, son, Pierce, Nov. 18 in Petersburg, Va., where he joins a sister, Abigail, 2.

1996
Diane Barton, b’96, is an account executive with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Oklahoma. Last year, she received the Presidential Citation Award from the National Association of Health Under-
writers. She lives in Oklahoma City.

Jeremy Bezdek, b’96, is general manager of Flint Hills Resources in Wichita.

John Graham, a’96, recently was promoted to senior associate at Anderson Mason Dale in Denver.

John Oberrieder, f’96, and his wife, Linda, celebrated their first anniversary last fall. They live in Shawnee.

Victoria Smith Shropshire, c’96, teaches rhetoric, writing and literature at Elon University. She lives in Greensboro, N.C.

BORN TO:
Chad, c’96, and Lindsay Putnam Roesler, ’02, daughter, Livia Paige, Oct. 13 in Lawrence, where they live. Chad is founder and senior vice president of Gradient Financial in Topeka, and Lindsay is a project director for the Chase Group in Overland Park.

1997
David Eagan, b’97, manages professional services for Perceptive Software. He lives in Lawrence.

Keri Russell Eisenberg, c’97, j’98, is senior associate director of major gifts for UCLA’s Anderson School of Management. She lives in North Hollywood.

Scott Kleiner, c’97, and his wife, Amy, live in Portland, Ore., with their daughter, Opal, 1. Scott works for Widen & Kennedy.

Amy Byers Krenzin, c’97, manages projects for H&R Block in Kansas City. She and her husband, Brent, b’97, live in Wellsville. He’s a sales executive with Humana Specialty Benefits.

Cynthia McCutchen, c’97, is a senior service engineer with Microsoft in Redmond, Wash. She lives in Kirkland.

Gerry Nelson, c’97, works as a branch manager for C.H. Robinson Worldwide. He lives in Redondo Beach, Calif.

BORN TO:
Shawn, c’97, and Andrea Simecka Beach, ’99, son, Ivan Nicholas, Nov. 30 in Topeka, where Shawn is a risk-management specialist for the USDA.

William, l’97, and Carolyn Rumfelt Matthews, 197, daughter, Beatrice Louise, Oct. 21 in Wichita, where she joins a brother, George, 2. Bill and Carolyn are partners with Foulston Siefkin.

Brian, d’97, g’03, and Kristen Koplik Williams, c’97, g’00, daughter, Genevieve Corinne, Oct. 4 in Lawrence, where she joins a sister, Madeline, 2. Brian is a special education teacher at Shawnee Heights High School, and Kristen is a psychologist with the Auburn Washburn School District.

1998
Chad Bowles, d’98, practices dentistry at Pass & Bowles Dental Center in Leawood, where he and Melissa Wills Bowles, j’04, make their home. She’s an account executive with Perceptive Software in Shawnee.

Kylie Fincham Cook, c’98, manages IT recruiting for Vaco Technology in Phoenix.

BORN TO:
Cheryl Funke Milligan, b’98, and Brian, e’99, son, Robert Allen, Nov. 11 in Rochester, Minn., where he joins a sister,
Dolembo marks 30 years as advocate for the blind

Mary Lynne Dolembo sees the fear in parents’ faces. They’ve just learned their newborn is blind, and they have no idea what to do next.

“For nine months during pregnancy, they think everything is fine,” Dolembo says. “And for them to get this diagnosis, it’s devastating.”

Dolembo, c’66, g’70, is in her 30th year as executive director of the Children’s Center for the Visually Impaired in Kansas City, Mo.

When she started, she knew virtually nothing about blindness. She majored in German and French as an undergraduate and earned her master’s degree in education, then worked in higher-education administration. Now, though, she is one of the area’s leading advocates for the visually impaired.

“You see the need and know how important it is for these families,” Dolembo says. “It touches your heart. It becomes your mission, your cause.”

It’s a cause that’s grown over the past three decades. When Dolembo started at CCVI, the organization served 36 children and had a 12-member staff and a $97,000 annual budget. Now, it serves 300 to 350 children annually and has around 50 staff members and a $2.8 million budget.

CCVI staff members provide early-childhood screenings and advice for parents whose children recently have been diagnosed with vision impairments.

The organization also operates a five-classroom preschool at 3101 Main St. There, specially certified teachers and therapists work with children who have a variety of visual impairments and other disabilities. They learn side by side with peers who can see.

The classrooms are equipped with magnifiers, light boxes and tactile learning tools. Braille, in addition to high-contrast lettering, marks names on students’ cubbies. Activities include teaching children how to use the public transit system. Craft projects put an emphasis on tactile learning.

Rachel Riddell, whose 4-year-old daughter, Isabella, is blind and attends the preschool, says Dolembo is a “ray of sunshine” for parents dealing with challenging times.

“I think she has the purest of hearts,” Riddell says. “She walks down the hallway, and she knows every child’s name and greets them. I think the thing that keeps her going is her love of the kids.”

Dolembo says children with disabilities are more accepted in society now than when she started her job three decades ago. “But like in every area,” she says, “there’s still work to be done.”

Adel, 2. Brian is a neurosurgical resident at the Mayo Clinic.

1999
Jane Fishburn Monte, c’99, is a radiologic technologist with Wellstar in Marietta, Ga. She lives in Acworth.

2000
Sara Drees Liebl, b’00, is business manager for Harris Business Services in Hutchinson.

Jana Gruver Rombeck, c’00, works as an occupational therapist at St. Francis Health Center in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

2001
Michael Hurley, b’01, is an accountant with Hurley & Hurley in St. Louis, where he and Erin Bandy Hurley, j’01, make their home.

2002
Robert Chaplin, m’02, is a pediatric interventionist at Children’s Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, Neb.

Tara Fadenrecht, f’02, received a Community Arts Assistance Program grant from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council for an installation she exhibited last fall at the

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Drop in and tell us what you’ve been up to! www.kualumni.org/classnotes
River East Art Center in Chicago, where she’s a resident artist.

