Doctor in the House
Med Center chooses one of its own for top job

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COVER STORY

Paging Dr. Girod

The right man for the critical job of leading KU Medical Center, it turns out, was right here all along.

By Chris Lazzarino
Cover image by Steve Puppe and Susan Younger

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But Yet

A Shakespeare scholar, an aspiring young writer and long-ago lessons learned outside the classroom.

By Robert Day

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A Study in Jazz

On the bandstand and in the academy, Nathan Davis called the tune in bringing jazz performance and scholarship in concert.

By Steven Hill
Lift the Chorus

Three cheers

I enjoyed three major stories in the summer edition [Issue No. 4] of Kansas Alumni: the cover story on the KU women’s track championship, the KU Mini College essay and the piece on “Tom Tomato.”

A tip of the hat to the women’s track and field team for winning the 2013 Outdoor NCAA Track and Field Championship [“Golden Girls”].

In Jennifer Lawler’s piece on KU’s Mini College [“Refresher Course”], readers get one writer’s view of attending the special campus summer experience.

The article on tomato grower Tom Wagner was full of interesting details and photos of “The Tater-Mater Man,” a special summertime farmer feature story.

As a Class of 1983 general studies student, former campus sportswriter and part-time produce farmer, these stories on KU track, KU Mini College and special Tater-Mater Man were my top three favorite Kansas Alumni magazine articles this summer.

Thanks very much for the stories.

Mark Lee, c’83
Bonner Springs

Smart tomato

It was fun to read “The Tater-Mater Man” in the July issue. Made me think of this: “Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”

Linda Houston, ’65
San Jose, Calif.

I’m a member of the Master Gardener Association in Medford, Ore. I thoroughly enjoyed learning the history of the Green Zebra tomato, which is popular here. I plan to share this information with others in our county Master Gardener newsletter.

Linda Larson Holder, n’65
Medford, Ore.

The perks of membership

I always read every word of the alumni magazines that have been loaned to me. Now that I am a new member and have my own, I can even reread them.

Reading them always transports me back to KU, makes me smile, and makes the world seem brighter.

The writing in the alumni magazine is excellent, and quite a rarity in today’s world.

Marilyn Banholzer, d’63
Topeka

Research hope

Congratulations to Kelly Allen on her wonderful opportunity to save a life with her stem cell donation [“Donor advocates for others to follow her example,” Class Notes, issue No. 4]. Thanks for a wonderful story.

I have a personal experience with stem cell donation and cord blood transplant. My late husband, Robert K. Dempski, was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia in 2008 at the age of 50. After his first remission, the cancer came back and was unresponsive to the chemotherapy. He moved his treatment to the KU Cancer Center bone marrow transplant team of Dr. Sunil Abhyankar, Dr. Joseph McGuirk, Dr. Siddhartha Ganguly, and Dr. Omar Aljitawi.

Bob’s best hope for a cure was a bone marrow transplant, but when his five brothers and sisters were not a match, and there was no match on the universal “Be the Match” registry, his last hope was a double cord blood transplant. He received the transplant Jan. 3, 2011, with cord blood donated from the birth of two baby girls in Denver.

After 42 days, there was excitement as the new stem cells started to grow. But the cancer was too invasive and the stem cells didn’t survive. Bob passed away at home on Feb. 23, 2011, leaving me and our four children. It was the end of a hard-fought battle.

During his hospitalization in the BMT unit at KU Medical Center, Bob and I became very interested in the promise and potential of Dr. Aljitawi’s research. After Bob’s death, the Robert K. Dempski Cord Blood Research Fund was established with KU Endowment. The Fund has raised over $50,000 for Dr. Aljitawi’s research.

The major fundraiser for the fund is the annual Robert K. Dempski Memorial Golf Classic. The third annual event will be held at Adam’s Pointe Golf Club in Blue Springs, Mo., on Bob’s birthday, Sunday, Oct. 6.

Visit www.robertkdempski.com for more information on sponsorships and player registration for this annual fundraiser. We would love to see KU alumni be part of the cure.

Janet Dempski, p’84
Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Spirit visit

While working in my home office, I noticed a car had stopped in front of my house and a stranger got out and walked towards my driveway.

I ran downstairs and out the front door only to see the car pulling away. That’s odd, I thought. Imagine my surprise when I found a note taped on my car’s windshield that read, “Jayhawker, Hi. From the Osawatomie Kid!”

I speculate the Osawatomie Kid saw my KU Life Member sticker on my car and decided to leave a little token of Jayhawk spirit. It made my day!

LaDonna Hale Curzon, j’79
Alexandria, Va.
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Imagine a day when every bone marrow transplant patient has a match.

A new day of hope for cancer patients is here.

Even if you’re related, a perfect match is difficult to find. Bone marrow transplant patients typically wait months for a lifesaving match. Now, specialists at The University of Kansas Cancer Center have new ways to match almost any patient immediately, including the opportunity to match with a parent, sibling or adult child. And a match could mean a cure. In this region, it’s only happening here.

For an appointment, a second opinion or to speak to a nurse, call 913-588-1227. Or learn more at kucancercenter.org.

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Advancing the Power of Medicine®
The newest campus catch phrase, KU Core, might not carry the emotional, tradition-rich clout of “Rock Chalk Jayhawk,” but it already packs considerable punch among students and faculty. Three years in the making, the KU Core is the new Universitywide undergraduate curriculum that will guide all students in achieving six common educational goals. In a Sept. 3 message to students, faculty and staff, Provost Jeff Vitter said the KU Core “positions KU as a national leader in undergraduate education. Our students are pursuing fundamental learning goals and outcomes that prepare them, regardless of their degree, for lifelong learning and success.”

When Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little arrived at KU, she set her sights on improving rates of students’ timely graduation and freshman-to-sophomore retention. To study these critical challenges, she assembled a task force and appointed Chris Hauffer, professor and chair of ecology and evolutionary biology, to lead the group, which in 2010 recommended that KU revamp its undergraduate curriculum. This goal became part of the University’s strategic plan, Bold Aspirations.

Hauffer, a faculty veteran of more than 30 years, calls the KU Core a gratifying achievement for the community. “This was a Universitywide effort to determine what KU graduates—across all disciplines—should know. We got everyone at the table, and there was a sense that ‘We can do this.’ We recognized that college graduates today should have expectations of knowledge, skills and values that are common to all students.”

Of course, Hauffer acknowledges that the three-year project, involving a dizzying number of committees, countless presentations and draft after draft of multiple reports, was not a cakewalk. Several departments balked at first. “The willingness was not always there,” he says. “There was a presumption that ‘You’re going to impose requirements on us,’ or ‘You’re going to tell us we have to change.’” Hauffer laughs now about his meeting with physics faculty in a room dominated by a hideous poster for an abysmal science-fiction movie called “The Core.” Clearly some faculty needed convincing.

Other departments embraced the change, says Hauffer, who hails the Humanities and Western Civilization program “as one of the best of the units that have actually taken the opportunity to modify their courses.” HWC created “course clusters” across departments that fulfill multiple requirements.

Ultimately, the KU Core team distilled a daunting list of potential goals down to a guiding list of six statements (kucore.ku.edu). “They are memorable and concise, and we recognized that they are all loaded,” he says. “They needed greater extrapolation, so we added outcomes. We explained—or exploded—them into explicit expectations.

“Then, with that common framework, we took it to each school and added the individual requirements for that discipline, so the curriculum is general and individually tailored.”

A big change is the reduction of required general-education credit hours for students in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences from 72 to a maximum of 56. Gray-Little noted early in her tenure that KU required 30 percent to 50 percent more general hours than other universities. “Now there is more flexibility for students in the College to take new directions they couldn’t pursue before because they were overburdened,” Hauffer says.

In another important departure, the KU Core encourages students to achieve requirements through a combination of coursework and “approved educational experiences” outside the classroom, including undergraduate research, internships, community projects or study abroad. Hauffer says the KU Core’s flexibility will help students in the workplace. “Employers today have a common set of expectations,” he says. “They are looking for skill sets that transcend disciplines, and these should be common to all of KU.”

While the KU Core begins a new chapter in academic life on campus, it also can invigorate alumni. As we treasure our University degrees and the life-changing KU experience, we can take pride in the fact that future alumni will share not only the KU experience—but also the core knowledge, skills and values of even stronger KU degrees.”
On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“1 Kansas Farmer,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 15

“Conversation XV: Dust,” inspired by the KU Common Book The Worst Hard Time, Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 15


“James Turrell: Gard Blue,” Spencer Museum of Art, through May 18

“Diego Teo: International Artist-in-Residence,” Spencer Museum of Art, Sept. 30 to Jan. 5

Lied Center events

SEPTEMBER
20 KU Collage Concert
25 Omar Faruk Tekbilek
28 Armitage Gone! Dance
29 Hermès String Quartet

OCTOBER
1 KU Symphony Orchestra
6 KU Wind Ensemble
22 KU Symphonic Band and Chamber Winds
24 AnDa Union
25 Hal Holbrook in “Mark Twain Tonight”
27 Naoko Takada, marimba soloist
27 The Price is Right Live
30 KU Symphony Orchestra Halloween concert

NOVEMBER
9 red, black & GREEN: a blues
12 Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center
14 “MEMPHIS”
24 KU Symphony Orchestra

Murphy Hall events

SEPTEMBER
25 Brass Ensembles

OCTOBER
20 Collegium Musicum
27 Tuba/Euphonium Consort

NOVEMBER
6 Trombone Choir
17 Kansas Virtuosi
21 Saxophone Quartets

In conjunction with KU’s selection of the The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan as the common book for the 2013-’14 academic year, the Spencer Museum of Art has selected a series of objects that chronicle the Dust Bowl, its aftermath and memory. “Conversation XV: Dust” runs through Dec. 15.

Alumni events

SEPTEMBER
27 Kansas City Chapter Blood Drive, Overland Park
29 KU Day at Sunset Zoo, Manhattan

OCTOBER
3-5 J-School Generations
5 School of Engineering Tailgate
10 Denver Networking Breakfast
12 Dallas Chapter Bus Trip, KU at TCU
12 Party in the Panorama, Natural History Museum
14 Invitational at Prairie Dunes, Hutchinson
16 An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, Wichita
18 College Distinguished Alumni Award, Gen. Charles Boyd, Lawrence
27 Tampa Bay Halloween 5K

NOVEMBER
1-3 Black Alumni Chapter Reunion, Lawrence
1 African-American Leaders and Innovators, Lawrence
2 Wichita Jayhawk Roundup
7 An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, Overland Park
10 Veterans Alumni Chapter Veterans Day Run, Lawrence

Homecoming 2013
Visit kualumni.org/homecoming or see the ad on page 56 for a complete list of events Sept. 29-Oct. 5.

Performances

OCTOBER
3 Jazz Ensembles I, II and III, Lawrence Arts Center
28 Jazz Combos I-VI, Lawrence Arts Center

NOVEMBER
7 Alaturka and Jazz Ensemble I, Lawrence Arts Center
10 Wind Ensemble, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
17 Percussion Group, Spencer Museum of Art
18 Jazz Singer & Jazz Combo I, Lawrence Arts Center

Academic calendar

OCTOBER
12-15 Fall break

Dole Institute events

SEPTEMBER
23 Former Congressmen Jim Slattery and Tom Tauke, “Can We Fix the Deficit?”

OCTOBER
2 Dole Forum, “Resolved, the Death Penalty Shall Be Abolished,” Pedro Irigonegaray and Ed Duckers
10-11 Dole Institute 10th Anniversary Fellows Reunion

November
10 Annual Veterans Gala
19 Alvaro Vargas Llosa, “Global Crossings: Immigration, Civilization and America”

More events online

Events listed here are highlights from the Association’s busy calendar. For complete listings of all events, watch for emails about programs in your area, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957
Jayhawk Walk

Playing through

FOR A 20-HANDICAP GOLFER like Catherine Shenoy, 100 strokes in a day of golf may be nothing to crow about, but 100 holes in a day—well, that's something to celebrate.

Shenoy, director of the MBA program at the School of Business, organized a golf marathon at Lawrence Country Club June 24 as part of a national effort by the nonprofit group Hundred Hole Hike to enlist golfers to walk 100 holes in a day to raise money for charity.

One of five golfers (including Pat Hoppa, b’04, g’05) to complete the five-and-a-half-round challenge, Shenoy teed off at 5:30 a.m and tapped in her last putt at 7 p.m. She walked 33 miles on the club's hilly course, tallying 500-some strokes and several painful blisters.

"I just kind of limped through the last 18 holes," Shenoy says, "and for a couple of days after."

Business school professors took shifts caddying, and staff from Douglas County CASA and Dazzlers Christian Dance—recipients of the more than $20,000 raised by the event—came out to support the golfers, as did homeowners on the course.

"People gave us treats and cheered us on, and one guy brought us potato soup," Shenoy says. Well-wishers walked the last 18 holes with her and golfing partner Kristen Samp, providing a much-needed mental boost—and a helping hand.

"It really helped," Shenoy says of the impromptu gallery. "By that time, it was hard to bend over to pick the ball out of the cup."

Hot Meatballs Now

The Basil Leaf Cafe has made it big—moving from a Sixth Street gas station to roomier digs on a famous stretch of Ninth Street. We cheer the local cafe’s self-proclaimed “grand exit from the Miller Mart,” because the Basil guys serve huge portions of some of the best Italian food in town (Penne Abruzzi: game changer) and, now that it’s headed for a prime, central Lawrence location, the cafe will be a thrilling addition to the campus neighborhood’s food scene.

But here’s the rub: When the University Daily Kansan reported the news in its June 10 issue, it described Basil Leaf’s future site simply as “616 W. Ninth St.,” never once referring to it as the former home of Joe’s Bakery, a late-night mecca for generations of Jayhawks who toted home grease-soaked white paper bags filled with gooey glazed doughnuts, unusual sandwiches and tiny cartons of milk. Then came the chilling realization: “Hot Donuts Now,” “egg salad on white” and “torpedo” mean absolutely nothing to today’s students.

Joe’s closed in fall 2007, when current KU seniors were sophomores in high school and freshmen were squeaky little seventh graders. The hot-and-delicious tradition is, we’re forced to concede, a goner, and this time for good.

Alas, only one question remains: Who’s up for a Tortellini Cordon Bleu run?
love story

It has always been the oddest little contraption, a sort of Hobbit garage peeking out from the west-facing slope along Mississippi Street, just north of the Kansas Union. Not attached to a particular home and never explaining itself by way of, say, being used for something, the tiny structure with a weathered wooden door was for decades prime graffiti canvas.

Until, that is, a few years ago, when the door was inexplicably painted red, which was shortly followed by what proved to be a minor act of vandalism so delicate and sweet that it became a campus icon: “love,” spray-painted in black script. The “love garage” became a favored spot for campus couples to grab phone-camera snapshots and even official engagement and wedding photos, and unfailingly induced quick smiles from passersby.

And then, sometime around Commencement, some tasteless troglodyte painted a “G” in front of “love,” giving us the “Glove garage,” and soon thereafter somebody painted the door blue with “Risk for Adventure” scrawled in white. The changes sparked a story in the Lawrence Journal-World, in which the garage’s owner explained its history and a former student now in California claimed to have painted the “love,” and, in the process, entirely deflated what was once a charming little mystery.

Seems the poets were right all along: “love” can be found in the most unexpected of places, and all too often is all too fleeting.

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Monarch minuet

As a girl, Gwynedd Vetter-Drusch had a memorable encounter with monarch butterflies: Seeing a tree covered with the brilliant orange migrants, she bent a branch down and let it spring gently back. “Two hundred monarchs flew in the air all around me,” Vetter-Drusch recalls. “That launched my interest in their migration and what extraordinary creatures they are.”

A decade later the 22-year-old New York City ballerina-turned-actress read a New York Times story about declines in the monarch migration that quoted Orley “Chip” Taylor, director of KU’s Monarch Watch. Inspired by his call to action, she decided to create a film and photo campaign, “Moving for Monarchs,” to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and their precarious plight. She visited campus during National Pollinator Week in June to be filmed and photographed dancing in the conservation program’s butterfly garden wearing silk monarch wings.

Vetter-Drusch hopes the project—which “explores the dance of life that is pollination”—inspires people to heed Taylor’s call to make the planting of milkweed and nectar plants that sustain monarchs a national priority.

“By using dance, film and photography we hope to reach a broader range of people and help them understand they can take concrete action by planting milkweed and pollinator gardens,” Vetter-Drusch says. “One person, one seed, one garden can make such a big impact.”

Call it the butterfly effect.
New admissions recruiters make KU’s presence known in key regional markets

By the time freshmen in the Class of 2017 found their way to classes in late August, the Office of Admissions already had set its sights on prospective members of the Class of 2018. To bolster recruitment leading up to the Nov. 1 application deadline, six new regional representatives set up shop this summer in key territories, including traditional KU strongholds and promising new areas, as part of a pilot project funded by KU Endowment.

“We went from two regional reps to eight in three months,” says Lisa Pinaumonti Kress, g’98, director of admissions, who with her team hired representatives to recruit students full time in southern California, Colorado, Minnesota, the Mid-Atlantic region, St. Louis and Chicago. In recent years, KU had dispatched full-time recruiters only in Texas and Chicago (a longtime KU hotbed where two representatives now cover the city and the suburbs).

Expanding KU’s reach is the latest step in a new era of recruitment that began three years ago with the arrival of Matt Melvin, vice provost for enrollment management. He led the effort to streamline the admissions process and offer four-year renewable scholarships, and he championed rigorous study of the competition and the markets for prospective students.

Because the growth of high school graduates in Kansas will be minimal over the next few years, KU needed to expand its strategy to meet recruitment goals, Kress says, and dispatching staff members to live in other cities will enable representatives to connect more often with prospective students. “We really can do more if we have representatives living in those communities and being a presence,” she says. “Before, even in the markets where we have a good pipeline, we were only there a couple of weeks in the year.”

The new strategy broadens KU’s reach in southern California, where increasing numbers of families are sending students to Kansas. Heidi Simon, g’00, associate director of freshman recruitment, says recent recruitment in California has paid off. “We have a great alumni base there, and those students are used to going places like KU, flagship universities in good college towns. We have seen growth in four or five years of 400 to 500 percent.”

Annie Frizzell, c’10, a member of the KU recruitment team, moved to San Diego this summer to recruit students in California. She says KU offers the appeal of “a quintessential college town and great community and environment. I’m a fan of getting out of your comfort zone and trying something new, and KU is a safe place to do that.”

Liz Sperbeck, j’12, a Minnesota native, works for KU admissions in Minneapolis and helps lead the alumni chapter for the Alumni Association. She recently surveyed local Jayhawks to enlist volunteers to help her recruit in area high schools. She vividly remembers her own visit to Lawrence as a prospective student. “The tour definitely sold me,” she recalls. “I withdrew my other applications. Walking on campus and meeting students and getting the true story made such a difference. I remember getting answers to my questions at KU, and they really made me feel at home.”

Simon emphasizes that the additional
out-of-state recruiters also will enhance efforts in Kansas, where eight admissions representatives travel to all Kansas counties. With additional staff members based in other regions, “we’re also able to cover Kansas in a way that will be even more beneficial, because now we have reps who will only focus on areas in Kansas.”

In fact, the fall recruitment season began with the annual Rock Chalk Roadshow Aug. 25-29 to five cities in Kansas. Elisa Zahn Krapcha, assistant director of freshman recruitment, was part of the traveling team. An admissions staff member since 2006, she recently moved from Lawrence to Colorado Springs, where she will recruit students from her home state and those in western Kansas. She also supervises her fellow regional recruiters through daily phone and online meetings. Krapcha, c’05, j’05, g’11, who graduated from Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., says her visit to Lawrence in 2001 convinced her to choose KU. “I recall the hospitality, and I was completely surprised at what the campus looked like. The visit was very personal, and that’s why I will pull out all the stops until we get the ideal visit scheduled for prospective students.”

As recruitment continues, Joy Larson Maxwell, c’03, j’03, director of legacy relations for the Alumni Association, will work with KU admissions staff to connect with prospective students and assist in recruitment. Alumni will receive emails about upcoming college fairs in their area, and the Association’s website, kualumni.org, will feature profiles of admissions representatives in Kansas and other states.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Calls of the wild
Push to digitize data about more than frog peeps and birdsong

Scientists who study the life of the planet spend big chunks of their professional lives in the field, gathering specimens and documenting their finds with field notes, photographs, audio recordings and other data. Much of it is cataloged in museums, where researchers must comb through massive collections—often in person—to find the information they need. KU’s Biodiversity Institute, the research institute that includes the Natural History Museum, has more than 8 million specimens of plants and animals collected worldwide.

Now two KU researchers are leading separate projects with a common theme: to take the data gathered in field studies and stored in museums and make it more easily accessible to researchers and the public via the Internet.

Rafe Brown, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator in charge of the herpetology division of the Biodiversity Institute, is helping lead a $200,000 effort funded by the National Science Foundation to digitize and archive thousands of field recordings of animal sounds. Andrew Short, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and an expert on aquatic beetles, is leading a project to build a richer understanding of water beetles by putting online not only data about where the beetles are found, but also photographs and field notes compiled by the researchers who found them.

Brown and his co-investigator on the NSF project, Mark Robbins, the institute’s collection manager in ornithology, will convert old recordings of frog and bird calls to digital files that can be downloaded on the Internet.

“In the past, if a researcher wanted to study the mating calls of a group of frogs,
they had to go to different museums around the country, sit down with curators and sift through drawers and drawers of cassette tapes to find the relevant recording,” says Brown, who has made many such trips himself. “Then they’d take it to another room, copy it and take the copy home for their research.”

