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_By Chris Lazzarino_

Cover photograph by Steve Puppe

Justice for All

Sarah Deer’s work to protect native women from sexual assault helped bring about two key federal laws—and earned the Muscogee (Creek) Indian a prestigious MacArthur “genius grant.”

_By Steven Hill_

What Came Before

Like the “monuments men” of World War II who inspired her, Corine Wegener saves civilization’s treasures from becoming casualties of war.

_By Chris Lazzarino_
Travel the World with the Flying Jayhawks

2015 Travel

Mystical Andes & Majestic Fjords
FEBRUARY 2-23

Discover Down Under
FEBRUARY 10-28

Ancient Cities & Colonial Splendors of Sri Lanka
FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 11

The Masters
APRIL 8-11

Island Life Cuba
APRIL 19-27

Kentucky Derby
APRIL 30 - MAY 3

Isles & Empires of the Adriatic
MAY 2-11

Swiss Alps & Italian Lakes
MAY 8-17

National Parks and Lodges of the Old West
MAY 23 - JUNE 1

Pearls of the Mediterranean
JUNE 15-23

Botsswana Safari
JUNE 24-JULY 7

The Great Journey through Europe
JULY 7-17

Passage of Lewis and Clark Expedition
AUGUST 1-9

Nordic Pathways
AUGUST 1-14

Coastal Maine & New Brunswick
AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 2

Discover Southeast Alaska
AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 4

Yangtze River and China
SEPTEMBER 9-23

Ancient Greece & Turkey
SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 6

Machu Picchu, Cusco & the Sacred Valley
OCTOBER 18-23

New York - Theatre Tour
NOVEMBER 25-29

Holiday Markets
DECEMBER 6-17

Dates may be subject to change.

For the latest dates and detailed trip descriptions, visit www.kualumni.org/travel or call 800-584-2957.
4 Lift the Chorus
Letters from our readers

7 First Word
The editor's turn

8 On the Boulevard
KU & Alumni Association events

10 Jayhawk Walk
Smiles, everyone; ‘rassling research; a power-lifting professor and more

12 Hilltopics
News and notes: Budget looms large; School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures launches.

18 Sports
Graham’s return sparks men’s hoops; Beaty era promises sportier spread offense.

42 Association News
New career services help members take advantage of alumni networking.

46 Class Notes
Profiles of a native leader, a technology futurist, a coffee connoisseur and more

60 In Memory
Deaths in the KU family

64 Rock Chalk Review
Illustrator flies high with Bluebird; professor organizes exhibition of O’Keeffe and contemporaries.

68 Glorious to View
Scene on campus
Lift the Chorus

Billy’s triumph

Congratulations for capturing the spirit of Billy Mills in “The Man With Wings on His Feet” [issue No. 6].

Through my good friend Bob Billings, I was fortunate to meet Billy when he was still running for KU. You can imagine how thrilled I was when I learned with the rest of the world that he’d won the Olympic 10,000 meters.

I’ve been eagerly awaiting the article since I learned that Steven Hill was doing it. It was certainly worth the wait. Billy’s triumph over such early childhood adversity and racial discrimination should be an inspiration for us all.

John McGrew, b’60
Lawrence

Mills’ success goes beyond gold

Yesterday I received a copy of Kansas Alumni from my former KU track and field teammate and personal friend, Billy Mills. The article was very accurate and well done. It caught some of the drama and racism that people of color faced while living in Lawrence and most other U.S. cities a half century ago and still today.

As you wrote, Billy Mills had to be careful just walking through Lawrence and could be insulted or beaten because he was Native American. In Lawrence he had only one restaurant where he was permitted to eat and one barber shop off campus where he could get a haircut. If he needed to go to the county hospital, he could get in only by the back door. The movie “Running Brave” caught some of Mills’ struggles to get a chance at success.

I doubt anyone will ever write an article about when, in 1958 and 1959, Dick Harp’s KU basketball teams were sometimes called “Blackhawks” because they had three or four African-American starters in Allen Field House. Or when sprinter Charlie Tidwell pulled a hamstring while leading the finals at the 1960 U.S.A. Olympic Team trials in Berkeley. Considered the world’s fastest sprinter, with a chance at the gold medal in Rome, Tidwell was leading by four meters when he limped to a stop, his Olympic dreams shattered. He had an earlier disappointment when he broke the 220-yard dash world record in a dual meet in Abilene; two weeks later coach Bill Easton announced that he had received a letter from the Abilene Christian College track coach stating that the record forms could not be submitted because it had been discovered that the starting line had been set incorrectly. Incorrect starting lines on a track where ACC’s great Olympic champion Bobby Morrow trained and raced? Right!

Your article was both enjoyable and very accurate. Mills’ story of persistent courage and mental toughness against all odds was beyond what most of us majority white people never faced and didn’t want to know. When Mills won his gold medal in 1964, it was for his teammates at home as good as it could get. Then he did more, much more, by devoting most of the rest of his life to helping other Native Americans find their paths to their dreams with inspiration, encouragement and college financial aid that he raised or personally provided. Billy’s life has been and continues to be a life of modesty and excellent service. He is a role model to us all.

Bob Covey, d’62
Bakersfield, California

Editor’s Note: Bob Covey competed for KU track teams in 1958, ’59, ’61 and ’62, and was head track and field coach at Bakersfield College for 42 years.

Olympic coup

The magazine was delivered this week, and much to my delight, there was Billy Mills on the cover!

I attended KU during the years Billy was there. I lived at Carruth-O’Leary residence hall, which also contained the athletes’ cafeteria. The students ate hamburger and the athletes had steak!

Among the amenities that came with this setup was the indirect association of students with athletes, some of whom also lived there. They read the newspapers and hung out in the lobby and we all got to know them in a way we would not have otherwise.

The students had our own laundry in the basement, and Billy and I often did our washing and ironing there at the same time. I was in awe of him, but he was such a modest fellow that you couldn’t help rooting for his running talents. As the article recounts, he had some medical problems that affected his finish in long races. And coach Bill Easton...
wasn’t easy on him either. Then came the Olympics in 1964. It was a privilege to have known him, but this was the capper. What a great coup!

Off and on over the years I have kept up as best I can with the news on Billy. When I saw his photo on the cover, I immediately sat down and read the whole story. Thanks for bringing it all back. He is definitely one of the nicest people I have ever met. 

John E. McElhiney, e’61, g’63
Centennial, Colorado

True American
WE HAD THE DISTINCT privilege and honor of meeting “The Man With Wings on His Feet” in 1984, when Billy Mills was the invited guest speaker and runner at the Hospital Hill Run.

The night before the race, when he learned that we were owners of Phidipides, a Kansas City running store, he asked if the store was open that evening so he could get some new shoes. The store was closed, so we selected a couple of different sizes of shoes and fitted him early the next morning. I will never forget his reaction: A big smile came over his face as he expressed his appreciation and gratitude.

This true gentleman is soft-spoken but speaks with nothing but conviction and goodness. He is a great representative of the human race, not only for this country’s Native Americans, but also for all Americans. Billy Mills is a true American hero.

Thanks for the wonderful article by Steven Hill. We always look forward to receiving Kansas Alumni.

Don, c’75, and Leslie Nottberg, ’78
Overland Park

Athletic hurdles
“The Man With Wings on His Feet” is a powerfully written article wholly appropriate to the impressive athletic and humanitarian accomplishments of Billy Mills. He simply stands in a class by himself.

In reflecting on the article, the names of two other KU Olympic distance runners immediately come to mind: Glenn Cunningham and Wes Santee. Like Billy Mills, they had to deal with personal challenges that, if not successfully overcome, would have undoubtedly derailed their journeys to successful athletic careers.

Cunningham was severely burned at age 8 from a gasoline explosion that killed his elder brother and prompted his doctor to recommend amputation of Glenn’s legs. His parents’ intervention fortunately prevented that from happening. Cunningham’s undying motivation to regain the full use of his legs, buttressed by a deep religious conviction, allowed him to not only attain his primary goal of walking, but also ultimately set a world record in the mile run. His noteworthy running career was followed by a devotion to humanitarian pursuits, including the founding of ranches in Kansas and Arkansas to assist troubled and underprivileged youths.

Sixty years ago, while I was working at the Kansas Relays, coach Easton was good enough to introduce me to Glenn Cunningham. Then in his mid-40s, he could have easily passed for a 30-something graduate student who had kept himself in competitive form. His manner was one of an outgoing, friendly person accustomed to putting young people totally at ease. Six decades later, the glow that I came away with after meeting Cunningham remains vividly with me.

My student days at KU overlapped Wes Santee’s time there. An Acacia fraternity brother of Wes, I saw the personal side of him away from the track. As has already been published, Wes had a stressful relationship with his father. It has also been published that the guidance and counsel offered by coach Easton was invaluable to Wes in dealing with this challenge. I have absolutely no doubt that had his running career not been prematurely cut short by the Amateur Athletic Union in 1956 at age 24, Wes would have attained his goal of running a sub-4 minute mile, which he missed by a scant 1/2 second in 1955.

John Quarrier, b’56
Tallahassee, Florida

Awareness raised
I FOUND THE ARTICLE about Billy Mills to be very interesting. I was not aware that there was so much discrimination toward Indians, especially in Lawrence.

I grew up in Lawrence and played all of my home football games in Haskell Stadium, and many of the Haskell students attended the same church as I did. My dad worked on the Pottawatomie reservation teaching skills that would allow the Indians to get off the reservation. I attended some of their functions as the only white at different times. I don’t understand why he had problems with discrimination.

J. Bryan Sperry, d’50, g’55
Pittsburg

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Deanna and Greg Graves
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THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL
I f I dare protest as my mom fills a second ladle with gravy and drowns the potatoes on my plate, she sternly reminds me of her motto, “Food is love.” Passed down from her feisty Texas-born mother and four formidable aunts, the words guide my mom at every family meal. They also echo for me, along with a second refrain that has proven true when any family gathers: Stories are love. We crave them—often more than a second helping or a sweet dessert.

So when KU family members gathered in the Adams Alumni Center Dec. 9 to celebrate a historic bequest of $58 million, longtime KU research leader Howard Mossberg took his turn at the microphone to serve up favorite stories about his friends Madison “Al” and Lila Self, the extraordinary donors, who died in 2013. Of the $58 million, $39 million will be added to the Self Graduate Fellowship Fund for doctoral students in STEM disciplines, business and economics; $15 million will support the Self Engineering Leadership Fellows Program, which benefits engineering and computing undergraduate students; and $4 million will create a new Self Graduating Senior Fellowship Fund.

Mossberg, who led KU as vice chancellor for research, dean of graduate studies, dean of pharmacy and a distinguished professor, dispensed with his titles, saying simply, “I’ve become the historian.” He recalled that he first met the Selfs in 1989 over a long lunch in Chicago. Mossberg was there to thank international entrepreneurs Al, e’43, and Lila, ’43, for a $1 million gift to KU. A few years later, Mossberg returned to Chicago to thank the couple for a second gift of $1 million. “You have to understand that working with Al and Lila meant that you worked,” Mossberg recalled Dec. 9, amid knowing laughter from many in the crowd. “We had a four-hour dinner overlooking the Miracle Mile. How did it last that long? Because Al wanted to talk business—and everything else.”

That conversation and many more through the years cemented the friendship of Mossberg and his wife, Ginger, with the Selfs. A shared language and a passion for learning and innovation connected the couples, Mossberg said. “For Al and Lila, their respect for the academy grew out of their experience at KU and their association with doctors in their business,” he said. “For me, I just happened to be here when Takeru Higuchi was hired. He was a noted chemist and innovator and for the next 20 years I think I was working for Tak rather than he working for me. ... So with our shared language, Al, Lila and I began to build a strategy for what the Self fellowships should be.”

As Mossberg invoked the memory of Higuchi, the legendary scientist who helped establish KU’s worldwide prominence in drug discovery, many in the room nodded and smiled in recognition. Linking Higuchi’s enduring legacy to the Selfs, whose impact on the KU family will endure for generations, made perfect sense.

In conclusion, Mossberg confessed his own awe and surprise at the Selfs’ final act of generosity, which brings their overall giving to KU Endowment to an unprecedented $106 million. “I must say that even I am truly astounded,” he said. “I was with them for the first 25 years, and this is just the beginning. I couldn’t be more proud of my relationship with the Selfs and what they’ve done for this university.”

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little hailed the day as transformational in KU history. The Selfs’ generosity, she said, grew from “the conviction that there is no greater investment than in the development of student leadership excellence.”

As the formal gathering ended, the crowd applauded 23 Self family members, several of whom continue their family’s tradition of farming: Al Self grew up on a farm in Meriden, and Lila came from Fall Leaf, near Eudora.

Then, following a few photos and lots of handshakes and hugs, everyone headed downstairs, where heaping plates of food awaited.
On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“Holding Pattern: New Works at the Spencer Museum,” Spencer Museum of Art, through April 5

“Minimal Additions,” Spencer Museum of Art, through April 5

“Wall Drawing 519,” Spencer Museum of Art, through April 5

“World War I & The End of Empires,” Spencer Museum of Art, through spring

“Conversation XIX: Phases: Multinational Works, 1900 to Now,” Spencer Museum of Art, through September

“Free Speech in America: The Wilcox Collection at 50,” Spencer Research Library, Jan. 26 through April 18

Lied Center events

JANUARY
25 Michael Kirkendoll, piano, Faculty Recital Series
27-28 Kiss the Fish: Indian Ink Theatre Company
31 Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble I and KU Symphony Orchestra

FEBRUARY
1 Prairie Winds & Sunflower Strings
10 Brasil Guitar Duo
12 SUA Presents: Nick Offerman
18 Humanities Lecture Series: Anna Deavere Smith, “Snapshots: Portraits of a World In Transition”
21 School of Music Scholarship Concert

KANSAS ALUMNI

23 KU Wind Ensemble
24 Kodo One Earth Tour: Mystery
26 ETHEL, with guest artist Robert Mirabal

MARCH
8 Paul Huang, violin
9 KU University Band & Symphonic Band
11 KU Symphony Orchestra
12 Russell Miller, piano, Visiting Artist Series

University Theatre

FEBRUARY
13-15, 17-19 Undergraduate Directing Projects, Inge Theatre
27-28, March 1, 6-8 "A Raisin in the Sun," directed by Nicole Hodges Persley

Murphy Hall events

JANUARY
23-24 “Champagne & Gershwin,” KU Opera
28 Tuba/Euphonium Studio

MARCH
1 Collegium Musicum

Wall Drawing 519, first drawn by Sol LeWitt in 1987, was installed in November on the 80-foot back wall of the Spencer Museum of Art’s Gallery 316. Also new to the Spencer is Ode to Sprout II by Korean-American artist Ke-Sook Lee. Newly on display on the second floor are more than three dozen rarely seen 20th- and 21st-century items from the collection, including a Cubistic oil by Jeanne Rij-Rousseau and Pierre Daura’s captivating little untitled (geometric).
Performances

FEBRUARY
17 Jazz Ensemble I & Jazz Combo I, Lawrence Arts Center

March
6-7 Jazz Festival, Kansas Union

Lectures

January
30 Coffee at The Commons: photographer Julie Blackmon

February
2 Author Margaret Atwood, Kenneth A. Spencer Lecture, Kansas Union Ballroom
9 Poet Carmen Giménez Smith, The Commons
19 Humanities Lecture Series Conversation: Anna Deavere Smith, Hall Center

March
3 Humanities Lecture Series: U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey, Kansas Union
4 Humanities Lecture Series Conversation: Natasha Trethewey, Hall Center

Academic Calendar

January
20 First day of classes

March
16-22 Spring break

Alumni events

January
20 Honolulu: Alohawks Unite
21 Dallas: Engineers’ lunch
21 Houston: Networking breakfast
22 Houston: Engineers’ reception
24 Austin: KU-Texas pregame party
27 San Antonio: After-work networking event
28 Fort Worth: KU-TCU pregame party

February
2 Iola: Kansas Honors Program
2 Wichita: KU-ISU basketball bus trip to Lawrence
2 Rancho Mirage: Alumni reception and watch party
3 Career Preparation and workshop, Student Alumni Association, Adams Alumni Center
5 Lawrence: Network luncheon, Adams Alumni Center
7 Garden City: Great Plains shrimp boil
10 Salina: North-Central Kansas brewery event
11 Great Bend: Kansas Honors Program
11 Louisburg: Kansas Honors Program
12 Kansas City: Blood drive, Edwards Campus
12 Marysville: Kansas Honors Program
16 Beloit: Kansas Honors Program
16 Pittsburg: Kansas Honors Program
17 Lawrence: Networking night, Student Alumni Association, Adams Alumni Center
18 Houston: Networking breakfast

March
4 Orlando: KU Night with the Magic
7 Greeley: East Kansas network reception and watch party
11 Phoenix: KU Night with the Suns
11-14 Kansas City: Big 12 men's basketball tournament
17 Lawrence: Networking night, Adams Alumni Center
25 Atchison: Kansas Honors Program
25 Holton: Kansas Honors Program

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

Don’t worry, be happy

When three Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters couldn’t find a campus club they were excited to join as sophomores last year, they instead embraced Carly Van Blaricum’s proposal for a club of their own: They would dedicate themselves to easing their fellow students’ daily stresses with cheery, anonymous sticky notes placed in libraries and other campus buildings.

After focusing on what Van Blaricum calls “the classics”—“You’re beautiful,” “Ace that test,” and “Just keep swimming!”—KU Encouragements’ 20 or so members have since broadened their repertoire to include Internet-mined inspirational quotes written on slips of paper—“Like a fortune cookie, but without the cookie,” Van Blaricum explains—along with “You’re beautiful!” business cards and a Wescoe Beach poster inviting students to share happy thoughts of their own.

“We’re always smiling and happy,” junior Claire Thomas, of Omaha, says of herself and fellow founders Van Blaricum, of Olathe, and Ally Levine, of Palm Desert, Calif. “That’s just how we are.”

Yet even for this cheery cadre, stresses mount. Homework, midterms, finals, sorority events and part-time jobs—the whole college shebang—in Van Blaricum’s estimation—can darken the sunniest of dispositions. “I’m in organic chemistry right now, and I’m struggling,” Van Blaricum admits. “I have to look at my own sticky notes.”

Don’t worry; happy thoughts return when, as we’re signing off our phone conversation, Thomas sings out, “Have a wonderful day!”

And you know ... we think she means it.

Drama kings

Professional wrestling, that rough-and-tumble amalgam of smash-mouth athleticism and melodramatic soap opera promoted by Vince McMahon’s World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), is serious business. So why shouldn’t it be a topic of serious study?

“It’s nothing to huff at,” says Jordan Bass, assistant professor of health, sport and exercise sciences and executive director of KU’s Laboratory for the Study of Sport Management. “There’s millions and billions of dollars at stake, and it’s popular worldwide.”

Bass surveyed 435 fans. Turns out detractors’ biggest gripe about rasslin’—it’s fake, duh!—is what fans love best. Respondents named irresistible three elements: physical skill, enjoyment of aggression and novelty.

“Novelty rated surprisingly high, 6.5 out of 7,” Bass says, which explains the constant feuds and shifting storylines that turn yesterday’s hero into today’s villain. “The things we think are goofy or staged are really crucial to fans’ enjoyment.”

So it’s not cactus clotheslines, chair shots and leapfrog guillotines that keep ‘em cheering and jeering? It’s soliloquies, not scissor kicks?