**Timothy Glassco**, l’02, recently became a principal in the Podesto Group, a public policy firm in Washington, D.C.

**Bryce Holt**, c’02, wrote *Red School*, a suspense thriller, which was published last fall. He and **Amanda Denning Holt**, j’03, live in Lenexa.

**Clinton Kabler**, d’02, directs marketing, sales and communication for D3 Security Management Systems in Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Louise Lord Nelson**, PhD’02, wrote *Celebrating You and Me: A Journal for Children and Their Parents*. She directs the Reliable Alliance in Special Education in Indianapolis.

**Kristopher Smalley**, b’02, manages BKD in Kansas City. He lives in Lenexa.

**Kristi Teal**, b’02, is an occupational therapist for the Auburn Washburn School District. She lives in Auburn.

**Myriam Vuckovic**, PhD’02, wrote *Voices from Haskell: Indian Students Between Two Worlds, 1884–1928*, which recently was published by the University Press of Kansas. She’s an adjunct assistant professor of nursing at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

**2003**

**Abby Coble**, p’03, works as a pharmacist at HealthSouth Harmarville in Pittsburgh. She lives in Valencia, Pa.

**Melanie Dedonder**, f’03, is assistant excavation and utility manager for Howland Homes in Shoreline, Wash. She lives in Seattle.

**Leigh Lohoefener Johnson**, c’03, works as lead cardiovascular physician assistant for Liberty Cardiovascular Surgeons in Liberty, Mo.

**Debra Kruger**, c’03, is an e-mail specialist with Penton Media in Overland Park.
MARRIED

Wendy Robinson, f’03, to Christopher Ricke, Oct. 17 in Lawrence, where Wendy is director of extended care at St. John Catholic School. They live in Tecumseh.

BORN TO:

Jerry Pauly, e’03, and Kathryn, daughter, Katelyn, Oct. 21 in Houston, Pa. Jerry is a project manager with Nokomis in Charleroi.

2004

Steven Gordon, c’04, is vice president of Gordon Energy Solutions in Overland Park.

Mary Ann Porch, c’04, j’04, works as a freelance public relations consultant in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jason Sanders, c’04, teaches high-school science for the Lewisville Independent School District. He lives in Roanoke, Texas.

MARRIED

Ann Pistole, b’04, and Byron Toy, c’04, g’06, June 27 in Lawrence. They live in Kansas City.

2005

Abdullah Alhassan, g’05, PhD’09, works as an economist for the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. He lives in Falls Church, Va.

Joel Kammeyer, b’05, is an account executive for the Kansas City Royals. He lives in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Timothy Massey, g’05, lives in Olathe and is vice president of software engineering for Handmark in Kansas City.

MARRIED

Steven Davis, c’05, and Katherine Towner, n’09, Oct. 2 in Lawrence. They live in Springdale, Ark., where he’s a radio announcer.

2006

Kellie Johnson, a’06, is a senior project manager for the Rizzo Group in New York City.

Nikola Reinfelds Rowe, j’06, recently was promoted to editorial services supervisor at Allen Press in Lawrence.
Profile

By Whitney Eriksen

Attorney gains international perspective

As a law student at KU, Wakil Oyeleru Oyedemi staged an impromptu filibuster. After a guest speaker’s half-hour prejudice-laced speech brought classmates to tears, Oyedemi stood up and spoke for the entire question-and-answer session, leaving the lecturer speechless and angry.

His fervor for human rights was ignited when Oyedemi, l’08, was a teenager in Oyo, Nigeria. In 1984, the nation’s military overthrew the duly elected leaders and, he says, “everything crashed.”

Although Oyedemi graduated at the top of his high school class, his hopes of attending the university and becoming a journalist were gone. He worked in carpentry until his uncle Isaac Jolapamo, who owned a shipping company, vowed to support his academic ambitions.

Toward the end of his first year studying English literature at the Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, friends and professors encouraged him to consider law school. In the thick of military rule, as attorneys were thrown in jail or exiled, Oyedemi saw a way to defend people’s rights.

“Lawyers were the ones standing up,” he says. “Once they were out of jail, they were back on the street asking that people be given their rights. That’s why I went into law.”

As student body president, Oyedemi was expelled for his fight to maintain student elections, but was reinstated in time to graduate a year late.

He worked for a human rights law firm in Lagos, Nigeria, before moving to the states with his wife and oldest son in 2001. His international law degree did not allow him to practice in America, but the U.S. Army gave him the opportunity to work with attorneys in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps. During his four-year service (including a year in Iraq), he ultimately gained more than law experience.

“I was able to see how the military operates in a civilized nation,” Oyedemi says. “They did not use their uniform to oppress, as they do in Nigeria.”

Upon completion of his active duty, Oyedemi enrolled in the two-year foreign attorney program at KU to earn a juris doctor. “In other law schools, you see students competing,” he explains. “KU is different. Everyone is family.”

Professors and peers encouraged him through the school’s Moot Court Competition and the Paul Wilson Defender Project, which gave him experience with real criminal cases.

After graduation, Oyedemi moved to Hutchinson and began as assistant district attorney for Reno County in March 2009.

“My ultimate goal is to take all this experience and go back to Nigeria one day,” Wakil Oyedemi says. “I want to teach at my old law school, where I was expelled.”
for the KU School of Medicine’s Outreach Rural Health Education and Services program in Wichita. He lives in Maize.

Danielle Hayes, c’08, directs operations and student services at Wichita State University.

Rey Lastimosa, g’08, is an intern architect at Masa Studio Architects in Houston.

Cameron Manuel, b’08, g’08, works as an audit associate at KPMG in Kansas City.

Meghan Sullivan, c’08, j’08, is an interactive project coordinator for MMG Worldwide in Kansas City.

MARRIED

David Arndt, b’08, g’09, and Elizabeth Wagner, f’08, July 25 in Lawrence. They live in Parker, Colo., where he works for EKS&H and she teaches dance.

Adam Doyle, c’08, g’09, and Mindy Hodson, c’08, b’09, Oct. 17 in Lawrence, where Mindy works for First Management. Adam is a software engineer with Perceptive Software in Shawnee, and they live in Overland Park.