Short’s project, CReAC (Collection Resources for Aquatic Coleoptera), also funded by the NSF, looks to broaden the information provided by online databases, which often include descriptions from specimen tags but little else. Short wants to build an online database that incorporates scans of biologists’ handwritten field notes and photographs, maps, and records of collection data. He has already scanned the field notes of Paul Spangler, a former Smithsonian Institution researcher—some 2,000 pages of additional information that provides a richer context for the specimens he gathered over a long career.

“You have a list of what he collected, but also water quality information, how deep the water was, the water temperature, plants that were in the water,” Short says. “You unlock a huge amount of information.”

That database not only increases the amount and types of data available, but also creates more seamless links among different kinds of data to allow researchers to gain a richer, more holistic understanding of species, he notes.

“CReAC was designed with the needs of researchers in mind, not just collections,” Short says. “It is meant to be a tool to explore and visualize those collections—geographically, temporally, ecologically—to address research questions or uncover previously unknown patterns.”

Both projects are examples of how natural history museums are expanding their role and shifting their mission in the Internet Age.

“Natural history collections are becoming increasingly global, not only in what they hold but how they are contributed to and how they are accessed by researchers and the public,” Brown says. He points to devoted birdwatchers who know as much or more about birdsong than some professional ornithologists as a reason to encourage public access to museum databases. “Museums have to change and are changing how they go about studying the natural world, because they are not just basements full of objects anymore; now they are incredible sources of data.”

The grants are just two of several projects that bring specimen data into the digital realm at the institute, which also created a software program, Specify, that manages museum holdings online. Specify holds tens of millions of records and is used by 475 biodiversity collections worldwide. Last month KU’s entomology department marked the capture of its 1 millionth Specify record, out of 5 million specimens in its collection.

“For 15 years, it’s been a priority at the Biodiversity Institute to bring this enormous volume of essential data on the planet’s insects into currency for science and society,” says Leonard Krishtalka, director of the institute. “Serving the data on the web paves the way for powerful research and knowledge discovery in order to inform smart public policy.”

Convincing the public of the value of museum collections will be increasingly important, Brown predicts, and making the data accessible to all is a good way to
Milestones, money and other matters

A $10 million gift from the estate of David and Stata Norton Ringle, former dean of the School of Allied Health (now the School of Health Professions), will fund scholarships for students in health professions and provide money for library acquisitions and maintenance at the medical school and Lawrence campuses. Ringle was a faculty member and administrator at KU Medical Center from 1962 to 1990, and David was a research psychologist at Midwest Research Institute.

Ann Cudd began new duties as vice provost and dean of undergraduate studies Aug. 1. A University distinguished professor of philosophy and former associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Cudd has been a faculty member since 1988. She leads a unit that will oversee the launch of the KU Core, the University’s new undergraduate curriculum. Undergraduate Studies also includes the offices of experiential learning, first-year experience, undergraduate research and academic support services.

A $2 million gift from an anonymous alumna donor will establish KU’s first counseling psychology professorship. Established in 1955, the counseling psychology doctoral program uses a “scientist-practitioner” approach to train psychologists who can engage in a broad range of activities, from clinical treatment to academic research. The gift is the second largest in School of Education history.

Liquid launch

Donated installation showcases power of Google Earth

Aaron Blanchard knows what he’d do with the Liquid Galaxy setup donated to the School of Engineering if he were still a student: “Take advantage of the opportunity to try it out, and then walk away and think of something to build.”

As director of information technology for the school, Blanchard, e’00, g’09, oversees the cluster of seven linked computers that run Google Earth. The dedicated computing speed and bank of seven big screens arranged in a semicircle are meant to immerse users in a supercharged virtual flight around the globe, under the sea or into space. An ABC News report called it “Google Earth on Steroids.”

Installed in a computer lab in Eaton Hall since December, KU’s Liquid Galaxy is open to anyone who wants to grab the control puck and go for a spin. Thanks to a touch screen with preprogrammed destinations, it’s possible to visit the Mount Everest summit, the Eiffel Tower or a Mars landing site with the touch of a button. And the visual surround almost makes it feel like you’re really standing on the roof of the world.

Already Blanchard has heard professors and students brainstorming ideas for adding objects, basically plug-ins that can be created to work with the Earth browser. In fact, a software coder with Jayhawk spirit created a 3-D interior of Allen Field House that allows users to fly around the stands and sail over Naismith Court.

“I’m sure it’s going to inspire quite a few graduate students and who knows what the faculty might come up with,” Blanchard says. “I know there have been some interesting ideas bandied about.” Inspiration is the point.

Engineering student Thomas Dunn, a Roeland Park senior, explores the view from Mount Everest in Liquid Galaxy, the installation at the School of Engineering that uses clustered computers and a big-screen display to create a more intense Google Earth experience.

demonstrate that value. In a world where citizen scientists can teach professionals a thing or two, it’s also good science.

“There’s all this information and knowledge about evolution and natural history that will be fostered by having this data available to whoever wants to use it in the future,” Brown says. “There are all sorts of uses we can’t even conceive of yet.”
**Hilltopics**

“This school does a lot of bragging, if you look around,” Blanchard says, noting that students are encouraged to display project posters to explain to other students the research they are working on. “Hopefully someone sees that and goes to the student and says, 'I like what you're doing; I'd like to build on your project.'”

Liquid Galaxy, he believes, has the potential to be a high-tech version of these project posters: a spark to new ideas and creative partnerships.

Liquid Galaxy was created as part of Google’s 20 percent time policy, which lets employees spend up to 20 percent of their work week on special projects. The software company has installed Galaxy in its offices around the world and publishes instructions on its website for do-it-yourselfers who want to build their own. KU’s Liquid Galaxy was donated by Google vice president Brian McClendon, ’86, one of the creators of Google Earth, and his wife, Beth Ellyn.

The Liquid Galaxy in Eaton is also a potential recruiting tool—for the school and the company.

“It's something that shows students what being an engineer can do for them,” Blanchard says. “And it doesn’t hurt that it’s really, really cool.”

**UPDATE**

The Panorama rescue is underway. As reported in issue No. 1 (“Where the Wild Things Are”), the KU Biodiversity Institute had hoped to raise $100,000 to fund a restoration inspection of its beloved Panorama, parts of which are 120 years old. That money has been raised from private donors, and the assessment will begin with a preliminary visit in December, followed by the complete work in March and April. But there is much more to be done—the assessment will only judge the specimens and displays, not fix or restore—so now the fundraising begins in earnest:

Enter “Party in the Panorama,” a “science soiree for adults” set for Oct. 12 in the Natural History Museum. Tickets are $20 or $35 for a couple and can be purchased at kualumni.org/panoramaparty.

The fundraising party, which organizers hope will become an annual event, will also include a silent auction and music by Truckstop Honeymoon.

“The Party in the Panorama is both a hearty ‘thank you’ to our many friends and contributors,” says Biodiversity Institute director Leonard Krishtalka, “and a community ‘welcome back to the museum’—whether they remember the Panorama from childhood field trips or visit the museum regularly for the many programs we offer today.”

—Chris Lazzarino
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“Being Chancellors Club scholars gave us so many opportunities and definitely brought us closer together. Now we are engaged and will both be attending KU Medical Center this fall. We are truly grateful for everything the scholarship has given us.”

Glenn Dunne, microbiology 2013
Natasha Kothari, psychology 2013
Chancellors Club scholars

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will make the connection that it’s easier for officers to see them running red lights, and hopefully it will have a deterrent effect.”

Schrock says several cities outside of Kansas have already installed the systems, which are much cheaper to operate than red-light cameras that automatically ticket cars caught in an intersection after the light changes. “But no one has evaluated what kind of effect it has,” he says. “We are collecting data to determine what impact if any these things might have.”

Schrock says red-light cameras are not part of the “traffic safety toolbox” in Kansas, because the Legislature has not authorized their use. “Now we’ve found this tool, but the question is how well does it work?”

EDUCATION

Online course expansion starts with special education master’s

KU IS SET TO EXPAND online course offerings by adding 15 online graduate degree and certificate programs in the School of Education over the next three years.

The first classes, in the school’s No. 1 ranked special education master’s degree program, begin in January. Registration opened in August on the school’s website; the classes are designed for educators seeking graduate-level qualifications in the field, not initial teacher licensure. Students will complete 11 three-credit-hour courses to earn a master’s of science in education. The school plans to offer a certificate program in special education by next spring, and a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction by next August.

The classes are part of a deal with online-education company Everspring that became public in June. The company helps schools put entire programs online and splits tuition revenue with the schools instead of charging a fee. KU is Everspring’s first major client.

“The key is we are going to be offering KU quality,” says Rick Ginsberg, dean of the School of Education, “and special education—the highest ranked special education program in the country—is a very good example of that.”

Ginsberg says that all five departments in the school may offer online classes eventually. The project will also include research into how effective online classes are at KU and other schools.

“As a research university, we feel an imperative to make sure we’re also studying what we’re doing,” Ginsberg says. “We are going to set up a research agenda to examine what we’re doing here at KU, but also what else is out there to determine what really works well in online classes.”

Milestones, money and other matters

■ A $2 million gift from an alumnus who worked three jobs while earning his chemistry degree during the Great Depression will fund scholarships for students in nursing and physics. Gene Feaster, c’40, g’53, established two $500,000 scholarships and the $1 million Ida Feaster Professorship in the School of Nursing, which honors his late wife. Feaster invented “Superflab,” a gel that protects cancer patients undergoing radiation therapy. He lives in Leawood.

■ Steve Warren, c’74, g’75, PhD’77, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies and professor of applied behavioral science, received the 2013 Edgar Doll Award from the American Psychological Association Aug. 3. The award honors substantial contributions to the understanding of intellectual or developmental disabilities throughout a career. Warren’s research interests include early communication and language development and remediation, early intervention, prevention of mental retardation and prevention of child neglect.

■ A $1.3 million gift from the estate of John, j’51, and Mary Kaiser will bolster the John P. Kaiser Journalism Scholarship Fund. The Kaisers established the fund in 2005 with a $500,000 gift; the additional funding will double the number of journalism students the scholarship supports.

■ The School of Nursing in July was designated a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education by the National League of Nursing. Since the Washington, D.C., group created the designation nine years ago, only 20 schools have earned it.
Speed bracer

Hard-hitting Heeney’s rise to stardom mirrors his game: fast

Ben Heeney has a secret. KU’s junior middle linebacker was named second-team All-Big 12 as a sophomore, in his first season as a starter and, remarkably, his first as a linebacker. All of which is well known. But if he didn’t play linebacker before last season, what position did Heeney play?

Promise not to tell? Running back. Record-setting running back, in fact. And what do Heeney’s teammates think about their tough-guy man-in-the-middle carrying a running back pedigree?

“They don’t really know about it,” Heeney says. “A couple do. But not many. It’s not something I talk much about.”

He played only on special teams as a freshman, unable to crack the lineup on a 2-10 team. He was a strong safety for state-championship teams as a sophomore and junior at Hutchinson High, but, with the Salthawks short on runners, coach Randy Dreiling stationed Heeney at fullback for his senior year.

Result: school records in yards (2,083) and touchdowns (39) on 246 carries. He ran for a school-record 333 yards against Salina Central, and scored four touchdowns and rushed for more than 200 yards in the first half of a 42-14 drubbing of Derby, at which point the game was called off—not as a mercy ruling, but for lightning.

Though built like a rectangular chunk of muscle at 6-foot, 227 pounds—coach Charlie Weis calls him a “cave man,” and not only in reference to Heeney’s thick beard—Heeney can cover more turf than most middle linebackers. That’s how he recorded 112 tackles as a sophomore, third-most in the Big 12.

“When you put on our practice film,” says linebackers coach Clint Bowen, d’96, “you can point to Ben Heeney anytime and he’s guaranteed to be going 100 miles an hour. The guy doesn’t take a play off, and that’s very important to him. He is a football guy. He puts a lot of work into it, a lot of pride into it. If you watch us practice every day, like our kids see every rep, you can’t help but appreciate what the guy brings.”

It’s a good thing Heeney is a hard worker, because there is still work to be done. Even though the KU captain has been named to the Lombardi Award watch list, honoring the nation’s top linebackers, he’s still a newcomer to the position.

Bowen reviewed every defensive play of 2012 with Heeney, and had no trouble pointing out subtle improvements for Heeney to focus on making in 2013.

“He seems like a veteran to us, but in reality, he’s a one-season linebacker,” Bowen says. “There’s still a lot of little quick reads that he can make, all those little things we talk about. Are you continuing to play at [shoulder] pad level? Are you taking great first steps? Are you in position to get off a block a little faster? Did you read it quick enough?”

“There were definitely a lot of plays, as he and I looked back, that he missed. There was more production out there for him. There were more plays. A false step here or there that got him out of a tackle; there was a lot of that over the year.”

Junior tight end Jimmay Mundine once pulled Heeney aside after practice and pointed out the techniques he was using to manipulate Heeney into reacting to the play as the offense hoped he would, either by staying put and allowing a passing route to slip behind him or chasing a decoy receiver to open up the running lanes. Mundine says Heeney listened closely and said, “Yeah, that’s pretty true.”

The next time Mundine faced Heeney in seven-on-seven drills, Heeney threw moves on him that Mundine wasn’t expecting.
“Ben is a guy who’s just fast and out of control. And that’s a good thing at middle linebacker,” Mundine says. “One of the big things for Ben this year is that mentally, he knows a lot more about the little angles, about how guys are trying to lever him so he can’t get his hands on them. That’s going to allow him to mess up the timing of the route and get his hands on people.”

“Last year,” Heeney says, “I was going on instinct: see the ball and go make the play.”

This year, Heeney says, he’s more comfortable, and not only with himself. With Jake Heaps at quarterback, a cadre of explosive and tough running backs, and improved receivers, a better offense can and likely will make the defense better.

“I think it’s everything,” Heeney says of prospects for an improved offense. “Last year, a lot of times the defense would be on the field a lot. The offense would go three-and-out or turn the ball over, and it would kind of take the wind out of the defense’s sails. Like, ‘What are we making these stops for if we’re not going to get any points on the board?’ When the offense starts scoring a little bit more, it’s just going to make the defense that much more motivated to get some more stops and get some turnovers. They play hand-in-hand.”

It might be little-known among the players that the starting middle linebacker set rushing records as a senior at one of the state’s best high school programs, but it’s not lost on Heeney’s position coach.

Bowen isn’t sold that the experience gives Heeney any edge in reading a play developing in front of him, but he does concede that it’s unusual for a former high school safety and running back to find himself in the middle of a Big 12 defense, rather than at safety or outside linebacker.

“You think about [middle linebackers], some people have this image of some big guy standing in the middle, thumping heads all day,” Bowen says. “And he’s more than willing to do that. But the thing about him, when he takes off to run, he has legitimate speed.

“He can be really good. There’s not much football-wise that you don’t like about the guy. He’s tough as nails, gives unbelievable motor, is smart, and knows what he’s doing. The guy really is talented. That secret is already out.”

Next year is here

Volleyball hopes to build on 2012’s highs and lows

By nearly any measure, 2012 was the best season in the history of KU volleyball. At 26-7, the Jayhawks set school records for most wins and highest winning percentage. They advanced to the NCAA Tournament’s second round for just the third time in program history, and attendance in Allen Field House was the highest of any tournament site for the NCAAAs opening weekend.

But the remarkable season ended in tears. After KU fought to a 25-23 first-set victory over Wichita State, the Shockers stormed back to take the match, 3-1, and advance to the Sweet 16.

“As good as last year was, the thing that probably our team and coaching staff remember the most is how it ended,” says 16th-year coach Ray Bechard, 2012 Big 12 Coach of the Year. “That will add a little motivation, a little effort, to maybe do one more rep or one more lift to maybe extend our season a little longer this year.”

The Jayhawks return more than 80 percent of their offense from a 2012 team that was ranked among the Big 12 leaders in assists, blocks, digs and kills per set, as well as attack percentage and winning percentage. The seven-member senior class includes middle blocker Caroline Jarmoc, a second-team All-American; libero Brianne Riley, KU’s all-time digs leader; Big 12 assists leader Erin McNorton; and outside hitter Catherine Carmichael. Jarmoc, McNorton and junior outside hitter Sara McClinton were all named preseason All-Big 12.

“We’ve had expectations set by a senior class that understands how they want their careers here to end,” Bechard says. “Yes, that senior class had a great junior year, from a win-loss standpoint, but I think

Redshirt senior and second-team All-American Caroline Jarmoc leads a volleyball attack that returns more than 80 percent of its offense from last season.
they want to be remembered going out as a senior class in the right way.”

Though the Jayhawks finished third in the Big 12, they were two matches away from winning the conference. Had they reversed a five-set loss to eventual national champion Texas at home and a four-set loss at Baylor, the Jayhawks would have won the Big 12. It was that close.

“Volleyball certainly comes down to one or two plays in a close match,” Bechard says. “and maybe experience and hard work and preparation will help us to jump over that line a little bit.”

It’s a safe bet that every opponent will key on Jarmoc, who last year became the first Jayhawk to record 400 kills (424) and 150 blocks (157) in a season. Jarmoc says she is working to add variety to her offense by finding new ways to spread her attacks around the court, and she’s confident that any added pressure put on her will be an opportunity teammates will capitalize on.

“It’s not something I’m fearful of; it’s more of a motivator for me,” Jarmoc says. “It will allow me to improve, and I trust my teammates to help me carry the offensive load. I don’t see myself as the only attacker in the front.”

The Jayhawks benefit not only from returning top-flight talent, but also from the experience of playing together for years. The players appear to enjoy the sort of sincere unity that can launch a good team to a great season—and ultimately withstand the sort of match-swinging momentum that ended the 2012 season against underdog Wichita State.

“When you’re on a stage like that, it just wasn’t anything we had experience with,” McNorton says. “It was a kind of shock, almost. But now we know what to expect and we’re ready for it, so hopefully we’ll get that opportunity again.

“You could ask any of the 15 of us: Without a doubt, deep down inside, we know we can do something special this year.”

All-time digs leader Brianne Riley is one of seven seniors looking to improve on the Jayhawks’ record-setting 2012 season.
The parties start three hours prior to kickoff and include a buffet from Biggs BBQ or Salty Iguana, soft drinks and two drink coupons for those age 21 or older.

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The Folio Title Page in its "Proof" State
The year is 1964. The scene is a large office on the first floor of old Fraser Hall (now defunct) at the University of Kansas. The man sitting at his desk is framed in morning light and lawn by the campus behind him. His name is Professor Charlton Hinman and among the literary lessons I learned from him was that Shakespeare did not always observe the classical unities of time, place and (about to come) action. But yet...

The door to Professor Hinman’s office was usually closed; however, he had told his students they were welcome, just knock. We had developed a story about him (one among many) that he liked the flourishes that opening doors created. Yes, come in please, you would hear him say in a baritone not (yet) diminished by his smoking (was it a pipe, or cigarettes?). Yes, do come in and take a chair, he would say, and curiously enough, stand to greet you, as if you were more important because you were one of his students than was he, being your professor. I walk in and sit down.

In those days Professor Hinman taught only seminars, and the rude rumor was that he did so because he was a poor teacher in large lecture halls. Not that anyone I knew had ever taken a lecture course from him, nor did my friends know anyone, nor ... and so it went: campus folklore.

And it was also folklore that his celebrated seminar on Shakespeare’s tragedies was by invitation only. While this prerequisite had made its way to the gossip among the student writers drinking our tomato beers at the Gaslight Tavern just off campus, it has not stopped me from being in Professor Hinman’s office this morning because I had the impertinence to attend the first meeting of the seminar with an “Add” slip for him to sign. Which he did. As result, we are to talk about King Lear.

—Now, Mr. Day, is it? Professor Hinman says as he sits down, checks his appointment book, then gets out a single sheet of paper on which I had the week before typed three questions (Professor Hinman is to pick one) for me to address on my final exam toward the end of April. He studies the list, puffs his pipe (or takes a drag on a Camel), leans back, then forward.

—Mr Day, is it?
—Yes.
—Yes.
There is a phone on a table near the window behind him; it is going to ring.

By Robert Day

Archival photographs courtesy of Spencer Research Library
Among the stories about Professor Hinman was that he had been a bombardier in World War II (in one version, he was the bombardier on the Enola Gay), and it occurred to him later, when he was at the University of Virginia or Johns Hopkins (as a student, a professor? And we were never sure if there was an “s” on John or not), it occurred to him … that … what? Well, we were not sure what, but it had something to do with looking through the Norden bombsight, but instead of seeing Hiroshima, Professor Hinman was looking at Quartos or Folios, or First Quartos or First Folios or Bad Quartos—but to what purpose those of us at the Gaslight Tavern never quite understood. We did, however, understand he was a famous Shakespeare scholar of a special kind: a Textual Scholar. And again, we were not sure what that meant; only it must mean something about the footnotes he used. Remember, we were not only the kin of Falstaff at the Gaslight, we were trying to be writers at the expense of being English majors.

Then there was Professor Hinman’s wife, Mrs. Hinman. She had been a friend of Hemingway’s in Paris. She had known James Joyce. There were photographs of her (not that we had seen them) inside Shakespeare and Company, where she had surely met Professor Hinman. Maybe Professor Hinman knew Joyce. Or Ezra Pound. My private hope was that he had seen Josephine Baker dance.

In any case, Mrs. Hinman (she never had a first name to us) could be seen on campus, a milkmaid of a certain age (always wearing aquamarine) with a braid wrapped around the top of her head for a hairdo. She looked like an elegant version of Gertrude Stein. If anyone in Lawrence, Kansas, could have known Hemingway, Mrs. Hinman could have.