“I would argue it’s as important for a wrestler to be a good actor,” Bass says, “as to be physically skilled.”

So move over Sir Anthony Hopkins and Daniel Day-Lewis: Dolph Ziggler and Brutus “The Barber” Beefcake coming through. Oscar will never know what hit him.
Senior moment

Bob Glass bowled his first frame, at age 6, in 1954. “So long ago, they didn’t have automatic pinsetters,” says Glass, g’78, PhD’92. “They still had pin boys.”

His last frame, on the Professional Bowling Association’s senior tour, came in December 2005.

The half-century of strikes and spares between culminated in Glass’s recent election to the PBA Hall of Fame.

“In a flippant manner, it’s like, ‘Well, maybe all those years bowling weren’t wasted,’” Glass says. “But it’s more serious than that. It kind of feels like confirmation that I was actually a pretty good bowler.”

Pretty good indeed. Glass rolled the regular and senior tours part time before leaving his KU job as an economist to bowl the senior tour full time for 5 1/2 years, earning nearly half a million bucks while finishing in the top five in 38 of 78 tourneys. He won two majors (the 2000 Brunswick PBA Senior Championship and the 2001 United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters) and was player of the year in 2000, 2001 and 2004.

Induction ceremonies are in February in Indianapolis, at the 50th anniversary Barbasol PBA Tournament of Champions.

Glass knew the sport’s greats including Earl Anthony and Dick Weber. Ever modest, he now savor’s meeting rising stars like two-handed sensation Jason Belmonte. “If you’re gonna learn something in bowling, you’re gonna learn it from the young kids who are constantly adapting,” he says, “not from an old fart like me.”

Weighting games

NEWLY CROWNED POWERLIFTING

world champion Joe Walden, 58, a retired Army officer now in his sixth year as an instructor of supply chain management in the School of Business, attributes his success in the grueling sport to wisdom that comes with experience—“Let ego go and try to be a little smarter in the gym”—and the dedication required to stick with it through nearly 40 years of weight training.

Yet he also concedes that not so long ago he lost interest in competing and returned only because his daughter, Bobbi, c’12, now a third-generation Army officer stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, expressed interest in taking up the sport.

They trained together at a Lawrence health club, and both excelled: Bobbi won a national title in February, and in 2014 Joe set 26 state records, won a national title, and set age and weight-class world records with a 468-pound squat and a 479.5-pound deadlift en route to a gold medal Nov. 7 at the International Powerlifting League’s world meet in Las Vegas.

Walden says college-age lifters rarely seek training tips from a guy pushing more weight despite being two or three times their age; even more dramatic are reactions Bobbi generates.

“When a girl who only weighs 138 pounds is deadlifting more than you are,” Walden says, “it can be kind of intimidating.”

Let ego go ... good advice at any age.
Budget talks begin

Brownback holds funding steady for higher education, proposes other ways to make up shortfall

Gov. Sam Brownback recommended steady funding for higher education in his two-year budget proposal, which he presented to the Kansas Legislature Jan. 16. He proposed a 4-percent cut to other state agencies and increased taxes on tobacco and alcohol to help the state make up a projected revenue shortfall of more than $710 million.

“We're pleased that the budget proposed by the governor provides flat funding,” said Tim Caboni, vice chancellor for public affairs. “It's a recognition that it's important to have a strong higher education system to grow the state's economy, plus continued support for the medical center will help ensure Kansans have access to health professionals.”

In his State of the State address Jan. 15, Brownback, ’82, briefly highlighted the state’s universities in his general assessment of education in the state. “... Our institutions of higher education are global leaders in fields from animal health to aeronautics to the universal fight against cancer,” he said.

The governor’s proposals are the first step in a budget process. “This is just the beginning of the conversation,” Caboni said. “We’ll be working with members of the Legislature for the duration of the session to illustrate the centrality of the University of Kansas to the state’s future. We encourage alumni to participate in those conversations.”

The Alumni Association coordinates legislative advocacy for KU through Jayhawks for Higher Education, a statewide network of alumni and friends. JHE members receive biweekly news regarding the Legislature; at key points throughout the session, the Association asks alumni and friends to contact their local lawmakers regarding issues affecting KU and higher education.

This year’s budget process plays out amid an ongoing court dispute over funding for K-12 education. On Dec. 30, a district court ruled that public school funding does not currently meet the requirements of the Kansas Constitution. The court did not order a specific remedy, but it suggested another $548 million per year in additional school funding might be needed.

In his State of the State address, the governor called for repealing the current school finance formula and urged legislators to create a new formula.

Also looming over budget negotiations are bleak projections of declining state tax revenues. In November, state budget officials lowered their revenue estimates,
largely because of tax cuts enacted in 2012 and 2013. They estimated a $279 million shortfall for the current fiscal year that ends June 30, followed by a $436 million shortfall for the next fiscal year.

In his State of the State address, Brownback vowed to continue the state’s “march to zero income tax,” but in his budget outlines for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, he proposed decreasing income taxes at a slower rate.

Earlier last fall, the Kansas Board of Regents submitted its budget proposals to Brownback, asking that the block operating grants for universities remain at current levels.

The Regents also included proposals for future key projects at each institution. Included in the package were priorities for KU:

—$5 million to create the Drug and Vaccine Discovery Institute, which would capitalize on KU’s proven success as a world leader in drug development and vaccine research.

—merit-based salary increases of 3 percent for faculty and staff at KU Medical Center. Many of these employees have not received annual raises in five of the past six fiscal years.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Thought-provoking

Margaret Atwood to give KU Commons’ annual Kenneth Spencer lecture

The prolific author of more than 40 books of genre-bending fiction, prose and poetry translated into more than 40 languages; an inventor, environmental activist and enthusiastic Internet presence, Margaret Atwood is known for writing—and living—in a way that challenges assumptions and defies categorization.

All of which makes her a natural pick to headline The Commons’ signature event, the Kenneth A. Spencer Lecture. Atwood will speak at 7 p.m. Feb. 2 in the Kansas Union Ballroom. She calls her speech “Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going? The Arts, The Sciences, The Humanities, The Inhumanities, and the Non-Humanities. Zombies Thrown In Extra.”

Emily Ryan, g’07, program coordinator, notes that The Commons was established to create interdisciplinary conversations that span the arts, sciences and humanities. Partners in the venture (which is both a space—in Spooner Hall—and an idea) are campus units from each of those three disciplines: the Spencer Museum of Art, the Biodiversity Institute and the Hall Center for the Humanities.

“Each year we try to think of somebody who would be a good speaker, whose work is broad enough that it applies and appeals

UPDATE

The Chancellor’s Task Force on Sexual Assault, convened as part of the University’s ongoing effort to evaluate the handling of sexual assault cases at KU [“A Time for Change,” issue No. 6, 2014], in November recommended a change in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities that clarifies the University’s ability to discipline students for off-campus violations of KU’s nondiscrimination and sexual harassment policies.

The proposal, which includes changes in the definition of consent and jurisdiction for harassment off campus, was approved by Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little.

The task force also came to a consensus that it will recommend a Memorandum of Understanding between KU and two Lawrence social service agencies, Willow Domestic Violence Center and GaDuGi SafeCenter. The agencies made recommendations to the task force on improving survivor services for those who report sexual assault, and the Memorandum of Understanding would establish roles for both organizations in addressing sexual assault on campus.

Summaries of task force meetings can be viewed online at sataskforce.ku.edu. Comments may be submitted on the website or by emailing taskforce@ku.edu.
Winter flock: Nearly 1,250 Jayhawks completed requirements for graduation at the conclusion of the fall semester. The University’s newest alumni represent 57 Kansas counties, 37 states and 25 countries. Diplomas are officially conferred in January, but graduates are welcome to attend formal Commencement ceremonies May 17.

across disciplines,” Ryan says. “Margaret Atwood fits the bill because throughout her career she has been provoking her readers with really big and important ideas, and big and important questions. “The way she approaches things and what she thinks about just seems to resonate deeply with the idea of The Commons.”

Launched in 2005 to bring together scholars and students “to explore the reciprocal relationships between natural and cultural systems,” The Commons has welcomed high profile speakers and hosted forums on a wide variety of topics across campus.

“I don’t think the mission is necessarily black and white,” Ryan says. “Part of the idea of The Commons is that it challenges thinking and it leaves room for interpretation.”

Atwood has published poetry, criticism, TV and radio scripts, children’s books and opera libretti, but she is most widely known for her novels. *The Blind Assassin* won the prestigious Man Booker Prize in 2000. Her most recent novel, *MaddAddam*, published in 2013, is the final book in a speculative fiction trilogy that began with the Booker-nominated *Oryx and Crake*. In a starred review, Publishers Weekly said, “The final entry in Atwood’s brilliant *MaddAddam* trilogy rolls with spectacular and furious satire … Her vision is as affirming as it is cautionary, and the conclusion of this remarkable trilogy leaves us not with a sense of despair at mankind’s failings but with a sense of awe at humanity’s barely explored potential to evolve.”

“I think her talk will likely be something meaningful that takes on these grand challenges and issues in a way that requires a lot of different perspectives and different approaches,” Ryan says. “I think that’s a good way of representing The Commons. Her entire way of being and writing and thinking and creating embodies the sort of principles The Commons upholds.”

Another widely known Atwood novel, *The Handmaid’s Tale*, will be the 2015 Read Across Lawrence book for adults in February. The annual monthlong event, sponsored by the Lawrence Public Library, KU Libraries and The Commons, urges the community to read a common book and participate in events designed to promote discussion.

New school

Global cultures and languages are focus of CLAS reorganization

KU’s latest school, the School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, officially launched on Jan. 1. But in some ways it’s already centuries old, says Marc Greenberg, professor of Slavic languages and literatures and director of the new academic unit.

“KU has this unusually strong tradition of expertise in language learning and the cultural learning that goes along with the languages,” Greenberg says. “That has gone on basically since the 19th century, but it really took off after the Cold War started. We want to preserve that because it’s a huge benefit to the state and nationally, too.”

The University offers more than 40 languages, more than any other university between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains, and 25 language degree programs. But understanding all the options hasn’t always been easy for students. Reorganizing five core academic units and 10 affiliated units and programs into a school will change that.

“The school will allow students and others to see what we have at a glance,” Greenberg says. “When we divided everything into small departments it was hard to see that and [there was] no way to get the message out.”

For example, Greenberg notes, students interested in languages would have to contact the Slavic department to inquire about courses or specializations. Now, they can go to the School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures and see what’s available.

Students in Professor Patrick Dooley’s Visual Communication Design 402 class designed the publicity materials for Atwood’s visit, including this poster by Overland Park junior Lucas Nelson.
Paul Smokowski, a distinguished professor at Arizona State University’s School of Social Work, will become dean of social welfare July 1. Smokowski was selected in a national search launched after the retirement last June of Mary Ellen Kondrat, who led the school for eight years. Tom McDonald, assoc., will continue as interim dean through June.

A $10 million challenge grant from Kansas City philanthropist Annette Bloch will help fund expansion of cancer programs at the University of Kansas Hospital. Bloch’s dollar-for-dollar challenge will support construction and technology for labs and operating suites in the hospital’s Cambridge North Tower, which will be built at 39th and Cambridge to house fast-growing specialties of surgical oncology, neurology, neurosurgery and ear, nose and throat.

KU Debate ranked No. 1 in the National Debate Tournament Varsity Rankings at the end of the fall semester. This spring the team will try to qualify for the National Debate Tournament for the 48th consecutive year.

Danny Anderson, g’82, PhD’85, will step down as dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to become president of Trinity University in San Antonio. He leaves KU in May after a 26-year career in which he also served as a department chair, associate dean, vice provost and interim provost.

Milestones, money and other matters

We’re doing this to streamline and preserve KU’s deep expertise in language and culture, to engage students early with the possibilities languages have for their lives, and to prepare them for 21st-century jobs,” says Marc Greenberg, director of KU’s new School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

about Russian and the Germanic department for Dutch. “That wasn’t easy,” he says. “Now if they’re interested in exploring languages, they will call one number and we’ll connect them with who they need to talk to.”

Students have good reasons to explore. A May Wall Street Journal story noted a survey from the National Association of Colleges and Employers that identified foreign languages and literatures as the highest paying liberal arts major in 2014.

“There’s more need for language learning and cultural knowledge now than ever before,” Greenberg says. “Basically everything that belongs to the global supply chain at some point needs some sort of cultural or linguistic expertise. We want to be able to supply that.”

Located within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures will feature as core units the departments of East Asian languages and cultures, French and Italian, Germanic languages and literatures, Slavic languages and literatures, and Spanish and Portuguese. Affiliated units are the departments of African and African American studies, classics and linguistics. Affiliated programs include the Jewish Studies Program, the Kansas African Studies Center, and the four international studies centers: East Asian; Latin American and Caribbean; Russian, East European and Eurasian; and Global and International Studies.

The 25 degree programs now available as majors or minors will continue, and plans call for “school-level degrees that cut across disciplines” as the school evolves in the next three to five years, Greenberg says.

“We’re not just talking about languages, but the culture, language and literature that all go together. It’s the rules of engagement, film, folklore, all the things that are in the heads of people who live in this culture, with language being the proxy for all of that.”

Globalization is an inescapable reality not only in business and trade these days, but also in more elemental matters such as human health. Consider the Ebola crisis, Greenberg notes. What seemed like a strictly African problem quickly reached U.S. shores.

“Everything is connected globally, and you need people who can mediate cultural differences and who understand language,” Greenberg says. “You can no longer rely on the adage that everyone speaks English. You never get the trust of people if you’re basically dominating the other person by forcing them to speak your language because it’s easy for you.”
**TEACHING**

Edwards Campus lecturer wins HOPE Award

**David Pendergrass** strikes a tricky balance in his teaching. He fully embraces technology, assigning lectures broadcast and archived on the Internet as homework to free up class time for more active learning. But he also makes a point to get to know each of his students.

“That’s one of the things I believe strongly,” says Pendergrass, who this fall received the HOPE (Honor for an Outstanding Progressive Educator) Award from the Board of Class Officers. “I think we’re supposed to do that, more than most of us do.”

A lecturer in undergraduate biology and director of the Molecular Biosciences Degree Completion Program at Edwards Campus in Johnson County, Pendergrass teaches nontraditional students, who often have families and jobs and superior time management skills. Their focus can make the teaching “a lot easier” but the getting acquainted part more challenging.

“It’s hard, because they don’t always want to know you,” Pendergrass says. “I get that. But I think students get that I care that they do well, that I’m not just here to beat them down or give them a bad grade, that I’m giving them chances to do well because I want them to succeed.”

Established by the Class of 1959, the HOPE recognizes outstanding teaching and concern for students. It is the only award for teaching excellence given by students, with the winner selected by a vote of the senior class.

Pendergrass says he was “thrilled and unbelievably surprised” to receive the HOPE, announced Nov. 15 during the KU-TCU football game in Memorial Stadium.

One explanation for what he sees as an unlikely win: “I’m also kind of goofy,” Pendergrass says. “I mean, I used to own a singing telegram company for God’s sake.”

In graduate school he once rushed back to campus still in costume after delivering a singing telegram. The sense of fun that allowed him to “put on a grass skirt and a coconut bra and go sing happy birthday to somebody” still informs his teaching.

“When you bring that kind of energy into a classroom, the students go, ‘Wow, this guy is nutty.’ But I’ll try anything to help get the information into their heads, and to make it fun if I can.”

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**VISITOR**

**NEW STRATEGY**

Mark McKinnon, who has helped win five presidential primary and general elections, presented “No Labels: Stop Fighting Start Fixing.” No Labels (nolabels.org) is a bipartisan group he co-founded in 2010.

**WHEN:** Nov. 19

**WHERE:** Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics

**BACKGROUND:** McKinnon owned Political Strategies in Austin, Texas, and worked on elections and other causes for 30 years. He’s a graduate of the University of Texas and lectures at many universities; this was his second visit to Lawrence.

**ANECDOTE:** No Labels started a Congressional “problem-solvers” coalition, hoping to recruit 50 members. In a year the group had grown to 94—half Democrats, half Republicans. They began meeting weekly and wrote 17 pieces of legislation, adopting a “no budget, no pay” motto: If Congress fails in its basic duty to produce a budget, members don’t get paid. “No budget, no pay” helped avert another debt ceiling stalemate in 2014, McKinnon said.

**QUOTES:** “We’re advocating for a national plan. ... We’ve proposed four goals. Of course, there is great disagreement about how to achieve these goals, but they are really simple and pretty hard to disagree with. We want to create 25 million new jobs over the next 10 years, secure Medicare and Social Security for another 75 years, balance the budget by 2030 and make America energy secure by 2024.”

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner
**RESEARCH**

**Biodiversity Institute contributes informatics data to NSF project**

A National Science Foundation project that makes it easier for scientists and policymakers to tackle complex questions about the environment will continue to benefit from KU informatics expertise, thanks to a $15 million NSF grant, $1.4 million of which will support Biodiversity Institute researchers.

DataONE: The Data Observation Network for Earth, is a cyberinfrastructure created in 2009 by the NSF to enhance the discovery of and access to environmental science data. KU information scientist David Vieglais directs development and operations for the project, which involves the University of California-Berkeley, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the U.S. Geological Survey and several other institutions. The new grant funds the second phase of that work.

“DataONE is a breakthrough accomplishment in helping science and society understand and steward the environments and life of the planet,” Vieglais says. “It’s a privilege to work with such dedicated experts, and I am proud that the KU Biodiversity Institute will continue as members of the DataONE team.”

**HEALTH CARE**

**Second nurse of the year honored at KU hospital**

Debbie Pennington was named National Magnet Nurse of the Year by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) this fall, the second time in three years the national award has gone to a University of Kansas Hospital nurse.

Pennington, ’85, helped establish the hospital’s Neonatal Medical Home in 2010 to take a broader approach to follow-up care provided to children after they leave the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The first clinic of its kind, it provides primary care and offers a single point of contact for the families of medically complex children through age 5.

“It’s all about continuity,” says Pennington, clinical program coordinator for the Neonatal Medical Home, which serves about 700 patients, most of them former NICU patients. “As their children age, parents like knowing they can continue to see the same providers and specialists. Our goal is always to provide as much service as possible within one clinic visit.”

The ANCC also awards Magnet status to hospitals that achieve low rates of mortality and high rates of quality care, patient satisfaction and success recruiting and retaining the best nurses. In 2006 the hospital became the first in Kansas to achieve Magnet status, and in 2012, Melanie H. Simpson, ’90, coordinator of the Pain Management Resource Team, became the hospital’s first National Magnet Nurse of the Year.

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**Milestones, money and other matters**

- **KU Libraries** has named the Shulenburger Office of Scholarly Communication & Copyright in honor of former provost and executive vice chancellor David Shulenburger, assoc. The naming recognizes his important role in laying the foundation for KU’s adoption of an open access policy for scholarly research. It also recognizes a major gift from Shulenburger that will support programming and operations for expanding open access at KU. The endowed fund is believed to be the first of its kind for advancing open access initiatives at a research university.

- **A five-year, $2.1 million contract** with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies calls for the Kansas Biological Survey (“The big picture,” Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 3, 2014) to provide the central geographic information system and database support for the association’s five-state lesser prairie chicken conservation plan, which covers the bird’s entire range in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. The survey will help track locations and costs of projects affecting habitat as well as conservation projects.