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
i  School of Journalism
j  School of Law
k  School of Medicine
l  School of Nursing
m  School of Pharmacy
PharmD  School of Pharmacy
n  School of Social Welfare
DE  Doctor of Engineering
DMA  Doctor of Musical Arts
EdD  Doctor of Education
PhD  Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter)  Former student
assoc.  Associate member of the Alumni Association
In Memory

1930s
Grace Player Ayres, c’39, 91, Nov. 28 in Tyler, Texas. She is survived by two sons, Lee, c’64, g’66, and Lawrence, ’69; four grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

William Fossett, c’39, 93, Aug. 21 in Naples, Fla. He was retired from a career with Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Ga. Survivors include his wife, Mary Beth; two daughters, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Richard Haun, ’39, 92, Dec. 15 in Olathe. He lived in Lawrence, where he practiced dentistry for many years. Survivors include a sister, Carol Walker Henderson, n’67; two sons, two of whom are William, ’67, and Brian, m’79; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1940s
Joan “Jodie” Armacost, c’47, 82, Nov. 21 in Fairway. She had worked for the Campfire Girls and had co-owned a car-wash. A goddaughter and several nieces and nephews survive.

Donald Brain, b’40, 92, Dec. 26 in Kansas City, where he had been a consultant and director of the Financial Guardian Group. He is survived by his wife, Charleen McCann Brain, b’45; two sons; and six grandchildren.

James Enns, c’45, m’47, 85, Nov. 19 in Estes Park, Colo., where he retired after practicing medicine in Newton for 29 years. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Wilbur Friesen, b’49, 85, Dec. 29 in Leawood. He had a 50-year career with Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance. He is survived by three daughters; a son; two brothers; and eight grandchildren.

Lonora Grizzell, d’41, 89, Nov. 30 in Farmington, Conn., where she was a retired physical therapist. A brother and a sister survive.

Jerald Hamilton, f’48, g’50, 82, Nov. 1 in Albuquerque, N.M. He was a professor emeritus of music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Surviving are his wife, Phyllis; three daughters and a grandson.

Margaret Bleam Hanson, n’44, 89, Dec. 31 in Des Moines, Iowa. She was a nurse at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City for many years. Surviving are a daughter, Linda Hanson Levine, f’72; a son; a brother; five grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Mary Jane Shartel Hickox, c’41, 89, Aug. 28 in Mesa, Ariz., where she was a retired high-school librarian. She is survived by her husband, Cole, three sons, two daughters, 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Pauline Richards Lindell, b’40, d’62, 91, Jan. 3 in Lawrence, where she taught elementary school. She is survived by her husband, Charles; a daughter, Charlene Lindell Lisher, d’79; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Clarence “Tiny” McCabe, e’40, 94, Oct. 27 in Surprise, Ariz. He is survived by his wife, Rose Marie Richardson McCabe, ’42; two daughters; a son; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Helene Zimmerman McCann, c’40, 91, Dec. 29 in Mission Woods, where she was a former director of Fidelity State Bank and Trust. Her husband, Glenn, c’38, l’40, survives.

Mary Jellison Miller, ’45, 86, Dec. 20 in Parsons. She is survived by her husband, Dean, c’45, m’48, two sons; four brothers, three of whom are Kenneth Jellison, e’55, William Jellison, ’65, and Charles Jellison, ’52; a sister; a grandson; and four great-grandchildren.

Nancy Tomlinson Roderick, c’46, 84, Dec. 27 in Salina. She is survived by her husband, James, c’44, m’47; three sons, John, c’76, David, ’75, and Richard, ’87; two daughters, one of whom is Rees Rod- erick Olander, ’73; a sister, Patricia Tomlinson Roth, c’49; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

William Scherer, b’48, 87, Aug. 21 in Leawood. He had worked for Grinnell Company, U.S. Supply and Reeves-Wiedeman. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ellen, a daughter, a sister and a grandson.

Samuel Burr Sifers, c’40, 91, Dec. 10 in Prairie Village, where he was a partner in Sifers Valomilk Confection Co. He served 12 years in the Kansas House of Representatives. He is survived by his wife, Maxine Miller Sifers, c’41; a son, Steven, j’97; two daughters, one of whom is Laura Sifers Sutherland, ’74; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Helen Blincoe Simpson, n’46, 87, Nov. 8 in Bonita, Calif., where she was a retired nurse. She is survived by two sons; two daughters; a sister, Elizabeth Blincoe Flournoy-Rivera, ’41; two brothers, Edward Blincoe, e’49, and Robert Blincoe, b’50; four grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Mary Sedlock Theroff, b’46, g’69, 85, Dec. 2 in Olathe. She is survived by a daughter, Diane Theroff Youngberg, e’79, g’82; two sons, Dennis, c’77, l’80, and Craig, ’87; two sisters; a brother; and three grandchildren.

Arthur Wahl, c’42, 89, Dec. 19 in Wyomissing, Pa., where he was a retired engineer with Bell Laboratories. Surviving are a son; a daughter; a brother, Richard, b’49, l’51; and two grandchildren.

Calvin Wartman, c’43, m’46, 87, Oct. 30 in Bremerton, Wash., where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Frances Sewell Wartman, n’46; two sons; two daughters, one of whom is Marcia Wartman Guth, ’70; a sister; a brother; and four grandsons.

Martha Little Weiser, c’46, 84, June
23 in Manahawkin, N.J., where she was retired from a career with Goodyear Aerospace. A son and a daughter survive.

**Joan “Jan” Joseph Williams, c'49, s'77,** 81, Nov. 16 in Lawrence, where she was a retired social worker at Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center. She is survived by her husband, Robert Simpson, assoc.; three sons, two of whom are Lance, c'71, and Sean, j'78; a stepdaughter; two brothers, one of whom is Howard Joseph, c'47, m'51; a twin sister; and 11 grandchildren.