Still, those of us who drank at the Gaslight felt a bit sad for her. What must it be like for a woman who once walked up and down Boulevard Montparnasse stopping for a champagne cocktail at the Dome or the Select with Jake Barnes or Lady Brett Ashley; a woman who probably bought and borrowed books from Sylvia Beach, but who we could see walking along Jayhawk Boulevard past the Gaslight to stop next door at the Abingdon Book Shop—not a bad bookstore, to be sure, but not Shakespeare and Company. One of us (I won’t say who) thought we might invite her in for a red beer; it was not an invitation we would have made to Professor Hinman, but to Mrs. Hinman it seemed possible.

There were 12 of us admitted into the seminar on Shakespeare’s tragedies (well, 11 plus one gate crasher). My colleagues were very serious graduate students, some of them well on their way to PhDs; one had just been signed to a three-year contract to teach at a Great East Coast University.

During the semester each of us was to present a seminar paper which was mimeographed (it was that long ago) and handed out the week before so that the following week the author could be questioned (“grilled” was more like it, when it came to the graduate students—but never Professor Hinman). Mine had been on “false hope” in King Lear. It, alone among all the papers presented, was bereft of footnotes. (I didn’t quite know how to do footnotes; also, I had contracted a chronic aversion to literary research.) But I wrote well enough to be amusing:

“It would be as if a Western Kansas rancher fenced off his High Plains free-range pastures and cut out 10 sections for one daughter, 10 sections for another, and 10 sections for a third. That’s a lot of fencing, and even (maybe especially) among siblings, it will most surely make for spite fences and not good neighbors.”

Then there was my take on Mrs. Lear: “Where in all this family food fight is Queen Lear? She’d put a stop to it. ‘Just drop dead and leave me the ranch,’ you can hear her say to her old fool of a husband. But no. Hers is an entrance blocked by a bear of a bard who doesn’t want the trouble. Very convenient.”

—I see there are no footnotes to document these bizarre opinions, the graduate student with the three-year contract said. Professor Hinman smiled.

Among the other un-footnoted bizarre opinions I expressed was that “… what woman in her right mind would want 50 hunters traipsing through her kitchen on opening day of pheasant...
season—or any day for that matter? When you give up the home place, you’d better buy a ranch house in Kansas City and take up golf. And aren’t we being a bit editorial with the name ‘Goneril?’ We all took Health in high school: Goneril-Gonorrhea. We get it. Clap, clap, clap.”

At some point I did get around to the thesis of my title: “Abandon Hope All You Who Enter Lear,” with examples: that (Lear hopes) Cordelia will win the flattery contest with her sisters; that Gloucester will smell the moral rot of Edmund; that Kent will (we really hope) bring Lear to his senses; and on and on until the end when there is this from Lear himself: “Lend me a looking glass. / If that her breath will mist or stain the stone, / why then

... it had something to do with looking through the Norden bombsight, but instead of seeing Hiroshima, Professor Hinman was looking at Quartos or Folios ...


she lives.” All of it quoted, but none of it footnoted, nor cited by act and scene.

When my final draft was returned, Professor Hinman noted (among more than a few corrections in my appalling spelling) that the word “expectations” might have been a better choice than “hope.” But he also observed that “Abandon Expectations All You Who Enter Lear” did not have quite the right ring. Even then, I understood sly irony, and was flattered.

On my exit through the door of the seminar room the night I read my paper, Professor Hinman’s smile turned to a small pat on my back. A man forbidden by his calling to use ibid or ff was perhaps pleased—or at least amused—at my scholarly irreverence. That’s the twist we put to it over beers at the Gaslight late into the night.

—Mr Day, is it? Professor Hinman says again looking at my sheet of paper.
—Yes.
—Yours are very curious topics: But yet … ; Something does come of nothing; and There is cause in nature that makes these hearts hard.

Professor Hinman pauses, then says:
—I think you have it wrong. Not that I don’t catch your change of wording from ”Is there no …” to “There is …” in order to make a point, but I think it ends with … “hard hearts?” Not “… hearts hard.”

I am about to ask Professor Hinman if he had caught my mistake (which I had not caught) because of his training as a

Textual Scholar, when the phone on the table behind him rings. He looks at it as if it is a contrivance designed to interrupt his concentration.

—Hello, Charlton Hinman. How may I help you? … No, it is not too early here. You have reached me at my office. … In Kansas. At the University. … Yes, I suppose it must seem very remote. I am a professor here. In fact I am just now meeting with a student. No, not Virginia. Kansas.

—/T_hat is very kind of you, says Professor Hinman. He looks out the window onto the lawn while listening (I suppose) more intently to the voice from London. It was a very long distance for a call to travel in those days.

—Again, you are very kind to say so, but I am afraid I must decline. I want to make some corrections to a recently published book of mine for a possible second edition. But more important, I am this spring teaching a number of good students who deserve my attention. Then there are exams to read the end of the month … No. Not in Maryland. In Kansas. Yes. We are reading the tragedies. In fact, I have a student in my office now with some curious topics for his final exam.

Professor Hinman smiles at me, then, after a long pause, says:
—Well, again, thank you, but I’m afraid not. Such an “appreciation,” as you call it, would require … Another long pause.

—Alas, I am not the kind who “dashes things off.” I would be pleased to make a recommendation if you like. Just a moment while I concentrate my thoughts. …

1. We had concluded Textual Scholars did not use ibid or ff.
2. Ibid.
Charton Hinman invented the Hinman collator long before he joined the KU faculty in 1960. "It was his work as an officer in the United States Navy ... that led to his invention of the marvelous collating instrument that now bears his name," wrote Shakespeare Quarterly editor John Andrews after Hinman’s death in 1977. "Comparing aerial reconnaissance photographs for evidence of bomb damage in the Pacific Islands during World War II, Hinman realized how valuable it would be to have a machine that would superimpose two corresponding images and, by means of alternating flashes of light, distinguish any variations between one image and another." The collator allowed him to analyze the many versions of the First Folio—a collection of Shakespeare’s plays published in 1623, just seven years after the Bard’s death—and determine which pages were true to Shakespeare’s text and which were bastardized versions caused by printers’ errors. Hinman used his findings to select the most accurate pages from around 80 First Folios owned by the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and publish them in 1968 as The Norton Facsimile of the First Folio of Shakespeare. The London Times acclaimed Hinman’s work “the most important and spectacular contribution to English studies this century.” The Hinman collator acquired by KU in the early 1960s and now stored in KU’s Spencer Research Library was one of a half-dozen then in existence. —The Editors
Yes. You might ask Mr. O.B. Hardison of the Folger Library in Washington or Professor Fredson Bowers at the University of Virginia. … You’re very welcome.

Professor Hinman puts down the phone and after a moment says:
—Imagine wanting a "dash-off essay" on the meaning of Shakespeare 400 years out. And in two weeks. What do you think, Mr. Day?
Not knowing who had called, I thought I might give it a try myself since Professor Hinman didn’t. Most of my writing for the English department was dash-off, and usually the night before. With two weeks’ notice, I could read many of the plays and get Monarch Notes for the rest.

—I imagine, Professor Hinman says again.
—Who wants the essay? I ask.
—The Times Literary Supplement in London, he says. They seem not to know the location of Kansas. And I suspect they think there are Indians in wigwams on the lawn. How provincial.
He looks at the phone and shakes his head slightly.
—Is it true, sir, that you were a bombardier during the war? I ask.

Professor Hinman laughs. To this day I remember it as a deep, prolonged laugh. He puts his right hand over his mouth and touches the top of his forehead with his fingertips, tapping it. He turns to look out the window at the wigwams on the lawn. At least I had not asked if he had dropped the bomb on Hiroshima.
—Well, he says at last. I had not heard that one. Very odd these stories that go around the students. I wonder what you say of Jane? Don’t tell me. But since you asked, no, I was not a bombardier, but I was in the Navy and knew about the attempt to collate reconnaissance photographs which I thought might work to collate Shakespeare’s plays. Do you know about collating, Mr. Day? Mr. Day does not.
—Well, if you admire a writer as much as I admire Shakespeare, you want to know what words he used and not what, by a printer’s accident, was substituted. It would be later the same problem with Joyce.
—James Joyce?

I am about to ask if he had seen Josephine Baker dance when Professor Hinman continues, explaining in some detail how he came to build the Hinman collator (out of scraps and spare parts), how it works (by some optical magic), what it does (find words that “jiggle”), and that there is one in the basement of Watson Library, where our seminar meets.
—Maybe I should take our class downstairs to see it one evening, Professor Hinman says, more to himself, I thought, than to me. Then again, looking at the lawn outside his window, he continues: We had such a lawn at the University of Virginia where I was a graduate student. Lovely.
Turning back to me he says:
—We need to talk about your topics, Mr. Day. I am curious about “But yet … .” What do you have in mind?
—I noticed it twice in Lear, I say. Toward the beginning Cordelia uses it about her father, and later Lear uses it about Cordelia. I can’t quote the passages, but I wrote them in my notebook.
—“But yet, alas, stood I within his grace.” Professor Hinman says.
—Yes, I say.
—And “But yet thou art my flesh, my blood, my daughter.”
—Yes.
—You, Mr. Day, have committed scholarship.
I was hoping the Falstaffs at the Gaslight wouldn’t hold Professor Hinman’s observation against me, but I wasn’t sure.
—I think “But yet … .” is your best choice, says Professor Hinman looking again at my list. Yes, by far the best because it will be the most difficult to expand into a coherent essay, and I take it from your previous work you rather like difficult topics.
He folds my list in half and hands it to me.
—I think, Professor Hinman says again.
—Who wants the essay? I ask.
—The Times Literary Supplement in London, he says. They seem not to know the location of Kansas. And I suspect they think there are Indians in wigwams on the lawn. How provincial.
He looks at the phone and shakes his head slightly.
—I am about to be an exit pursued by a professor’s standing up. But before he says “Come in, please,” he says:
—My colleagues in the English department tell me you are a writer. What an amusing idea you have about textual scholarship. You must use it in a story sometime. Come in, please.
On my way out I pass the graduate student with the three-year contract who enters with a flourish but—seeing me—no smile.
Paging Dr. Girod

Popular surgeon and administrator answers the call again at KU Medical Center, this time as executive vice chancellor.
Twelve minutes into what was likely the most important public presentation of Douglas Girod’s distinguished and varied career as a head and neck surgeon and medical center administrator, the unthinkable happened: a pager sounded.

His colleagues on Nov. 20 filled a Kansas City lecture room to hear Girod’s “town hall” speech, in which he made his case for why Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little should name him the next executive vice chancellor for KU Medical Center, one of the most critical leadership positions at the University. Since arriving at KU in 1994, Girod had established himself as a gifted surgeon and popular administrator with a reputation for intelligent, compassionate and fair-minded leadership.

He was—and is—one of the good guys, so Girod was talking to a friendly audience; they wanted him to do well. Regardless, top-level higher education leadership positions are rarely filled from within, so Girod still had to lay out a strong argument for why he was the man for the job. His presentation was crisp, informative, even humorous, and it was flowing along about as smoothly as these things can when somebody’s beeper beeped.

Girod was in the midst of explaining growth in residencies and fellowships in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, the department he had chaired for more than a decade, when the electronic chirping forced him to halt. The room went still for an awkward moment, everyone wondering who among them had forgotten to silence their ever-present pagers, when Girod pushed a hand inside his suit jacket and reached toward his hip.

“That isn’t really mine, is it?” he asked in that exasperated tone that both admits minor transgressions and begs forgiveness. Pulling the device from his belt, Girod answered his question: “It is.” He chuckled, turned to his audience and, with an endearing grin, cracked, “The disadvantage of the internal candidate, right?”

None but the decision-maker really knows how jobs are won, but the moment certainly didn’t hurt Doug Girod.

In those unscripted 10 seconds, he showed his ability to think quickly, react appropriately, and, critically for a job that would require endless rounds of public outreach, win over a room. He paused long enough to read the beeper’s screen, making sure there was not a critical emergency, and slipped effortlessly back into his talk.

Those unscripted 10 seconds also reminded everybody in the room, and those watching the video feed at School of Medicine outposts in Wichita and Salina, that when it comes to the enormous task of delivering patient care, medical education and life-saving research at KU Medical Center, few are in any greater demand than the man standing before them, asking for the opportunity to do even more.

In the Salem, Ore., of Doug Girod’s youth, where he zoomed around logging roads on dirt bikes and funded his passion for speed by working in motorcycle shops, lumber was king. By the time he graduated high school, the local economy had collapsed. “Lumber,” he recalls, “was no longer king.” The mid-1970s hatched the emergence of a new age in electronics and computing, and Girod wanted in on the action. “I had a four-function calculator,” he says with a laugh. “It was mind-boggling.”

He headed to Silicon Valley, enrolled in night school at a local junior college with an eye toward becoming an electrical engineer, and went hunting for work. For four less-than-glorious days, he assembled Pong video game consoles, but even a break room filled with Atari games was not enough to hold his interest, so Girod moved on, relishing the opportunities he saw in a place that was literally inventing itself by the day. By the time he was 20, Girod was running the manufacturing department for a startup company with about 40 employees.

by Chris Lazzarino | portraits by Steve Puppe
"I think he went through a period in his life, early on, when he sort of got some bugs out, got some things out of his system," says Mark Richardson, dean of the school of medicine at Oregon Health & Science University and a mentor during Girod’s residency at the University of Washington. "He definitely brought a level of maturity with him that I clearly recognized."

Girod jokes that his wife, Susan, whom he met on a blind date arranged by a co-worker shortly after arriving in California, reminded him for years about how long it took him to earn a salary better than the one he left behind as a manufacturing supervisor back when 20-megabyte memory drives the size of a pizza platter sold for $10,000. But despite its allure, Silicon Valley never convinced Girod to embrace the electronics revolution; as much as he liked science and math, being stuck in an office working on computer designs was not for him.

Around the same time that he first started thinking he might be an electrical engineer, back when he was racing motorcycles across Oregon’s expansive back country, Girod had also considered medicine, but chafed at the prospect of dedicating himself to so many years of education.

“The beautiful thing about working for a living is, school starts to look a lot more attractive,” he says. “Suddenly it occurred to me that school wasn’t so bad after all.”

Girod zoomed through junior college and completed his chemistry degree at the University of California, Davis. He enrolled in medical school at the University of California, San Francisco, finding himself in yet another nexus of modern America: the then-unnamed HIV-AIDS epidemic tearing through the San Francisco Bay area. Half of all patients at San Francisco General, where Girod trained, had AIDS symptoms. “It was,” he says, “a fascinating time in public health.”

Girod joined the U.S. Navy scholarship program during his second year at UC San Francisco and graduated as both a medical doctor and Navy lieutenant. He deferred his three-year military commitment for a postgraduate residency at the University of Washington in Seattle, where he studied otolaryngology and won National Institutes of Health funding for audiology research.

“When Doug was part of the training program,” Richardson recalls, “we all wanted him [in their programs] and we all tried to give him confidence about his leadership capacity.”

Just months before he completed his residency, the U.S. launched its first war against Iraq and Girod was summoned to active duty. The Navy, however, reconsidered and chose not to activate its medical residents, so Girod remained in Seattle and completed his medical education. He then reported to his long-delayed officer training, after which he was posted to the Navy’s teaching hospital in Oakland, Calif.

The end of his three-year commitment coincided with base and force reductions, so Girod left the military and in 1994 began looking elsewhere. He secured job offers in Minnesota, Iowa, Alabama and even at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, but chose KU.

There was nobody in the region doing his specialty, micro-vascular reconstruction of tissues and bones for head-and-neck cancer patients. (Girod says that while the number of hospitals performing the surgeries has doubled since 1994, to about 40, KU remains the only such provider between St. Louis and Denver.)

He and his wife liked what they saw in the local schools, and appreciated the monetary boost available to their young family in Kansas City, in contrast with the financial burdens of California or the East Coast. KU’s winning pitch has stayed with Girod as he continues to lure top-flight surgeons and researchers to Wyandotte and Johnson counties.

“You know what to sell, and it gives you some credibility in saying why you should be here,” Girod says. “And, from my perspective, we make sure that when candidates come to interview, they see not just the institution and the job and the partners and the environment, all of which are a big plus, but also the standard of living that you can offer a faculty member and their family.”

At KU, Girod established himself as a star physician and surgeon as well as a valued faculty colleague and administrator. A complete listing of his leadership positions runs two single-spaced pages, and even a scant listing of
A year after his 1994 arrival, Girod was named vice chair of the department of otolaryngology-head and neck, and rose to interim chair in 2000 and permanent chair in 2002. He was named senior associate dean for clinical affairs in 2008, and previously served as physician in chief of KU Cancer Center and chaired the clinical strategic planning committee for the School of Medicine. He led three national otolaryngological organizations and published 65 manuscripts or book chapters. He joined the board of University of Kansas Physicians in 1997, and was treasurer from 2002 to ’09. Girod was a key player in the creation of the KU Hospital Authority, lending his expertise in both medicine and finance to help the hospital and medical center forge bright futures as an alliance of two organizations.

“He’s the hardest working person that I know,” says daughter Callie, 24, a nurse at KU Medical Center who tends to ear-nose-throat, neurology and progressive-care patients. “He’s always looking to improve himself, always looking to improve the department. He told me that throughout his career he would set personal goals for himself, and then when he would meet those goals he would set more goals for himself, and then he’d meet those and set more goals. And he said, ’You know, it got to the point where I set these goals and I met them and our department was in a great spot and my career was in a great spot and I was ready to move on and take the next step and meet higher goals.’

“He needed a different career path to set goals that he wanted.”

With extensive experience and leadership in organizational structure, finance, education, research, philanthropy, outreach, community engagement, legislative outreach, and an elite reputation for delivering the best health care possible, Girod overcame higher education’s traditional reluctance against hiring in-house candidates for boss jobs and proved himself the strongest candidate to be the next executive vice chancellor.

“Dr. Girod has been a steadfast leader during a time of profound transformation at the University of Kansas Medical Center,” says Chancellor Gray-Little, “playing crucial roles over the last several years as we saw dynamic growth in all of our educational, clinical, research and community engagement missions.

“He is enormously respected by his colleagues, his students, his fellow physicians and our community, and his vision will undoubtedly lead to more significant transformation in the years ahead.”

Girod’s hiring as executive vice chancellor represents a national change in attitudes, says Oregon’s Mark Richardson, as immensely complex organizations like academic medical centers begin to trust and develop their own future leaders rather than reflexively looking elsewhere for saviors.

“If you’ve got somebody who has the trust of the faculty and who has the grasp of the culture of the institution, you automatically gain the 12 or 18 months that it would take for an individual to gain knowledge, and Lord knows how long it would take to gain the trust of the faculty and the other administrators within the university,” Richardson says. “So yes, if you have a talented individual, it’s a huge advantage.”

Girod concedes that his new job came at a high price: Despite an administrative workload that seems nearly superhuman, he always maintained a half-time clinical practice. Becoming executive vice chancellor brought that nearly to a halt. He still sees his long-term patients for a half-day a week and performs surgery as needed, perhaps once every other week or so, but otherwise, Girod is now a full-time administrator.

“That’s a pretty big decision when you spend your whole adult life training for something that you’ve become reasonably proficient at, to think about hanging that up and focusing in a different area,” he says. “But the people at KU are great. It’s a great team. The leadership is amazing, and that’s the advantage of being an internal candidate: You know all that, and it’s not always true as an external candidate. You know who the players are, and I had great confidence in the players. So that made that part of the decision a lot easier; it was a little tougher to give up the other part.”

The Girods’ eldest daughter, Katelyn, 28, a Head Start educator for the KU-affiliated Project Eagle, in Wyandotte County, says that when her father decided to pursue KUMC’s top job, everyone in the family asked him how he felt about giving up his practice. She says the joy he finds in the snippets of time he still finds for patients is evidence of his sacrifice, but she’s also confident that he sees it as worthwhile.

“The way he’s spun it to me and to the family is, the reason he’s in academic medicine is because there’s always something else to pursue, there’s always a direction to be moving in, there’s always growth to be had, both personally but also for the institution you’re working with,” she says. “That’s what appealed to him about academic medicine in the first place, so I see this step in his career as an extension of that.”

If he thought micro-vascular facial reconstruction was complex, intricate and difficult to master, the new executive vice chancellor might have found its equal in wrangling with the Kansas Legislature. A particularly cantankerous spring in Topeka resulted in $48.7 million in cuts for higher education in Kansas over two years, including $5.26 million for KU’s Lawrence and Edwards campuses and $8.27 million at KU Medical Center.

Girod has promised no across-the-board cuts at the medical center, but the budget setbacks mean 20 fewer graduate and advanced-practice nursing students, five fewer health professions students, four fewer residencies and elimination of two slots in the MD/PhD program. Employees, including faculty, residents and fellows, will receive no pay raises for the sixth time in seven years. Tuition rose 5 percent.

The state continued its $5 million in annual funding of the KU Cancer Center, much of which supports the Midwest Cancer Alliance, built across 19 hospitals statewide, and, somewhat oddly, authorized $2 million over two years for a mandated stem-cell research center, which KU prizes but did not request.
“He’s the hardest working person that I know. He’s always looking to improve himself.”

—Callie Girod

“We wanted to build the lab that they funded for us, so we’re pretty excited about it,” Girod says. “Given our priorities, that’s not how it would have played out, but it is useful and helpful.”