- **A $12.5 million grant** to help states prepare young people with disabilities for the transition to postsecondary education and careers includes $1 million for KU’s Transition Coalition. A research team in KU’s Center for Research on Learning that focuses on helping young adults with disabilities, the Transition Coalition will use the five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop online and blended professional development strategies that educators, rehab counselors, families and others can use when working with young adults in transition.

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Coalition members “got in a room and it was amazing. They found that they actually liked each other: … They quit questioning each other’s motives. It’s so much easier to demonize someone if you don’t know them.” —Mark McKinnon
Back on point

Graham’s return from toe injury means relief for guard Mason

There was much to cheer about after men’s basketball’s 86-54 victory over out-manned Texas Tech. The Jayhawks, who have won or tied the Big 12 title 10 seasons in a row, advanced to 2-0 in the conference, and junior forward Perry Ellis, whom coach Bill Self is relying on to vault his performance, made all three of his 3-point attempts and scored 15 points. “I loved the fact that he made 3’s, and I loved the fact that he shot them,” Self said. “He’s still got to get inside and get some easy baskets and do some things inside, which he’s labored to do, but at least he saw the lid come off the basket today, which is a big positive sign for us.”

Freshmen Cliff Alexander (12 points, including three monster slams and a jump hook, along with five rebounds), Devonte’ Graham (six points and a team-high six rebounds), Kelly Oubre Jr. (14 points, including two of three 3-pointers), and Svi Mykhailiuk (five points in 14 productive minutes, after playing a total of five minutes the previous two games) combined for what was probably their best group outing of the season to date. “Everybody stepped up,” Alexander said of his freshman teammates. “Svi came off the bench and made a couple of big shots and got a layup; Kelly played well; Devonte’, in his first game back, played excellent. I can definitely say it was our best game.”

The Jayhawks shot 52.5 percent from the field after shooting 72.7 percent in the second half at Baylor, and held Tech to 32.7 percent shooting.

But the most important number, at least in terms of projecting the Jayhawks’ chances through the grueling Big 12 schedule, might have been the final number at the end of sophomore Frank Mason III’s stat line: 24 minutes played. That’s thanks to Graham’s unexpected return. After sustaining a severely sprained big toe—an injury sometimes described in athletics as “turf toe”—when Georgetown behemoth Joshua Smith stepped on his right foot during KU’s 75-70 victory Dec. 10 in Washington, D.C., Graham’s freshman season was put on hold.

“We met with the doctor right after he did it and he told me it was 50-50 if Devonte’ could play again this year,” Self said after the Jan. 10 Tech game. “He had a pretty significant injury, a lot worse than what people think turf toe would be.”

Graham’s return was not assured until he performed well in practice Jan. 9. He says he didn’t sleep that night, and his jitters jangled when the Allen Field House crowd gave him a standing ovation as he entered the game with 12:52 remaining in the first half.

The 6-2 guard—KU’s only true point guard, as Self considers Mason to be more of a combo or shooting guard—promptly lofted a lob toward the basket as he was slashing cross-court, and the 6-8 Alexander slammed it home. “Cliff, with his monster dunks, can bring energy throughout the whole building,” Graham says. “That definitely helped me out throughout the game, and it helps the whole team.”

The biggest impact of Graham’s six-game absence, though, wasn’t a lack of lobs to Alexander. It was on Mason, who averaged more than 35 minutes a game without Graham in the lineup. (That includes 40 minutes in the Dec. 22 humiliation at Temple, which Self later conceded was his way of expressing displeasure at effort put forth by other guards.) Mason’s 24 minutes against Texas Tech was his briefest court time of the season, and only the second time he’d been under 30 minutes for a game.

“I wanted to be out there; I just couldn’t,” Graham says. “When I was out Frank did a great job of carrying the team and playing 40 minutes pretty much every game.”

Through the Texas Tech game, Mason scored in double figures in every game of the season but
three, and had 65 assists, 31 turnovers and 23 steals.

“Our most consistent player this year so far? Frank, hands down,” Self said Jan. 5. “I don’t want to say that he’s our best talent because I still think Perry, when he’s playing well, can put up numbers. But Frank’s been our most valuable player, easily, and that’s in large part because when Devonte’ went down, we didn’t have another point guard, really, in our program.”

After two conference games, Kansas, ranked No. 12 at the time, was 13-2 despite playing the country’s second-toughest schedule, according to the RPI index. That included consecutive victories over Tennessee, Michigan State, Florida, Georgetown and Utah.

But along with Ellis not playing to his potential, a lack of depth at point guard exposed by Graham’s injury and, at times, less-than-stellar production from superstar freshman recruits, public perception seemed to focus on the Jayhawks’ losses: a 72-40 clubbing by Kentucky in the season’s second game and a 77-52 humbling at Temple before the holiday break.

Entering conference play, the Jayhawks ranked at or near the bottom of the conference standings in a number of important statistical categories, including last in field-goal percentage and eighth in field-goal percentage defense. That’s due in large part to their difficult schedule, as compared with other Big 12 schools, but deeper issues also contributed.

“I think our defense has been OK,” Self says, “but our activity level has been bad.”

In a two-hour meeting before the conference opener—“When I wasn’t real happy with them,” Self said—the 12th-year coach challenged his players to define their performance to date: “What can we hang our hat on? What does our program, our team, do well right now?”

The Jayhawks agreed that they “found a way to win some games where we haven’t played very good. And I do think that’s a positive trait,” Self says.

When players returned to campus after spending a few days at home following the Temple loss, Self reminded them of a preseason visit from Jim Harbaugh, then coach of the San Francisco 49ers and now back with his alma mater, Michigan.

“Energy always finds the ball,” Self said Harbaugh told the players, and, despite their tenacity to win games that could have been lost, their lifeless performance in Philadelphia could not be ignored.

“It doesn’t make any difference how you guard a ball screen or the angle you set on a screen or this and that,” Self explains. “That’s all important after you play with great energy and passion. Until you do that, it doesn’t matter.”

The Jayhawks won their next four games after the Temple loss, including two conference games, and Self appeared eager to lift the specter of the two duds.

“We’ve done some good things, but we just laid an egg twice. When we decide to play poorly we can set national records, so it gives the appearance that that we’re not playing well at all. But when you look at it, we’ve actually done some pretty good things.”

Beaty wants ‘fun’ offense that wins games and excites fans

At his introductory news conference Dec. 8 in the Anderson Family Football Complex, football coach David Beaty pledged KU football will meet the challenge of playing in the modern Big 12, where speed rules the game.

“The Big 12 has changed so much over the last five to seven years,” Beaty said. “It has transitioned from a league with the run and play-action-pass into a spread, no-huddle style of league.”

Beaty had been wide receivers coach at Texas A&M since 2012 (and was the Aggies’ recruiting coordinator the past two seasons), and previously spent a year here as co-offensive coordinator under Turner Gill. He also spent a year as offensive coordinator at Rice, where he had landed his first college job, in 2006, as passing game coordinator and wide receivers coach after a successful career as a Texas high school coach.

Yet Beaty cited his first two years at Kansas, as wide receivers coach for Mark Mangino in 2008 and ’09, as emblematic...
Sports

of his plans for the current KU program.

“We were a spread offensive team, and when we did that, I’ll tell you this, I was excited and those stands were full,” Beaty said. “It was a really, really good ticket to have, and the reason is because it’s fun. It’s fun watching that ball go all over the yard. It’s fun watching Todd Reesing run around and swing that thing across his body for 75 yards and a touchdown on the post to Dezmon Briscoe.”

Beaty retained interim head coach Clint Bowen, d’96, as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator, citing Bowen as “one of the finest defensive minds in this country.” Rob Likens, like Bowen a high-energy coach known to be popular with players, arrives as offensive coordinator after serving as assistant head coach and passing game coordinator at Cal, which set school records for passing yards the past two seasons.

Beaty’s other hires include former Olathe North coach Gene Wier, d’71, g’78, as director of high school relations; Indiana basketball’s strength coach and former KU cornerbacks coach Ja’Ney Jackson as head strength and conditioning coach; and former linebacker and captain Kevin Kane, c’06, who will coach linebackers after four years as an assistant at Northern Illinois.

KU football’s last winning season and bowl game came in 2008—Beaty’s first year here—and its return to prominence is seen as critical to both department finances and general enthusiasm for the entire varsity athletics program.

“There’s nothing that sets the tone for an academic year like football being good,” says men’s basketball coach Bill Self. “It brings energy and enthusiasm. We want them to be good. We want to share the spotlight with football. That’s positive for everybody.

“I think we’ll be on our way. I think that we need to be patient, but I also think you’ll see a staff that really gets everybody. I think you’ll see a staff that really gets everybody.

Women’s basketball capped its nonconference season with Big 12 honors for two players: Senior guard Natalie Knight was named Big 12 Player of the Week and guard Terriell Bradley was named Freshman of the Week. Three games into conference play, senior forward Chelsea Gardner was leading the team in scoring with 15.3 points per game; Knight was close behind at 12.4. After completing nonconference play at 9-4, including a 62-39 Allen Field House trouncing of 10th-ranked Cal, the Jayhawks opened conference play 0-3. … Junior Liana Salazar scored her 13th goal of the season in soccer’s NCAA Tournament opener against Missouri Nov. 16 at Rock Chalk Park, but the Jayhawks fell, 3-1. … Senior outside hitter Chelsea Albers and freshman setter Ainish Havili were named honorable mention volleyball All-Americans. KU hosted opening-weekend NCAA Tournament play for the third-consecutive year, but bowed out with a five-set loss to Arkansas-Little Rock. … Linebacker Ben Heeney, punter Trevor Pardula and cornerback JaCorey Shepherd, all seniors, were named First Team All-Big 12 by league coaches. Shepherd was also given the national Haier Achievement Award, honoring athletes for accomplishments beyond sports. … Junior Ben Welle on Dec. 4 was named Big 12 Golfer of the Month, the first KU men’s golfer to win the honor since Nate Barbee, d’12, in 2010. Welle finished 16th at the Ka’ananapali College Classic after shooting an opening-round 68. … Men’s basketball on Jan. 8 landed its first commitment of the recruiting season when Cleveland power forward Carlton Bragg announced his intention to join the Jayhawks. Bragg, 6-9, was ranked by Rivals.com as the nation’s No. 14 recruit. “When I went to Late Night in the Phog,” Bragg said of his visit last fall, “that’s when everything changed.” …

UPDATES

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Fans listening closely to coach Bill Self’s news conference after the Jan. 10 Texas Tech game might have heard him mention that freshman guard Devonte’ Graham played with a plate in his foot, which would indicate surgery had been performed on his sprained toe. A team official later clarified that Graham did not undergo surgery, but was wearing a special shoe insole. … Wide receiver Nigel King, whose season was topped by a 78-yard highlight-reel TD against TCU, declared himself eligible for the NFL draft.
JAYHAWK ROCK CHALK

2015 KANSAS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Sept. 5: South Dakota State
- Sept. 12: Memphis Family Weekend Band Day
- Sept. 26: Rutgers
- Oct. 3: Iowa State
- Oct. 10: Baylor
- Oct. 17: Texas Tech
- Oct. 24: Oklahoma State
- Oct. 31: Oklahoma Homecoming
- Nov. 7: Texas
- Nov. 14: TCU
- Nov. 21: West Virginia
- Nov. 28: Kansas State

Season tickets available now, order today!

Home games highlighted

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KU Libraries are the academic cheer squad of KU (stunting not included). James Naismith lived by the credo “a sound mind is a sound body.” His attention to the student experience and athletes’ intellectual growth is something that we are proud to carry forward. KU librarians work directly with student-athletes in a summer program designed to hone their research skills and develop lifelong information literacy, a program now expanded to all KU students.

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Perry Ellis (34), Frank Mason III (0), Cliff Alexander (2), Kelly Oubre Jr. (12; jersey obscured), Jamari Traylor (31), Wayne Selden Jr. (1) and the rest of the ‘Hawk hoopers thrilled jubilant fans and Baby Jay—coach Bill Self and assistants Norm Roberts and Kurtis Townsend, maybe not so much—by sweeping their home nonconference schedule for the seventh time in eight years.
She calls the work "gender justice," and KU’s latest MacArthur Fellow, Sarah Deer, says her interest in the topic started in childhood, when she was a straight-A student in the Wichita schools and a regular participant in National History Day and other academic competitions.

“My parents were very liberal parents for Wichita, Kansas, in the 1970s and ’80s,” says Deer, c’96, l’99, professor at William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, and one of 21 winners, in September, of a MacArthur “genius grant.” The $625,000 no-strings-attached awards from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation recognize exceptionally creative people for track records of achievement and the potential for further significant contributions in their fields.

“They really encouraged me to pursue issues related to women’s rights,” Deer says of her parents. In fact, she fondly describes her mother, Jan Bachrach Deer, d’70, as a quiz bowl stage mom.

“I wasn’t doing ballet or beauty pageants,” Deer recalls, “but she behaved like a stage mom at debate tournaments and academic competitions. She was the one scooting around and scoping out the competition, getting me prepared and giving me good luck charms. She was pretty competitive and always wanted me to be the winner.”

Those extracurricular contests on elite debate, forensics and orations circuits and at Kansas and National History days “really allowed me to be very creative and encouraged me to think about things that you wouldn’t necessarily cover in a high school history class,” Deer says.

That creativity has served her well in a career as a legal scholar, strategist and advocate for policies and legislation designed to help Native American tribal courts more effectively address violence against women. A leading contributor to successful efforts to pass the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act in 2013, Deer was in Washington to watch President Barack Obama sign both acts into law, giving more authority to tribal courts.

“She really is recognized as the foremost national expert on issues of domestic violence and sex trafficking in Indian Country,” says Elizabeth Kronk Warner, associate professor of law and director of KU’s Tribal Law and Government Center. “She has been involved in all the seminal documents in the field.”

In 1978, Kronk Warner notes, the U.S. Supreme Court decision in “Oliphant v. the Suquamish Indian Tribe” curtailed tribal courts’ jurisdiction in crimes committed on sovereign lands by non-Indians. “Since then, tribes haven’t had criminal jurisdiction over non-natives, and it’s been empirically demonstrated that since that decision there’s been an increase in crime in Indian Country,” Kronk Warner says.

Department of Justice studies show that one in three American Indian women are likely to be raped, a rate of sexual assault 2.5 times the national average. Victimization surveys show that anywhere from 60 to 80 percent of those crimes are committed by non-Indians. By contrast, most crimes in the United States are...
committed within racial groups: For example, 83 percent of white murder victims are killed by whites, and 90 percent of black murder victims are killed by blacks.

“Trying to explain federal Indian law and how it came to be is really complicated,” Deer says, “but at the very root it is about oppression and controlling tribal nations. The overt policy of the federal government, off and on for the last 300 years, has been let’s get rid of these people. Either we'll kill ‘em, we'll move ‘em or we'll make ‘em white. It’s an ugly side of America that people don’t want to talk about.”

Through her work, Deer has made a huge contribution toward getting that conversation started, Kronk Warner notes.

“I think it’s fair to say that since 1978, the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Violence Against Women Act are the most significant developments in terms of criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country,” Kronk Warner says. “And she was involved in both. That’s quite a statement.”

Scholarship may have provided an early outlet for her interest in these issues, but gender work is by no means a strictly academic matter for Deer. When she arrived at KU, after two years at St. Olaf College, she very quickly sought out volunteer opportunities that would allow her to put her social justice convictions into action.

“I remember the day she walked into what was then the Douglas County Rape Victims Support Service [now GaDuGi SafeCenter],” says Sarah Jane Russell, c’76, g’80. Recently hired as CARE coordinator for KU’s Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity, Russell was then director of the agency, known as RVSS.

“What struck me is her just complete honesty of, ‘I don’t know much about this but I want to learn because I care,'” Russell recalls. “That agency then, as it is now, was held up on the backs of the advocates who do the response to the hospital and the crisis line, and what I saw in her was her willingness to carry her load. There was no shirking from that.”

Deer found both a social home and a calling at RVSS, where she volunteered and later became one of the service’s first full-time staff members. She and Russell wrote a grant that allowed the Douglas County agency to extend services to Ottawa, where Deer founded a support group for victims of domestic violence. She also worked with women—including Haskell Indian Nations University students—who reported rape to a crisis hot line.

“Emergency room work was particularly gruesome for me, because there’s an intrusive exam that is necessary to collect evidence, and I would actually be in the room, sometimes holding the hand of a woman who was raped just hours before, experiencing that exam,” Deer says. “Really, really painful graphic kinds of things happen in that exam room, and that is really hard.

“The balance of that hard work, though, is when the women who you saw at the worst moment in their life stay part of your life through the advocacy world and go on to do amazing, great things. So you see somebody go from the worst day of their life to maybe the best day of their life, and that is really a powerful honor to be allowed into somebody’s life in that way.”

Russell says Deer’s seriousness of
purpose set her apart from other college volunteers.

“The more than 550 federally recognized native tribes in the United States are sovereign under U.S. law, and their treaty rights promise jurisdiction over their citizens and land. But because the federal government has limited the authority and reach of tribal courts, tribes are often unable to protect their female members from domestic violence. Before passage of the Tribal Law and Order Act, tribes could sentence convicted rapists to only one year in prison. The 2010 law expanded the maximum sentence to three years per offense.

In addition, tribal law enforcement, court and health care systems—all of which play vital roles in sexual assault investigations—are often underfunded by the federal government. Rape kits and nurses trained to use them are frequently lacking on isolated reservations, and investigations are often handled by federal offices many miles away. As a result, arrests are made in only 13 percent of sexual assaults reported by American Indian women, according to the Justice Department. Those rates are 32 percent for white women and 35 percent for black women.

“I wasn’t expecting that kind of profound experience in Indian Law,” Deer says. “It was very emotional, because I’m thinking about feminism, I’m realizing that all of those things that I’ve been learning and studying and activating about left out this whole group of people, this whole system of tribal nations that still exist. There’s this double oppression, this bizarre system of laws that tribal governments have to deal with.”

Many of these facts featured prominently in the “Maze of Injustice” report Deer coauthored in 2007. Commissioned by Amnesty International, “Maze of Injustice” outlined the jurisdictional morass that makes it nearly impossible for native tribes to protect their people. The report reframed the epidemic rates of rape and sexual assault of Native American women as a human rights issue.

“We had to raise the profile of the issue,” Deer says. “This crisis of rape and violence experienced by native women is not something that Amnesty International..."
discovered or that any government agency
discovered. It's something native women
have been living with for centuries.”
Changing that, Deer says, required getting
the attention of people in power, and
“Maze of Injustice” turned out to be the
tipping point in that battle. “It raised the
momentum. "
In her way, Sarah Deer has followed that
lead, challenging a system that she sees as
deply flawed but capable of doing better.
“I just believe that tribal nations are in
the best position to protect the women in
their communities, and its unconscionable
that tribes can’t do these things,” she says.
“So any small victories along the way like
we’ve had, these sort of incremental
victories along way, is kind of what keeps
me going.”
One of those victories (perhaps not so
small) is the MacArthur, a validation of
her work so far and seed money for
whatever she decides to turn her fierce
sense of social justice to next. Another
major triumph is her successful fight
against breast cancer, diagnosed in 2006.
“It’s really notable,” Kronk Warner says,
because she was battling cancer while
doing a lot of this seminal work, which
just speaks even more to her commit-
ment.” McKenzie says simply, “She’s a
fighter.”