**1950s**

**Richard Barton, j'50,** 83, Dec. 29 in Sun City, Ariz., where he was a retired newspaper editor and publisher. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, two sons and four grandchildren.

**John Battin, c'55, j'57,** 82, April 14 in Oakland, Calif. He was a former wire editor for the Argus-Courier. Several nieces and nephews survive.

**Jerry Berkley, b'51, l'56,** 80, Oct. 22 in Downs, where he worked at State Bank and practiced law. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor Major Berkley, d'56; two sons, one of whom is Bruce, b'88, l'90; two daughters; a sister; four brothers, Paul, b'53, Hal, b'55, Don, c'57, m'61, and Mike, b'61, l'64; and six grandchildren.

**Charles “Chuck” Goldenberg, b'55, 76,** Dec. 19 in Miami, Okla., where he was retired president of First National Bank & Trust. He is survived by his wife, Loretta “Letty” Torchia Goldenberg, b'57; two daughters; a son; and two grandchildren.

**Carl Gunter, m'51,** 89, Nov. 19 in Quinter, where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Mary; a son, Kurt, m'79; a daughter; and four grandchildren.

**Richard Harder, g'53,** 82, Dec. 17 in San Antonio, where he was a retired colonel and hospital administrator. He is survived by four sons, one of whom is Rick, '74; a daughter, 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Junior “J.K.” Haverty, b'51,** 82, Dec. 13 in Hutchinson, where he was retired from a career in real estate. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Boyer Haverty, '53; a son, Michael, c'75; two daughters, one of whom is Janet Haverty Dusch, d'78, g'80; two brothers, one of whom is Alvin, c'57; and seven grandchildren.

**Jerre Hersh Jr., l'53,** 84, Dec. 17 in Leawood, where he was retired. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; and a brother, Leonard, b'50.

**Donald Johnson, b'51, g'53,** 80, Sept. 13 in Overland Park, where he was retired. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Thomas, c'89, b'89, g'92, PhD'98; a daughter, Lacey Root Grey, j'86; and eight grandchildren.

**Robert Long, b'57,** 78, Dec. 20 in Leawood, where he was retired chairman of J.E. Dunn Construction. He also had been senior partner of Arthur Andersen & Co. and had worked for Commonwealth Theaters. He received the Fred Ellsworth Medallion in 1990 for his service to KU and the Distinguished Service Citation in 2004 for his service to humanity. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Mazine Johnson Long, b'57; a son, Byron, b'85; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

**William Neal, p'58,** 76, Sept. 14 in Garnett, where he owned and operated William A. Neal Rexall Pharmacy. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Welpman Neal, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Gloria Neal High, '85; a son, William II, '82; four brothers, one of whom is Warren, c'47, l'49; two sisters; and five grandchildren.

**LaRue Owen, m'50,** 90, a retired anesthesiologist, Jan. 1 in Wichita, where he had practiced for 40 years. He is survived by a son, Rodney, g'69, g'74, PhD'80; a daughter; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Carolyn Nardyz Payne, c'54,** 76, Dec. 19 in Stilwell. She is survived by her husband, Thomas, c'52, l'56; three daughters, Kimberly, c'81, Melissa Payne Schaffer, j'83, and Catherine, '93; a sister; a brother, Mark Nardyz Jr., c'59; and two granddaughters.

**William Plowman, a'54,** 80, Nov. 12 in Bellevue, Wash., where he was a retired mechanical engineer with Boeing. Two sons, a daughter, a brother and six grandchildren survive.

**Carolyn Lacey Root, d'53,** 78, Dec. 17 in Topeka, where she taught music and played the violin in the Topeka Civic Symphony. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is Thomas, c'89, b'89, g'92, PhD'98; a daughter, Lacey Root Grey, j'86; and eight grandchildren.

**John Russell, e'57,** 74, March 3, 2009 in Lakeside, Calif. He worked for Boeing and later owned a steel fabrication business. Survivors include his wife, Sandra, two daughters and a stepson.

**Ardra “Ardie” Stanley Sanger, c'53,** 79, Nov. 22 in Overland Park, where she was a former teacher. She is survived by her husband, Charles, assoc.; two sons; a daughter, Karen Sanger Meredith, j'90; and five grandsons.

**Roger Schroeder, e'53,** 78, Sept. 16 in Overland Park, where he was a retired mechanical engineer. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, assoc.; a son; two daughters; and two grandparents.

**Donald Sigman, c'59,** 73, Nov. 2 in Colby, where he was a farmer. A brother survives.

**Charles Steele Jr., a'53,** 77, April 6 in Kansas City, where he was a retired architect. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Arlene Parker Steele, '53; two sons; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

**Rex Thomas, e'50, g'51,** 84, Nov. 21 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. He lived in Willits, Calif., where he was retired from Dow Chemical. He is survived by his wife, Virginia VanOrder Thomas, j'46; two daughters; two sons; and five grandchildren.

**Charles Walker, e'50,** 86, May 22 in Fort Worth, Texas, where he was a retired project design engineer at General Dynamics. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, two sons, a daughter, a sister and three grandchildren.

**Barbara Logan Wilson, c'54,** 77, Dec. 27 in Fulton, Mo. She is survived by her
In Memory

husband, Richard; a daughter; a son; a brother, Howard Logan, ’52; and two grandchildren.

1960s
Karen Keller Acord, n’62, 69, Dec. 1 in Topeka, where she had been a nurse. Survivors include a son, Michael, ’97; a stepdaughter; and a grandson.

David Adler, b’62, 68, Oct. 12 in Aurora, Ill., where he had been an investment broker with Gunn Allen Financial. He is survived by a son, three daughters and six grandchildren.

Virginia Corsini Carroll, c’69, 62, Nov. 10 in Silver Spring, Md. She taught school and worked for Capital Management. She is survived by her husband, John, assoc.; two sons; and two brothers.

Jerry Choate, PhD’69, 66, Dec. 9 in Denver. He lived in Victoria and was retired director of the Sternberg Museum of Natural History at Fort Hays State University. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary Walker Choate, ’66; a son; and a granddaughter.