The next site visit for KU Cancer Center, which last year achieved hard-won official designation by the National Cancer Institute, commences in four years; while KU yearns to achieve an even-more prestigious designation as a comprehensive cancer center, the immediate goal is to maintain its current designation. Girod says that while losing $4.2 million from the KUMC budget for the current fiscal year and $4 million next year can be expected to crimp the cancer center in the same manner as every department on campus, he is not particularly concerned that the cutbacks are an imminent threat to NCI designation.

Of immediate concern is the October visit by the School of Medicine’s official accreditation organization. Preparation for that visit has been one of Girod’s pressing tasks since Gray-Little announced his promotion Dec. 26, and Girod had dearly hoped that the centerpiece of KU’s presentation would be an authorized and funded plan to construct a $75 million health education building.

Girod, the chancellor and the Kansas Board of Regents had hoped the Legislature would authorize $15 million for the project and also remit to KU Medical Center $25 million in federal payroll tax refunds, delivered this year from the federal government to state coffers after a decade of uncertainty in the 1990s over how to classify medical residents. (The rest of the project would be funded with $20 million from private giving and $15 million from tuition and other KUMC sources.)

Instead, the state chose to allocate only $1 million for ongoing planning, and the $25 million FICA refund remains up for grabs. The chancellor has already told the Regents that both the FICA refund and the health education building remain priorities for KU; the Regents’ response, detailing what the board will propose to the governor and Legislature for 2014, is expected to be announced in early fall.

The health education building is the hottest priority at KU Medical Center because it represents the very future of health care education. Current medical education at KU consists of about 75 percent lectures and 25 percent small-group, active learning; that’s now seen as an outdated model that does little to prepare new doctors and nurses for the collaborative, interdisciplinary work environment that will be their professional reality.

“We need to invert that relationship,” Girod says of the current 75/25 split. “We know it’s the right thing to do, we know it’s the appropriate direction to go, and I think we frankly could be national leaders in that, but we also know the expectation is going to be there from our accrediting bodies that we are headed that way.”

Girod warns that with antiquated facilities and an out-of-date educational platform, the School of Medicine and other educational components within KU Medical Center will lose top students and will be unable to increase class sizes to meet growing needs for doctors, nurses and other caregivers across the state.

“It is a little ironic that they want you to do more, they want you to raise your rankings and they want you to meet the demands of their communities, and then turn around and do this to you,” Girod says of lawmakers’ refusal to move ahead on the health education building. “But the realities are two-fold: One is, they created an $800 million deficit for themselves; the second was really a lack of understanding of who we are and what we do.”

He explains that some lawmakers view the cuts not as 4 percent of the medical center’s budget but rather as a relatively painless 1 percent. That’s because, Girod says, some lawmakers don’t recognize distinctions among the hospital budget that pays clinical faculty, federal research funding that must be used only for research, and KU Endowment funds pegged for specific projects.

“It’s less than 1 percent for the total budget,” Girod says, “but not for the things we need to use those dollars for. In all honestly, we still have a lot of work to do with those folks. We are working hard to meet with people and help them understand us better, run through budgets with them, and explain why we can’t use NIH dollars to pay for student education, those sorts of things.

“No question it’s a big learning curve for me. Not only understanding how things work, but really understanding the importance of doing a better job of telling our story. It’s not just a story of ‘Look at the wonderful things we’ve done.’ It’s a story of what our core missions are, this is how we meet them, and this is how we utilize the resources we have.”

A particular sore point for Girod is hearing charges that “your spending is out of control” because the medical center has increased its research funding.

“Well, you know, we should want to double that. We shouldn’t want to cut it,” Girod says. “That brings jobs. It brings money to the state that otherwise wouldn’t be in the state. And it brings talent. It’s about helping people understand what we’ve done in the face of fewer state dollars. If you look at the return on investment, we’re leveraging those dollars better than we ever, ever have.

“That should be a positive. Not a negative.”

At the time of her 2012 departure, Barbara Atkinson had been both executive vice chancellor and executive dean of the School of Medicine. Chancellor Gray-Little chose to return to KU’s traditional structure separating those two leadership posts. Now that Girod is in place as executive vice chancellor, one of his primary tasks is identifying the next dean of medicine.
The first half-dozen candidates began visiting KUMC in August. Girod hopes to bring three finalists back in October and hire a dean by Nov. 1.

Girod is eager for a new leadership partner, not to lessen his burdens, but because there is important work to be done, quickly and well.

And whatever the stresses, none within his inner circles are concerned that Girod could find himself overwhelmed. Throughout his career, while establishing himself as a nationally recognized surgeon and a respected administrator willing to tackle thankless chores with zeal, he has maintained his good humor, prized relationships and free-time passions—all the stuff that makes life grand.

Though he recently gave up sports car racing as a tad too dangerous and expensive, Girod is still a Porsche enthusiast and participates in rally events at Kansas Speedway and team-structured endurance racing. He and his family have long cherished annual ski trips to New Mexico. Fly fishing is the latest hobby to capture his attention, and he and his son, Jimmy, ‘13, chart for themselves elaborate motorcycle roadtrips.

“It’s always been extremely impressive to me, and it still is to this day,” Callie Girod says of her father’s ability to maintain a balanced life. “He’s so passionate about his career, and the job that he has and the work that he does and his patients, but he’s also passionate about his family. The two have never gotten in the way of each other, and I have no idea how he’s done that. It blows my mind, but he’s done it. He’s succeeded.

“Our family is extremely close, and the foundation of that is our parents. They’re an incredible team. Their marriage is something that I strive to have in my marriage, whenever that day comes.”

Katelyn Girod says her father “really wants to hear what you have to say” and that he “was always looking to meet me where I was at” rather than impose his own goals and ambitions on her life. Three decades ago, Dr. Mark Richardson saw in young Dr. Doug Girod “somebody who is fun to be around,” and now knows him as a leader who “creates an environment where his faculty feel supported in their endeavors.”

“The most important thing about this,” Richardson says, “is that it wasn’t about Doug. It was about the department and the individuals who constituted the department, and his ability to make sure they were developing professionally and that they were moving ahead together as a department to become better as a unit. I think he’s bringing to the table that very same skill for the University as a whole.”

Katelyn Girod says her interest in helping families build strong educational foundations for their children grew in part from the many medical mission trips she made to Guatemala with her father, whose annual itineraries also include Mexico, Africa and the Philippines. He helped her understand the good fortune we enjoy here and inspired her to help others build better worlds for themselves.

He gained her trust not by demanding it, but by being a man in full whom she could admire. By asking her to accompany him to the hardware store and then extending their getaway with a stop for lunch, where he would “spark up a conversation that engages you on a level where you think your opinion is really valued. I think that’s how he approaches professional relationships, too. It’s just his character.”

“He’s exactly the kind of leader I’d like to work for,” Richardson says, “and I mean that sincerely. He’s a great guy with a good sense of humor who I think has a great vision and direction. The people who work for him really like him, and that’s because he wants them to be better.

“And that’s terrific.”

Cancer surgeon Doug Girod has extensive training and long experience in delivering bad news. But because he’s prepared and skilled and dedicated, he can then move along to a message of hope: Here’s what we can do. Together. Here’s how we can fight this thing. Together.

Ultimately, the news can be good. That’s the message Doug Girod delivers with a hopeful and sincere smile, whether to a scared patient, a nervous medical center or a cash-strapped state starved for physicians willing to work here.

“Challenges,” he says, “are opportunities—opportunities to think about doing things differently.”

Advantage, in-house candidate.
Nathan Davis was a key player in the jazz golden age that was Paris in the '60s. He left it behind to make a case for the music’s place in American culture and the academy.
At freshman orientation in 1955, Nathan Davis was feeling pretty good about his saxophone chops. Born only a couple of blocks from Charlie “Bird” Parker’s Kansas City, Kan., birthplace, Davis, d’60, grew up steeped in music. His mother was a gospel singer. His father owned every record ever made by Norman Granz (the eminent jazz producer and founder of Verve records), including classic sides by Parker, the most influential jazz player to come out of Kansas City.

Long before he took an after-school job answering phones at Brownie’s Cab to save half the cost of his first saxophone (his mother paid the other half), Davis had begun teaching himself to play and read music whenever he could borrow a horn. And always—in his mother’s church, in his father’s record collection, in the neighborhood homes—there was music.

“The one who loved jazz, Rev. Kid, he’d call me over and say, ‘You like to play horn? Well, these are the guys you need to listen to.’” The good reverend spun records by the great saxophonists of the day: Coleman Hawkins, Illinois Jacquet, Don Byas.

Year later, in Paris, where he lived and worked for most of the 1960s as a jazz musician in the city’s thriving club scene, Davis would meet Coleman Hawkins; he would play and record with Don Byas and many other jazz greats.

But at KU in 1955, he faced a more immediate problem. In high school he’d already jammed with the legendary Jay McShann’s Kansas City big band. He won a talent contest and used the money to go to Chicago, where he played nightly in the city’s jazz clubs. But none of that mattered when Davis stepped up to answer a question at freshman orientation: What’s your major?

“I said, ‘Music.’ The guy said, ‘OK, what instrument do you play?’ I said, ‘Saxophone.’” He said, ‘Oh, no, no, no. No saxophone here.”

Davis laughs now, but at the time it was a shock. “I said, ‘What do you mean no saxophone?’”

Jazz may have been embraced as popular culture (Dick Wright’s “The Jazz Scene” was an immediate hit when it debuted on KANU in 1956), but it was not considered worthy of serious academic study. “Real music is from Europe,” Davis says of the attitude that ruled academia at the time. “Concert, classical, Western European music, that’s what KU was teaching—KU and every other school in the country.”

Fortunately for Davis, he’d played some clarinet at Sumner High School. Finding that the band had no room for more saxophonists, he learned trombone and clarinet to secure a spot. KU admitted him as a clarinet major, but it wasn’t Benny Goodman-style swing that he would study.

“They used to have a rule,” Davis says. “In Hoch Auditorium, where the practice rooms were, they had a guard. He’d sign
"I came here planning to stay three years, but it got good," says Nathan Davis, who founded one of the country’s first jazz studies programs at the University of Pittsburgh in 1969. Davis (circa 1992, page 34, and in the 1970s, opposite page) made it good, building the Pitt program into an academic powerhouse while maintaining his own career as a performer and composer.

you in and out. He would also monitor practice. If he heard you playing jazz, he’d write you up. If you got three writeups for playing jazz, they’d kick you out.”

No saxophone. No jazz. Not in the academic world of the 1950s.

By the time Davis retired in May after 43 years as founding director of the jazz studies program at the University of Pittsburgh, the music to which he devoted a lifetime of performance and teaching had become firmly established in the academy. According to the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, more than 120 U.S. colleges and universities (KU among them) now offer bachelor, master’s or doctoral degrees in jazz studies. But when Davis agreed to leave a thriving career performing, composing and recording in Europe to teach at Pitt in 1969, the program he designed was only the third headed by a working jazz musician.

He built a model program, starting with the Annual Jazz Seminar, which brings jazz legends to campus for lectures and performances. He began a jazz ensemble—open to all Pitt students, not only jazz studies majors—that grew into one of the most respected student jazz groups in the country and became the first college group to play the prestigious Montreux Jazz Festival. He launched an academic journal and established the International Academy of Jazz-Hall of Fame, which preserves a trove of jazz artifacts in the Sonny Rollins International Jazz Archives. Perhaps most important, colleagues say, Davis helped change the concept of what an education in jazz music should be.

“Because he was working in Europe up to the time he came to the University of Pittsburgh, he brought a different kind of value to jazz education,” says David Baker, distinguished professor of music at Indiana University. Founder of the first program led by a jazz musician, he recommended Davis for the Pittsburgh job after the school’s initial search failed.

“He was at that time one of the first people to not just be teaching a teacher to teach a teacher,” Baker says. “Because he had worked with all these people in Europe, because he was himself a major player, he was able to share that information with students.”

Davis put together a rigorous course of study that emphasized improvisation, composition and technical mastery—and made the implicit argument that jazz history and performance could be as worthy of study as classical music.

“I think absolutely he deserves credit for helping get jazz into the academy,” says Josh Kohn, program officer for jazz & traditional arts at the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, which in October will present Davis the BNY Mellon Jazz 2013 Living Legacy Award at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The award honors musicians for their contribution to jazz education and performance. “Part of what he did was fight for recognition for jazz as
a high art form. That’s what you find with a lot of these guys: They really wanted it to be looked at as equal to classical music.”

Equal, perhaps, but not the same.

“What Nathan brought to the table,” Baker says, “is the whole business of teaching what it is that jazz musicians do.”

ike most jazzmen of his era, Davis got his musical education on the bandstand. It was sometimes a far broader schooling than he bargained for.

His first gig, with a band of buddies from his Troup Avenue neighborhood, was a Saturday afternoon date at Frenchy’s Pool Hall on Fifth Street in Kansas City.

“We’re all 15, not even supposed to be in there,” Davis recalls. “I think we knew about four songs. Well, the second or third tune in, a guy was drunk, messing with people, and Frenchy came out and pistol whipped him right in front of us. Just beat him down to the ground.”

“We packed up and that was that,” Davis says, laughing. “We said, ‘You don’t even have to pay us. We’re out of here.’”

As he got more serious about music, his mother called a family friend, Kansas City trumpeter Orville “Piggy” Minor, a cohort of Bird and a regular in Jay McShann’s famed bands. Minor became a mentor for Davis, taking him to jam sessions at Troost Lounge presided over by McShann, the dean of the Kansas City jazz scene.

“McShann would introduce me, make me feel good,” Davis says. “One time he said, ‘Ladies and gentlemen, here’s little Nathan Davis from over in Kansas, and he’s going to play ‘Cherokee.’ One, two, three.’”

Davis mimics McShann counting off a blistering cadence the young saxophonist had no hope of matching.

“I was so shaken up I decided I was going to be able to play as fast as anybody and I went home and worked on it.” To this day he’s known for his blazing speed.

That was the line on Davis: Whatever it took—even if it meant soaking a junk trombone in the bathtub for a week to earn a spot in the marching band—he’d do it. “My thing was always this: Just tell me the rules,” Davis says. “Let me know what I have to do, and give me a chance.”

After he and a friend won first place in a talent contest at Kansas City’s Orchid Room, he took half of the $50 prize and bought a bus ticket to Chicago.

“I went home and said, ‘Mama, I’m going to Chicago,’” Davis told Pittsburgh Quarterly in 2007. “After she stopped crying, she phoned my aunt, whom we called ‘Big Mama.’ She was a big lady—something like 6 feet tall, 300 pounds—and a self-ordained Pentecostal minister!”

Davis’ mother, who worked as a nurse, also sang at churches and tea parlors, and Davis would accompany her. “Mostly gospel songs,” he recalls. “Occasionally we did ‘Deep Purple’ or ‘Somewhere Over the Rainbow.’ She was really religious, so we couldn’t get too far out there.”

She let her son go to Chicago, under the watchful eye of Big Mama, a wealthy entrepreneur whose church was located in the basement of her home.

“Big Mama let me go to the clubs at night, but when I’d come home early in the morning after hanging out and playing in the clubs until dawn, she’d jingle her tambourine and say, ‘Lord have mercy, here comes Nathan! He’s been playin’ for the devil all night. Now he’s gotta come down and play for the Lord!’ So I’d get myself down there and join the sisters. It was really something.”

Davis kept up his studies in Chicago, eventually returning to Kansas City to finish high school. A musician in his neighborhood, a trumpeter with the Marching Jayhawks, inspired his interest in KU. He won a scholarship and showed up in Lawrence to find that any jazz he played would be extracurricular.

That turned out to be fine with Davis.

“I say this out of sincerity, KU, at that time, though they didn’t have jazz, it was a wonderful place to give me a good strong base in music,” he says. “They were all classical people, and not just classical but the best.”

He received classical training on piano, oboe, English horn, violin and clarinet while earning a degree in music education. And he found an eager audience for jazz on campus and around town, putting together his own band by recruiting to KU such Kansas City musicians as trumpeter Carmell Jones, ’60, who went on to a prolific recording career. They played the student union, where Wilt Chamberlain, ’59, would sit in on conga drums. (Chamberlain often had Davis stop by his KUOK radio show to talk music, and they remained tight over the years, with Wilt looking up his old friend when he visited Paris.)

Davis and his band played at segregated fraternity and sorority parties for whites and blacks. He recalls shows at the TeePee where he and his bandmates were the only blacks allowed in the door. Some of that changed after Chamberlain arrived. “I was there when Wilt went to go to the theatre,” Davis says. “We always had to sit in the balcony. He went to the show, they turned him away, and that was the end of that. He must have said something to Phog, because the next morning, ‘Everyone Welcome.’ We heard it through the grapevine, but it was verified in the paper.”

Segregation based in racism was the
A jazz aficionados talk of Paris in the 1950s and '60s as a golden age. What did it feel like at the time? "A golden age," says Davis. "That's why I stayed."

Many black musicians were fleeing discrimination and indifference to their music in America for the greater social freedom and reverence for jazz Europe offered. Paris became the artistic home for black American writers and musicians, who formed a thriving black expatriate community. Davis found his way there by the same route as many of the postwar expatriates—via military service.

Drafted shortly after graduation, he quickly learned that, even in the military, music was his ticket. During basic training, he was rescued from a nighttime live-fire drill after a colonel roared up in a jeep and called him out of the ranks. A general was throwing a party and he'd heard Davis played a mean horn. Could he get a band together for the shindig?

"I said, 'Yes sir,' jumped in the jeep and said, 'See you guys. I missed the whole thing!'"

After basic, Davis attended the Naval School of Music, which nurtured such jazz greats as Cannonball Adderley and Chet Baker, then joined the 298th Army Band, a showcase outfit in Berlin. An arrangement he wrote won the All-Army contest for Europe, "and after that it was civilian clothes and USO shows," Davis recalls. He taught arranging in the mornings and was free to play the Berlin clubs at night, jamming with Dizzy Gillespie drummer Joe Harris and Lionel Hampton trumpeter Benny Bailey. At the end of his two-year tour, which was extended briefly by the rise of the Berlin Wall, he elected to take his separation in Germany. "I got my discharge at 3:00," Davis says, "and that night I was on the bandstand playing."

He soon left for Paris to play for drummer Kenny "Klook" Clarke, a founding father of bebop. He would become Davis' musical father as well.

"Here I am, 23, 24 years old, two years out of KU. I was in hog heaven. "Why leave that? I wasn't about to leave that. I was in hog heaven."

Then came the call from Pittsburgh, enlisting Davis to start a jazz studies program at the university.

Uncertain what to do, he consulted two men he respected highly: Donald Byrd and Clarke. Byrd, an acclaimed trumpeter who had bachelor and master's degrees and would later earn his PhD, had been urging Davis to return to the states. He'd gone back himself to start a jazz program (the second oldest) at Howard University. "He used to write me in '68 and say, 'OK, you gotta come back. There's stuff going on here; stuff is opening up."

Even Dizzy Gillespie told Davis, "America is where the fight is; you should come back." But it was Clarke who finally convinced him.

Everyone else was saying don't do it, you won't fit in," Davis recalls. "But Klook said, 'Go back. Go back and tell the truth about
the music. That's all I ask.”

So Davis returned to set up the jazz program at Pittsburgh with the understanding that he would teach students what he himself had learned about jazz by playing it. He met resistance from all sides.

“The jazz musicians said, ‘You can’t teach it,’ so they were against it,” Davis recalls. Academics balked as well. “Oh those guys with the reefers and the whiskey bottles? In higher education? So you had to fight to find a place.”

Fight he did. Excluded from decision-making, he asked why and was told the problem was his lack of a PhD. So he earned one, in ethnomusicology at Wesleyan University, in 1974. He founded a peer-review journal to combat criticism of the lack of serious research in the field. And he was inspired to make the jazz seminar an annual event after overhearing a condescending remark during the first impromptu visit by Art Blakey.

He'd been at Pitt a short time when he got a call from Blakey, with whom he toured in 1965. Blakey's Jazz Messengers were playing Pittsburgh's Crawford Grill, and he asked Davis to sit in.

During the gig, Blakey—like Kenny Clarke an early pioneer of bebop and an absolute jazz legend—introduced his former saxophonist and implored his audience to respect the new jazz program at Pitt, lending Davis instant credibility with the local jazz community. Davis invited Blakey to bring his band to campus to talk and play, and a thousand students and faculty members turned out. He overheard one professor say to another, “These guys speak really intelligently for jazz musicians.”

The comment angered Davis and spurred him to make the one-off event an annual thing. “What went through my mind at that point was, ‘I’m gonna show these guys that we’re just as serious as they are about what we do. I’m gonna organize this.” That got us going.”

In some ways his whole journey has been about proving the doubters wrong. His career as a teacher, performer and composer has been a long battle to champion the music and the musicians.

“The whole thing was about dignity and equality and respect,” Davis says. “When I started, you had people making decisions about how jazz was going to be taught and they didn’t know a damn thing about jazz, which means there was no respect there.”

He taught students to hold themselves and their profession in the same high esteem as other scholars and researchers in the university community. To get respect, his mother taught him long ago, you've got to give respect—so he urged students to respect their music, their instrument, their talent. That attitude put him at odds with some proponents of free jazz and inspired one of his best albums, “The Rules of Freedom,” a response to what he saw as a lack of technical mastery that marred some experimental approaches to jazz.

“One excuse guys would use playing free jazz, when you point out their tone was bad, they'd say, ‘Well, I wanna sound like that. I wanna sound like a moon racing with the sky,’ Davis says. “Well, then, get a moon horn and leave the damn saxophone alone!”

If you play saxophone, learn to play it right. Practice religiously.

Davis (who never stopped recording and performing) does: All three floors of his Pittsburgh-area home, tucked down a long driveway in a shady grove perfect for rehearsing at all hours, brim with horns, guitars, flutes, pianos and all manner of indigenous instruments from around the globe. He schedules time for each daily.