“Trust the Government? Ask an
Indian,” Deer says. On her office wall  she
has a framed newspaper clipping from the
Wichita Eagle in which he phrased his
distaste for partisan chicanery surround-
ing a minimum wage proposal thus: “I’m
gonna get a tomahawk and do some
scalping of my own around here.”

Politically incorrect by current stan-
dards, she concedes, but the fiery delivery
stirs pride nonetheless.

“I probably wouldn’t invoke that
metaphor myself,” she says with a wry
laugh, “but the fact that he did and he
survived to tell about it and fought for the
little people, that’s very inspirational for
me.”

In a book tentatively titled Sovereignty
of the Soul, a compilation of her previous
10 years of writing about native women
and race due out next fall from University
of Minnesota Press, Deer discusses her
grandfather’s bumper sticker statement.

“It suggested he was antigovernment,
but in fact he was very much engaged in
government,” she says. “He was in the
Kansas Legislature between 1953 and 1960
and volunteered for the army reserves
from 1955 to 1959. So he’s hardly an
antigovernment Indian, but he definitely
didn’t lie down. He was always challeng-
ing the system, engaging with the system.”

In her way, Sarah Deer has followed that
lead, challenging a system that she sees as
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As Congressional hearings, white papers
and legislative proposals moved forward,
federal officials consulted with tribal
leaders, seeking their opinions. In the end,
thanks in part to awareness raised by
Deer’s report, the two major pieces of
legislation that Kronk Warner calls the
most significant in the past 35 years were
signed in to law—much to  the surprise of
Deer says. “I saw it more as a
change to federal l a w.”

It’s something native women
have been living with for centuries.
 Her father, Montie Deer, ’62, a Sedgwick
County district court judge (now retired)

The law school awakening not only
suggested a way forward for Deer,
but it also inspired a look back at
her Native American heritage.

“I went through a lot of emotions
getting back in touch with my heritage,”
she says, “because it was something that
we didn’t talk about a lot when I was
growing up.”

Her father, Montie Deer, ’62, a Sedgwick
County district court judge (now retired)
We need your assistance in nominating future members of the KU Alumni Association's National Board of Directors.

To nominate a fellow Jayhawk, please complete the form at www.kualumni.org/board or call 800-584-2957 and materials will be mailed or faxed to you. All nominations should be sent to the Association by March 1.

With your help, the Association will continue to recruit directors who represent the diversity of the KU family and the dedication that has been a hallmark of KU alumni service through the years.

For any additional questions, contact the Association at 800-584-2957 or visit www.kualumni.org
Shepperd, “there’s already a spark in the crowd. One of the fans who comes up here all the time says we provide the gasoline, getting the fire going."

Adhering to a seemingly sincere mandate when asked to expound on their successes, Shepperd quickly adds, “But it always comes back to the fans and how passionate they are.”

FLASHBACK: ALLEN FIELD HOUSE, AUG. 2, 2005 — DAY

It was a time of renewal for Kansas men’s basketball. Although the team had lost fan favorites Wayne Simien, Keith Langford and Aaron Miles to graduation and J.R. Giddens to a transfer, everyone who cared about KU hoops was eager to dim the sour memory of a first-round NCAA Tournament loss to Bucknell.

There was reason for hope, as sensational guards Brandon Rush and Mario Chalmers—destined to return the program to glory with the 2008 national championship—would be freshmen that season, as would highly touted forward Julian Wright. Returning starters Russell Robinson and Sasha Kaun were just sophomores.

Dec. 5 game against Florida—yet maintains a steady, calming cadence that evokes the unruffled command-and-response atmosphere (at least as depicted by Hollywood) onboard a submarine.

Tonight’s is the biggest home game of the nonconference schedule. The atmosphere is already electric ... and on Lickert’s cue, the amps will flow with a thunder strike to rival the mightiest of rock ‘n roll road shows.

“Before these big games,” says Rock Chalk Video associate director Douglas Shepperd, “there’s already a spark in the crowd. One of the fans who comes up here all the time says we provide the gasoline, getting the fire going.”

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FADE IN: ALLEN FIELD HOUSE, DEC. 5, 2014 — NIGHT

Mike Lickert, director of Rock Chalk Video, stands at his post inside Allen Field House’s darkened, third-floor video control room. He has before him a phone, a laser pointer (which he frequently uses when referring to a field house seating diagram affixed to the wall of video monitors) and two laptop computers, and behind him is a chair that doesn’t get much use. He dissolves nervous energy by wadding up paper balls and arcing them into a nearby trash can.

Lickert wears a headset connected to a routing box, which he controls by flipping toggle switches. That’s so he can simultaneously bark commands to athletics department staff members, public address announcer Eric Danielson, the pep-band director and camera operators stationed throughout the building while also shouting directions at his production crew stationed within a glowing maze of machines and screens.

If “barks” and “shouts” imply a heavy-handed dictatorial presence, they are not fair to Lickert’s style. He snaps directives succinctly once the production is underway—in this case, the much-anticipated Dec. 5 game against Florida—yet maintains a steady, calming cadence that evokes the unruffled command-and-response atmosphere (at least as depicted by Hollywood) onboard a submarine.

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THE TEAM

As he prepared to welcome his new powerhouse lineup to campus, third-year coach Bill Self on Aug. 2, 2005, took a moment to check in on yet another program upgrade: video boards being added to the Allen Field House scoreboard.

Where once there frolicked happy little dot-matrix graphics, there would instead flow streaming video and booming audio—accounting for $4 million of $12 million in field house renovations—to amp up the volume in the old basketball barn.

It remained to be seen whether fans would accept a video board as part of KU’s tradition-rich game-day experience. If others were nervous about an amplified video and audio system overpowering the atmosphere, Self chose to peer into the future with insights about what the video system might one day do:

“Introductions are great and all that,” he told the Lawrence Journal-World, “but [they’re] the smallest of reasons you get a new scoreboard. ... Does it help us win games and create an atmosphere that is entertaining for fans? I think it’ll do that.”

CUT TO: ALLEN FIELD HOUSE, DEC. 5, 2014 — NIGHT

At 6:48 p.m., 82 minutes before the 8:10 tipoff, camera operators gather in the control room for a pregame rundown. With students operating all of the cameras, associate director David Pedersen cycles through a few reminders: Be professional and don’t check text messages; stay present with the game but don’t get too caught up in it, especially if there’s an exciting finish; watch for bench reaction shots; if a last-second shot wins the game and the floor is chaos, frame a shot and hold it for a count of three before framing another shot, rather than rushing to capture everything at once; and this:

“Help tell the story of what’s going on.”

The crew also hears a summary of Lickert’s script: New football coach David Beaty will be introduced at halftime; a 92-year-old Williams Education Fund donor and hoops fan will be surprised with in-game recognition, so camera operators need to be ready to find her in Section 7; and Lickert plans to “hold the team,” meaning players will be kept inside the locker room awaiting his cue. That’s because Shepperd has prepared a rare treat: a “run-out psych-up” (see glossary) that will accompany the players’ entrance.

The control room is hushed now, everyone in their places, and finally the time comes for Lickert to light the fuse: “15 seconds. We’re going to try to time it. They’re getting antsy. Thank you. 10 seconds. Hold ’em hold ’em hold ’em hold ’em ... send ’em! Keep the music going! 10 seconds, stand-by band, bring ’em out, follow the last one, follow the last one,

Mike Lickert at his post in the third-floor control room (pp. 33, 34).
The public address announcer booms out KU starter introductions and Lickert continues: "Stand by psych-up video. How much time we got? Stand by psych-up video. Roll cross. Get there, get there, get there, do the dissolve, play it loud ... stand by tipoff meter, there we go ... play it loud!"

The control room is perforated by the crowd's loudest roar yet, and Lickert checks off the last item on his pregame script: "Bring the meter now! Bring it now!"

"Fans can always spot that stuff," Shepperd says. "It's awesome and amazing to me at the same time."

As with fans, players pay heed. "It's definitely special," says junior forward Jamari Traylor. "I remember when I first saw it, I almost cried."

As the intro video lights up the arena and thrills the crowd, the Rock Chalk Video crew chills for a brief moment of calm. Other than Lickert dashing out to gauge sound levels and crowd energy when the intro video was played before the Florida game, there is little else happening here.

The breather doesn't last long. "Stand by, Eric," Lickert says as soon as he returns and dons his headset. "Three, two, one ... go go go go go!"

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The breather doesn't last long. "Stand by, Eric," Lickert says as soon as he returns and dons his headset. "Three, two, one ... go go go go go!"
Umm ... yeah, coach. Just a little bit. When the video board thunders, “Get ready for the loudest venue in the country!”, it is not exaggerating.

SUPERIMPOSE: JUST FOR THE RECORD

The noise meter: Yep, it’s real. Tech engineer Andy Leslie makes sure of that.

“We’re particular about realizing it’s a true signal of how loud it is in there,” Pedersen says. “A lot of places will put it in the loudest place; they’ll trick you that way. And there’s other places that have a fake ‘getting loud, getting louder’ thing, and no one’s getting louder and all of a sudden it’s spinning wildly. We get a kick out of those because we think they’re pretty lame.”

The noise meter. Dancing nachos (see glossary). First National pop-up videos. An unscripted hide-and-go-seek game between the control room and a student fan who occasionally shows up in a “Where’s Waldo?” outfit. Impromptu video-board dance contests ignited during time-outs when Rock Chalk Video finds jubilant young fans dancing in the aisles.

The Rock Chalk Video crew has fun doing what they do, and they genuinely hope to return the favor to the fans whose passion they clearly admire.

“If I made a pop-up video that made them laugh and they go home that night and they’re still talking about it, that’s cool to me,” Pedersen says. “Let’s not take our jobs too seriously. Let’s make it entertaining and let’s just have fun with this so people who come here have a good time.”

(Tip: If you hope you and your groovy sign will be seen on the video board, show up early, station yourself in the exact spot where you’ll be once the game is underway, and make yourself and your sign visible to cameras scanning the crowd.)

Lickert laughs when he calls the dancing nachos graphic “stupid,” but he explains that the silly little concessions promo, a holdover from the dot-matrix board, says a lot about Rock Chalk Video’s philosophy.

“It costs a lot of money to come here,” Lickert says, relaxing for a moment in the empty arena before the Florida game, “and hopefully we make somebody smile along the way, whether it’s showing them a cool dunk, an intro video, a pop-up video, showing a little kid in the stands who’s having a good time.

“Or, yeah, dancing nachos. We kind of take pride in a lot of little things that we hope make the overall show pretty cool.”

FLASHBACK: MEMORIAL STADIUM, 1999—DAY

Lickert credits the University of Nebraska’s HuskerVision, a Mitsubishi instant replay screen installed in 1994, as the country’s first college football video board. HuskerVision—whose alumni now
Lickert hired Pedersen in 2000 and Shepperd in 2005, and together they made Rock Chalk Video into a production house that has, in countless ways, transformed the entire varsity athletics operation. Now featuring seven full-time staffers and a dozen or so part-time student employees, Rock Chalk Video operates the Memorial Stadium video board (upgraded in 2010), the Allen Field House board for men’s and women’s basketball, and the baseball scoreboard in Hoglund Ballpark. Thanks to long-term agreements with IMG College, Time Warner Cable Sports and ESPN3, the Rock Chalk Video crew is turn the historic campus venue into an Arrowhead Stadium wannabe.

Lickert prefers to view it in the light of modern sports venues influencing one another; perks and amenities offered elsewhere are invariably studied and, to one degree or another, copied. “Our local Kansas fan base, that’s what they compare it to,” Lickert says of the famous game-day experience inside Arrowhead. “So if they go to a Chiefs game and have a certain level of entertainment or atmosphere and it’s perceived as significantly worse somewhere else, then yeah, they’re not going to like that.”

Intro video: Often incorrectly referred to as psych-up or pump-up, this is the trademark high-intensity video played before the introduction of KU starters.

Tipoff psych-up: The short, loud, inspirational piece played just before tipoff to stir up the final dash of fan frenzy.

Run-out psych-up: A rarity, these are custom videos played when players run onto the court before big games.

Pump-up videos: Team videos produced for players to watch before important games and tournament championships.

The 24: The two dozen small, electronic sponsorship signs affixed to breezeways throughout Allen Field House.

The tables: Lucrative national advertising, secured through KU’s marketing partnership with IMG College, that fronts tables lining Naismith Court. As with the 24, courtside signage is controlled by the Venus switcher, whose student operator uses a stopwatch to track how many minutes each message is displayed while taking care to avoid distractions for players and fans by not making courtside signage changes during critical moments of a game.

High and low fascia: Electronic signage above and below the main video boards. Also controlled by the Venus machine.

Slash and game cameras: Perched above the stands on corner and midcourt aeries, these cameras have the largest lenses in Rock Chalk Video’s inventory. Including GoPros affixed behind both backboards and shoulder-held cameras under both baskets, Rock Chalk Video typically operates eight cameras at a men’s basketball game.

Slam cams: Remotely operated cameras above the backboards, also called robos. These devices are installed by visiting production crews for big-game telecasts, as was the case for the Florida game; Rock Chalk Video trades access to slam-cam feeds by offering the TV crew access to its GoPros.

Dancing nachos: One of the retro graphics saved from the old dot-matrix board, which was replaced in 2005 by the first video board. Because animation software could not be exported to the new system, associate director David Pedersen filmed all of the dot-matrix graphics one day before the old board was removed. Another fan favorite is the animation of a referee blowing his whistle, played when an opposing player fouls out. —C.L.
"We're not here to take away; we're here to make your experience better. We're here to entertain you or educate you or hopefully make you smile in some way, and over the years I think we've done that." —Mike Lickert

Douglas Shepperd (above) operating the instant-replay machine, camera operator Jordan Borel, c’15 (right), and the control room in action (p. 37).

responsible for video board productions and game broadcasts for 80 to 100 live events a year, including volleyball, women’s basketball, baseball and the Kansas Relays. (An ESPN3 control room was built last year next to the basketball control room in Allen Field House.)

And that’s only the public side of Rock Chalk Video’s mission. From its headquarters in the old Touchdown Club in Memorial Stadium, Rock Chalk Video also produces highlight videos that coaches play for recruits during in-home visits, season-end and start-of-the-year videos for the entire athletics department, specialized videos for events such as last fall’s 60-year anniversary celebration of Allen Field House, and, to help coaches motivate players before big games, pump-up videos that, unlike psych-ups played at games, often feature beat-heavy tracks cut by younger, hipper artists.

Student employees are responsible for shooting and creating videos for Olympic sports teams, and, thanks to the experience they gain here, Rock Chalk Video alumni are dispersed in college and pro video departments across the country.

“My boss at Sporting Kansas City was very familiar with the Rock Chalk Video method,” says Brad Mertel, j’08, g’10, a student employee at Rock Chalk Video for four years before being hired in 2011 as director of video operations for Sporting Kansas City, where he oversaw the installation of Sporting Park’s much-admired video and audio system that has helped make professional soccer a big-time player in the KC sports scene.

“He’d been to KU games, he knew what the Rock Chalk Video system was, and he even made the comment that you can tell when somebody is a Rock Chalk Video graduate. There is a certain style to the videos they produce, but also just the ideas that people have about in-game atmosphere.”

Few pump-up videos carry more urgency than those created by Shepperd for men’s basketball’s NCAA Tournament games. Before the 2012 title game against Kentucky, for instance, Shepperd spent two days locked in his New Orleans hotel room, editing together a video featuring voice-over of Muhammad Ali proclaiming, “I’m going to show you how great I am!”

Nine years after watching that first video board rise from the Allen Field House floor, Bill Self is convinced: It can help win games.

“Of course, the video that we show before the game is great, but that is not what makes them good,” Self says. “It’s the pump-up stuff, recruiting videos that we take in the homes, things like that they do all the time that I think really lends them to be part of our staff.”

What is now seen as an integral part of the field house experience was once viewed with skepticism, much as first happened with the new football score-
“I want to make our experience like your experience,” Lickert says, because Rock Chalk Video’s operation is tailored to KU’s unique atmosphere. Techno music, for instance, will never make the playlist, while it might play well in less-traditional venues crying out for an energy boost. “People in my position who ignore what their fans want, or the history and tradition of wherever they are, are worse off for it because nobody is coming to see us,” Lickert says. “People are coming to see the basketball team. Hopefully what we do enhances that in some way.”

Says Shepperd, “I think the fact that we were able to implement this video board into Allen Field House, where so many people probably didn’t want it because it was going to take away from what the Phog was, you have to give Mike a lot of credit for that. To be able to integrate this board into one of the most storied venues of college basketball, the fact that we’re not taking away from the game and we’re not taking away from the field house, that the video board and the videos that we play up there have become a piece of the program, it’s all very cool and very rewarding.”

So ... who’s up for some nachos? —With reporting by contributing freelance writer David Garfield, c’88

Much more online

For interviews and an insider’s view of the Rock Chalk Video control room in action, produced by Alumni Association videographer Dan Storey, a former Rock Chalk Video staffer, visit kualumni.org.
From Iraq to Haiti and too many hot spots between, Corine Wegener champions cultural heritage imperiled by war and natural disasters

by Chris Lazzarino

Photographs by Steve Puppe
Before she arrived in Baghdad in May 2003, Corine Wegener, then a major in the U.S. Army Reserve, was already fuming over the same news reports that horrified the world: 170,000 pieces of art, said to be the entire collection of the Iraqi National Museum, had been stolen or destroyed in the lawless spring of 2003.

What she found upon her arrival, more than a month after the national museum had been ransacked, was an altogether different reality. The entire collection was actually more than a million individual items, and nothing remotely close to the entire collection—at fact, not even close to the original misrepresented number of the collection’s breadth—had been lost.

Thanks to the heroism and dedication of Iraqi curators who proved deeply devoted to the museum, the actual number of lost pieces was, in Wegener’s estimation, about 15,000—many of which were later recovered—and “really high-value objects” from the treasures of Nimrud and the excavation at Ur had been stashed by curators in Central Bank of Iraq vaults.

Other works were hidden in secret caches around the museum compound, and even hiding places that ultimately failed—storage rooms whose entrances had been walled over—revealed the ingenuity of Iraqi collections managers.

Wegener, g’94, g’01, who returned to campus in early October to deliver a lecture in the Spencer Museum of Art and meet with art history students intrigued by her career, is now the Smithsonian Institution’s first cultural heritage preservation officer. She recalled being startled upon her arrival in Baghdad in May 1999 by Iraqi curators who lacked what they could while risking the wrath not just of frenzied mobs, but also Saddam Hussein, who likely hoped to get his hands on the treasures ahead of the advancing armies; but that was her first foray into the art world.

Wegener says, “It told the whole story of the development of the ‘monuments men’ in World War II, which I didn’t really know about. I just knew then that there were these [Civil Affairs] positions and they wanted you to have a museum background, so that book was a real eye-opener.”

In the midst of her art history graduate studies, Wegener’s Kansas City reserve unit was sent in 1997 to Bosnia. After her return, in 1998, Wegener joined the Minneapolis Institute of Arts as an intern, and in 1999 was hired for a full-time job as research associate. She completed her KU art history master’s degree in 2001 and was promoted to associate curator of decorative arts, textiles and sculpture.