James Crew Jr., b’66, 71, Aug. 11 in Norman, Okla., where he was retired from Farmers Insurance. He is survived by his wife, Jean, five daughters, two sisters and nine grandchildren.

William Elstun, c’62, g’64, 70, Nov. 21 in The Villages, Fla., where he was a retired computer salesman and consultant. He is survived by his wife, Margie Wingate Elstun, d’63; a daughter; a son; and four grandchildren.

Phyllis Grigsby Jones, ’66, 89, Nov. 20 in Lawrence. She is survived by her husband, Martin, b’46, g’47; a son; and twin granddaughters.

Larry Kramer, c’60, 83, Dec. 28 in Topeka, where he was a retired electrical engineer with Kansas Power and Light. He is survived by his wife, Marcela, a son and two grandchildren.

Robert Lesh, c’69, 62, Nov. 6 in Chicago, where he was retired Africana cataloger at the Northwestern University Library. He is survived by his mother, Roberta Works Lesh, ’33.

Ellen Hall Mai, n’65, 67, Aug. 4 in Garden City, where she taught nursing at Garden City Community College. She is survived by her husband, Raymond; a son; a brother, Ralph Hall, c’63; a sister, Barbara Hall Willey, b’60; and a grandson.

Fred Markowitz, PhD’68, 85, Jan. 5 in Emporia, where he was a professor emeritus of education at Emporia State University. He is survived by his wife, Ima Jean, two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Audrey Miller, s’61, 88, Nov. 18 in Topeka, where she was retired from a career with Kansas Social Rehabilitation Services. A sister and several nieces and nephews survive.

Cheryl McCool Miller, j’65, 68, Nov. 10 in Lancaster, Pa. She is survived by her husband, Harold, g’67, g’68; two daughters; a son; a sister; and six grandchildren.

Bernd Ostermann, a’67, 69, Nov. 26 in Leawood, where he was a retired architect for the General Services Administration. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Weymiller Ostermann, ’63; a son; and a daughter, Diana Ostermann Gruenig, ’86.

Leonard Schneider, g’67, 77, Nov. 29 in Lawrence, where he had been a director and writer at Centron. Earlier, he had been a cameraman on “The Patty Duke Show” and a freelance photographer for Life magazine and “Candid Camera.” He is survived by two sons, Paul, ’86, and John, j’90; and a sister.

Roy Timmons, g’63, PhD’66, 79, Dec. 6, 2008 in Stockton, Calif., where he taught in the department of communicative disorders at the University of the Pacific. He is survived by his wife, Jan Zelhoefer Timmons, g’62, PhD’65; and a brother.

1970s
Lawrence Arnold, p’71, 61, Nov. 11 in Wichita, where he was a pharmacist at Via Christi Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Jolinda, assoc.; a daughter, Melissa, ’07; and a brother, George, ’73.

Mary Lee Dodson, d’71, 60, Nov. 19 in Topeka, where she taught Spanish at Washburn Rural High School. She is survived by a daughter; her father, Lee, g’54, EdD’66; three brothers, two of whom are Richard, j’79, and James, ’89; and a sister.

Bruce Kane, EdD’76, 77, Sept. 3 in Minneapolis, Minn., where he was a retired teacher. He is survived by his wife, Jeanette Harm Kane, assoc.; four daughters; a son; a brother; two sisters; and 11 grandchildren.

Linda Khademol-Reza, c’77, m’81, 56, Nov. 7 in Arlington, Texas, where she practiced obstetrics and gynecology for 25 years. She is survived by her partner, Penny Lamy, a son and two daughters.

Cindy Kisse, c’74, 57, Nov. 17 in Minneapolis, where she was a senior administrative specialist at the University of Minnesota and an investigations coordinator for the Lutheran Brotherhood. She is survived by her husband, Charles Obert, and a brother, Edward, s’88.

Jess Reeves, c’76, g’91, 56, Dec. 16 in Merriam. He is survived by a daughter, Allison, c’06; three brothers; and a sister, Kathryn Reeves Duncan,’82.

Charles Rush, j’75, 56, Oct. 20 in Granada Hills, Calif., where he was a retired record promoter. A sister survives.

1980s
Mary Mellott Corcoran, ’83, Dec. 26 in Lawrence, where she had been a housemother at Chi Omega and Sigma Nu. She is survived by her husband, George, c’53; two daughters, Laurie Corcoran Stair, ’67, and Mary Corcoran McCracken, d’72; a son, George, c’81; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Carolyn Fee, j’81, g’83, 50, Dec. 19 in Hutchinson. She had been vice president of corporate affairs for Bank of America. Her parents, Frank, b’53, and Bonita Roots Fee,’53, survive.

Sue Carter Howell, h’81, 50, Nov. 21 in Wichita, where she had been a physical therapist. Surviving are her husband, Steven, c’82, m’86; a daughter, Kaitlyn, student; a son; her father and stepmother; a sister; and a brother.

Eileen Schwartz Huffman, b’89, g’96, 43, Dec. 1 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence, where she was a sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics. Surviving are her husband, Scott, j’88; two daughters; a
son; her father; and three brothers.

Tracy Ann Iwersen, c'86, 46, Aug. 23 in Bellevue, Neb., where she was co-founder of the Pride Players. She is survived by her husband, Kevin Barratt; her mother; a brother; and four sisters, two of whom are Molly Iwersen Wiedeman, d'77, g'98, and Tina Iwersen Weinheimer, j'82.

James Kinsman, n'84, 50, Sept. 10 in Overland Park, where he was an RN program specialist for Accredo Health Group’s Active Care Network. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, his mother, two sisters and four brothers, one of whom is Martin, n'83.

Douglas Martin, l'84, 56, Dec. 27 in Wichita. He practiced law in Topeka, Clay Center and Manhattan. Survivors include his wife, Debra, two sons, a daughter, his parents, a brother and a sister.