The karate enthusiast who long ago earned a black belt still runs through the kata each morning, too: It’s a matter of keeping his hand in, his mind and body engaged.

“I had a philosophy: On a bad day, if you walk into a club, you’re gonna say, ‘Boy, that guy can really play his horn.’ On a bad day. On a good day you’re gonna say, ‘That guy can play his horn and he touched hands with God.’ To do that, you really have to really practice your scales, your arpeggios, your foundation—the same as a classical musician or anybody else. There's no excuse for not being technically proficient on the instrument.

“You may have a bad day and don’t touch hands with God, that’s acceptable. But the other part, no.”

In retirement, Davis will spend more time composing. A duet he wrote for cello and piano premiered this year at Carnegie Hall, and he’s pondering more pieces that explore connections between jazz and classical music. He’ll continue performing, maybe even teach a master class here and there. He’ll probably pick up another armful of awards to go with the bunch he's already earned. “The one thing I won't be doing,” he says, “is attending faculty meetings. I hate faculty meetings.”

No more academic tussles for Nathan Davis. Those battles have already been won.
Leaders, innovators

Chapter honors African-American alumni who made their mark

Nine alumni whose KU eras span from the 1920s to the 1980s are the 2013 recipients of the KU Black Alumni Chapter's African-American Leaders and Innovators award. The chapter will honor them Nov. 1 during its biennial reunion. The honorees include:

- Wilbur D. Goodseal, d’53, g’62
- Homer C. Floyd, d’61
- Chester I. Lewis Jr., c’51, l’53
- La Vert Murray, c’71
- Julie Robinson, j’78, l’81
- Marie Ross, c’44
- Leslie Meacham Saunders, c’73
- Cheryl Warren-Mattox, f’72
- Lynette Woodard, c’81

Five of the recipients will attend the campus events Nov. 1; four will be honored posthumously.

“KU has a rich history of accomplishments by its African-American alumni, says chapter president Rita Holmes-Bobo, b’82, g’84. "Our chapter is in a unique position to recognize and acknowledge our leaders and innovators, who have made their mark in a variety of ways. The Class of 2013 brings our total to 29 individuals whom we have honored with this award since 2006.”

Goodseal, who died Aug. 5 this year, distinguished himself during a 42-year career with the Kansas City, Mo., School District. He achieved local, state and national recognition, including the 1994 prestigious Rolland Van Hattum Award from the American Speech-Language and Hearing Foundation for his leadership in creating and implementing curriculum and cultural awareness programs for students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Goodseal, an avid supporter of the arts, also performed in numerous ensembles to promote the arts and community relationships through theatre.

Floyd, who lives in Harrisburg, Pa., was among the first African-Americans in the 20th century to play on KU’s football team. He won All-Conference honors in the Big Eight and was co-captain, the first black player to serve in this role. Floyd devoted his career to civil rights enforcement. During the 1960s, he directed the Topeka Human Relations Commission, the Omaha Human Relations Board and the Kansas Commission on Civil Rights. As executive director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission from 1970 until his retirement in 2011, he led the resolution of cases that benefited millions of racial minorities, women and people with disabilities. In 1999 and 2002, he received the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Outstanding Achievement Award.

Lewis, who died in June 1990, was an attorney and a local, state and national leader in the movement for equality. He graduated third in his KU law school class and was a leading campus civil rights activist, president of his fraternity and a member of Student Senate. As an attorney, he challenged racial segregation in Wichita. He successfully sued Wesley Hospital, which had decreed that black patients could not have private rooms; the City of Wichita, which refused blacks admission to the municipal swimming pool; and numerous businesses, including Boeing Aircraft, for employment discrimination.

Murray, of Kansas City, has excelled as a leader in economic development. A certified economic development professional, he played a major part in bringing significant developments to Kansas City and Wyandotte County, including the Village West/Legends shopping district and four of the top tourist attractions in the State of Kansas: the Kansas Speedway, Cabela’s, Nebraska Furniture Mart and Great Wolf Lodge. He and others organized the city’s first Martin Luther King Jr.
birthday celebration in 1984.

Robinson, who lives in Topeka, fulfilled her childhood dream of becoming a lawyer. She served as a law clerk for federal bankruptcy judge Benjamin E. Franklin, a U.S. assistant prosecutor for the District of Kansas, and a judge in the U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the 10th District. In 2002, when she was sworn in as the 26th district judge in the federal district of Kansas, she became the first African-American woman to serve as a federal judge in the state.

In 1927, Ross was the first black woman to enroll in journalism classes at KU. When one of her professors tried to dissuade her from pursuing a career in journalism by claiming no white newspaper would hire her, she brought him examples of many African-American-owned newspapers where she could find employment. In 1929, she left KU to work as a full-time member of the staff at The Call in Kansas City, Mo. During World War II, she moved to Des Moines to work for the Iowa Bystander. While continuing her career, Ms. Ross completed her undergraduate work to earn her KU diploma in 1944. She returned to The Call in 1959 to serve as manager and editor of its Kansas City, Kan., office. She died in July 2001.

Saunders, of Roswell, Ga., served as the University’s first coordinator of special projects/assistant director of admissions and helped lay the foundation for what is now the KU Black Alumni Chapter. She was the executive director of Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council and one of the youngest executive directors in the Girl Scouts’ national history. For her innovative approach to managing the organization, the IBM Corp. recognized her as one of the nation’s top 1 percent among nonprofit leaders. She is now president of LMS Management Consulting in Roswell.

Warren-Mattox died in February 2006 after a career as a renowned classical pianist, composer and arranger. She also hosted a radio show, taught elementary-school music and, with her husband, wrote two critically acclaimed children’s books, *Shake It to the One That You Love the Best* and *Let’s Get the Rhythm of the Band*, which were honored by the American Library Association and featured on the Emmy award-winning PBS children’s program “Reading Rainbow.” She received a master of arts in music from San Francisco State University.

Woodard now lives in Houston. She played basketball at KU from 1977 to 1981 and was a four-time All-American, averaging 26 points a game and scoring a school-record 3,649 points during her KU career. She was the first KU woman to have her jersey hung at Allen Field House. In 1984, she led the U.S. women’s gold-medal Olympic team as captain at the Los Angeles Olympic Games. In 1985, she made headlines when she became the first woman to play for the Harlem Globetrotters. After working as an assistant coach for the KU women’s basketball team, she played for two years in the WNBA when it was created in 1997. When she retired in 1999, she returned to KU as assistant coach and served as interim coach in 2004. Since 2005, Lynette Woodard has worked as an investment adviser for Cornerstone Securities. She is a member of 10 different halls of fame, including the Naismith Hall of Fame (2002), Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame (2005), and the African-American Sports Hall of Fame (2006).

For a list of previous African-American Leaders and Innovators and details of the Black Alumni Chapter Reunion Nov. 1-3, visit kualumni.org.
The Association’s annual summer tour included 112 events and attracted more than 12,000 Jayhawks. Alumni cruised the harbor of Charleston, S.C., on The Schooner Pride, sampled wines in San Francisco and visited the Chicago History Museum for a reception and summer exhibition. In Kansas, alumni and friends savored Kansas fare at the Salina Steakout, and thousands converged on Corinth Square in Prairie Village for the traditional fall kickoff celebration.
Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships July 1 through Aug. 31. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Danielle Adam
Wendi K. Albert
Jonathan I. & Jody Allison
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Robert M. & Stephani C. Boyd
Leslie E. Branz
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Amy L. Brown
Leslie D. Brown
Morgan K. Brunelli
Charles W. Bryan
Kendra E. Buscho
Katie A. Cevers
Kevin D. & Karen Cunningham
Cook
Creighton D. Coover
Brandon S. & Alaina Nesmith
Cunningham
Robert W. Dammann Jr. & Rose S. Dammann
Jana L. Dawson
Kyle R. Derstler
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Michael P. Foulston
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Mark L. Garrett
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Meghan C. Gockel
Jessica Casterline Gregory
Herbert C. Gwaltney
Suni K. Haberland
Megan Randall Hall
Richard W. Hall
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Martl Nixon Levy
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David N. O’Brien
Erin L. O’Grady
Perry L. & Joyce Parks Perkins
Robert L. Phelps II & Mary Ann Phelps
Kevin L. Randell
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Members of the Presidents Club provide annual gifts of $1,000 or more to support the Association’s work in building a powerful network of alumni and friends to strengthen the University.

For more information, visit www.kualumni.org or contact Angie Storey, KU Endowment, astorey@kuendowment.org or 785-832-7483.

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

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Andrea L. Wolf
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Many items only available at KU Bookstore!
52 Robert Kenney, c'52, will be inducted in October into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in Wichita. He was a member of the 1952 KU basketball national championship team, the 1952 Olympic gold medal team and the 1955 Pan American Games. Bob lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.

William Lienhard, b'52, will be inducted in October into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in Wichita. He played on the 1952 KU national championship basketball team and on the 1952 Olympic gold medal team. Bill and Jeannine Joseph Lienhard, assoc., live in Lawrence.

54 Allen Kelley, d'54, will be inducted in October into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in Wichita. He played basketball for KU from 1952 to 1954 and was an Olympic gold medalist in 1960. The entire 1960 U.S. Olympic team was enshrined in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010. Al and Barbara Hampton Kelley, '56, live in Lawrence.

William Oborny, d'56, received the 2013 Kiwanis Award for Outstanding Citizenship earlier this year in Marysville. He was a teacher, assistant superintendent, superintendent of USD 364 and was active on many Marysville boards and committees.

56 Larry Welch, c'58, l'61, wrote Beyond Cold Blood: The KBI from Ma Barker to BTK, which was named a 2013 Kansas Notable Book by the State Library of Kansas. Larry, former director of the KBI, lives in Lawrence.

59 Gary Underhill, c'59, former president of Underhill International, makes his home in Laguna Beach, Calif., with Dolores Arn Underhill, d'59.

52 Robert Wuthnow, b'68, was elected to the American Philosophical Society. He's a professor of sociology and director of the Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University in Princeton, N.J.

69 Michael Delaney, c'69, l'76, is a retired partner at Spencer Fane Britt and Browne. He and Kathleen Gibbons Delaney, c'82, live in Overland Park.

70 John Lungstrum, l'70, received the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the 10th Circuit earlier this year. He's a senior judge on the U.S. District Court, and he lives in Lawrence with Linda Ewing Lungstrum, c'69, c'70.

Kenneth Salyer, m'70, wrote A Life That Matters: Transforming Faces, Renewing Lives, which was published earlier this year. Kenneth, founder and chairman of the World Craniofacial Foundation, lives in Dallas.

71 Kathy Kirk, d'71, was named treasurer and Eagles chair for the Kansas Association of Justice. She practices law with Jerry Levy Law Offices in Lawrence.

72 Chris Dunfield, c'72, recently became a Municipal Court judge in Corvallis, Ore., where he and Dianne Scifres Dunfield, c'72, make their home.

73 Michelle Vaughan Buchanan, c'73, was named director of the Chemical and Analytical Sciences Division at the Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn. She and her husband, A.C., make their home in Knoxville.

76 Rick Kendall, j'76, is branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors in

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

| a | School of Architecture, Design and Planning |
| 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 Health Professions | i | School of Journalism |
| l | School of Law | m | School of Medicine | n | School of Nursing |
| p | School of Pharmacy | PharmD | School of Pharmacy |
| s | School of Social Welfare | u | School of Music |
| 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 |

by Karen Goodell Class Notes

...
Experience the World with the Flying Jayhawks

2014 Travel

Tahitian Jewels
January 25-February 4

Tanzania Migration Safari
January 27-February 7

Samba Rhythms
March 16-29

The Masters
April 9-12

Antebellum South
April 11-19

Kentucky Derby
May 1-4

Paris Immersion
May 14-29

Cruising Along the Dalmatian Coast
June 18-26

European Tapestry
June 23-July 1

Insider’s Wine Adventure to Napa Valley
July 14-18

Iceland and the North Sea
July 27-August 8

Baltic Treasures
August 21-September 1

Symphony on the Blue Danube
September 1-13

Flavors of Northern Italy
September 6-14

Canada and New England
September 16-28

Treasures of India and Nepal
September 28-October 13

Accent on the Rivieras
October 3-11

New Zealand Expedition
October 11-22

Normandy
October 21-29

For the latest dates and detailed trip descriptions, visit www.kualumni.org/travel or call 800-584-2957.
Kermit Daniel, c’82, recently became chief analytics officer at Context Matters in New York City.

Douglas Shane, e’83, has been appointed executive vice president and general manager of Virgin Galactic’s Spaceship Company in Mojave, Calif.

Natalie Ellis, d’83, married Mark Drake, July 7 in Danforth Chapel. She’s an instructional resource teacher in Olathe, where they live.

Craig Nauta, b’84, is foundation director of the Texas Society of CPAs in Dallas. He and Jill Pearson Nauta, ’87, live in Plano.

Robert Wolcott, j’84, is an educational specialist at the College Board in Boston.

Sheila “Katie” Conboy, c’81, recently became provost and senior vice president of Simmons College in Boston.

Barbara Bichelmeyer, j’82, c’86, g’88, PhD’92, serves as interim chancellor at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany, Ind.

Joe Morrison, c’79, g’84, is a vice president and senior analyst at Moody’s Investors Service in Hong Kong.

Bill Graves, ’80, is president and chief executive officer of the American Trucking Association in Arlington, Va. He was inducted into the KU Hospital Hall of Fame for his role in supporting legislation creating the KU Hospital Authority while he was governor of Kansas.

Thomas, b’80, and Teresa Keith Walsh, assoc., are co-chairs of Silpada Designs in Lenexa, where she is also a director.

Margaret LeFlore, c’77, joined the board of directors at Family Services Inc. in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Mark Boyer, j’78, is president of Tippin’s Gourmet Foods in Kansas City.

Lawrence Heaney, g’78, PhD’80, is curator and head of the division of mammals at the Field Museum in Chicago.

Marc Jasperson, b’78, recently became executive director of Habitat for Humanity in Lawrence.

Betty McKenzie, n’78, recently became clinical supervisor at the Mid Kansas Women’s Center in Wichita, where she lives.

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Robert Wolcott, j’84, is an educational specialist at the College Board in Boston.

Terry Bryant, c’86, j’86, g’00, accepted a nine-month appointment as professorial lecturer at American
University in Washington, D.C. His home is in Lawrence.

Roger Graham, b’86, is president of Mylan Speciality in Canonsburg, Pa.

James Moise, c’86, is senior vice president and chief sourcing officer at Fifth Third Bank Corporation in Cincinnati.

87 Brig. Gen. Richard Hayes, c’87, was appointed assistant adjutant general of the Illinois National Guard. He lives in Buffalo Grove.

Jennifer Gardner Love, j’87, is chief member relations officer for the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

Tammy Steele Norton, b’87, recently became a managing director of Alvarez & Marsal. She lives in Long Grove, Ill.

Marie Parker Strahan, l’87, practices law in Lawrence.

Kenneth Sewell, g’88, Ph.D’91, has been appointed vice president for research and economic development at the University of New Orleans.

Todd Cohen, c’89, j’89, directs communication and outreach for the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund. He and Stacy Smith Cohen, j’91, g’08, Ph.D’11, live in Westminster.

David Morse, g’89, was elected vice president of the California Community Colleges’ Academic Senate. He’s a professor of English at Long Beach City College.

Jana Gregory Dawson, j’90, is a business-development strategist for Miller Meiers in Lawrence.

William Fowler, c’90, directs marketing and client service for American Realty Advisors in Chicago.

Philip Michelbach, c’90, g’93, taught American politics and culture this summer at the University of Potsdam, Germany. He’s an associate professor of political science at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

Kris Wittenberg, c’90, is CEO and founder of SayNoMore! Promotions/Be Good to People in Eagle, Colo.

Todd Cohen, c’89, j’89, directs communication and outreach for the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund. He and Stacy Smith Cohen, j’91, g’08, Ph.D’11, live in Westminster.

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Kris Wittenberg, c’90, is CEO and founder of SayNoMore! Promotions/Be Good to People in Eagle, Colo.
and she lives in Renton, Wash. Gina Meier-Hummel, s’92, s’97, is a commissioner of community services for the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Jack Yeo, j’92, recently became senior vice president at FleishmanHillard International Communications in Chicago.

Christopher Beal, c’93, is an associate with Dillon & Gerardi in Carlsbad, Calif.

Andrew Hodges, j’93, l’96, has a private law practice in Greenwood, S.C.

Cynthia Cogil, c’95, directs engineering for SmithGroupJJR in Chicago.

Michael Berblinger, g’94, recently became superintendent of USD 313 in Buhler, where he and Sarah Larson Berblinger, j’85, make their home.

Chadwick Ball, c’96, p’01, is a pharmacist at CVS. He lives in Derby.

Bart Peters, c’96, is a geolocation specialist at BIT Systems in Aurora, Colo.

Jeffrey Mayo, j’94, serves as president of the Oklahoma Press Association. He’s associate publisher and general manager of the Sequoyah County Times in Sallisaw.

Brad Estes, d’94, directs wind operations for BTI Wind Energy in Greensburg.

William DeWitt, c’97, g’09, recently became assistant principal and athletics director of Lawrence High School.

New business revives core values

Entrepreneur Kris Wagner Wittenberg turned a rude encounter in 2008 into a kindness epidemic with one simple phrase: Be Good to People.

“I just remember saying, ‘Why can’t people just be good to people? How hard is that?’” says Wittenberg, c’90, of the tide-changing event. “As soon as the words left my mouth, I thought, ‘I’m going to put that on a T-shirt.”

President and CEO of the Eagle, Colo., product company SayNoMore! Promotions, Wittenberg channeled her frustration into founding Be Good to People, a company that seeks to “change the world, one person, one kind act, at a time.”

The economic downturn nearly halted Wittenberg’s efforts to get Be Good to People off the ground until she attended a stressful meeting wearing one of her shirts. “The meeting went horribly, but I had several people ask me where I got my shirt. The next day, we kicked it into gear,” she says.

Now “Be Good to People” is spread across unassuming black and white shirts, hats, coffee mugs and other daily items to remind people to, well, be good to people.

“Having that very simple message around you causes you to pause before you react,” says Wittenberg. “You can’t be wearing a Be Good to People shirt and be rude to somebody; you just can’t.”

Although Wittenberg says her company gives away more products than it sells, Be Good to People officially allocates 5 percent of revenues to reward kindness worldwide, provide classroom supplies for teachers, and support kindness events, like The Kindness Center’s 24 Hours of Kindness, which include deliveries of flowers and meals. When she travels, Wittenberg gives shirts to benevolent gate agents or travelers.

Often, the good comes full circle. Wittenberg has seen people from Kansas City to San Lucas, Mexico, wearing the shirts. She’s heard of people taking off their own shirts to give to those who need or like them. “We need this. People need this. And it really resonates with pretty much everyone,” Wittenberg says.

She hopes to grow Be Good to People to include a curriculum for schools and to encourage kids to proudly wear the message. “What’s beautiful about Be Good to People is it’s a message that everybody understands,” Wittenberg says. “When my son was 2, I could ask him about a situation—‘Is that being good to people, or is that not being good to people’—and he could make that call.”

Be Good to People has changed Wittenberg’s life immensely, too, and she is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of something greater. “Maybe it’s just because I’m getting older and this is my time in life,” she says, “but I really feel like there is a shift going on in the world, and as much as there is hatred and anger and intolerance, I also feel that there is a vast, vast amount of good that is erupting and spreading and it’s very powerful. It wins all when you’re kind.”
Class Notes

David Morantz, j’98, l’05, was selected as legislative chair of the Kansas Association for Justice. He’s an associate member of Shamberg, Johnson & Bergman in Kansas City.

BORN TO:

Tisha Ritter Armatys, d’99, and Michael, daughter, Dylan Genelle, Jan. 15 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she joins a sister, Peyton, 5.

Zora Mulligan AuBuchon, g’00, l’03, is executive director of the Missouri Community College Association. She lives in Jefferson City.

John Gates, l’00, is a partner with Baty, Holm, Numrich & Otto in Kansas City.

Seth Hoffman, j’00, g’04, chairs the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation Professionals. He’s deputy city manager of Lone Tree, Colo.

Javier Perez, c’00, is a high-school principal with AuSable Valley Central School District in Keeseville, N.Y.

MARRIED

Molly McNearney, j’00, to Jimmy Kimmel, July 13 in Ojai, Calif. They live in Los Angeles, and Molly is head writer at Jimmy Kimmel Live!

David Mitchell, c’01, g’03, is a visiting assistant professor at Indiana University’s school of public and environmental affairs in Indianapolis.

John Stinnett, c’01, works as a process engineer with Harris Group Inc. He lives in Sachse, Texas.

BORN TO:

Beth Wagoner Traynor, c’01, and Christopher, son, Carl John Micah, Feb. 14 in Lincoln, Neb.

Gerald “Lee” Cross, c’02, was selected membership chair of the Kansas Association for Justice. He’s founder and managing member of Cross Law Firm in Westwood.

Christopher Kennedy, c’02, is a senior staff software engineer with ARRIS. He and Sarah Mahoney Kennedy, c’01, live in Olathe.

Hesse McGraw, f’02, has been appointed vice president for exhibitions and public programs at the San Francisco Art Institute.

Brady Pollington, c’02, recently became economic development project manager for the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce.

Brian Powers, b’02, is a software developer for Gallup Inc. in Omaha, Neb.

Diana Toman, l’02, was promoted to vice president, assistant general counsel and assistant secretary at General Cable in Highland Heights, Ky.