As she prepared in Spring 2003 for deployment with her husband to Afghanistan, Wegener lobbied to be sent to Kabul, where a museum had been devastated; that wasn’t in the Army’s plans for her, and Wegener was ordered to stop asking.

Then came the fall of Baghdad and the looting of the Iraqi National Museum, which Wegener followed on TV news reports with disgust.

“Knowing what I knew about our capabilities to do this kind of work in World War II, I couldn’t imagine how this could happen,” she said. “I was so mad.”

Although it would mean they would not deploy to Afghanistan together and would likely spend a year apart, Wegener’s husband told her, “This is crazy. You really need to be there.” Encouraged, Wegener made one last push to be sent to Iraq as an arts, monuments and archives officer.

She emailed former commanding officers who put in a good word on her behalf, and soon came a change in orders. “They pulled me out of my unit,” Wegener says, “and sent me to Baghdad.”

Shortly after graduating high school in Fremont, Nebraska, Wegener in 1982 joined the U.S. Army Reserve. At the University of Nebraska Omaha, Wegener joined Army ROTC, met and married a classmate, Paul Wegener, and after both graduated and earned officer’s commissions, they eventually ended up in Lenexa.

That’s when Wegener decided to study for a political science master’s degree at KU, and her life would soon take a most unexpected turn.

“I was about to graduate and needed to take an elective, so I took Intro to Art History,” Wegener recalls. “And I found that I was fascinated by it.”

Just as she was considering applying for yet another KU master’s program, this time in art history, Wegener found within the training manual published by Civil Affairs, her Army Reserve division, a reference to “arts, monuments and archives officers.” Another serendipitous element slipped into place at the time when she happened upon Lynn H. Nicholas’ The Rape of Europa, a bestselling history of the arts experts turned Army officers who saved countless masterpieces and cultural treasures.

“It told the whole story of the development of the ‘monuments men’ in World
devastated if this happened to my museum and my collection. Please tell me how I can help you.”

The Hague Convention of 1954, a unified response to Hitler’s ravaging of European art and culture, requires armies of its member nations to refrain, when possible, from destroying irreplaceable cultural objects and sites. Of course lawless looters, like murderous dictators, are not bound by international treaty, so Wegener carried with her not just the fear of working in a combat zone—a member of her team was shot and paralyzed, and her interpreter was killed by a hidden roadside bomb—but also the weight of rescuing from the rubble artifacts from the dawn of human civilization.

“It’s the Fertile Crescent, the land between the two rivers, the land of the first cities, the first writing,” she says. “Every time I’d walk into the Iraq museum I was struck by this incredible feeling of awe and protectiveness.”

During her nine-month deployment in Baghdad, Wegener and her team restored the museum and even managed, at the urging of the Italian ambassador, archeologist Piero Cordone, to stage a one-day exhibition of rescued art objects, including priceless treasures that had been secreted away in Central Bank vaults, which flooded when it was hit by a bomb.

“Cori has a lot of credibility,” says Richard Kurin, the Smithsonian Institution’s undersecretary for history, art and culture who in 2012 hired Wegener as his first cultural heritage preservation officer. “Her experience in Iraq, working with military authorities, working with civilians in a difficult circumstance, proved that she had the diplomatic chops, but she’s also an experienced museum curator.

“She has the knowledge on the museum side, and she has the ability to work in the field under tough situations. When you’re doing disaster response and recovery work, it’s a tough situation.”

Throughout her stressful tour, Wegener took comfort in her original inspiration: intrepid arts officers that she read about in her KU discovery of *The Rape of Europa.*

“They were often told that their mission wasn’t important, and I got a lot of that, too. Those were the days when I thought about Lynn Nicholas and the monuments men. I thought, well, those guys could do it; I can do it, too.”

By the time Wegener left Baghdad, in March 2004, and joined her husband in Minneapolis, both decided it was time to retire from the Army Reserve. She resumed her work as curator, trained soldiers and marines in cultural preservation whenever she was invited to do so, and set about righting yet another wrong, which had nagged at her ever since making a startling discovery while serving in Baghdad:

The United States had yet to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention treaty.

Wegener assembled a national coalition of curators and art historians to lobby the U.S. Senate; thanks in large part to their education and testimony, the Senate in 2009 ratified the Hague treaty. Along the way Wegener’s alliance formed the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield—a blue shield is the Hague Convention’s symbol—and, as the group’s first president, Wegener on Jan. 12, 2010, again answered the call of duty.

The earthquake that killed more than 100,000 Haitians and left more than a million homeless also ripped bare the Caribbean nation’s rich artistic heritage.

Wegener was granted leave from her museum to serve as the international coordinator for U.S. Blue Shield, the Smithsonian and other agencies, and she prepared to descend into another chaotic scene of frightening destruction.

Before traveling to Port-au-Prince, Wegener saw in the New York Times a plea issued by sculptor Patrick Vilaire, who, along with other artists and intellectuals, feared for the preservation of a cache of 19th-century Haitian political and history books.

“The dead are dead, we know that,” Vilaire told the Times. “But if you don’t have the memory of the past, the rest of us can’t continue living.”

Resentment at missions dedicated to preserving cultural heritage in hot zones where human suffering had yet to be salved were nothing new to Wegener. But in Haiti she was forced to confront the misgivings head on when, in the lobby of their hotel, humanitarian relief workers fumed that Wegener and her team were there to save art objects while human beings still suffered.

Reflecting on the incident five years later, Wegener says, “I never heard a Haitian say that. Not once.”

Wegener explains that arts and culture preservationists do not arrive until weeks after a hot spot has erupted, either in combat or natural calamity. Humanitarian agencies are always there first. Once they do arrive, curators take pains to never interfere in ongoing work to save citizens and restore housing and infrastructure.

Wegener explained to humanitarian workers that the art experts were there at the request of the Haitian Ministry of Culture, as well as artists who bemoaned, “Yes, we’ve had this terrible tragedy and a lot of people are dead, but also hurricane season is coming and our cultural heritage is laying on the ground with no roof over it. Who helps us?”

Wegener worked closely on Haitian relief with the Smithsonian and other U.S. cultural institutions, and Kurin says he quickly saw the immense value of her unique skill set.

“What Cori was able to convey was that when you’re dealing with saving the stuff that’s most important to people, which gives them a sense of who they are, you’re doing something very important in terms of relieving their pain and giving them tools for the future,” Kurin says. “Cori got it. She knew that the people in Haiti have tremendous resilience to get through the earthquake and the aftermath, and it was their history and heritage that gave them the tools to do that.”

Kurin draws a parallel with tornado victims who return to flattened homes and search not for a couch or bookcase, but instead seek out photographs and other touchstones of family history.

“We look at it as part of humanitarian relief,” Kurin says, “but it’s also part of an exertion of the human right to culture, to identity, to be who you are, to have your own history and identity, to sing your
song, to speak your language, to express yourself. It’s a very deep and fundamental aspect of being human.”

When Kurin hired Wegener, in November 2012, Hurricane Sandy had just torn up the Eastern Seaboard. Wegener jumped into coordinating the Smithsonian’s relief efforts for museums and cultural institutions, most notably New York City’s famed Martha Graham Dance Company, whose decades-old costumes, sets and archives were flooded by the surging Hudson River.

Since joining the Smithsonian, Wegener has also organized international war-zone workshops to offer education, relief and professional camaraderie.

In West Africa, museum professionals from across the battered region discussed emergency planning, illicit art trafficking, and how they might use their museums as peaceful spaces for healing and community building.

Syrian curators traveled in secrecy to Wegener’s Smithsonian workshop in Turkey to learn about crating and packing and how to protect archeological sites while also savoring an opportunity to talk among themselves about how each had endured years of civil war.

“I am every day inspired by these fantastic colleagues around the world who, no matter what’s going on in their own lives, feel that they have a responsibility to save their cultural heritage,” Wegener says. “Every day they go out there and work harder to either plan how this won’t happen to their cultural heritage again or they’re actively in recovery mode, trying to save things, many times at the risk of their own lives.

“My colleagues in Syria, I can’t imagine what they’re going through and still maintaining their positive outlook about saving Syria’s heritage for the future, for when the war is over and they want to teach their children about their heritage. They want to make sure there’s something left. That’s what keeps me going.”

The mission, wherever it is called upon around the world, needs no more explanation than that. Tomorrows cannot arrive unless first we protect that which came before. 

Preparation begins at home

At her Oct. 2 lecture in the Spencer Museum of Art, Corine Wegener emphasized a crucial aspect of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property: Along with requiring that armed forces respect museums and monuments and that countries refrain from protecting military assets by staging them near cultural sites, the treaty also insists, in Wegener’s words, “Make sure your own house is in order.”

Museums and other cultural institutions must keep collections in good order and well documented; if photos have not been taken, a stolen object “might as well never have existed” as far as Interpol is concerned, Wegener told her audience.

The edict to plan for trouble does not apply only to museums in likely war zones; even in the safety of a calm enclave such as Kansas, microbursts (2006) and water-main breaks (2012), along with the ever-worrisome specter of tornadoes, force curators to heed the spirit of the Hague Convention.

“Even something as simple as a power outage is something that we have to take very seriously,” says Spencer Museum of Art director Saralyn Reece Hardy, c’76, g’94. “The quiet life of a responsible museum is inclusive of emergency preparedness, a robust scenario-building that is protective of both works of art and people. Reece Hardy and her administrative team create, update and review with all staff, including student interns, “decision trees” that outline authority and responsibilities in the event of various emergencies, “so people don’t waste time trying to decide whose job it is.”

“Man-made disasters are happening more and more in the U.S.,” Wegener says, “where we’re having infrastructure failure because we haven’t kept up with things like rebuilding water mains that are 100 years old and then we’re shocked when they break. Those are the kinds of things that I think would behoove all of us who are responsible for collections to be thinking about.

“Emergency planning: It’s not just for wars anymore.”

—C.L.
Association

Association launches career services

Online programs, mentor guide, local events to help 'Hawks connect

When the Alumni Association in 2013 surveyed 100,000 alumni, including members and non-members, Jayhawks asked the Association to create more opportunities for alumni to parlay KU connections into career advancement. At the top of their wish lists were industry-specific networking events, information on job opportunities and access to professional mentors.

After extensive research and work throughout 2014, the Association has heeded the call by adding online networking events and the KU Alumni Mentor Network. All of the Association’s career services are outlined at kualumni.org/careercenter, which also includes links to the University Career Center and career programs in KU’s academic schools.

The new offerings include the Association’s first real-time online networking event, exclusively for members, at noon CST Jan. 29. As Kansas Alumni went to press, 50 members already had responded to the first of three email invitations by registering for the event, which the Association is hosting with Brazen Careerist, a company that provides online networking tools. Members will log in at noon Jan. 29 and choose one of six conversation “booths” based on their preferred fields, including business, education, engineering, communications and more. Each member will be matched with another participant in that booth for five to eight minutes to trade questions, share experiences, exchange career tips and build their professional network.

As in speed-dating, “speed-networking” offers opportunities for several consecutive one-on-one conversations—but in a virtual room full of Jayhawks.

Although the first event is open to all members worldwide, the Association could tailor future events based on members’ preferences—or as part of ongoing partnerships with KU schools. “Instead of individual conversations, one of KU’s deans or faculty members could lead a question-and-answer session online for graduates of a particular school,” says Heath Peterson, d’04, g’09, vice president for alumni programs, one of several staff members who have researched career programs at other alumni associations. “Alumni are most interested in access to industry events, job and networking opportunities, so we are investing in these areas first. We want to connect Jayhawks to one another to assist in their career advancement and professional development. In addition, we can help build strong alumni networks in key cities and provide opportunities for Jayhawks to conduct business with Jayhawks.”

David Johnston, j’94, g’06, vice president for Internet services and marketing, leads recruitment for the KU Alumni Mentor Network, which currently includes 200 volunteers. Members can search for mentors, update their professional profiles and register to be mentors for fellow Jayhawks—including alumni and current students who are members of the Student Alumni Association. To volunteer, update your profile or search for a mentor, visit kualumni.org/mentor.

“KU alumni helped me land my very first job, and we hear similar stories from alumni all the time,” Johnston says. “Those connections can be made more easily than ever using tools like the KU Alumni Mentor Network and LinkedIn.”

Several years ago, Johnston created a KU alumni group on LinkedIn, the popular online networking site. The group now includes more than 20,000 alumni. In 2014, LinkedIn invited the Association to help pilot its search tools, which help alumni connect with nearly 111,000 Jayhawks. The tools include searches based on geographic location and profession or industry.

Along with online career services, the Association will offer local events following the success of two programs last fall. Forty alumni attended Jayhawks on Business Oct. 23 in Dallas, the first of a new series with the School of Business featuring conversations with Dean Neeli Bendapudi, PhD’95, and local alumni who can share their career stories and professional advice. In Dallas, Bendapudi interviewed Forrest Hoglund, e’56.
Beaty’s return to the Hill boosts optimism for football future

As president of the KU Alumni Association, I’m fortunate to have many opportunities each year to be a part of something special or critically important to the University’s future—protecting the state budget provided to KU, helping the admissions team recruit students from all over the state and nation, and meeting extraordinary students and alumni are only a few examples.

Recently I served on an unannounced search committee for KU’s next head football coach. By now you all know David Beaty was hired from Texas A&M. More important, he had previously been on the KU staff twice under two different head coaches.

I had never met Coach Beaty until the search began, but I quickly understood why so many who have known him were excited about his interest in coming back to Lawrence. He is an enthusiastic, friendly, confident and warm family man. In short, he is unquestionably a perfect fit to represent the Jayhawk Nation.

In the highly competitive Big 12 Conference, we need a coach like David Beaty to not only build the program back up and beyond, but also someone who wants to be here and who inspires us all to be stronger supporters. I am confident that he will be successful in time and, along the way, make a starved Jayhawk Nation proud that he is our coach. What is most important now is that we put our full support behind him and his staff and appreciate the challenge they face. This means, for those who are within distance, buying season tickets and being part of the rebuilding process.

Even though KU is viewed as a basketball school because of the long, storied success of the program, there is something truly special about football Saturdays on Mount Oread, when many areas of the University host thousands of alumni and donors for reunions and other activities. The colors of fall, the sound of the KU Marching Band, the smell of grills from tailgaters all make for a perfect setting to engage alumni and fans for the betterment of KU.

Coach Beaty already has committed to visiting more than a dozen cities to meet alumni, beginning with February events in Kansas City, Lawrence, Topeka, Hutchinson and Hays. He also will be part of our ‘Hawk Days of Summer tour across the state. When you meet him, you will understand our collective enthusiasm on campus. Welcome back, Coach Beaty. We are all here to support you!

—Kevin Corbett, c’88
KU Alumni Association president

A NOTE FROM KEVIN

Following his graduation from the School of Engineering, Hoglund began a long career in the energy industry with Exxon, Texas Oil and Gas and EOG Resources. He now serves as the chairman of SeaOne Maritime Corporation.

Chicago Jayhawks who work in advertising, marketing, design, architecture and related creative fields met Oct. 29 for a networking event hosted by Bright Bright Great, a creative strategy agency. Seventy alumni registered for the event and 40 participated—an impressive turnout considering that the Kansas City Royals faced the San Francisco Giants in Game 7 of the World Series that night.

In addition to services for alumni, the Association will continue to help students prepare for their careers. A Networking Night featuring 10 alumni in various professions attracted 50 students to the Adams Alumni Center Oct 21. “By changing the name of the event from Dinner with a Dozen ‘Hawks to Networking Night, we doubled our participation,” says Paige Pendarvis Hofer, d’90, student programs coordinator. SAA will host two career events in the spring.

Whether they serve alumni or students online or at local gatherings, career programs affirm the power of the Jayhawk network—or, as Hofer tells students, “One Jayhawk connection can change your world.”

Career resources

Visit kualumni.org/careercenter for all of the Association’s services, including information for job seekers and KU employers. The page also lists links to the University Career Center and career services through academic schools.

To volunteer as a mentor, update your profile, or search for a mentor, visit kualumni.org/mentor.

The Association’s blog (kualumni.org/news) includes a career/life category that features professional advice and highlights from recent networking events in KU cities.
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Kristen Schwein Allen
David A. & Mary Kate Ambler
Alan A. Andrews
Marydel Aspedon
Erin Mullins Atherton
Jennifer M. Aytes
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Jackie J. Beard-Robinson
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Michael R. Gillispie
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Class Notes by Karen Goodell

39 Robert Meyer, b’39, and his wife, Peggy, celebrated their 75th anniversary last fall. They live in Marco Island, Florida.

40 Virginia Rodriguez Radford, c’40, was recognized for her 50-year membership in the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Phi State Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. She lives in Seneca.

49 Fred Kirsekorn, c’49, g’50, wrote his first book, A Journey Through Life, at age 90. He and his wife, Barbara, make their home in Lilydale, Minnesota.

61 Robert Berkebile, a’61, has become a senior strategic adviser at the International Living Future Institute. He’s also a principal at BNIM Architects in Kansas City, where he and his wife, Elizabeth, make their home.

62 Milton Diamond, PhD’62, will receive a gold medal in July from the World Association for Sexual Health at the world congress in Singapore. Milton is a researcher and advocate on behalf of transsexual and intersexual interests. He is a professor emeritus at the University of Hawaii in Manoa, and he makes his home in Honolulu with Grace Whitney Diamond, c’59, g’62.

Fred, c’62, and Marcia Ediger Perry, c’64, celebrated their 50th anniversary last year. They live in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, where they are both retired.

64 Edward Dreyfus, PhD’64, wrote Mickey and the Plow Horse, a children’s book about people who feel they don’t fit in with society. He has a private practice as a life coach in Santa Monica, California.

Charles Heath, c’64, g’66, has been elected vice chair of the KU Endowment Board of Trustees. He is retired from the Employers Reinsurance Corporation, and he lives in Lawrence with his wife, Kathleen, assoc.

66 Roy Guenther, d’66, f’68, is retired from a 40-year career teaching music and serving as executive associate dean of arts and sciences at George Washington University. He and Eileen Morris Guenther, c’70, f’70, live in Vienna, Virginia. She is a professor of church music at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., and just completed a six-year term as president of the American Guild of Organists.

Jack Kaine, d’66, is CEO of Jack W. Kaine Ltd. He lives in Mission Hills.

Duane Miller, p’66, is a professor and pharmacy chair at the University of Tennessee in Memphis. He and his wife, Shirley, live in Collierville.

William O’Riordan, m’66, is chairman and chief operating officer of eStudySite in San Diego. He lives in La Jolla.

Donald Senti, d’66, g’70, is executive director of Cooperating School Districts in St. Louis. He lives in Chesterfield.

67 Patrick Davis, b’67, is a retired captain with American Airlines. He lives in Napa, California.

Stephen Lightstone, b’67, g’70, has been elected to the KU Endowment Board of Trustees. He is a managing director with CC Capital Advisors in Kansas City, where he and Terry McCluggage Lightstone, d’68, make their home.

Nancy Reed, g’67, wrote Words Left Behind: Tales of a Life Gladly Lived, a novel that was published last year. She makes her home in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Annette Shoemaker Rieger, c’67, has been elected to the KU Endowment Board of Trustees. She and her husband, Roger, b’67, own the Tudor Foundation, which mentors, counsels and provides financial support for low-income, inner-city students. They live in Seattle.