Thomas Moore, c'84, 56, Dec. 31 in Lawrence. He is survived by his parents, Robert, '53, and Marna Brewer Moore, '55; a sister, Melonie Moore Sullivan, '76; and a brother.

Laura Neumann, f'82, 49, Dec. 5 in Kansas City, where she was a senior design artist at Hallmark Cards. Survivors include her parents, Helmut and Emily Neumann, a sister and two brothers.

Mark Pittman, j'81, 52, Nov. 25 in Yonkers, N.Y. He was a reporter for Bloomberg News and had received the Gerald Loeb Award from UCLA’s Anderson School of Management for his 2007 stories predicting the collapse of the banking system. He is survived by his wife, Laura Fahrendthold-Pittman, and a daughter.

Grant Richey, c'82, 49, Nov. 26 in Minneapolis, Minn., where he was an actor, director and teacher. Survivors include his partner, Tom Michlitsch; his father and stepmother, William, e'51, and Cynthia, c'85; and two sisters, one of whom is Alison Richey Pearse, d'77.

Lawrence Smith, c'82, 51, Dec. 24 in Kansas City. He is survived by his partner, David Brown; his parents, Bob, e'46, and Sally; a sister, Mary Smith Buchler, j'86; and five brothers, three of whom are Vincent, c'77, James, e'78, and John, e'85.

1990s

Fawnia Spieith Box, n'91, 55, Dec. 13 in Kansas City. She had been director of nursing at Manor Care of Overland Park. Survivors include her husband, Roger, a daughter, two brothers, a half-brother and two grandchildren.

Lisa Robinson Croxall, c'94, 39, Sept. 9 in Larchmont, N.Y., where she was a buyer for Giorgio Armani and Macy’s East. She is survived by her husband, Julian, her parents and a sister.

Mary Hall, s'93, 58, Nov. 11 in Mission. She had been a chemistry and physics teacher at Saint Pius X, a forensic social worker and a sister and associate with the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth.

Fred Johnson, s'95, 54, Nov. 27 in Manhattan, where he volunteered as an alcohol-abuse counselor at Mercy Regional Health Center. He is survived by a son, Jeff, d'02; two brothers; and two sisters.

Ginger Cauble Senseman, m'96, 40, Dec. 28 in Salina, where she founded Salina Pediatric Care. She is survived by her husband, Greg, two sons, her parents, her grandparents, a brother and two sisters.

2000s

Pamela Ellison Alkire, s'01, 57, Dec. 2 in Pleasant Hill, Mo., where she was a social worker. She is survived by her husband, Gerald, three daughters, two sons, her parents and five grandchildren.

The University Community

John Davidson, 85, Jan. 10 in Lawrence, where he was former chair of KU’s department of physics and astronomy. He is survived by his wife, Mary Rieser Davidson, g'74, Ph'D'81; four sons, three of whom are Tom, g'84, James, '81, and Robert, '83; and six grandchildren.

Gerald Hartman, m'45, 89, Jan. 4 in Lenexa. He taught in KU’s department of radiation therapy from 1968 until 1985. Survivors include his wife, Gertie Gray Hartman, '42; two sons, one of whom is Gregory, m'73; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Philip Humphrey, 83, Nov. 13 in Lawrence, where he was former director of KU’s Natural History Museum and former chair of the department of zoology. He earlier had been a curator of ornithology and vertebrate zoology at the Smithsonian Institution. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Mary Louise Countryman Humphrey, '79; a daughter; a son; two brothers; a sister; two step-sisters; a step-brother; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Rocelyn Roney Lonborg, n'56, g'75, PhD'89, 75, Nov. 25 in Tarpon Springs, Fla., where she co-founded Photomontage. She had been a clinical nurse and an associate professor of nursing at KU. Surviving are her husband, David Pearce; three sons, two of whom are Kris, c'88, and Jan, e'94; two sisters, Ruth Roney Hughes, c'57, and Rita Roney Metcalfe, c'52; and four grandchildren.

Andrew Tsubaki, 78, Dec. 16 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of theatre and film and of East Asian languages and cultures. In 2006, he was named to the Order of Sacred Treasure by the Japanese government for promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding between the United States and Japan. He is survived by his wife, Lily Tsubaki, assoc.; two sons, Philip, '90, and Arthur, c'92, b'92; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Stephen Wood, PhD'53, 84, July 1 in Provo, Utah, where he was a professor emeritus of entomology at Brigham Young University. He earlier had taught biology at KU and was an authority on bark and ambrosia beetles. Survivors include two daughters, a son, two sisters, 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Ross Wulfkuhle, 94, Nov. 19 in Lawrence, where he had worked for 34 years in KU’s audiovisual department. He also was a farmer and stockman. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Colman Wulfkuhle, c'37; two daughters, Linda Wulfkuhle, c'68, and Virginia Ann, c'69; and a brother.
Syndicated columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. visited campus Feb. 5 to accept the 2010 William Allen White Foundation National Citation from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Speaking to an overflow crowd in Woodruff Auditorium, the Miami Herald newspaperman talked about “fact and truth and the concept of owning what you know,” calling for a return to the “old rules” of reasoned debate built upon a marshaling of facts—rules he says have disappeared in today’s divided America.

“Once upon a time, facts were the building blocks of truth,” Pitts said, adding that now “facts are custom-made” to bolster firmly held ideological stances on both ends of the political spectrum. He cited the anonymity and reach of Internet blogs and the failure of TV and newspapers to challenge lies and inconsistencies as major factors in this shift.

Pitts began his career as a freelance music writer for Soul Magazine while still in college, and at 20 became editor of the Los Angeles-based black entertainment tabloid. He joined the Miami Herald as a pop music critic in 1991 and began writing his column three years later. His twice-weekly commentaries on pop culture, social issues and family life appear in about 150 newspapers nationwide. He won a Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 2004, and he is perhaps best known for his column of Sept. 12, 2001, “We’ll Go Forward from This Moment,” a chilling and prescient response to the 9/11 attacks that movingly portrayed American resolve. The column struck an emotional chord, drawing thousands of e-mails and inspiring readers to circulate the piece widely through chain-letter-style e-mails.