Mark Wiles, m’02, is medical director and a primary care physician at Immanuel Pathways in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

BORN TO:

Brett McClellan, c’02, and Ashley, son, Spencer Dudley, Jan. 18 in Dallas, where he joins a brother, Brooks, 5.

Chandler, b’02, and Reina Rodriguez Poore, c’05, daughter, Gabriella, April 13 in Stilwell, where she joins a sister, Elliot, who’s nearly 2.
They’ve rooted for KU. Now root them here.

Have you inspired your college-bound family members to take on the challenge of a Jayhawk education? Great!

Now that you’ve inspired them, keep them on track. Nov. 1 is the deadline for scholarship consideration. Don’t let them miss it.

Apply by Nov. 1
apply.ku.edu

Out-of-state children and grandchildren of KU graduates may qualify for additional scholarships. Find out more at rooted.ku.edu
Join the Jayhawks for the 101st-annual Homecoming celebration in Lawrence! With more than 20 events on and off campus, it is sure to be an exciting week.

Don’t miss the parade, 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, downtown Lawrence, featuring Grand Marshal Brian McClendon, e’86, co-creator of Google Earth.

To view the full schedule, visit

[www.homecoming.ku.edu](http://www.homecoming.ku.edu)

#kuhomecoming
Aaron Edwards, j’03, recently became vice president of business development at Plattform in Lenexa.

Josh Henningsen, c’03, joined South & Associates as an associate attorney. He lives in Omaha, Neb.

Mary Mothershead Kaiser, b’03, manages human resources at PayneCrest Electric and Communications in St. Louis.

Patrick Wenke, c’03, is vice president of business intelligence at Uhlig LLC in Overland Park. He and Sara Hernandez Wenke, b’03, live in Lawrence. She’s a senior manager of human resources at American Eagle Outfitters in Ottawa.

Jana Smoot White, j’03, c’03, is an associate at Gunderson Palmer Nelson & Ashmore in Rapid City, S.D.

MARRIED

Stephanie Russell, d’03, to Scott Simon, Dec. 15 in Kansas City. She is a physical therapist at Marquette Physical Therapy in De Soto and at the Olathe Medical Center. He’s a technical service manager for ADM in Overland Park, where they live.

Adam Wright, c’03, and Lisa Kennedy, f’03, May 11 in Kansas City. He’s a campus director at the University of Phoenix, and she’s a user interface designer at Sprint Nextel. They live in St. Louis.

BORN TO:

Megan Wood, s’03, and Kevin, son, Jack Paul, April 8 in Manchester, N.H. Their family includes a daughter, Emma, 2, and they live in Bedford.

Harlan Altman, b’04, is a director at Cushman & Wakefield in Dallas, where he and Kayla Huffman Altman, j’05, live.

PROFILE by David Garfield

Weatherman sets legacy for loyalty in Sylvan Grove

Mike Weatherman was an Elkhart ninth-grader when he started coaching youth baseball and knew that it would be his profession. At KU, where he studied physical education under such influential mentors as Bob Lockwood, d’61, his passion for coaching only grew.

After teaching and coaching basketball in Lakin for two years, Weatherman, d’72, in 1974 accepted a job as head football coach and teacher at Sylvan Unified (now Sylvan-Lucas). He has lived in Sylvan Grove ever since. Recognized as one of the best multi-sport coaches in Kansas, Weatherman led teams to five state championships: three in eight-man football and two in girls’ basketball.

“I had a lot of dedicated kids and I demanded discipline, and the kids bought into it,” he says. “A lot gave everything they had. I have a lot of kids coaching right now, having success because they took the things we did and put them to work.”

Weatherman was attracted to Sylvan Grove because he could coach football while also pursuing his passion for fishing at Wilson Lake. Once there, Weatherman realized immediately that he had found a home to raise his family. He coached football for 38 years (until 2011), boys’ basketball for six years and girls’ basketball from 1985 to 2012. He compiled a 267-113 record in football and won 550 games in basketball.

His Mustangs were the state’s winningest football program in the 1990s and Weatherman’s eight straight trips to the girls’ state tournament was one year shy of tying the state record.

Other opportunities came his way as Weatherman continued to win games and championships, but he chose to bypass bigger coaching jobs. He loved the “Friday Night Lights” atmosphere, and says living in central Kansas allowed him to both visit family in Elkhart in the southwest and attend KU games in Lawrence. His wife, Kathy, also had a longtime career at the bank. “I always had so many good kids coming back,” he says, “it’s hard to walk away.”

Weatherman, 64, who served as mayor for 10 years and also coached track and baseball, continues to coach golf and substitute teach while spending more time with his two kids and three grandchildren. He calls himself the “luckiest person in the world” to fulfill his professional dreams in Sylvan Grove while influencing generations of athletes by coaching many father-son duos in football.

“You just don’t see guys stay in one place as I have,” Weatherman says.

The eighth-winningest coach in Kansas high school football history knows how he’d like to be remembered:

“That I was pretty dedicated. That’s all I’ve ever done. I’ve enjoyed it. I tried to be loyal to the kids and school.”

—Garfield, c’88, is a Lawrence freelance writer.
Ryane Kelly Delka, '04, is co-president of Silpada Designs in Lenexa.

Kandace Creel Falcon, c'04, recently became a trustee of the Blandin Foundation. She's an assistant professor of women's and gender studies at Minnesota State University in Moorhead.

Andrew Marso, j'04, won first place in the project and investigative reporting category at the Great Plains Journalism Awards in Tulsa, Okla. He's a reporter for the Topeka Capital-Journal, and he lives in Lawrence.

Edward Shafer, c'04, d'06, EdD'13, is director of theatre for Olathe USD 233. He and Meghann Martin Shafer, g’08, live in Kansas City.

Anita Gilpin Strohm, j’04, supervises accounts for Crossroads. She and her husband, Bob, live in Kansas City.

Andrew Belot, c’05, g’13, works as a financial adviser for Morgan Stanley in Washington, D.C. His home is in Arlington, Va.

Lauren Brownrigg Esbensen, d’05, is associate athletic director and senior woman administrator at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore.

Ashley Stallbaumer Pierson, c’05, m’09, practices medicine with Women’s Health Group in Lafayette, Colo.

BORN TO: Stephanie Kroemer Arribas, b’05, and Jason, c’06, daughter, Elizabeth Ellie, April 28 in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Jennifer Ebel, a’06, is a senior transit planner for the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority in Burnsville. She lives in Minneapolis.

Stacey Knowles, j’06, manages plasma sales for McKesson Plasma & Biologics. She lives in Omaha, Neb.

Brandon, c’06, and Kayla Buehler Lundgren, d’08, g’11, celebrated their first anniversary Aug. 25. He’s a captain in the U.S. Army, and she’s a physical therapist at Good Samaritan Hospital. They live in Puyallup, Wash.

Meghan Miller, j’06, works as a content development assistant with the Seattle Storm women’s basketball team.
Lacy Szuwalski, d’06, volunteers with the Peace Corps in Gambia, where she works with teachers to encourage reading and literacy in their classes.

BORN TO:
Mark, c’06, and Emily Huffhines Webster, j’06, daughter, Caroline Kate, April 14 in Leawood.

Olivia Pfannenstiel, b’07, g’08, is a senior financial reporting analyst for Ascend Learning. She lives in Olathe.

MARRIED
Christopher Wheatley, c’07, to Jenna Markowick, May 25 in Moorpark, Calif. He manages finance and office administration at the University of Southern California Norman Lear Center, and she’s an account executive at Myriad Travel Marketing Agency. They make their home in Los Angeles.

Diane Basore Borys, c’08, is a senior lighting designer for Michael Wall Engineering in San Diego.

John Comerford, PhD’08, lives in Carlinville, Ill., where he’s president of Blackburn College.

Ryan Glessner, c’08, is a civil engineer with Young & Associates. He makes his home in Derby.

Matthew Goble, j’08, c’08, f’11, was promoted to captain in the U.S. Army. He is stationed at Camp Casey, South Korea.

Sur Ah Hahn, s’08, Phd’13, is an assistant professor of social work at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C.

Christopher Kelliher, b’08, manages strategic sourcing for Oldcastle Materials in Stilwell.

Kelsey Walsh Perry, c’08, j’08, is co-president of Silpada Designs in Lenexa.

Ritchie Price, c’08, is an assistant baseball coach at KU. He lives in Lawrence with his wife, Katie.

Meghann Martin Shafer, g’08, teaches in Park Hill, Mo. She lives in Kansas City with her husband, Edward, c’04, d’06, g’13.

Caitlin Von Liski, c’08, g’11, is a career counselor and coach with the University of Texas Alumni Association in Austin.

MARRIED
Julie Dreier, f’08, to Darren Pappas, June 8 in Columbia, Mo. She teaches middle-school and high-school choir in Mexico, Mo., and he’s a social-studies teacher at Mexico Middle School.

Jay Kasten, d’08, to May Kammer Avant, June 1 in Mountain Brook, Ala. He’s senior operations director for Bruno Event Team, and they live in Birmingham.

Jayme Lisher, d’08, to Blake Savage, Dec. 15 in Lawrence, where she teaches physical education at Free State High School. He works for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway.
Class Notes

09 Brennen Bechard, d’09, was promoted to director of basketball operations at KU. He lives in Lawrence.
David Chon, c’09, g’13, is a research associate at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita.
Richard, c’09, and Brittany Dodson Davis, ’11, live in Wellington, Fla., with their son, Milo, 1. Richard is a senior associate with Greenstein and Associates.
Nathan Mack, c’09, works as a U.S. Midwest regional admissions counselor at Franklin College Switzerland in New York City.
Jade Martin, c’09, l’13, is an associate at Klenda Austerman. She lives in Wichita.
Wendy Yung, c’09, s’11, s’13, works as a targeted case manager at Community Living Opportunities in Lawrence.
Triffin Zecy, e’09, was promoted to senior project manager at Paric Corp. in St. Louis.

MARRIED
Stephen Burtin, b’09, g’12, and Jessica Shannon, j’09, l’12, June 22 in Lawrence.
They live in Wichita, where he’s an auditor at BKD and she’s an associate attorney at Hinkle Law Firm.
Bradley Eland, b’09, g’11, and Laura Frizell, c’09, j’09, May 25. They live in Lawrence, where he’s director of academic programs for the KU Alumni Association and she’s an account coordinator with Callahan Creek.
Melissa Farr, c’09, to Steven Lewis, June 28 in Kansas City. She’s a nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital, and he’s a senior software engineer at Cerner. They make their home in Prairie Village.
Tara Simmons, g’09, to Jacob Yost, June 22 in Topeka, where they live. She’s a physical-education teacher with USD 450 in Shawnee Heights, and he’s a HVAC technician with the P1 Group.

10 Lauren Cunningham, j’10, is a communications specialist at the Washington University Foundation in Topeka.
Chad Gerber, d’10, works as an athletic academic adviser at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.
Drew Heidrick, c’10, works for IBT. His home is in Lawrence.
Travis Messer, d’10, g’13, is a physical therapist with Pinnacle Therapy. He lives in Wellsville.
Melissa Malone Veltri, c’10, works as a geologist at Schlumber. She and her husband, Kevin, d’07, live in Richmond, Texas.
Chris Worley, c’10, c’11, works as an administrative assistant in the environmental studies program office at KU.

BORN TO:
James, g’10, PhD’10, and Angela Verbenece McGuire, c’10, son, James, Dec. 27 in Shawnee. James is a medical writer for PRA International, and Angela is a human-resources specialist with YRC Freight.

Samuel Daube, c’11, is a marketing specialist with Dish Network. He makes his home in Denver.
Jennifer Kirmer, c’11, works as a digital...
Archievist at Washington University in St. Louis. She lives in St. Peters.

Staci Klinginsmith, b’11, was crowned Miss Kansas USA earlier this year. She’s an analyst for Cerner in Kansas City.

Nicolas Miller, c’11, works as an account services representative for Security Benefit in Topeka.

Kathleen O’Neill, d’11, g’13, teaches math and science at St. James Academy in Lenexa.

Mathew Shepard, c’11, is an assistant director of student life at Loyola University in Baltimore.

Frank Young, b’11, is a media buyer at Adknowledge. He lives in Leawood.

MARRIED

Maggie Sealright, c’11, and Spencer Lamborn, ’11, June 15 in the Virgin Islands. She studies medicine at KU School of Medicine, and he’s finishing his paramedic certification at Johnson County Community College. They make their home in Kansas City.

Jordan Watson, d’11, and Kimberly Self, e’12, June 1 in La Selva Beach, Calif. They live in San Jose.

12 Amanda Akin, b’12, g’13, is an assurance associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Chicago.

Sparkle Ellison, f’12, works as a patent attorney at Boulware & Valoir in Houston.

Sara Miller, d’12, is an associate producer at The Sing-Off. She lives in Los Angeles.

Michael Plagge, b’12, is a staff accountant at Ernst & Young.

MARRIED

Joseph Brown, c’12, and Kelsie Lange, s’12, March 23 in Lawrence. They live in Littleton, Colo.

Profile by Kate Lorenz

Attorney relishes appeal of semi-pro tackle football

Lara Guscott works as a research attorney on the Kansas Court of Appeals. But for a few months each spring, Guscott boasts a second occupation: slot receiver and kicker for the Kansas City Titans, a women’s semi-professional tackle football team.

American football has led Guscott—a Canadian—around the world and back home. Last fall, she drove 17 hours from Kansas City for national football team tryouts in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. “I just had to see if I could make it,” she says. A slot on Canada’s team would mean another journey—this time, to the Women’s World Championship in Finland.

Growing up in Grande Prairie, Alberta, Guscott, f’11, played soccer, basketball and field hockey, but was discouraged from joining her high school football team. Instead, she focused on soccer, eventually playing for Graceland University in Iowa.

In 2009, Guscott started at the KU School of Law. During her first year, she learned that a teammate from Graceland had joined a women’s football team in Kansas City. After attending one game, Guscott wanted to take the field—“I’m not a spectator,” she says—and she joined the team, then known as the Tribe, the next season. She contributed on special teams and subbed at receiver when the Tribe was “ahead by a million points.” She improved quickly, becoming a first-team All-American the following year, when she also began working as an attorney for Judge G. Joseph Pierron of the Kansas Court of Appeals.

Pierron, f’71, was initially nervous about hiring a football player, but he says Guscott “continued to show up for work with no noticeable limps, slurred speech or cleat marks on her face.” He adds, “She assured me that as a receiver she ran away from danger as much as possible.”

In 2012, Guscott again earned first-team All-America honors. She was also named the American League’s Offensive Player of the Year, an award she collected at the All-Star game in Pittsburgh from Steelers great Franco Harris—who is a part-owner of the Pittsburgh Passion, a mainstay of the Women’s Football Alliance.

Her biggest honor, though, came after her trip to Moose Jaw, when Guscott was selected for Team Canada. In June, she traveled to Finland for a week of training before playing in three Women’s World Championship games: victories against Spain and Finland before a loss to the dominant American team in the final.

“It was hard to compete against some of my American teammates,” she says, “but I’ve always wanted to play for my country.”

Today, other football hopefuls from Guscott’s hometown have that opportunity: There is now a league for girls, so they can start preparations early for their own semi-professional careers.

—Lorenz, c’05, is a Lawrence freelance writer.
Elizabeth Orzulak, c’12, to Steven Lenhart, May 17 in Lawrence. They live in Overland Park, and he works for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway.

Catherine Schuetz, ’12, and Andrew Pittel, c’13, Sept. 22 in Wichita. Their home is in Lawrence.

Morgan Seaman, c’12, to Pilar D’Asto, May 11 in Lawrence, where they live. Morgan is a case manager at O’Connell Youth Ranch in Lawrence, and Pilar is a case manager at the Elizabeth Leyton Center for Mental Health in Ottawa.

Fisher Adwell, c’13, works at the Lawrence Public Library. His home is in Lawrence.

Jordan Armenta, b’13, is a financial-institution specialist at the FDIC in St. Louis, where she lives.

Staci Ashcraft, e’13, is a mechanical engineer at Glumac in Irvine, Calif. She lives in Tustin.

Alexa Backman, d’13, works as a licensed agent at Spring Venture Group in Leawood. She lives in Kansas City.

Akinbode Bakare, ’13, founded Bodies by Bakare, which helps high-school and junior-college athletes who hope to play at Division I schools. He makes his home in Lawrence.

Jessica Barnes, c’13, manages client accounts for Favorite Healthcare Staffing in Overland Park.

Ryan Bartholomew, g’13, is a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Liberty Hospital in Liberty, Mo. He and his wife, Rebekah, live in Riverside.

Abby Bauman, n’13, is a perioperative nurse at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinic in Kansas City. She lives in Lenexa with her partner, Casey Stalder, who’s a senior technical analyst at Oneok Kansas Gas Service.

Jefferson Bauer, b’13, manages accounts receivable for DataFile Technologies in Kansas City. He lives in Lawrence.

JoEllen Belcher, c’13, is a meeting manager at Chief Executive Network. She lives in Kansas City.

Philip Bennett, g’13, works as an admissions counselor at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

Elizabeth Beverlin, p’13, is a pharmacist at CVS. She lives in Rosemead, Calif.

Ali Bishr, p’13, works as a pharmacist at Target. He lives in Eudora.

Stacy Blagg, b’13, is an accountant at INVISTA. She lives in Wichita.

Kayleigh Brooks, p’13, works as a staff pharmacist at Scott City Healthmart Pharmacy in Scott City, where she lives.

Ariele Brownfield, e’13, is an engineer trainee at Oneok. She lives in Topeka.

Michael Bryson, b’13, is a manager at Bryson Pro Sealers. He lives in Paola.

Kelsey Carothers, a’13, works as an intern at Amy Funk-Knoll Textiles. She makes her home in Leawood.

Maneeewan Chandarasorn, PhD’13, works as an economist for the Thailand Ministry of Finance. She lives in Bangkok.

Beth Charlton, c’13, j’13, coordinates marketing and is an agent for Kansas Insurance in Lawrence. She makes her
Michelle Gerstner, a’13, works as an associate designer for IMM in Boulder, Colo.

Kaleb Gilmore, b’13, is an analyst for AIG. His home is in Hoyt.

Megan Godwin, n’13, works as a clinical nurse at KU Medical Center in Kansas City, where she lives.

Angelisa Goodrich, ’13, was chosen by the Tulsa Shock last spring as the 29th overall pick in the WNBA Draft.

Jordan Gray, b’13, coordinates human resources for Omni Hotels and Resorts. She lives in Dallas.

Aadish Gupta, e’13, is a field engineer for Baker Hughes. He lives in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada.

Jennifer Harris, b’13, is a senior specialist in supply-chain management with Cardinal Health in Montgomery, N.Y. She lives in Middletown.

Kelli Hawkins, g’13, works as a designer for CGL Ricci Greene Associates in Lexington, Ky.

Megan Hinman, j’13, edits copy for the Lawrence Journal-World.

Clyde Hoggatt, c’13, is a rental agent for Property Management Services in Lawrence.

Karina Holtzman, g’13, coordinates activities for KVC Hospitals in Olathe. She lives in Mission.

Christine Holyfield, g’13, works as a speech-language pathologist for Community Unit School District 300 in Carpentersville, Ill. She lives in St. Charles.

Scott Howell III, g’13, is a systems engineer for the Universal Group. His home is in Independence, Mo.

John Hunninghake, m’13, serves as a resident physician with the U.S. Air Force in San Antonio.

Joseph Ingolia, c’13, manages projects for the Frank Cooney Company. He lives in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Marta Christie, c’13, is an appointments specialist for the University of Kansas. She lives in Lawrence.

Katherine Collins, l’13, is an associate for Morris Laing Evans Brock & Kennedy in Wichita. Her home is in Andover.

Shannon Collins, c’13, works as a GATE associate for Wyndham Jade. She lives in Woodbridge, Va.

Kendra Coop, s’13, is a community-support specialist at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City. She lives in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Jordan Crawford, c’13, works as a personal trainer at Next Level Fitness in Lawrence. He lives in Topeka.

Bradley Crenshaw, b’13, is a financial analyst for HPC Puckett & Co. in Topeka. His home is in Lawrence.

Jerod Davis, e’13, works as a software engineer for Mersoft in Overland Park.

Lindsay Dudley, g’13, coordinates public engagements for the Teresa Lozano Long Institute at the University of Texas in Austin, where she and her husband, Xavier Abril, l’13, make their home.

Allison Edwards, m’13, practices medicine at the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora.

Alexander Elting, e’13, does software-development consulting for AJJ Software. He lives in Olathe.

Lindsay Young Ewing, h’13, is a respiratory therapist at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She and her husband, Marcus, live in Lawrence.

Gabriel Fajardo, g’13, works as a geologist for Oxy in Bakersfield, Calif., where he and his wife, Valeria, live.

Anthony Fanello, b’13, owns Auto-Matic Credit Acceptance in Cameron, Mo.

Kelsey Fortin, d’13, coordinates nutrition services for Harvesters Community Food Bank in Topeka.

Marcus Gardner, a’13, supervises valets at Hotel Phillips in Kansas City.

Jessica Geiss, n’13, is a nurse at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She makes her home in Olathe.