Daniel Suiter, c’67, m’71, chairs the board of the Kansas Medical Mutual Insurance Company. He and Marcia Johnson Suiter, ’67, live in Pratt, where Dan practices gastroenterology.

68 Ronald Jenson, m’68, is retired from a career in family medicine. He lives in Freeland, Michigan, with his wife, Cindy.

Larry Sewell, c’68, l’71, is a partner in the St. Louis law firm of Armstrong Teasdale. He was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2015.

MARRIED

Sherrie Wales, d’68, to Robert Hartley, Aug. 31 in Homer, Alaska. They live in Anchorage.

69 The Hon. Jerome Hellmer, d’69, has retired from the bench of the 28th District Court of Kansas. He and his wife, Susan, make their home in Salina.

Gene Hotchkiss, p’69, associate dean of pharmacy at KU, received a lifetime achievement award from the National Community Pharmacists Association. He and his wife, Kari, make their home in Lawrence.

Lynn Manos, f’69, owns Lynn Manos

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
j School of Journalism
l School of Law
m School of Medicine
n School of Nursing
p School of Pharmacy
PharmD School of Pharmacy
s School of Social Welfare
u School of Music
DE Doctor of Engineering
DMA Doctor of Musical Arts
DPT Doctor of Physical Therapy
EdD Doctor of Education
PhD Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter) Former student
assoc Associate member of the Alumni Association
ALUMNI PRIDE. JAYHAWK STYLE.

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BIG BLUE MONDAYS

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—Evan Trayler, Edmond, Oklahoma

MY PASSION IS:
STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS TO BETTER SERVE PEOPLE

MY SCHOLARSHIP:
GIVES ME THE TIME TO GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS AND MENTOR OTHER STUDENTS

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Former geologist savors Bolivian coffee cultivation

Every week, retired geologist Yehuda Lilo drives from his home in La Paz, Bolivia, to his coffee farm in the Andean cloud forest. Lilo in 2010 began restoring the 25-acre Finca Las Tacanas, beating back jungle and preserving stone terraces etched into rainy, precipitous slopes.

“The climate and altitude are ideal conditions,” Lilo says, “for producing some of the best coffee in the world.”

International Coffee Day on Sept. 29 marked the debut of Lilo’s Apasionado Coffee, a specialty brand marketed only via the Internet. Apasionado’s farm-to-cup model is designed to bypass giant distributors and retailers to create a connection between consumer and producer. You can even adopt your own coffee tree.

Born and raised in Israel, Lilo, c’78, g’81, was wounded in the Yom Kippur war of 1973; while recuperating, he met a Lawrence woman, and, after recovering, visited Kansas and stayed to study geology. Lilo joined Phillips Petroleum after graduate school and went to Bolivia as country manager.

When the president of the World Council for Sustainable Development offered Lilo a job managing an eco-fund, his path turned again.

Lilo became familiar with a range of South American projects, and, once his contract ended, he began promoting sustainable products from local cooperatives. Although he found success, with a U.S. client list that included Seattle Best Coffee and Starbucks, Lilo found himself yearning to break free of his suppliers.

“I realized the potential, but also the problems of working with local co-operatives, and decided that one day I would develop my own coffee farm.”

Coffee production presents many challenges: tricky propagation, exacting cultivation and pruning, hand-harvesting, hulling and fermentation, cleaning and sorting, drying and roasting. Marauding flocks of parrots take heavy tolls on crops.

But production complexities are not Lilo’s only concerns. Coca cultivation drains the soil of nutrients, and its growers slash and burn the rainforest. “At least 50 percent of Bolivian agriculture,” Lilo says, “is devoted to coca farming.”

Lilo’s aim is to keep most of Apasionado’s value in Bolivia, with a good chunk going to the local community.

“Our community appreciates the fact that we provide consistent work. They think we’re crazy for producing coffee, not coca, but they also understand the benefit of reforestation with coffee trees as opposed to the destruction of farmland or virgin forest due to coca production.”

Faced with so many challenges, why venture into the coffee business at all?

“I love coffee,” Lilo says. “I love the exotic environment on the production side and I love the trendy environment on the market side. Every day is different. I never have a boring day.”

—King is a Lawrence freelance writer.
Class Notes

De Miller, ’73, owns Lazarus Filmworks, a company that makes Christian movies. He and his wife, Sue, live in Mount Dora, Florida.

James Rains, b’73, is a senior consultant with FPS Inc. He lives in Houston.

John Welsh, ‘73, is vice president of PRICE Futures Group. He and Andrea Taylor Welsh, d’74, live in Sun City West, Arizona.

Mary Ann Genova Diorio, g’74, PhD’77, a life coach, behavioral consultant and Biblical counselor, wrote Who is Jesus?, a children’s book. She lives in Merchantville, New Jersey.

Bruce Frazez, b’74, l’77, g’78, is president of Bruce Frazez Consulting. He and his wife, Louise, make their home in Pembroke Pines, Florida.

Bruce Keplinger, c’74, manages Norris & Keplinger in Overland Park. He and his wife, Carol, live in Leawood. He’s also president of Hallbrook Country Club and a member of the International Society of Barristers.

Patricia Stickney Van Sickle, g’74, g’78, PhD’84, tutors English-as-a-second-language students at Washburn University in Topeka, where she and her husband, Ronald, live.

Robert Finch, c’75, l’79, g’79, heads the credit review department at American International Group in New York City. He lives in Chatham, New Jersey.

Lynn Hursh, c’75, l’79, a partner in the Kansas City firm of Armstrong Teasdale, has been selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2015. He and Michelle Winter Hursh, b’85, l’90, live in Leawood.

David Kornelis, l’75, practices law with the Kansas City firm of Armstrong Teasdale. He will be included in Best Lawyers in America 2015.

Jeffrey Stinson, j’75, is an officer and senior staff writer for the Pew Charitable Trusts in Washington, D.C. He and Christine Stevens Stinson, j’75, live in Herndon, Virginia.

Gregg Vandaveer, j’75, is president and CEO of Sooner State Bank in Tuttle, Oklahoma. He and his wife, Jayne, live in Oklahoma City.

Larry Muck, b’76, g’79, chairs the American Association of Private Lenders in Kansas City and is president and co-founder of Springboard Capital Resources.

Carol Dudgeon Ploetz, c’76, l’79, is CEO of cdPhoenix Consulting. She and her husband, Richard, live in New York City.

Michael Rome, c’76, is managing director of Texas Capital Management in Houston.

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Michael Rome, c’76, is managing director of Texas Capital Management in Houston.

Gordon Docking, j’77, is president and CEO of KidsTLC in Olathe. He and Susan Walker Docking, d’77, make their home in Overland Park.

William Melton, l’77, g’79, works as an independent legal consultant and contractor in New York City, where he lives.

Mark Patton, d’77, manages strategic accounts for Myriad Genetics. He and his
Joseph LeCluyse, s’78, g’85, is vice president of client success for Collegiate Project Services. He and Eileen Eagle LeCluyse, c’80, g’83, make their home in Philadelphia.

Craig Levy, j’78, supervises accounts for Morgan Creative Group. He and his wife, Lisa Cherry, live in Cave Creek, Arizona.

Chuck Magerl, ’78, president and proprietor of Free State Brewing Company and Wheatfields Bakery and Cafe in Lawrence, was inducted into the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association’s Hall of Fame.

the Wabash, the highest distinction in Indiana, honoring her leadership of a capital campaign that raised more than $108 million for the university. Jo and her husband, David, live in Roanoke, Indiana.

Daniel Wierda, g’77, PhD’79, is a consultant with B2S Consulting. He lives in New Palestine, Indiana.

Louis Gamino, g’78, PhD’81, has been promoted to professor of psychiatry and behavioral science at Baylor Scott & White Health in Temple, Arizona.

Julie Switzer, g’77, PhD’80, retired in June as president of Manchester University. She received the Sagamore of the Wabash, the highest distinction in Indiana, honoring her leadership of a capital campaign that raised more than $108 million for the university. Jo and her husband, David, live in Roanoke, Indiana.

Janie Hamm Snider, b’77, is senior vice president of Griffin Partners. She and her husband, Jack, live in Katy, Texas.

Jo Young Switzer, g’77, PhD’80, retired in June as president of Manchester University. She received the Sagamore of the Wabash, the highest distinction in Indiana, honoring her leadership of a capital campaign that raised more than $108 million for the university. Jo and her husband, David, live in Roanoke, Indiana.

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Designing goods proves perfect fit for textile artist

Liv Grant can thank both parents for her burgeoning career as the creator of her own line of home decor and clothing, which she makes in her Wichita studio and sells online at livandwork.com.

Grant began sewing with her mom, an interior designer, while still in grade school. At KU, it seemed natural to pair interior design with her art history major, but she soon decided that the discipline’s reliance on computer-assisted design (CAD) ran contrary to her desire for a hands-on vocation.

“My mom could walk into a space and go, ‘Hmmm, I feel like the couch should be over here,’” recalls Grant, c’11. “She might sketch it on her drawing board, but there wasn’t a whole lot of CAD involved. I like computers, but I didn’t want to spend my whole day in front of a screen.”

A fellow student told Grant she should try textile design. “I fell in love with it,” she says, “which is pretty fitting since my dad is a fourth-generation marching band uniform manufacturer.”

Growing up, Grant worked summers at Fruhauf Uniforms, starting at the bottom of the family business much as her father had. The company makes uniforms for high school and college bands and costumes for Broadway musicals and Hollywood films.

“It’s really fascinating to see a bolt of fabric come in and a completely finished, four-piece uniform come out the other end,” says Grant, who recently moved back to Wichita from Chicago—where she launched liv + work in 2011—to draw on factory resources for her own work. “It’s kind of like an Alice In Wonderland, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory type of place to me still.”

The 40 or so products Grant makes and sells on her website share the characteristics that she describes as the three pillars of her business philosophy: Her “homewares” and “selfwares” (her terms for the home decor and clothing she designs) are handmade from natural materials that are American-sourced.

Items range from the practical (cloth napkins, throw pillows and clutch purses) to the seemingly esoteric (fur scarves, hand-painted T-shirts and a cashmere leather-trimmed bow tie). But even the wearable art, Grant notes, is washable and “super-functional,” made with the idea that products designed to be practical can also be beautiful.

“I want to make liv + work a lifestyle brand that includes things you wear and things for the home. I started by saying you can surround yourself with beautiful things.”

Her reasons for returning to Wichita lean toward the practical, but she’s also found inspiration in the thriving art milieu outside her Douglas Design District door. She plans to dip her toes in that gallery scene while maintaining her hard-earned toehold in the lifestyle business.

“I try to blur that line,” Grant says, “and I think it can be blurred even more.”
Bradley Manson, ’78, practices law with Manson Karbank Burk in Overland Park. He and his wife, Teresa Meagher, c’77, l’79, live in Leawood.

Barbara Beck, a’79, e’79, a’86, wrote The Future Architect’s Handbook, a children’s book, which was published by Schiffer Publishing. She lives in Annapolis, Maryland.

Janelle Burns, ’79, a retired teacher, makes her home in Edmond, Oklahoma, with her husband, Stephen, c’79. He’s a geologist with Devon Energy Corporation.

Nancy Tudor Griffin, b’79, has been named national president of the American Business Women’s Association. She is self-determination payroll/billing coordinator for TARC in Topeka, where she and her husband, Bill, c’78, make their home.

80 Cathy Zweygardt Gleason, j’80, received a Certificate of Recognition from the Alaska State Legislature honoring her contributions to the Anchorage community. Cathy and her husband, Daniel, e’81, live in Anchorage.

81 Daniel Gleason, e’81, is senior project manager of Brook Range Petroleum Corporation in Anchorage, Alaska, where he and Cathy Zweygardt Gleason, j’80, make their home.

David Knowles, b’81, l’84, is a director at Ingersoll Rand. He and Jennifer Stultz Knowles, f’82, make their home in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Robert Moser Jr., p’81, m’85, resigned in November as secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. He and Dalene Gooch Moser, h’81, h’82, live in Tribune.

Lavern Pope, e’81, is vice president of operations of Transenterix in Morrisville, North Carolina. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Raleigh.

Jerry Skillett, b’81, is operating partner of Antarctica Capital and CEO of Lanier Parking in New York City, where he and his wife, Lenor, make their home.

Taylor Porter, c’82, m’87, has been named medical director of Valeo Behavioral Health Care in Topeka. He and his wife, Katrina, live in Lawrence.

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83 Ross Dalton, j’83, is chief operating officer at Glimpulse. He and his wife, Ellen, live in Atlanta.

Stephen Flood, j’86, c’87, g’87, live...
in Trabuco Canyon, California.

**Timothy Schnacke**, c’83, j’83, is executive director for the Center for Legal and Evidence-Based Practice. He received the Pioneer Award from the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies for his work in bail reform and has been named co-chair of the American Bar Association’s Pretrial Justice Committee. He and his wife, Denise, live in Golden, Colorado.

**84 Philippe Adam**, g’84, is president of Novae Restauration. He and his wife, Veronique, live in Paris.

The Hon. **Paul Hickman**, j’84, c’86, l’89, has been appointed a judge of the 28th District Court of Kansas. He lives in Salina, where he is deputy public defender in the Salina Regional Public Defenders Office.

**James Kelley IV**, l’84, is an associate attorney in the St. Louis law firm of Miller Steeno PC.

**Alan Stetson**, l’84, is assistant director of planned giving at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinic. He makes his home in Overland Park.

**85 Sara McKenzie**, PhD’85, is a principal at PharmaDirections. She and her husband, Daniel Dilts, live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Deborah Doherty Pennington**, n’85, clinical program coordinator for the Neonatal Medical Home at the KU Medical Center, has been named one of five National Magnet Nurses of the Year by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She and her husband, **David**, n’84, g’88, live in Fairway.

**Lauri Worthington Sloop**, h’85, is senior IT program manager at Underwriters Laboratory in Shawnee. She and her husband, **Jeff**, live in Lenexa.

**86 John Egan**, j’86, is editor-in-chief of SpareFoot. He lives in Austin, Texas.

**Scott Myers**, c’86, directs drug discovery for NeurOp Inc. in Atlanta. Scott and his wife, Deborah, live in Avondale Estates.

**Kyle Rogg**, g’86, is president and chief operating officer of Value Place LLC in Wichita, where he and his wife, **Rachel**, ‘86, make their home.

**Shari Rogge-Fidler**, b’86, is founding president of Cambium Strategies. She and her husband, **David**, c’86, live in Bloomington, Indiana.


**Jerry Yeh**, PhD’86, directs analytical development at Gilead Sciences in Foster, California. He and **Min-Hwa Jeng Yeh**, ’86, live in San Jose.

**87 Laurie Blackburn**, c’87, l’90, is vice president of investments at Speck-Caudron Investment Group. She and her husband, **Michael Luhman**, c’88, live in Alexandria, Virginia.

**Michael Bulger**, b’87, is vice president of Greer Steel in Dover, Ohio.

**Aric Cleland**, b’87, is vice president of wealth management at Northern Trust in Chicago, where he and **K. K. Neilsen** Cleland, j’87, make their home.

**Sandra Crider Engellant**, j’87, c’88, works as a reporter at the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. She and her husband, **Shawn**, c’87, g’89, live in Keller, Texas.

**John Holm**, c’87, m’91, is an anesthesiologist at Gateway Anesthesia Associates. He lives in Scottsdale, Arizona.

**Sandon Saffier**, m’87, directs consulting on quality at Wales Behavioral Assessment in Lawrence.

**88 Troy Garrison**, c’88, directs infrastructure consulting at I.B.I.S. Inc. in Peachtree Corners, Georgia. He and **Laura Woodward Garrison**, j’90, live in Atlanta. She’s senior director of consumer insights at Home Depot.

**Scott Reimer**, j’88, directs brand development at Banner Health. He and his partner, Mark Gove, live in Phoenix.

**Elizabeth Schartz**, l’88, is a partner at the Dallas law firm of Thompson & Knight. She was included in the 2014 Texas Super Lawyers list, which is based
on peer nominations from across the state. Sharon Chalker Dickgraef, l’89, was selected by the Wichita Business Journal as a 2014 Women in Business honoree. She’s chief deputy attorney in Wichita and is interim city attorney.

Michael Walrod, b’90, owns Incite Business in Overland Park, where he and Christine Fleming Walrod, b’03, make their home.

Kathy Kostel Olson, c’92, g’95, PhD’97, works as a platform development leader at Hospira in Lake Forest, Illinois. She and her husband, Philip, c’93, make their home in Wilmette.

Erika Ostertag, b’93, makes her home in Prairie Village.

Michelle Mahafey Desrosiers, b’93, l’96, is vice president of compensation and human resources administration at Simon Property Group in Indianapolis.

Deborah Smith Fung, l’93, manages grants for Pilot House LLC in Boston. She lives in Brookline.

Colleen McKee Zimmerman, b’93, is executive director of development and external relations at the University of Michigan School of Nursing in Ann Arbor. She and her husband, John, ’89, live in Dexter.

Patricia Borowitz Case, b’94, c’05, is senior vice president of Bank of the Prairie in Olathe. She lives in Lawrence.

Daphne Ignatius, c’94, g’96, wrote My Life as Athena, which was published last fall. She lives in Roswell, Georgia, and is an ERP project manager at Macy’s Systems and Technology.

Bryan Phillips, c’94, is senior vice president of legal and human resources at SurModics in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. He and Alicia Young Phillips, c’96, live in Plymouth. She’s business development manager for Graybar Electric.

Robert Tinsman, c’94, is senior vice president of National Bank of Kansas City. He and his wife, Kristen, live in Prairie Village.

Brian Cathers, g’95, PhD’97, is senior director of biochemistry at Celgene Corporation. He and his wife, Susan, live in San Diego.

Kimberly Cocks Hare, d’96, c’96, l’99, practices law with Kutak Rock in Omaha, Nebraska, where she and her husband, Daniel, c’96, g’02, make their home.

Sean Reardon, a’96, manages projects for Sabatini Architects in Lawrence, where he lives.

Christopher Ronan, j’96, g’11, coordinates community volunteer support for Geocaching in Seattle, where he and Rachel Casebolt Ronan, f’96, make their home. She’s a principal and creative director at Kiwi Creative.

Daniel Rooney, c’96, g’97, a retired major in the U.S. Navy, is founder of the Folds of Honor Foundation. He received a Headliners Award last fall from the Tulsa Press Club for his contribution to the growth, prosperity and culture of Tulsa. Dan and Jacqueline Brammell Rooney, c’95, g’97, live in Owasso.

Margaret Connell, l’97, is senior complex director for Chartis in New York City. She lives in Garfield, New Jersey.

Amy Woodling George, j’97, is senior director of fundraising and marketing at CARE in Atlanta. She and her husband, David, live in Marietta.

Matthew Henrichs, c’97, is an automation engineer with Manheim. He lives in Marietta, Georgia.

John Olander, g’97, has been appointed to the board of directors at Burns & McDonnell, where he’s president of transmission and distribution.

Brad Spickert, c’97, is vice president of strategic initiatives at Coca-Cola in Atlanta.

Kirsten Ehlen, l’98, has a law practice in Overland Park.

Todd Guerrieri, b’98, directs implementation consulting at Box Inc. in Los Altos, California. He and his wife, Nicola, live in San Carlos.

Elena Macaluso, g’98, edits copy for Media Management Group. She lives in New York City.