A return to fact-based critical thinking—rational truth-seeking that eschews certainty in favor of an honest evaluation of the complexities and gray areas of complex issues—is essential to the health of American democracy, Pitts said.

“When you repeatedly lie, repeatedly make things up out of whole cloth and pass them off as fact, it threatens grave and profound danger to the body politic and to the very fabric of our American lives. And I submit that this is a crossroads to which we have come.”

The spurious “death panel” assertions during the recent health care debate and a viral e-mail accusing the White House (falsely, it turns out) of banning religious-themed ornaments from the official Christmas tree are perfect examples, according to Pitts. He noted that such shenanigans are not limited to one political party, nor are they new to our age.

“Mark Twain is famously quoted as saying, ‘A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes,’” he said, noting that communication technologies have changed drastically since Twain’s day. “How fast do you think it moves now in the 21st century era of Twitter and text messaging?”

Particularly rankling, he added, is the realization that the best job of challenging lies and inconsistencies on TV today is done by Jon Stewart on “The Daily Show,” which airs.
on Comedy Central.

“Something is wrong when a comedy show performs this function and the media does not,” Pitts said.

The William Allen White Award, presented annually since 1950 to an American journalist who exemplifies the ideals of White, 1890, in service to the profession and community, is named for the influential Emporia Gazette publisher known for his editorials, for which he won a Pulitzer Prize in 1923. Past recipients of the prestigious award include Bob Woodward, Walter Cronkite, Bernard Shaw, George Will, Helen Thomas and Jim Lehrer.

—Steven Hill

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**Birds of a feather**

**Two discoveries help scientists fill missing links in avian evolution**

Paleontologists at KU are helping rewrite the book on dinosaurs of the Cretaceous period.

In December researchers at the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute announced they’d found the first venomous creature in the lineage that leads to modern birds.

In January they published findings that, they believe, settle once and for all the debate over the origins of bird flight by proving that another birdlike dinosaur, Microraptor, was a glider.

Larry Martin, PhD’73, professor and curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute and a member of both research teams, says one discovery led to the other. Researchers thought the Microraptor fossil in their possession might actually be a Sinornithosaurus. Close examination of Sinornithosaurus specimens led the team to look more closely at unexplained cavities in the creature’s jawbone. They concluded that these odd features were actually venom reservoirs similar to those seen in rear-fanged snakes.

The discovery is seen as a follow-up to findings made in recent years that most modern snakes and lizards are to some degree poisonous.

“What it tells you is that poison, rather than a unique, special thing that only shows up here and there, is a widespread thing we can expect,” Martin says. “It changes the way you think of the whole group that includes lizards, snakes, alligators, birds and dinosaurs.”

Martin teamed with David Burnham, PhD’07, and Amanda Falk, g’10, at the Natural History Museum and researcher Enpu Gong at Northeastern University in Shenyang, China, to publish their findings in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. Martin, Burnham, Falk and Gong then enlisted the help of David Alexander, assistant professor of entomology, biomechanics and animal flight at KU, to build a model of Microraptor that shows how the four-winged creature was a successful glider. Drawing on fossil finds so well-preserved that scientists could count the feathers on the creature’s wings, the KU team fashioned a life-size model that uses pheasant feathers trimmed to the correct size and shape.

Tests conducted on campus showed the Microraptor was an accomplished glider, bolstering the view held by Martin, Burnham and others that—contrary to what a majority of paleontologists think—animal flight probably originated from the trees down rather than from the ground up.

“You really didn’t need us to tell you it didn’t live on the ground, because it has 7-inch feathers coming off its feet,” Martin says. “Walking on the ground would be like tying snowshoes crossways on your feet and trying to walk. I would argue that’s impractical.”

Martin theorizes that Sinornithosaurus also may have been a four-winged glider, and that Microraptor may have been venomous.

And there’s one other link in the close relationship of these two: The turkey-sized Sinornithosaurus ate the pheasant-sized Microraptor.

“You had the most to fear from your relatives,” Martin says.

—Steven Hill

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**Horns of plenty**

**Rich master series bring music professionals to campus**

Steve Leisring, associate professor of trumpet, knows a thing or two about unusual career trajectories. After completing graduate school at a small conservatory in New York City, Leisring interviewed with a symphony...
Visiting artist Jon Lewis, f’81, and Professor Steve Leisring (l-r) performed in Swarthout Recital Hall during Lewis’ January visit as part of the Brass and Percussion Master Series.

orchestra in the Canary Islands, Spain; he accepted a job offer, intending to stay for a year.

That year turned into 14.

“When I was an undergraduate, I had absolutely no vision of performing in 20 countries and living overseas,” Leisring says. “That’s one of my motivations for teaching, to show students that with the right approach, hard work and talent, the door is really, really open.”

KU music students are hearing many such lessons this semester, thanks to two master series, one for brass and percussion and the other for opera/voice. Both are sponsored by Reach Out Kansas Inc., a charitable foundation whose mission is to make music and other fine arts available to Kansans who might not otherwise enjoy such opportunities. In keeping with the foundation’s guidelines, all programs are free and open to the public, and participation by high school and college students and educators from across the region is encouraged.

The Brass & Percussion Master Series in January featured trumpeter Jon Lewis, acclaimed as one of the top studio musicians in Los Angeles. Along with being principal trumpet in the Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra and co-principal trumpet of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Lewis, f’81, has performed on numerous movie soundtracks and more than 1,000 television shows.

“Jon told the students that when he left KU, he went to Los Angeles to break into the business because of a visiting artist from Los Angeles who had given a master class here,” Leisring says. “These kind of moments when you actually bring in artists really make a difference in students’ lives. It exposes them to great knowledge of the world of music.”

Trumpeter Patrick Hunninghake, a senior music education major, had more than music in common with Lewis: They both attended Falls Church High School in Virginia. The connection proved a conversation starter, but their real bond was, of course, music.