Jayhawk figurines have been donated by alumni and are in the collection at the Adams Alumni Center.
Kristen Jarvis, g’13, is a nurse at Children’s Mercy South in Leawood.
Andrew Johns, c’13, is a branch manager for Stanion Wholesale Electric. His home is in Eudora.
Jordan Jurczak, ’13, is a multimedia sales executive for Republic Media. She lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.
Kevin Kenn, b’13, works as an accountant in KU’s Comptroller’s Office. He lives in Lawrence.
Ethan Kent, s’13, is a mental-health assistant at KU Medical Center in Kansas City.
Christopher Klockau, p’13, works as a staff pharmacist at City Market. He lives in Fraser, Colo.
Ashley Knedlik, s’13, is a functional family therapist at Intensive Family Counseling. She lives in Overland Park.
Sarah Legg, g’13, is editor-in-chief of Living Wellness Kansas City in Prairie Village.
Christina Lewis, g’13, serves as a major in the U.S. Army. Her home is in Smoke-run, Pa.

Gregory Lindholm, g’13, is clinical director at NuVita in McPherson, where he and his wife, Keri, make their home.
Wenhui Liu, b’13, works as an investment representative for American Century Investment. Her home is in Kansas City.
Jordan Loftus, b’13, coordinates logistics for Ryan Transportation in Lenexa. He lives in Lawrence.
Nealy Lutz, p’13, works as a pharmacist at CVS. She lives in Nortonville.
Wanping Ma, b’13, is a velocity analyst for Cerner in Kansas City. She commutes from Lawrence.
Thomas Mabry, c’13, is a sales executive for Schaltenbrand-Mabry Insurance in Belleville, Ill. He lives in Fairview Heights.
Amanda Maloy, b’13, works as a contract and supplier enablement specialist for KU’s Purchasing Office in Lawrence.
Jennifer Marino, l’13, is an associate attorney for Erise IP in Overland Park.
Dorothy Matheny, s’13, works as a case manager for the Johnson County Mental Health Center. She lives in Kansas City.
Brian McInnes, e’13, is a system integrator for gbaSI. His home is in Lawrence.
Casey McNeil, PhD’13, is an assistant professor of biology at Newman University in Wichita. He lives in Derby.
Abby Montgomery, c’13, works in claim operations at Travelers Insurance. She lives in Lawrence.
Nontalie Morrow, g’13, is a post-secondary adviser at the Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City.
Luke Nitchals, b’13, works as a real-estate analyst for AMC Theatres. He lives in Leavenworth.
Nanami Ohata, g’13, is an assistant product manager for Hill’s Pet Nutrition in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.
Abbey Oliver, b’13, works as a consultant for Perceptive Software in Shawnee.
Elaine O’Neill, n’13, is a registered nurse at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City.
Joseph Pacheco, g’13, is a research associate at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. He and his wife, April, live in Blue Springs, Mo.
Love beer, will travel

In 2010, Maria Scarpello and Brian Devine had a brilliant idea: They quit their jobs, sold everything they owned and set out to explore America in a 29-foot recreational vehicle named Stanley.

“We had done a lot of European travel, but we’d been to more countries than U.S. states,” Scarpello says. “I’d never driven through a mountain range. We thought we’d try it for six months.”

Because both were fans of craft beer, they stopped first at a Colorado brewery. Devine thought it would be a good place to pick up sightseeing tips from the locals, and he wasn’t disappointed.

“They gave us great advice on what to see, including another brewery we visited the next day,” he says. “It created a cycle.”

Three years and 300 breweries later, Scarpello, f’06, g’10, and Devine, f’07, are still rolling, documenting their travels on The Roaming Pint, a website and blog dedicated to the nomadic “beer travel” lifestyle.

“The Roaming Pint started because we really enjoyed this kind of travel and were getting all these great tips on how to do it,” Devine says. “We thought we should share so other people could try it.”

A blend of craft beer and RVing subcultures, beer travel as Scarpello and Devine practice it means touring national parks and other tourist destinations with stops at craft breweries along the way. The number of destinations has exploded since they began.

“Craft beer is in an awesome state of growth right now, which is great for us since we consider them our visitor centers,” Devine says. In 2010, 1,615 U.S. breweries existed. Now there are 2,514 with another 1,500 planned.

“There’s also a unique convergence in terms of social media,” Scarpello says. Facebook and Twitter not only help small breweries compete with corporate beermakers, but they also let like-minded beer aficionados find one another. In fact, the couple soon will launch an online community, the Society of Beer Travelers, to aid that process.

The friends they’ve made along the road—including several encounters with fellow Jayhawks—is a highlight for Scarpello and Devine.

“It’s kind of neat how you meet someone in a bar and hang out, and with social media you can stay in touch and make it a point to meet up the next time you’re in the same part of the country,” Devine says. “The longer we travel, the more places we can go where we know someone.”

Scarpello works full time for a website company and Devine does freelance design work and handles the brewery profiles and reporting on The Roaming Pint, including an interactive map of beer destinations. Their ability to balance work and travel makes the unconventional lifestyle sustainable, Scarpello says.

“I see no reason to stop. As long as we keep finding new breweries, we’ll keep adding to the number.”
and her husband, **Jason**, c’06, l’09, g’09, live in Westwood.

**Jessica Romine**, s’13, is a social work specialist at Larned State Hospital. She lives in Great Bend.

**Daniel Rose**, c’13, works as a GIS analyst for WaterOne in Lenexa. He lives in Lawrence with his wife, Chelsea Taylor.

**Lacey Rozycki**, g’13, teaches special education for the Lee’s Summit R-7 School District in Missouri.

**Michael Rusche**, c’13, directs asset management for EPR Properties in Kansas City.

**Emily Coonfield Saatcioglu**, PhD’13, is a learning coach for USD 497 in Lawrence, where she lives with her husband, Argun.

**Eric Sader**, s’13, f’13, is executive director of Jana’s Campaign Inc. in Hays.

**Hillery Samskey**, b’13, works as a medical-records coder for the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She lives in Olathe.

**Hailey Saunders**, n’13, is a registered nurse at Shawnee Mission Medical Center in Overland Park. She and her husband, **Kevin**, ’04, live in Shawnee.

**Maddie Scheve**, n’13, is a clinical nurse at KU Medical Center. She lives in Overland Park.

**Shannon Meisenheimer Schreiner**, n’13, works as a charge nurse at HaysMed in Hays, where she and her husband, Brian, live with their son, Shawn, ’14.

**Samuel Schroeder**, e’13, is a graduate completions engineer for ConocoPhillips. He lives in Houston.

**Amy Schrumf**, p’13, is a pharmacist at Bellevue Specialty Pharmacy. She lives in Brentwood, Mo.

**Tyler Schuessler**, p’13, is a pharmacist at Balls Food Stores. He makes his home in Overland Park.

**Nathan Schwermann**, e’13, works as a software developer for Sprint Nextel Corporation. He and **Samantha Moore-Schwermann**, ’04, live in Lawrence.

**Amanda Shaw**, d’13, teaches elementary school in Shawnee Heights. Her home is in Overland Park.

**David Sheeley**, b’13, is a business information technology analyst intern at H&R Block. He lives in Lenexa.

**Nicholas Shields**, g’13, is a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Anesthesia Services of Blue Springs. He and his wife, Shawna, live in Kansas City.

**Ayrat Sirazhiev**, g’13, works as a geophysicist at WesternGeco-Schlumberger in Houston, where he and his wife, Victoria Romanova, live.

**Lisa Smith**, g’13, is a speech-language pathologist at Helping Hand. She lives in Lemont, Ill.

**Jacob Snider**, b’13, works as a major account executive for the Sacramento Bee in Sacramento, Calif.

**Matthew Snively**, e’13, is a Java developer for Assurant Employee Benefits. He lives in Leawood.

**Melissa Galitz Sorrick**, g’13, works as an experience designer for DST Systems. She and her husband, **John**, h’09, live in Kansas City, where he’s a respiratory therapist at the KU Medical Center.

**Ashley Spencer**, c’13, is an assistant coach at Tabor College in Hillsboro.

**Samuel Stallbaumer**, e’13, designs roads for Parsons Brinckerhoff in Lenexa.

**Patrick Stratham**, p’13, is sports director for KAIR Radio. He lives in Lawrence.

**Aishah Sutherland**, c’13, played basketball on the U.S. team at the Four Nations Tournament last summer in China, where the national team joined teams from Australia and Hungary. She lives in Corona, Calif.

**Valerie Switzer**, g’13, manages the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs in Warm Springs, Ore.

**Delarius Tarlton**, g’13, serves as a logistics officer with the U.S. Army in Pensacola, Fla.

**Blair Taylor**, p’13, works as a Walgreen’s pharmacist. She lives in Alma.

**Jenna Thomas**, c’13, writes for Amazon. Her home is in Olathe.

**Michael Tinio**, e’13, works as a project management intern at Bayer Healthcare. He lives in Lawrence.

**Steel Trued**, b’13, is a bookkeeper for Tabernacle Homes in Lenexa. He lives in Olathe.

**Javier Valero**, g’13, is a professor of saxophone at the University of Costa Rica. His home is in Miami.

**Ruthie Baumann Vega**, g’13, teaches at a Deere Place. She and her husband, Richard, live in Leavenworth.

**Kristopher Velasco**, c’13, coordinates development for The Supply. His home is in Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Matthew Visser**, c’13, serves with the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps in Williamsburg, Va.

**James Walsh III**, b’13, manages operations for PI Group in Lenexa. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Leawood.

**Dana Whetter**, c’13, teaches math at Free State High School in Lawrence. Her home is in De Soto.

**Eric White**, d’13, directs recruiting operations for Syracuse University Athletics in Syracuse, N.Y.

**Laurie White**, s’13, works on the house staff at the House of Hope. She lives in Overland Park.

**Bradley Wilson**, g’13, is choir director for the BCLUW School District in Conrad, Iowa.

**Ariel Wituszynski**, b’13, coordinates digital media for MMGY Global. She lives in Kansas City.

**Debra Wray**, g’13, is a civil engineer with Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City.

**John Ziegler**, c’13, works as an associate sales representative for Shaker Recruitment Advertising and Communications. He lives in Elmwood Park, Ill.

**MARRIED**

**Katherine Schuller**, s’13, to Andrew Dettmer, June 15 in Mansfield, Ohio. She’s a social worker with Correct Care Solutions, and he serves with the U.S. Coast Guard. Their home is in Owls Head, Maine.

**ASSOCIATES**

**Nikki Epley** recently joined the College Football Playoff, where she’s director of stadium and game operations in Irving, Texas. She had been director of reunions, affinity programs and academic societies for the KU Alumni Association.
Special thanks to these generous 2013 golf tournament sponsors:

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**Great Plains Golf Tournament**

**GARDEN CITY, KS**

Great Plains Golf Tournament and Pig Roast 2013...
In Memory

Walter Claassen, b’39, 96, June 21 in North Newton, where he had served on the board of the Hesston Corporation for many years. He also was a member of the USD 373 Board of Education and had received the Jaycee’s Distinguished Service Award and the Newton Chamber’s Citizen of the Year Award. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Robert, c’76; two daughters, Patty Claassen Purvis, d’69, g’75, PhD’90, and Susan, c’80; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Betty Shaver Reitz, ’39, 94, June 18 in Lawrence. She lived in Kansas City for many years, where she was a volunteer with the Mattie Rhodes program and at Research Hospital. Surviving are her husband, Harry, b’37; a son, Harry Jr., b’60; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Polly Roth Bales, ’42, 92, June 28 in Lawrence. She lived in Logan for many years, where she was an officer and board member for the Kansas State Historical Society, P.E.O., the Phillips County Hospital Guild, Logan Community Concerts and the Logan Library Board. She also served on the board of the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum for more than 30 years. She and her late husband, Dane, gave more than $4.1 million to KU during their lives, supporting cancer research and the Dole Institute of Politics and establishing the Bales Organ Recital Hall, which is attached to the Lied Center. She was a recipient of the KU Alumni Association’s Fred Ellsworth Medallion and the Distinguished Service Citation and is a member of the KU Women’s Hall of Fame. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a sister and 12 nieces and nephews.

Nancy Petersen Berkely, c’44, 90, Dec. 5 in Sarasota, Fla. She is survived by her husband, Joe, a daughter, a grandson and two great-grandchildren.

Richard Cray, b’49, 85, July 23 in Mission Hills, where he was retired from a career with McCormick Distillery. He had been active in many civic and philanthropic activities as well as KU Endowment and the KU Business School Board of Advisors. Survivors include his wife, Laura Shutz Cray, c’54; two sons, one of whom is Thomas, ’86; a daughter, Patty Cray Mach, c’80; a stepson; a stepdaughter, Susanne Slough Bryan, ’84; a brother, Cloud Jr., assoc.; a sister; 14 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Louis Culp, c’49, m’53, 88, June 28 in Kansas City, where he was retired from a 47-year career as a general practitioner. He is survived by his wife, Marion Eide Culp, assoc.; three daughters, Nancy Culp Ninon, f’75, Cynthia Culp Maute, f’79; and Rebecca Culp Johnston, c’85; two sons, Louis, j’77, and Steven, c’78; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Norman Hanson, b’48, g’51, PhD’86, 91, June 24 in Newton, where he was a veteran of numerous posts in federal and state civil service. He had been director of administration for the Radiation Control Division of the Environmental Protection Agency and was a consultant with the National Council of Governments. Surviving are three daughters, Joy Hanson Robb, c’82, g’86, Jennifer, b’85, g’87, and Janet Hanson Dodson, assoc.; and two granddaughters.

Dennis Hardman, c’46, m’49, 87, June 25 in Louisville, Colo. He practiced medicine in Smith Center and at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Grand Island, Neb. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by three sons, John, c’75, Stuart, d’77, and Philip, c’78; a sister, Donna Hardman Hallewel, n’57; three grandchildren; and four stepgrandchildren.

Eleanore Aikins Jones, c’47, 87, Jan. 1 in Poulsbo, Wash., where she was active in community and church activities. A son and two daughters survive.

Janet Viets Kepler, c’42, 91, July 24 in Overland Park, where she was retired from a career in journalism, education and government service. The last 20 years of her professional life were spent with the General Services Administration. She is survived by a son, Bruce, c’74; two daughters, Susan Keplinger Heninger, g’73, and Nancy Keplinger Topper, c’69, m’73; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Gordon McCune, e’48, 87, April 4 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was an engineer, a real-estate developer and a partner in the architectural and engineering firm of McCune, McCune & Associates. He is survived by his wife, Anne, a daughter, a son and seven grandchildren.

H. Lee Nelson, e’47, 92, June 11 in Newark, Calif., where he was retired from Morton Salt Co. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Griswold Nelson, c’44; a daughter; a son; a sister, Gladys Nelson Haun, assoc.; and three grandchildren.

Harold Phelps Jr., e’46, 88, July 6 in Santa Maria, Calif., where he was retired after a career as a civil engineer with the Central Intelligence Agency. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Austin Pickering, b’49, 84, Jan. 5 in Bradenton, Fla. He was retired manager of manufacturing with Quaker Oats in Chicago and later was administrator of Asbury Towers in Bradenton, Fla. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen; a son; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Wanda Baker Rueger, c’47, 87, June 26 in McMinnville, Ore., where she was a retired medical technologist. She is survived by three daughters, a grandson and a great-grandson.

Marvin Small Jr., c’49, 90, June 16 in College Station, Texas. He had a 35-year career as a pilot, sales manager and public-relations officer with Beech Aircraft in Wichita. Surviving are three daughters, one of whom is Susan Small Williams, assoc.; a son; a sister; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Virginia Smith, c’42, 92, June 20 in Shawnee. She worked in the Federal Printing Office in Washington, D.C., for many years. Several cousins survive.
Raymond Thompson Jr., p'48, 87, Dec. 18 in Westminster, Colo., where he was director of pharmacy at Valley View Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Margie, two sons, a daughter, a sister, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The Hon. Rosalie Erwin Wahl, c'46, 88, July 22 in Lake Elmo, Minn. In 1977 she became the first woman appointed to the Minnesota Supreme Court, retiring in 1994. She received the Distinguished Service Citation from KU and the Alumni Association in 1998. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is Christopher, ’75; two daughters; a sister; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Vernon Ashby, c’50, 89, Feb. 28 in Albany, Ore. He was a retired microbiologist and virologist with the Washington State Department of Health Services. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette Bolas Ashby, c’50; three daughters; a son; six grandsons; and one great-grandson.

Elizabeth “Betty” Baurer, j’52, 83, June 23 in Chicago, where she was a soprano soloist with the Chicago Chamber Choir. She also taught voice privately and for the Academy of Music in Oak Park. Several cousins survive.

Bob Brooks, p’51, 94, July 3 in Salem, Ore., where he was director of pharmacies at Salem Memorial Hospital. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, a grandchild and two great-grandchildren.

James Bryant, e’52, 86, July 11 in Kansas City, where he had been a service manager at R&W Distributing. He is survived by three sons, one of whom is Jeffrey, e’72; a brother; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Denny Carder, c’56, 78, July 12 in Las Vegas, where he was a retired captain in the U.S. Navy. Several cousins survive.

Lord Pratap Chitnis, g’58, 77, July 12 in rural France. He was a prominent fixture in England’s center-left politics from 1960 through the 1980s. He became head of the Liberal party in 1966 and later was chief executive of the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust. He was awarded lifetime peerage in 1977 and is survived by his wife, Anne; and two brothers, one of whom is Anand, g’65.

Paul Culp, j’57, 77, March 26 in Dallas, where he was retired from a career in television and radio, selling advertising and producing and hosting local programs. He is survived by his wife, Loretta, a son, a daughter, a sister and four grandchildren.

Wilbur Goodseed, d’53, g’62, 83, Aug. 5, in Kansas City, where he retired as administrator of speech and language with the Kansas City Missouri School District. The KU Black Alumni Chapter named him an African-American Leader and Innovator, and he received the Rolland Van Hattum Award from the American Speech-Language Hearing Foundation. Survivors include his wife, Charlotte, and a daughter.

John Gorman, m’54, 85, Feb. 7 in Frederickburg, Va. He was a retired commander in the U.S. Navy and later worked at Frederickburg Emergi-Care Center until retiring. He is survived by his wife, Dottie, a daughter, two sons, a sister and eight grandchildren.

Walter Hastings, c’50, f’52, 87, July 18 in Cameron, Mo. He lived in Kansas City, where he worked for Farmers Insurance Group for 35 years. Two sons and four grandchildren survive.

Phyllis Ward Hettinger, b’54, 80, June 22 in Northville, Mich. She is survived by her husband, Robert, c’53, l’55; two children; and three grandchildren.

Robert Lenagar Jr., e’51, 89, July 1 in Leawood, where he was retired from Bayer. He earlier had worked for King Radio and Kansas City Structural Steel. He is survived by his wife, Lottie, a son, a daughter and five grandchildren.

Thomas Lovitt, d’52, g’60, EdD’66, 82, June 25 in Kirkland, where he was a professor emeritus of special education at the University of Washington. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by three sons, a daughter, a sister, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Betty Crawford Rossman, d’52, 83, July 15 in Olathe, where she was a retired elementary-school teacher. She is survived by her husband, Richard, c’53; a daughter, Ann Rossman McCort, d’77; and three grandchildren.

Dee Roy, c’51, 84, June 26 in Bella Vista, Ark., where he was retired from a career practicing dentistry. He is survived by his wife, Georgia; two sons; one of whom is William, ’83; and four grandchildren.

George Sheldon, c’57, m’61, 78, June 16 in Chapel Hill, where he chaired the department of surgery at the University of North Carolina. He had served as president of the American College of Surgeons, the American Surgical Association and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Guy Sheldon, d’58; three daughters; two brothers, William, c’60, and Richard, c’54; and four grandchildren.

Max Starns, p’58, 78, July 4 in Odessa, Mo., where he had owned Starns Pharmacy. Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth; three sons, two of whom are Arthur, b’86, and Gregory, ’90; and eight grandchildren.

Ann Kelly Steele, j’56, 79, July 4 in Kansas City, where she had been director of publications at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She was a docent at the Kansas City Museum. Surviving are her husband, Don, and a son.

Carl Sundborg, l’50, 91, Feb. 7 in Concord, Calif., where he lived for 54 years. He worked for Travelers Insurance Company and is survived by his wife, Mary, a son, a daughter and a grandson.

Jack Sutton, b’53, 82, Feb. 3 in Reading, Pa., where he had a long career in the insurance business. He is survived by two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren.

John Switzer, c’55, 85, May 28 in Kansas City, where he had a 32-year career with the Kansas City Star as a writer, reporter, photographer and photo-lab technician. He is survived by his wife, Caroline; a son, Larry, ’93; a stepdaughter; a stepson; a sister; and a step-granddaughter.

Joan Salisbury Tannahill, d’53, 83, July 14 in Davenport, Iowa, where she was a retired teacher at the Kansas City Middle School of the Arts. She is survived by three sons, a daughter, a brother, a half brother, his stepmother, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Ruth Hurwitz Wagy, c’51, g’58, 83, March 22 in Boca Raton, Fla., where she headed the computer department at St.
In Memory

Andrew's School. Earlier she had been head of math and science at Bedford Junior High School in Westport, Conn. Survivors include two sons and a brother. Earl Windisch, e'51, 85, June 1 in Overland Park, where he was a retired partner at Black & Veatch. He is survived by his wife, Mary; two daughters, one of whom is Gail Windisch Odgers, '93; a son, Paul, b'84, b'85; a sister; and six grandchildren.

James Beauchamp, m'63, 75, Nov. 2 in Orinda, Calif., where he was retired after practicing medicine for 34 years. He is survived by his wife, Kay; a son; a daughter; two brothers, Glen, e'53, and Gary, c'66, m'70; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Johnny Brown Jr., e'66, g'67, 70, July 1 in Fremont, Calif., where he owned Alcor Consulting, a software programming consulting firm. A daughter and a grandson survive.