Scott Henderson, b’99, is a senior experience designer for DST Systems. He lives in Overland Park.

Mindy Patterson McPeeters, l’99, was recognized by the Wichita Business Journal as a 2014 Women in Business honoree. She’s in-house counsel for Delta Dental of Kansas and is active in Wichita community affairs.

Christopher Joseph, l’00, a partner in Joseph, Hollander & Craft, was named 2015 Topeka Criminal Defense: Non-White-Collar Lawyer of the Year. He and Jaime Marie Joseph, ’03, live in Lawrence.

Christopher Nelson, f’00, has been promoted to vice president of analytics.
and inbound marketing at Intouch Solutions in Overland Park. He and Heidi King Nelson, d’00, live in Shawnee.

Benjamin Schulte, e’00, works as a lead data scientist at JPMorgan Chase. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Kim Davis, g’01, is a nurse practitioner at Cotton-O’Neil Clinic in Carbondale. She and her husband, Roger, make their home in Scranton.

Chad Lamer, c’01, g’04, l’04, is a partner in Spink Butler. He and Stacey Harris Lamer, e’99, g’11, live in Boise, Idaho.

01 Andrea Cullers, g’02, is an assistant professor at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri.

Autumn Edwards, g’02, an associate professor of communication at Western Michigan University, was honored last fall with a Distinguished Teaching Award from WMU. She lives in Kalamazoo.

Brandon Kane, b’02, c’02, l’05, is a managing attorney at the Kane Law Office in Kansas City.

Amit Parekh, b’02, is a partner at the international law firm Bryan Cave in Irvine, California.

02 Thomas Lieurance, c’01, is a business consultant with First Data Merchant Services in Omaha, Nebraska, where he and Kelli Colyer Lieurance, c’02, l’05, make their home. She’s a partner in the law firm of Baird Holm.

BORN TO:
Natalie Stoker Yoza, j’01, l’07, and Daniel, l’08, son, Theodore Gavin, Aug. 15 in Topeka, where Natalie is a research attorney for the Kansas Supreme Court and Daniel is an assistant revisor at the Office of the Kansas Revisor of Statutes.

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Divining future of things is architecture alumnus’ gig

As a “technology futurist,” his job title at Autodesk, Jordan Brandt devotes so much energy to thinking about the future of design and manufacturing that lectures like the one he delivered at KU this fall seem a little like time travel.

“This morning I woke up in 2025 and took a trip back to 2014,” Brandt said Nov. 21, before giving a presentation at the School of Architecture, Design and Planning titled “Teaching Our Machines To Design and Make Things.”

“As a futurist you live in a suspended dream state about what this future world looks like,” he explains. “So whenever you start talking to people about it, you kind of feel like you’re going back in time.”

Brandt, a’01, joined Autodesk in 2011, when the San Francisco-based maker of 3-D design software for architecture, engineering, construction, manufacturing, media and entertainment industries bought Horizontal Systems, the company he co-founded while earning his doctorate at Harvard.

With expertise in architecture, cloud computing, 3-D printing, robotics and composites manufacturing, Brandt focuses on understanding how things will be designed and made in the future. “I’m not predicting market trends; I’m not predicting what the next cool digital device or next piece of social media will be,” he says.

“I’m looking at design and fabrication—of buildings, chairs, cars, movies—anything in the physical world.”

He strives for a balance of 60 percent research and 40 percent communicating his ideas. Not surprisingly, much of that research happens in Autodesk’s high-tech shop, where Brandt can indulge a penchant for building and tinkering that goes all the way back to childhood, when he often took things apart—and slightly less often put them back together.

“I’ve always been a tinkerer,” Brandt says. “I remember when we got our first computer in the house, and the next day it was in a thousand pieces and my dad was pretty angry with me. I did get most of it put back together, maybe with a few modifications. I rarely like to put things back exactly the way I found them.”

An early DIY project—a hillbilly hot tub cobbled from cinder blocks, a stock tank, a tractor’s power take-off unit and the copper coil from a moonshine still—drew on the kind of can-do spirit that Brandt learned firsthand growing up on a Holton farm and accompanying his father on heating and air conditioning installs.

These days the projects are more high-tech (a current favorite is using 3-D printing and carbon fiber composites to redesign components of the world’s fastest motorcycle, made by a Bay Area startup) but the ethos is much the same.

“A lot of it comes from necessity,” Brandt says. “You have a problem to solve and can’t call in an expert, so you use ingenuity and resourcefulness to solve it on the spot.”

Jordan Brandt’s insights into technology trends like 3-D printing, which he thinks could lead to large-scale “reshoring” of U.S. manufacturing jobs, landed him on Forbes Magazine’s 2014 Design Innovators list.

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Ryan Ludwig, c'03, l'09, works in wholesale customer support at Counter Culture Coffee in New York City. He lives in Brooklyn.

Kathryn Purdon, s'03, l'14, practices law with Legal Aid of Western Missouri in Kansas City, where she lives.

BORN TO:
Derek, b'03, and Sarah Patch Kelmanna, l'03, daughter, Adalyn Lawren, July 28 in Avon Lake, Ohio, where she joins a brother, Andrew, 4.

Kate Piotrowski Silvinski, j'04, is brand manager for the Arizona Republic and for azcentral.com. She and her husband, Eric, j'04, live in Phoenix. He owns 20 Tropical Sno Hawaiian Shaved Ice stores in Arizona.

Cyrus Tuttle, p'04, manages a Walgreens pharmacy in Topeka. He and his wife Heidi, p'08, live in Olathe. Heidi manages a Walgreens pharmacy in Overland Park.

BORN TO:
Amy Mueller Knutzen, d'04, and Thomas, c'07, l'10, son, Henry Kirker, Aug. 23 in Lawrence, where he joins a brother, Michael, 15, and a sister, Ailee, 4.

Casey Clark, l'05, is chief of staff at the Office of the Missouri Secretary of State in Jefferson City. He lives in Columbia.

Alyssa Hill Cleland, j'05, and Scott, p'07, live in Lenexa with their sons, Caden, 3, and twins, Flynn and Bennett, 1.

Jonathan Clino, c'05, g'09, l'09, works as a real-estate associate at Spencer Fane Britt & Brown in Springfield, Missouri.

Marci Deuth, c'05, manages distributor marketing for ExxonMobil in Fairfax, Virginia. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Audri Dinkel, b'05, is an associate in business development and investor relations at JHL Capital Group in Chicago.

Susan Mason King, c'05, practices law with Moss & Barnett in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she lives with her husband, Patrick, b'05.

Kevin Klamm, c'05, is vice president of the Bank of Blue Valley in Overland Park. He makes his home in Shawnee.

Jill Jamieson Misener, l'05, practices law with Withers Worldwide in New York City. She lives in Hoboken, New Jersey.

MARRIED:
Erick Axcell, c'05, p'12, and Crystal Lillich, '15, Sept. 13 in Kansas City. They live in Lawrence, where he works at Jayhawk Pharmacy. Crystal is a nurse at the Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute.

BORN TO:
James Lewis, c'05, and Natalie, son, Griffin Kent, June 9 in Richmond, Virginia. They live in Hillsborough, New Jersey, with their son, Charlie, 3, and James manages business development for Miele Inc. in Princeton.

Alexander Melin, c'06, g'08, l'14, is an associate attorney at Yoxal,
Antrim, Foreman & Frymire in Liberal. He and his wife, Svetlana, live in Garden City.

**MARRIED**

*Steve Munch, c’06, and Jennifer Sheldon, c’06, Oct. 4 in Lawrence, where they live. He’s an associate with Shook, Hardy & Bacon.*

*Melissa Plouvier, c’06, g’10, to Edward Hegedus, Oct. 4 in Kansas City. She is a family medicine physician assistant in Brehm Medical Center in Dallas, and he manages process innovation at Samsung.*

**BORN TO:**

*Jess, c’07, m’12, and Callie Penzler-Randall, d’08, g’13, daughter, Phoebe Elizabeth, Sept. 22 in Phoenix, where they make their home.*

*Michelle Moseley Christian, PhD’08, received the first William Telecommunications America in Richardson. They live in Dallas.*

**07**

*Ryan Colaianni, c’07, j’07, is a senior account supervisor at Edelman in Washington, D.C., and Erinna Schaiberger Colaianni, b’07, g’08, is a senior analyst at Avalon Bay. They live in Arlington, Virginia.*

*Michael Daniels, j’07, is vice president and chief operating officer at Save the Day Consulting. He lives in New York City.*

*Sarah Edgar, c’07, practices podiatry at Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, Connecticut.*

**08**

*Mark Nuss, b’07, is assistant vice president of commercial lending at UMB Bank. He lives in Overland Park.*

**BORN TO:**

*Jess, c’07, m’12, and Callie Penzler-Randall, d’08, g’13, daughter, Phoebe Elizabeth, Sept. 22 in Phoenix, where they make their home.*

**PROFILE** by Chris Lazzarino

*Former chief Dee Ketchum encourages Delaware youth to find successful careers but not forget their heritage: “Get your education. People are looking at you to be an example.”*

“Like his idol Jim Thorpe, Dee Ketchum was a Native American multi-sport star while growing up in Oklahoma. Unlike Thorpe, who won two Olympic golds in track and field and played professional football, basketball and baseball, Ketchum saw his athletics outlet whittled to one when men’s basketball coach Dick Harp found his star recruit from Bartlesville practicing with the KU golf team at Lawrence Country Club.

“Coach Harp said, ‘What are you doing out here?’” recalls Ketchum, d’61, g’69. “I said, ‘Well, I’m playing golf,’ and he said, ‘No more. You came here to play basketball, not golf.’ And that was the end of my career in golf.”

Ketchum went on to become a basketball captain for the 1960-61 season, and his career free-throw percentage of 79.2 is still ninth on KU’s all-time list. Thanks to his athletic success, numerous stints as a college and high school coach, an entrepreneurial business career and many years as a leader of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, including four as chief, Ketchum in November was awarded the Jim Thorpe Sports Excellence Award by the Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission.

“It’s very humbling for me to be associated in any way, shape or fashion with Jim Thorpe, because he was one of the greatest athletes America ever produced. He also was of Indian descent, so that made it particularly special for me.”

After serving as coach of KU’s freshman team and head coach at Clay Center High School, Ketchum returned to the Hill to work on his education master’s degree and coach freshmen for fellow Oklahoma native Ted Owens. He went on to coach at Independence Community College and Eastern Arizona College, then joined his brother in forming an oil-field pipe and supply business.

Based in Dallas for 20 years and longing for home, Ketchum sold his share to his brother and returned to Bartlesville, where he coached basketball while embracing his Delaware roots. In 1998, after 11 years on the tribal council, Ketchum became the fifth member of his family to serve as chief of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

Now retired, Ketchum continues to teach Delaware language, tradition, songs and dances, passing on the heritage he learned over two decades spent as an understudy to an uncle who was the longtime ceremonial chief.

“Picking the University of Kansas to further my education was one of the best things I ever did in my life,” he says, “and coming back to Bartlesville and picking up my heritage is really high on the list, too. I’m encouraging kids to come back and be involved and learn the language and songs and traditions and customs of the tribe.

“But it’s a fight, you know? I would never have learned that if I didn’t make the decision to come back to Bartlesville and be involved with it.”
Class Notes

R. Levin Award for Research in the History of Art from the Southeastern College Art Conference. She is an associate professor of art history at Virginia Tech University’s school of visual arts in Blacksburg.

Kristen Collins Lloyd, c’08, works as a real-estate agent with Keller Williams. She and her husband, Andrew, live in McKinney, Texas.

Janae Maher, m’08, is a plastic surgeon at Owensboro Health in Owensboro, Kentucky, where she makes her home.

Sean McIntosh, c’08, owns VetLaunch in Overland Park and is executive director of The Bunker. He and Jessica Sands McIntosh, ’08, live in Lawrence.

Alex Pouppirt, j’08, works as a business development assistant for Kirkland & Ellis. He lives in Hoboken, New Jersey.

Jayashree Sundararajan, m’08, is an assistant professor of neurology at KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

James Sumaya, b’08, is an associate at Tryperiod Partners in Los Angeles. He lives in Playa del Rey, California.

BORN TO:

Ke Liu, g’08, and Jun Huan, daughter, Stacey Summer Huan, Aug. 23 in Lawrence, where they live. Ke is a plant development assistant for Kirkland & Ellis. He lives in Playa del Rey, California.

Sean McIntosh, c’08, owns VetLaunch in Overland Park and is executive director of The Bunker. He and Jessica Sands McIntosh, ’08, live in Lawrence.

Kelly Hertney, g’10, to Jesse Sevier, Aug. 30 in Saratoga, Wyoming. They live in Cheyenne, where Kelly is assistant project manager for AP Wyoming, and Jesse is a multimedia marketing specialist at the Wyoming State Library.

John Clark III, PhD’11, is a senior analytical consultant at the SAS Institute in Cary, North Carolina.

Andrew Franke, c’11, is a new member orientation aide and temporary legal assistant for the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., where he lives.

Brisa Izaguirre, c’11, j’11, g’14, works as an associate with Polsinelli in Kansas City.

Brian Larkin, c’11, is an associate at Fiera Axium Infrastructure. He lives in New York City.

Charles Rumage, b’11, j’14, is a credit analyst at Freedom Bank in Overland Park. He lives in Olathe.

Mary Tunakan, b’11, l’14, practices law with Creative Planning Risk Services in Leawood, where she’s on the estate-planning team. Mary lives in Lenexa.

Duc Due Vu, l’11, works as a compliance analyst for Western Union Holdings in Englewood, Colorado.

Aubrey Wilson, c’11, l’14, serves as assistant district attorney in the Johnson County District Attorney’s Office in Olathe. She lives in Overland Park.

MARRIED

Sarah Hutchings, c’11, to Aaron Luenger, Aug. 30 in Kelly. She is a nurse at Colmery-O’Neil VA Medical Center, and he works for Frontier Farm Credit. They live in Holton.

Nicolas Roesier, j’11, and Stephanie Green, j’11, in Kansas City. Nico is a news editor for The World Company in Shawnee, and Stephanie is an account executive with the Kansas City Star. They live in Mission.

Emilia Carlson, l’12, is assistant prosecuting attorney in the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office in Springfield, Missouri.

Kirsten Dahlgren, c’12, is an administrative assistant with Edie Insurance in Lawrence, where she lives.

Laura Dean, g’12, PhD’15, is an assistant professor of political science at Clayton State University in Morrow, Georgia.

Karах Beeves, h’13, and her twin sister, Lauren Beeves, c’13, own Angel Competition Bikinis in Kansas City. Their business makes bikinis for bodybuilders.

Tyler Dumer, l’13, works as a technical specialist with Klett Consulting Group in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Alice Lewis, a’13, is an associate art director at GlynnDevins in Overland Park.

Cody Lown, c’13, teaches at Ben Carson High School in Detroit.

BORN TO:

Yujia Lei, g’13, and Bin Wu, daughter, Sylvia Lei Wu, Sept. 19 in Lawrence.

Jay Berryman, l’14, practices law with Polsinelli in Kansas City.

Cliff Brazil, l’14, is an associate with Sheridan Ross in Denver. He makes his home in Golden.

Emily Charles, g’14, manages events at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center in Midland, Texas.

Amanda Eastman, l’14, is an investiga-
tive assistant at the U.S. Department of Labor in Kansas City, where she lives.

**Jessica Fiegel**, l’14, works as an associate attorney for Stinson, Lasswell & Wilson in Wichita, where she makes her home.

**Miriam Friesen**, l’14, is a judicial law clerk for the Minnesota Court of Appeals in Saint Paul, where she lives.

**Cara Fullenwider**, c’14, manages projects for Sam’s Club in Bentonville, Arkansas. She lives in Fayetteville.

**Brian Huston**, l’14, is an associate at Human Resource Solutions KC in Overland Park.

**Franklin Katschke**, l’14, serves as deputy district attorney for the Lincoln County Nevada District Attorney’s Office in Pioche. He lives in Panaca.

**Mark Kind**, l’14, practices law with Morgan Pilate in Kansas City. He lives in Overland Park.

**Mary Kuckelman**, l’14, practices law with Woner Glenn Reeder & Girard in Topeka. Her home is in Atchison.

**Christopher Mattix**, l’14, is a tax attorney with Bever Dye in Wichita.

**Heidi Minnihan**, l’14, g’14, works in global compliance and reporting for Ernst & Young in Chicago, where she lives.

**Renae Miskowic**, b’14, g’14, works on the accounting staff at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause in Vienna, Virginia. She lives in Falls Church.

**William Richardson**, l’14, is an associate with Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Kansas City, where he lives.

**Tad Ruliffson**, l’14, works as an associate attorney with Weary Davis. He makes his home in Lenexa.

**Kaci Runnebaum**, p’14, is a pharmacy intern at Hy-Vee in Lawrence.

**Marilyn Schallom**, PhD’14, works as a research scientist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

**Bailey Wells**, a’14, works as a graphic design associate at the Omaha Children’s Museum in Omaha, Nebraska, where she makes her home.

**Kevin Wempe**, l’14, is an associate with the Kansas City law firm of Gilmore & Bell.

**Thomas Witherspoon**, l’14, manages legal affairs for QC Holdings in Overland Park. His home is in Lawrence.

**Eric Wreath**, e’14, is a petroleum engineer with EOGA-A Flotek Company. He lives in Grapevine, Texas.
In Memory

**30s** Ruth Vette Bell, d’36, 104, Oct. 31 in Prairie Village. She had been director of libraries in the Blue Valley school district, where the Blue Valley High School library is named for her. A daughter survives.

Anna Francis Bloch, c’32, 101, April 8 in Kansas City, where she created the Albert Bloch Foundation in honor of her late husband. Two stepgrandsons survive.

Richard Coleman, e’37, 101, Oct. 19 in Kansas City, where he was vice president of Carter-Waters. Among survivors are a daughter; two sons, one of whom is Steven, e’74; and 11 grandchildren.

Esther Conger Gabel, c’32, 103, July 23 in Rochester, New York. She is survived by two daughters, a son, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**40s** Eileen Martin Botinelly, f’42, 92, June 25 in Lakewood, Colorado, where she was a retired library clerk. She is survived by four sons, one of whom is Joseph, e’71; a daughter; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Margaret Smith Busch, c’45, c’47, 91, Aug. 31 in Lenexa. Two daughters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive.

John DeMott, d’46, 91, Nov. 19 in Lawrence. He was a professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Memphis and had been a reporter and editor for the Kansas City Star and Times. Surviving is his wife, Vera Martin DeMott, ’67.

Margaret “Maggie” Lowe DeVault, d’49, 87, Nov. 10 in Spring Hill. She had volunteered with the Salvation Army in Olathe for many years and is survived by her husband, Everett, b’48; three sons, one of whom is Bruce, g’98; and three grandchildren.

Marian Downing, g’48, 94, May 1 in Olathe, where she was retired from a 39-year career in education. A sister survives.

Frances Lincoln Fischer, d’49, g’61, 98, Nov. 23 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence, where she taught elementary school and worked at KU’s Anschutz Library. She established a physical fitness program at Valley View Nursing Home and had worked as an information broker. A daughter, Marjorie Anne Fischer Dozier, d’65, g’72, survives.