In his first session with students, Lewis told students and educators the story of how he came to be a trumpeter much in demand by Hollywood studios, emphasizing that he kept his dream alive by throwing newspapers before hitting it big. Later, in practice sessions open to the public, Lewis shared “mini-lessons” on performance issues such as tone production and trumpet technique.

“There are more careers in trumpet playing than I can count,” Hunninghake says. “You are not always playing in symphony orchestras or brass quintets; you can go freelance in L.A., for instance, and play for TV shows and commercials. You can make your degree into what you want it to be.”

By the time it concludes May 2, the brass & percussion series will have featured visits from eight artists, including two percussionists, three trumpeters, and one each in trombone, French horn and tuba. Says Scott Watson, professor of tuba euphonium and the brass & percussion division director, “It’s unprecedented. I don’t know any school anywhere that has a lineup like that.”

The Opera/Voice Master Series launched in February with a visit by maestro Joseph Colaneri, in his ninth season as a conductor at the Metropolitan Opera. The fourth and final opera/voice visit is scheduled for May 3 and 4, with the arrival of John Wustman, described as “the dean of American accompanists.”

More information on both series can be found at arts.ku.edu/music.

–Chris Lazzarino

OREAD READER

Practice to deceive

Spymaster describes how magic helped CIA weave tangled webs

Two years after first detailing insider legends with his book Spycraft: The Secret History of the CIA’s Spycrafts from Communism to Al-Qaeda, Robert Wallace again reveals riveting CIA secrets, this time in a page-turner titled The Official CIA Manual of Trickery and Deception.

Wallace, g’68, a former CIA field officer and chief of station who retired in 2003 as director of the Office of Technical Services, again teams with intelligence historian H. Keith Melton to offer rare insights into details of deception. While Spycraft (“Cold War Wizards,” issue No. 4, 2008) spanned the post-World War II history of CIA spycrafts and their gadgetry, the latest book focuses on a single chapter: the CIA’s top-secret hiring of master magician John Mulholland to teach officers and analysts such magic fundamentals as misdirection, conceal-
Maison de Naissance had hoped to begin fundraising soon for the new center. The massive Jan. 12 earthquake put planning on hold, but it also gave leaders hope that there will be more long-term international aid sent to Haiti. The organization currently operates a birthing center in Les Cayes, a city 100 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince; the KU architecture group designed additional buildings for the center’s campus.

Maison de Naissance—which translates to “house of birth”—was founded in 2004 by Kansas City physicians Stan Shaffer and Elizabeth Wickstrom. The organization’s executive director, Heather Ehlert, c’96, says, “We’ve always had our eye on Haiti. Now it feels like we’re under the microscope globally.”

Haiti has one of the highest infant and maternal mortality rates in the world. One in 16 women giving birth dies during labor, and one in every 12 babies dies before its first birthday. Most women give birth at home. Getting to a typical Haitian health care center often requires a long walk on difficult terrain, and women must bring their own supplies, such as gloves and medication.

“Then when they get there,” Ehlert says, “there’s no guarantee the quality of care is going to be good.”

The existing Maison de Naissance center, which was not damaged in the earthquake, provides transportation and care to pregnant Haitian women and new mothers. But the space is cramped, and that’s why the organization’s leaders turned to KU architecture students.

“We have a lot of service learning in the school,” says Kent Spreckelmeyer, a’73, professor of architecture. “It’s architecture based on altruistic principles. That’s what attracted students to the project.”

A year ago, the students came up with 13 potential designs for an expanded birthing center. Those designs were presented to the Maison de Naissance board of directors last summer. A second group of students took the board’s comments and melded the designs into one.

The resulting proposal includes a series of small buildings with a courtyard, exam rooms, a space for HIV counseling and dorms for new mothers.

Frank Zilm, c’71 a’71, president of the health care architecture firm Frank Zilm and Associates in Kansas City, is helping with the project. Because KU does not allow student travel to Haiti, Zilm scouted out the proposed location for the facility last year.

Zilm thinks the project could be replicated for other birthing centers—or even other health care facilities—as the country recovers from the earthquake.

“I think this could be a model for other areas of Haiti,” he says.

Now, it’s all about timing.

With so much focus on relief efforts—and now, post-operative and rehabilitation care—Maison de Naissance may need to wait its turn until the international focus returns to the overall needs of Haiti, Ehlert says.

But at the same time, as Port-au-Prince residents flee to outlying areas, Ehlert knows the needs for her organization’s services will only increase. The KU renderings will be forwarded to Burns and McDonnell, an architecture firm in Kansas City, for a final design before Maison de Naissance proceeds with a fundraising plan.

“Timing has been on our side,” Ehlert says. “Things that look like challenges very quickly become opportunities with this organization.”

To be able to attach all of our names to it is pretty cool.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Altruistic architecture

Even before the earthquake, students were at work on Haiti project

Justin Rogers hopes to someday see an architectural renaissance in Haiti—including a health care center he helped design.

Rogers is among a group of architecture graduate students who, in spring 2009, helped design a birthing center for Maison de Naissance, a Kansas City-based nonprofit that provides prenatal, birthing and postnatal care for Haitians.

“It was great to do a project that would have real implications,” Rogers says. “To be able to attach all of our names to it is pretty cool.”

The rest of the book supports McLaughlin’s simple premise, providing insights that transform what might at first seem rather humorous—a magician training CIA officers?—into a logical program whose aims should have been obvious all along. Well, of course clandestine officers could benefit from the tricks of a magician’s trade.

After all, both magician and spy aim to misdirect an audience’s attention while making something else occur unnoticed. The difference is the price of failure.

—Terry Rombeck
Savoring victory in his last game in Allen Field House, senior Sherron Collins (4) hoisted the season’s first—and, the Jayhawks hope, not the last—championship trophy after winning the Big 12 regular-season title outright with an 82-65 victory over Kansas State. The March 3 Senior Night Sunflower Showdown featured two of the country’s top five teams; three nights later, the Jayhawks closed out the regular season with a 21-point victory at Missouri.

Photograph by Steve Puppe
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