Martha Peterson Brummett, '61, 79, June 30 in St. Louis. She was a teacher and volunteered for many years in church, schools, community affairs and politics. Surviving are her husband, Richard Sr., c'56, m'64; a daughter, Christine Brummett Baker, '80; three sons, Richard Jr., c'81, m'87, Darin, b'92, m'96, and David, c'92, m'96; and 10 grandchildren.

Patrick Cigich, g'61, EdD'77, 87, June 13 in Raymore, Mo. He had been lay superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Eileen, assoc.; two daughters, Leah Cigich Moulder, d'77, and Mercedes Cigich Gieringer, '84; a son, Barry, c'78; and nine grandchildren.

John Meriwether, g'63, 79, June 27 in Little Rock, Ark., where he had been city manager and later vice president of the University of Arkansas. He earlier had been general manager of the Arkansas Gazette and vice president of development of the First National Bank of Paragould. He is survived by his wife, Judy, a stepson, a stepdaughter and two stepgrandchildren.

Howard Pierson, g'69, 78, May 8 in Portland, Ore., where he was retired after teaching history and English for 22 years. He is survived by two sons, two daughters, two sisters and 12 grandchildren.

Brent Reppert, c'68, g'71, 68, July 18 in Neenah, Wis. He had been an auditor and a communications analyst at Kimberly Clark, where he worked for 30 years. Surviving are his wife, Carla; two sons; a daughter, Elizabeth Reppert Kastl, c'05; a sister, Brenda Reppert Johnson, d'61; and a granddaughter.

Lowell Renz, m'64, 75, May 27 in Post Falls, Idaho, where he was retired after practicing medicine for many years in Sacramento, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, three daughters, a brother and 10 grandchildren.

David Straub, c'62, m'66, 72, July 5 in Joplin, Mo., where he practiced medicine until 2012. He is survived by his wife, Myra; two sons, one of whom is Jonathan, '94; a daughter; a brother; and six grandchildren.

James Tidwell, b'68, g'69, 66, May 30 in Houston, where he was retired vice president and chief financial officer for WEDGE Group Inc. He is survived by his wife, Ann, a son, a daughter, a brother, two sisters and four grandchildren.

Jack Barnes, p'73, 69, May 13 in Hutchinson, where he had been a pharmacist at Walgreens. He is survived by his wife, Paula; a daughter, Heather Barnes Lagergren, j'96; a brother, Michael, j'64; and two grandchildren.

Wayne Clark, EdD'75, 85, June 25 in Bella Vista, Ark., where he retired from a career as a teacher, coach and administrator. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Morley Clark, assoc.; two sons; a daughter, Debra Clark Hadix, '80; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Donna Farney Gazda, g'74, 80, Feb. 17 in Houston, where she lived. Among survivors are her husband, Edward; a son, Jeffrey, c'86; and a daughter.

Margaret Nickless Hage, s'79, 92, July 5 in Leawood. She was a social worker and a family counselor. Surviving are a son, James, '66; two daughters, one of whom is Kathleen Hage Hardin, g'73; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

John Hodges, a'71, 65, July 23 in Dillon, Colo. He was a partner in Hodges/Marvin Architects. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Julie Belsaas Hodges, d'68; his mother; and two sisters.

Vera Ellerman Hurst, g'76, 79, July 15 in Atchison. She was a retired special-education teacher. Surviving are her husband, Van; two daughters; a son; two sisters, one of whom is Esther Ellerman Willis, assoc.; 12 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Paul Dry, b'81, 54, June 23 in Lenexa, where he was a retired accountant. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by a son; a daughter; his parents, Thomas, s'80, and Marilyn Dry; and a sister, Karen Dry Narula, b'83.

Brent Lupton, c'81, 54, June 20 in Kingwood, Texas. He had been executive director of global commodities for JPMorgan Chase. Surviving are his wife, Anita Brack Lupton, b'81; two daughters, one of whom is Kathryn, d'13; two sons, Kevin, b'11, and Gregory, '15; and three sisters.

Loren Moll, c'83, l'86, 56, July 14 in Overland Park where he specialized in real-estate litigation and was a partner in the firm of Caldwell & Moll. He is survived by his wife, Noelle; two daughters; his mother; and two sisters, one of whom is Carol Moll Krska, e'83, g'97.

Vicky Liechti Myers, s'89, 56, May 11 in Savannah, Mo. She was a clinical social worker with Family Guidance Center and later worked at Northwest Health Services. Surviving are her husband, Rollin, a daughter, a son, a stepdaughter, two stepsons, two brothers and a granddaughter.

Clifford Smith, '88, 83, June 16 in Overland Park. He worked for Allied Signal for more than 30 years and later worked for the General Services Administration. Surviving are two daughters, Kimberly Smith Baker, d'78, and Marilyn Smith Hayes, c'83.

Bo March, a'93, 49, April 8 in Lawrence, where he was an architect, craftsman, designer and contrac-
tor. He is survived by his wife, Carol Shipley March, b'87; two sons; his father; three brothers, one of whom is Stanimir, d'01; and a sister.

Stephen Maxwell, b'94, 42, April 16 in Olathe. He had worked for California Casualty Insurance and is survived by his wife, Molly McCarthy Maxwell, j'93; two daughters; his parents, Edd, c'63, and Shirley; three sisters, two of whom are Jennifer Maxwell Gibson, '95, and Mary Maxwell Patterson, d'61, g'03; and a brother, John, '99.

Ronald Mersch, EdD'95, 57, Feb. 5 in Overland Park, where he was a teacher, a coach and an administrator. Among survivors are his wife, Lynne Smith Mersch, h'82; a son; a daughter; his mother; three sisters; and two brothers.

John David Robertson, g'93, l'93, 55, April 12 in Iowa City. He had been a social worker and a family therapist in Kansas City for 12 years and later began a private law practice in Iowa City. A son, his mother and two sisters survive.

Brian Roeder, j'96, 40, July 2 in Los Angeles, where he had a career in event management. He is survived by his mother, Brenda Jacobs, b'99; his father and stepmother; a brother; and his grandmother.

Michael Slama, m'91, 53, April 21 in Coon Rapids, Minn., where he was an obstetrician-gynecologist at Coon Rapids Women's Health and divisional medical director for Allina Medical Clinics. He is survived by his wife, Anne, a daughter, his mother, a brother and three sisters.

Charles “Chuck” Smith, c'92, 44, May 27 in Mission. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, a son, a daughter, his parents and a brother.

Gregory Smith, b'91, 50, May 7 in De Soto. He was vice president of Cassidy-Turler Commercial Real Estate and had been president of the Dream Factory. He is survived by his wife, P.J., two daughters and two sisters.

Tilia Weaver Thomas, d'94, 46, Feb. 11 in Kansas City. She taught second grade at Three Trails Elementary School in Independence, Mo. Surviving are her husband, Lorn, '91; a daughter; a son; her father; three brothers; and three sisters, one of whom is Aretha Weaver, '86.

Mark Weddle, b'90, 46, July 27 in Overland Park, where he was a manager in the tax department at Sprint Nextel. He is survived by his wife, Gina Scira Weddle, n'90, g'95; a son; a daughter, Holly, '15; a twin brother, Paul, b'91; his parents, Forrest, assoc., and Ruth Weddle, assoc.; and two sisters, Donna, c'87, g'90, and Janice Weddle Gales, n'89.

Randel Wolfe, g'99, 52, April 14 in Reading, Pa., where he was director emeritus of music and the arts at Trinity Lutheran Church. While at KU, he often sang the national anthem in Allen Field House before men's basketball games. He is survived by his partner, David Kersley, his mother and two brothers.

Makenna Rose Bartel-Heaney, f'08, 28, April 22 in Overland Park, where she owned a jewelry design and fabrication business. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Her husband, James, e'09; her mother; and a sister, Devon Bartel, '13, survive.

Stephanie Schauer-Redhair, c'01, 35, March 7 in Overland Park. She is survived by her husband, Bryan, '11; her parents; a sister; a half-brother; and her grandmother.

Hai Tran, c'01, 36, April 26 in Wichita. He is survived by his parents.

Brian Boyd, '14, 21, May 17 in Lawrence, where he studied music at KU. He lived in Leawood and is survived by his parents, Chris, c'81, and Nina Simpson Boyd, b'81; three brothers, one of whom is Taylor, '14; a sister; and his grandparents.

Courtney Newman, '13, 22, Feb. 28 in Lawrence, where she studied psychology and sociology at KU and was a resident adviser at Ellsworth Hall. She lived in Leavenworth. Surviving are her parents, Lori Carrell and Hubert Newman, and her grandmother.

Nicholas Pennipede, '14, 22, June 23 in Leawood. He was majoring in cellular biology and minoring in Italian at KU. Surviving are his parents, Vince and Sandy, and a brother.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Alan Lichter, 82, July 6 in Orcas, Wash. He had been a professor of creative writing and modern American literature at KU for 26 years and also was a guest professor at universities in Sweden, Germany and Poland. While in Orcas, he had served on the San Juan County Council and is survived by his wife, Kate.

Philip Montgomery, 77, July 6 in Lawrence, where he had been a KU professor of math from 1964 until 2003. He is survived by two daughters; a son, Philip Jr., e'84, g'89; two step-daughters, Melissa McCauley, c'86, g'04, and Catherine Colyer, '99; and 12 grandchildren.

Stanley Nelson, 84, May 29 in Fairway. He joined the faculty at the KU School of Medicine in 1966 and was a member of the departments of pharmacology, neurosurgery and anatomy. He later chaired the anatomy department and was named a professor emeritus when he retired in 1994. Surviving are his wife, Ann, assoc.; three sons, two of whom are Reid, l'86, and Peter, c'82, m'86; four sisters; and three grandchildren.

The Rev. Alan Pickering, b'49, 85, June 29 in Sun City Center, Fla., where he was a retired Presbyterian minister. He had been an adjunct professor of religion at KU and a visiting lecturer in Middle Eastern languages and linguistics. He later was a national training director for the YMCA in Chicago. Surviving are his wife, Kay; a daughter, Nancy, '75; two sons, one of whom is Keith, '77; a stepdaughter; and five grandchildren.

Clyde Stoltenberg, 65, July 24 in Wichita, where he was the Barton Distinguished professor of international business at Wichita State University. Earlier he was a professor of international business and business law at KU, where he taught for nearly 20 years. He is survived by his mother, Gloria, a brother and a sister.

Carol Dinsdale Worth, g'73, 83, July 19 in Lawrence, where she taught German at KU for many years. She is survived by her husband, George, assoc.; a daughter, Theresa Worth Wilkinson, '78; a son, Paul, j'80, g'80; a sister; and four grandchildren.
Silver and Gold

Art student researches perceptions of “value”

Eli Gold is fascinated by value relationships: the value a child has for his scribbles on a page, the value that child’s mother has for those stacks of scribbled pages, and the value of the time or money that went into those scribbles. “It’s kind of a powerful idea to take the very whimsical, abrupt way a child understands an assignment—which ends up having a little bit of value to the family and a little bit of value to the kid—and turning it into something that has fairly understand-

able monetary value, as well as time,” says Gold.

These relationships inspired the master of fine arts student in the spring of 2012 to propose “From Their Hands to Mine” for a School of the Arts Interdisciplinary Research Grant. He would work with students to help them create clay teapots—one of which he would fabricate in silver and sell for their benefit. “It activated a discussion of value and how we value materials and time and children’s ideas,” says Gold.

After winning the grant, Gold began meeting with fifth graders at the East Heights neighborhood Boys & Girls Club. “Some of the kids really wanted to get into the clay as much as possible, and some did the projects because they felt like they had to, as quickly as possible,” Gold says of the students. “For me, it was a very big project.”

Gold’s studio peers selected the “Elepot,” a teapot bearing elephant ears and a trunk by Asjah Harris, for Gold to recreate. He spent 200 to 300 hours fabricating the teapot in $800 worth of sterling silver sheets, and added green enamel to the handle and emeralds for eyes. “Silver was always the realm of the wealthy,” says Gold of his choice of media. “And the teapot is the most loaded object of the silversmithing lineage. It’s a very visually complicated object and it’s difficult to make, so it takes a lot of time and craftsmanship.”

Gold also crafted aluminum versions of the 19 remaining students’ teapots so they could take something home from the project.

This spring, the silver “Elepot,” its wax mold, Gold’s aluminum renderings and photographs of his work with the children were on display at the Lawrence Arts Center. “The real culmination will be when the piece is sold, and that’s something I’m negotiating now with the Kamm Teapot Foundation,” Gold says. The foundation, created by Los Angeles art enthusiasts Sonny and Gloria Kamm, boasts the world’s largest teapot collection, numbering more than 17,000 items.

—Lydia Benda

Sculptor and School of the Arts student Eli Gold transformed a clay teapot created by a fifth grader into the silver “Elepot” as part of his “From Their Hands to Mine” project.
Tiny survivor

Newborn’s rare brain aneurysm successfully shut with superglue

For her first two weeks, little Ashlyn Julian was, according to the KU neurosurgeon who saved her life by repairing an extremely rare ruptured brain aneurysm, “very rambunctious and attentive and full of energy.” When she suddenly began sleeping and feeding poorly, her parents took her to their local Kansas City-area hospital, where doctors suspected the child was suffering from typical maladies, most likely an upset stomach. But symptoms persisted, and Ashlyn even had a seizure, with her body contracting and stiffening.

She promptly returned to normal, but her parents, Jared and Gina Julian, were concerned enough to take her to Children’s Mercy Hospital, where doctors found that the soft spots on Ashlyn’s skull had become tense. An ultrasound detected what was first thought to be a tumor, until pediatric neurosurgeon John Clough, m’94, concluded that a tumor would probably not have caused her symptoms.

Clough ordered an MRI, which revealed bleeding in the child’s brain, an event so rare in infants less than 28 days old that medical literature had recorded a mere 17 such cases since 1949; Ashlyn was No. 18.

He brought the case to the daily neurosurgery conference at KU Medical Center, where it was agreed the best course of treatment would be to access the aneurysm through the baby’s vascular system. Ashlyn’s body had stopped the bleeding by forming a clot, but the clots are delicate and can rupture when the brain is jostled during a typical open-skull surgery; and, because her body was so tiny, any loss of blood might well have been more than Ashlyn could endure.

As the KU team—including assistant professor and endovascular neurosurgeon Koji Ebersole and assistant professor and interventional neuroradiologist Alan Reeves, c’93, m’97—went through a final discussion of surgical options, the child seized again. “They knew her life was in imminent peril and rushed into action.

Working in a specialized operating room equipped with the latest in 3D imaging, the surgeons snaked the tiniest microcatheter they could find into Ashlyn’s blood vessels. Once they progressed from the child’s thigh to the aneurysm in her brain, they inserted into the catheter a micro-wire, about the thickness of a human hair, with which Ebersole delivered a drop of surgical superglue to seal the rupture.

Both Reeves and Ebersole say that although the procedure was exceedingly unusual because of the patient’s tender age, they approached it as they would any other surgery and felt no added pressure with an infant’s life in their hands.

“For me, personally, my anxiety about any procedure has to do with whether or not it’s the right thing to do,” Ebersole says. “Once I’ve decided that I’m doing the right thing, then there’s no nerves at all. ... [And] once she experienced the second bleeding, I was strongly compelled that there was not a better solution, so I was not nervous thereafter.”

Although the use of superglue captured the public’s attention when news about the surgery went out around the world, superglue is actually now a standard tool for sealing aneurysms. For the surgeons and their colleagues, the intriguing aspect of the case was the fact that Ashlyn was just 3 weeks old at the time of the procedure. The KU doctors will detail their experience in medical literature so professionals worldwide can learn from the case, but they don’t anticipate that it will be needed anytime soon.

“That’s not just a once-in-a-career case,” Reeves says, “it’s a once-in-a-career case
Rock Chalk Review

Daniel Woodrell has carved out a hard-won and richly deserved reputation for himself in the literary world by focusing his lean, lyrical writing on the kind of folks not usually spotted at book fairs and writing conventions.

In eight novels and a collection of short stories, he has brought to life a rogue’s gallery of hapless thieves, addled addicts, and self-deceiving ne’er-do-wells with whip-smart characterization and jolts of lightning-vivid prose that hit American letters like a shot of adrenaline to the jugular.

The Maid's Version, his ninth novel, unfolds in the West Table, Mo., milieu that Woodrell, ’80, has portrayed so memorably in his previous work. But this time around he selects a larger swath of this Ozarks town for examination.

His narrator, a young boy named Alek, is sent to stay with his grandmother, Alma DeGeer Dunahew, for the summer. An illiterate maid who once worked for one of the town’s most prominent citizens, a banker named Arthur Glencross, Alma is privy to secrets and insights into the kind of lives that Woodrell’s characters have traditionally glimpsed only from afar or by breaking and entering.

The heart of the novel—and the heart of Alma’s long nurtured bitterness—is a mysterious explosion at the Arbor Dance Hall in 1929 that killed 42 of the town’s citizens, including Alma’s beloved sister Ruby.

Suspicts abound. Was it an itinerant preacher who rails against the evils of dancing? A band of gypsies run rudely out of town? St. Louis gangsters planning to rob the bank? Or was it Glencross himself, devastated by the end of his extramarital affair with the wild Ruby and desperate to win her back?

Weaving all these strands together as Alma slowly reveals her theory of the explosion’s cause to Alek over the course of a long, lazy summer, Woodrell brings to his tale the familiar elements of suspenseful mystery, dark fairy tale and the rich mix of southern gothic and noir that distinguish his earlier work.

The relieved Julians brought 3-month-old Ashlyn back to KU Medical Center for a visit in late August, and her doctors say the bright, happy baby can be expected to enjoy normal childhood development.

“I wasn’t even thinking about anything we went through,” Ebersole said while cradling Ashlyn, who sported a lacy headband and a “My Daddy Rocks” bib. “I was just thinking that she just seems fantastic. I forgot about all those things that we went through.”

—Chris Lazzarino

What the maid knew

Woodrell’s ninth novel welds taut prose and expansive plot
characterization are brought to bear on a broader segment of society and a longer span of time, providing a more complete picture of West Table as a town with a history—in a sense, as a fully developed character in its own right. The result is a novel that seems slightly subdued by Woodrell’s standards, but a plot that is richer and more complex.

Woodrell has long specialized in showing how the other half lives. With his ninth novel, he brings both halves together to a greater extent than before, and the result is a book that’s well-written, richly plotted and wholly successful. —Steven Hill

Border crashes

Filmmaker with eye for unusual documents demolition derby

Patrick Sumner and his brother, Brandon, then owners of a commercial video production company, spent much of the early 2000s knocking around various underground scenes throughout Kansas City and across the region. Wherever they could find something new and raw and high-energy happening, they grabbed their Sony MiniDV camera and headed out in search of footage.

“We were looking at the elderly outsider artist. The young fashion designer. African-American cowboys of Kansas City. Historical stuff like the Monroe school, the Brown vs. Board school in Topeka,” says Sumner, c’97, g’05. “We didn’t have just one flavor. Whenever we found something to be of interest, whether it was historical or subcultural, we would just go after it and start shooting.”

They got in on the early days of Kansas City’s Crossroads Arts District, which was the starting point for a “long, strange” journey that resulted in this year’s release of “Civil War on Wheels,” a film about Kansas and Missouri drivers playing out old feuds at dusty demolition derbies.

While gathering footage for a documentary on underground fashion shows, which eventually aired on KCPT in 2005, the Sumners discovered an oddity they could not ignore: a demolition derby team launched by Kansas City Art Institute students and alumni who billed themselves as “We Ain’t Stupid.” That led them to promoter Greg Clemons, who, sensing opportunity when he saw a Nevada, Mo., crowd get riled up over a derby victory by a driver from nearby Fort Scott, created a Jayhawks vs. Bushwhackers series that he eventually dubbed Civil War on Wheels.

“The drivers did not like each other,” Sumner says. “But instead of being like the old days, when they were shooting it out with guns, they were crashing cars into each other.”

The demolition derby footage shot in 2004 remained unused, as Brandon moved on to New York and Patrick pursued his lifelong passion for social justice by working at a homeless drop-in center, the Frank Williams Outreach Center, which he now manages. He never forgot about the derby footage, though, and returned to the project in 2012.

Working in partnership with Lawrence film editor Chris Snipes, Sumner pulled the footage into a narrative, shot follow-up interviews, created transitions to weave together the story themes of “We Ain’t Stupid” and the “Civil War on Wheels,” and wrote and recorded narration, at one point using his cellphone when he couldn’t get Snipes’ high-end recorder to work properly. After eight months of work, the completed film—which features a soundtrack with music from such regional favorites as Split Lip Rayfield, Molly Gene and Sin City Disciples—premiered last spring at the Free State Film Festival and was shown at Kansas City’s Tivoli Theater, and in August aired on KCPT, which is helping promote the film to other public television outlets. The DVD is expected to be released in September.

“I’m very happy with the final product. I think it’s the best thing I’ve ever done,” says Sumner, who, while still an American Studies undergrad at KU, produced a documentary on underground fashion shows, “Rear Entry,” that took top honors at the 1996 Kan Film Festival.

Next up for Sumner is a book about the 1980s punk music scene in Kansas City, and film editor Chris Snipes is hard at work on a film about Lawrence subcultures titled “Our Town.” —Chris Lazzarino
For the KU-South Dakota football game Sept. 7, students sported “Far Above” T-shirts—fashion statements announcing the start of the faculty, staff and student phase of Far Above: The Campaign for Kansas. Since July 2008, donors have contributed $923 million to KU Endowment’s comprehensive drive to raise $1.2 billion to educate future leaders, advance medicine, accelerate discovery and drive economic growth. The campaign will end in 2016.
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