Eleanor Gregory Fry, d’40, 96, July 15 in Arlington, Texas. She had been a U.S. Army teletype operator in Italy during World War II and later taught school for many years. She is survived by a son, a daughter, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Irving Kuraner, c’40, 95, Nov. 10 in Prairie Village. He practiced law before joining 20th Century Investors, where he retired in 1990 as executive vice president and general counsel. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Two stepgrandchildren survive.

Shirley Scheufele Lewis, c’49, 87, March 20 in Strongsville, Ohio. She had owned The Surrey and Wayside Shop in Berea. She is survived by two daughters, a sister, five grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

Virginia Griswold Nelson, c’44, 92, Oct. 7 in Newark, California. She had been a social worker and taught students with learning disabilities for many years at Pala Middle School in San Jose. Surviving are a daughter, Cora Nelson, assoc.; two sisters; and three grandchildren.

Ralph Pfouts, c’42, g’47, 93, May 19 in Boise, Idaho. He was a professor of economics at the University of North Carolina until retiring in 1987. He also had been a visiting scholar at Cambridge University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his research on mathematical microeconomics and statistics was widely published. He is survived by his wife, June; a son, James, ’71; two daughters; three stepsons; two stepdaughters; two grandchildren; and six stepgrandchildren.

Flora Kauffman Rowlands, d’40, 95, Nov. 7 in Raleigh, North Carolina. She taught music and English and had worked at the Museum of Science in Boston. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Stephanie Rowlands Gray, c’65, g’71.

Robert Unger, e’45, 88, April 11 in Dayton, Ohio. He had a 51-year career as a die-cast engineer at Delco Products and was a retired U.S. Navy commander. Surviving are his wife, Nancy, a son, a sister and a grandson.

**50s** Martha Smallwood Adams, n’52, 84, Aug. 15 in Perrysburg, Ohio, where she was retired from a 49-year career in nursing. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

John Allen, c’53, a’64, 83, Oct. 7 in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. He had been vice president of the Ramos Group and later retired from ACI Boland Architects. Surviving are his wife, Susan, and a daughter.

Philip Blake, d’51, 90, Nov. 12 in Wichita, where he had been an engineer with Boeing. He is survived by a son, two daughters, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Patricia Pierson Dowers, d’56, 80, Nov. 14 in Springfield, Missouri. She was active in community affairs and is survived by her husband, Harold; four daughters, three of whom are Anne Burke, c’78, l’81, Kelly Burke Barnett, c’80, and Cathy Burke Rhodes, c’84, h’86; two stepdaughters; a stepson; and 15 grandchildren.

Robert Edman, d’51, 85, Aug. 23 in Tustin, California, where he was retired from a career in the insurance industry. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Circle Edman, d’51; two sons; a daughter; and three grandsons.

Thomas Fennesy, e’59, 83, Oct. 3 in Leawood, where he was retired from a 50-year career with Lutz, Daily & Brain. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; three sons; a daughter, Nancy Fennesy Monaghan, g’99; a sister; and 10 grandchildren.

Alfred Hardy, c’54, 82, Sept. 28 in Gladstone, Missouri, where he was retired after 40 years of practicing law. He is survived by a son; a daughter, Melinda Hardy Goff, c’87; a stepdaughter; a
brother; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Stan Harris**, a’56, 83, Nov. 30 in Lawrence, where he was an architect and a partner in the firm PKG. He is survived by his wife, Maggie, assoc.; a daughter, Lisa Harris Cornwell, ’83; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Herbert Hauffler**, e’59, 76, April 14 in Richardson, Texas, where he was a retired senior project manager with Lucent Technologies. He is survived by three daughters; two sons; a brother; a sister, Marie Hauffler Wudtke, d’64; 11 grandchildren; and two stepgrandchildren.

**Clarence Henson Jr., c’52, l’55**, 83, Oct. 3 in Topeka, where he was former assistant attorney general. He practiced law for 52 years and is survived by his wife, Sally Francis Henson, d’64; two daughters, Meg Henson Propes, c’91, l’94, and Anne Henson Klingman, c’96; a brother, Harold, c’54, l’59; and five grandchildren.

**Ruth Henry Logha, f’56, 79**, May 6 in Henderson, North Carolina. She retired in 1997 after a 27-year career teaching music at the State University of New York at Potsdam. She is survived by her husband, Frank, a son, a daughter and three grandchildren.

**Nariman Mehta, PhD’52**, 94, Aug. 22 in Burlington, North Carolina, where he was a principal scientist emeritus at Glaxo Smith Kline. He held more than 55 patents, including one for Wellbutrin, a commonly prescribed antidepressant. Two daughters, a son and four grandchildren survive.

**Mary Spillman Miller, f’50**, 87, Oct. 2, in Topeka, where she was a special education teacher for many years. She is survived by two daughters, two sons, a stepdaughter, a stepson, a brother, a sister, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Patsy Davies Nott, n’54**, 82, June 29 in Iola. She lived in Colorado Springs for many years and is survived by two sons; two daughters, one of whom is Judith Nott Works, n’81, g’86; and eight grandchildren.

**William Price, b’58**, 83, Aug. 29 in Galveston, Texas, where he retired after a long career as a court reporter in El Dorado. A son, a daughter and two brothers survive.

**Erich Ryll, g’53, m’57**, 93, Nov. 26 in Carmichael, California, where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Ann, a daughter, a son, two sisters, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Jack Swafford, g’59**, 83, July 16 in Shawnee Mission. He had a 37-year career in project and engineering management at Bendix. After retiring, he worked as a consultant and an adjunct professor of quality management at several local MBA programs. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lynn, two daughters, a son and eight grandchildren.

**John Swyers, c’56, l’58**, 80, Dec. 6 in Tallahassee, Florida. He had been general counsel at the Kansas Insurance Department, the Central National Insurance Company of Nebraska and the U.S. Automobile Association. He retired in 2006 as assistant general counsel in the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation. Surviving are his wife, Judy; three sons; two stepsons; two brothers, William, b’63, and Charles, ’60; and six grandchildren.

**Max Teare, c’50, m’54**, 86, Dec. 6 in Hays. He was assistant superintendent of the Western Missouri Mental Health Center and later established a network of rural mental-health centers in Garden City, Dodge City, Ulysses, Scott City and Liberal. He is survived by his wife, Charlene Smith Teare, n’55, g’84; a son, Thomas, j’86; a daughter, Marijo Teare Rooney, c’82; and three grandchildren.

**Howard Young, j’59, 77**, July 16 in Kansas City, where he was retired from a career with Banana Republic. He also had worked as an editor of TV Guide.

**Marion Barry Jr., ’61**, 78, Nov. 23 in Washington, D.C., where he was elected mayor in 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1994. In 2004, he was elected to the District of Columbia Council, a position he held until his death. His controversial career is detailed in his autobiography, *Mayor for Life: The Incredible Story of Marion Barry Jr.*, published last summer. He is survived by his wife, Cora, and a son.

**Bob Boyd, d’67**, 70, Dec. 2 in Phoenix. For many years he lived in Hutchinson, where he was a business and community leader. For 25 years, he threw a postseason barbecue in Lawrence for KU basketball coaches and players, and in 2008 Coach Bill Self gave him a championship ring after KU won the national title. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; a son, Richard, b’83, c’96; and two grandchildren.

**David Byer, c’63, m’67**, 72, Nov. 7 in Rochester, Minnesota, where he was a retired anesthesiologist at the Mayo Clinic. He is survived by his wife, Jeannie Jordan Byer, n’65; four sons; two daughters; a sister, Janet Byer Groff, n’70; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

**Pearl Clothier Campbell, f’65**, 94, Sept. 2 in North Richland Hills, Texas. She had been an administrative assistant to the dean and the president of Abilene Christian University. She also worked at the University of Texas in Austin and at UT Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. She is survived by two sons, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Deanne “Dee” Crouse Earnest, p’60, 76**, Aug. 3 in Springfield, Missouri, where she was a retired pharmacist and pharmacy owner. She is survived by two sons, a daughter, a brother and eight grandchildren.

**Ruth Godbey, g’69, 82**, Aug. 20 in Omaha, Nebraska, where she was a retired librarian. A brother survives.

**Kent Haruf, ’68, 71**, Nov. 30 in Salida, Colorado, where he was a novelist. He wrote *Plainsong*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award and was made into a television movie in 2004. His final novel, *Our Souls at Night*, will be published later this year by Knopf. He is survived by his wife, Cathy, three daughters, two stepsons, three stepdaughters, two brothers, a sister and many grandchildren.

**Thomas Lane, g’65, 77**, Sept. 28 in Platte City, Missouri. He was a college professor, academic dean and owner of Candyman Corporation. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn, three sons, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Laurence Graves Long, b’64**, 72, Nov. 29 in Duck, North Carolina, where he was a retired U.S. Navy commander. He also worked as a civilian consultant in the Pentagon and for Booz, Allen and Hamilton. Among survivors are his wife, Shirley...
In Memory

Schneider Long, ’66; a son; a daughter, Lisa Long Ready, c’92; his mother, Opal Long, assoc.; two brothers, Randy, e’71, and Harrison, c’69; two sisters, Judy Long O’Neal, s’74, and Jan Long, d’74, g’85; and two grandchildren.

David Mann, g’66, 76, July 4 in Riverside, California, where he was a retired major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He also taught speech–communication classes at Riverside Community College for more than 35 years. Surviving are two sons, a sister and four grandchildren.

Bernadette Remus Menhuse, PhD’63, 86, Nov. 28 in Beloit. She began her teaching career in a one–room school–house in Mitchell County, and later taught at Emporia State and lectured at universities in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Florida, Tennessee and Nebraska. Survivors include two sisters–in–law and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Alan Thelen, g’62, 80, Oct. 1 in Lake–wood, Colorado. He had been a city manager of several cities and later worked as a consultant providing interim city management and executive search services. He is survived by his wife, Eileen, assoc.; four sons, one of whom is Mark, ’83; two daughters; and 14 grandchildren.

Alice Rector Thurber, ’65, 71, Aug. 8 in Spring, Texas, where she was a retired senior executive secretary at Equitable Resources and an avid gardener. She is survived by her husband, Stanley, e’63.

John Gary Woodward Sr., g’63, 83, Oct. 22 in Lansing, where he was a retired teacher and school principal. He served on the Effingham City Council and later taught at the Kansas State Correctional Facility in Lansing and at Saint Mary’s College. Surviving are his wife, Pauline, assoc.; four sons, Joshua, d’89, g’99, David, ’89, John Jr., ’89, and Michael, assoc.; a daughter; three stepsons; 11 grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; nine greatgrandchildren; and a stepgreat–grandchild.

Don Black, c’75, 63, Aug. 7 in Prairie Village, where he owned Don Black Healthcare Strategy. He was founding CEO of Child Health Corporation of America, the nation’s largest alliance of leading children’s hospitals, and served as executive–in–residence at the KU School of Medicine’s program in health policy and management. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Among survivors are his wife, Lucie, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Meghan, s’08; two sons, Matthew, ’16, and Donald, g’14; and a granddaughter.

Mavis McAmis Bradford, d’70, 81, Oct. 23 in Kansas City, where she taught first grade at Chelsea Elementary School for 25 years before retiring in 1995. She is survived by three Prairie; a sister, Joan McAmis Dickerson, g’69; six grandchildren; and five great–grandchildren.

Barbara Hallihan Cooper, d’72, 65, Oct. 13 in Ventura, California, where she was a retired executive recruiter. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Gerald, her mother and a brother.

La Veta McQueen Daniel, g’75, 93, May 9 in Overland Park. She taught school for many years in Prairie Village and Atchison and had been a principal. A foster daughter survives.

Brian Deuvall, e’76, 60, Sept. 1 in Overland Park. He had worked for the Marley Company in Houston, Cincinnati and Overland Park. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Debbie, a daughter, a son, his mother and a brother.

Spyros Foundopoulos, g’74, 78, Oct. 31 in Leawood, where he retired from the accounting department of General Motors in 1993. He founded the soccer program at the Wyandotte County YMCA and received a Man of the Year award for his work. He also owned the Wee Workshop Daycare and Preschool and is survived by his wife, Maryln; two daughters, one of whom is Mary Foundopoulos Hernandez, ’01, a son; and three grandchildren.

Allen Gentry, a’71, 67, Oct. 13 in Independence, Missouri, where he had been a partner in WGN Associates. Surviving are four sons, his mother, a brother, 11 grandchildren and three great–grandchildren.

Thomas Laury, c’70, g’72, 70, Nov. 2 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He had a career in business before beginning work in the occupational–health field. He retired in 2008 as director of the student health center at Central New Mexico Community College. He is survived by his wife, Shannon, and a sister.

James Leary, b’74, 63, Nov. 26 in Sugar Land, Texas, where he was retired vice president of Highlands Insurance Company. He is survived by two sons; his mother; two brothers, John, b’68, and Thomas, ’68; and a sister, Marianne Harris Leary, f’80, l’85.

Daniel McGinley, j’79, 59, Dec. 4 in Topeka, where he was a real–estate agent with Prudential First Realtors. Surviving are his wife, Julie Schlesener, c’81; a daughter, Megan McGinley Toth, d’11; two brothers; and a grandson.

Gary Milburn, c’74, PhD’79, 62, Sept. 10 in Rogers, Arkansas. He was co–founder and chief operating officer at MEDLAB and chief scientific officer at True Health Diagnostics. Surviving are a son, Matthew, c’08; a daughter; his parents; and a brother.

The Rev. Gerald Regan, PhD’72, 83, Oct. 23 in Mobile, Alabama. He was a Jesuit for 65 years and a priest for 50. He taught at Spring Hill College in Mobile, where he researched marine biology and the impact of humans on ecosystems.

Tedi Douglas Tumilinson, d’72, 63, Jan. 9, 2014, in Bullhead City, Arizona. Among survivors are her husband, Tom, two stepdaughters, a stepson, a brother and two sisters.

James Walker, PhD’70, 76, Sept. 15 in New Orleans, where he was retired from a career in engineering. He also worked for the New Orleans Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development. Surviving are his wife, Linda Mather Walker, ’66; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

J. Douglas Biegert, m’81, 59, Oct. 5 in Geneseo, Illinois, where he was a radiologist and partner at Advanced Radiology. He is survived by his wife, Julie; a son; two daughters; his father, John, c’54; his mother; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Michael Copeland, c’89, 47, Sept. 9 in Mission. He had worked for Koch Industries and for Medtronic. Surviving are two sons; a daughter; his parents; a sister; and a brother, Dierk, c’93.
Michael Place, c'85, 57, Oct. 15 in Winfield, Illinois. He had worked as an environmental consultant for 30 years and is survived by his wife, Nancy Johnston Place, g'86; two daughters; his parents; and three sisters.

Octavio Viveros Jr., c'81, l'84, 56, Nov. 6 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He practiced law in Kansas City for many years and was active in civic and volunteer organizations. Survivors include three daughters, two of whom are Kaylan, j'10, and Caprice, c'12; two sons; his parents; six sisters, two of whom are Theresa Viveros Whiteside, h'85, and Esther, g'93; and a brother.

Judy Hubbs Brown, n'99, 60, Oct. 24 in Basehor. She had been a nurse at KU Medical Center. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Michael, two stepdaughters, her mother, three sisters and four grandchildren.

Kathleen Killeen Conrardy, n'91, 63, Oct. 25 in Lake Waukomis, Missouri. She was a nurse at several Kansas City hospitals and retired in 2008 as director of nursing at North Kansas City Hospital. She is survived by two sons, her father, a brother, three sisters and two granddaughters.

Steven McCullough, s'99, 67, May 7 in Bonner Springs, where he was a social worker. He is survived by his wife, Stevana, s'89, s'97; two daughters; a son; a stepdaughter, Stevana Case, ’99; a stepson, Andrew Case, ’02; two sisters; a brother; and nine grandchildren.

Robert Morgan, g'95, 70, Oct. 3 in Overland Park, where he was a manager with Honeywell. Survivors include his wife, Ginny Manly Morgan, assoc.; two sons, one of whom is Michael, c'96; two brothers; and six grandchildren.

Arnold Snell, ’91, 49, Dec. 6 in Kansas City, where he was a sales representative in the field of document management and a deacon at Greater Pentecostal Temple. While at KU, he was a three-time letter-winner and football team captain and rushed for more than 1,600 yards during his college career. He is survived by his wife, Audria, two sons, a daughter and a granddaughter.

Stephanie Rhoads, j'09, 27, Oct. 4 in Oklahoma City. She lived in Topka and Richmond, Virginia. Survivors include her father, Jeffrey, b'78, m'84, and stepmother; her mother, Jane Replogle Barber, c'78, and stepfather; a brother; two stepbrothers; three stepsisters; and two grandparents.

Gabriel VanBoven, b'01, 36, Nov. 10 in Battle Lake, Minnesota. He is survived by his father and stepmother; his mother, Danetta Mendenhall, l'05, and stepfather; a sister, Dion VanBoven Riss, ’99; two stepsisters; and his grandparents.

Ramona Cosby, ’15, 52, Nov. 26 in Overland Park. She had been an executive assistant at Massman Construction and worked as a paraprofessional in the Blue Valley school district. She is survived by two daughters; her parents; a sister; a brother, Mark Cosby, g'95; and two grandsons.

Tanner Palmer, c'14, 25, Oct. 10 in Chicago, where he was the logistics coordinator for Load Delivered. Surviving are his parents, a sister, a brother and his grandparents.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Wilfred Arnold, 78, Nov. 11 in Mission. He was a KU professor of biochemistry for 40 years and is survived by his wife, Louise, assoc.; a son; two sisters; and two brothers.

Phillip Endacott, b'60, 79, July 10 in Lawrence, where he was retired KU associate director of facilities operations. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Paul, c'89, g'04; and a grandson.

Joel Gold, 82, Oct. 14 in Lawrence, where he was a professor of English at KU from 1962 until he retired in 1999. He received an Amoco Distinguished Teaching Award from KU as well as the University of Missouri’s Distinguished Teaching Award. Surviving are his wife, Ellen Reid Gold, g'65; three daughters, two of whom are Alison, ’81, and Jennifer, ’75; and a sister.

Richard Johnston, 89, Nov. 15 in Lawrence, where he was curator at the KU Museum of Natural History. He is survived by three daughters, Janet, c’75, Regan Johnston Harsha, ’73, and Cassandra, c’77; and two grandsons.

Charles “Chuck” Loveland, c’69, m’73, 67, Oct. 24 in Lawrence, where he was a retired pediatric physician at Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine. He also had been a clinical instructor of pediatrics at KU Medical Center, served on the applicant interview and selection committee and chaired the dean’s external advisory board. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ladeich Loveland, c’70; a son, Douglas, s’98, g’02; three daughters, Aidan Loveland Koster, c’02, l’06, g’06, Morgan Loveland Robertson, assoc., and Meredith Loveland Brown, assoc.; a sister; a brother; and eight grandchildren.

William Scott, 82, April 6 in Seattle. He had been a KU professor of English for more than 55 years and was a specialist in the writings of William Shakespeare. Active in university governance, he served as second vice president of the American Association of University Professors. Surviving are a son, Tony, f’93; a daughter; and two granddaughters.

Richard Shores, g’66, EdD’67, 77, Nov. 17 in Fort Scott. He was a research director at KU in Parsons and is survived by a brother, Bob, ’59.

Pedro “Pete” Toledo, PhD’69, 75, Oct. 21 in Prairie Village. He was a clinical instructor and a research associate at KU Medical Center until retiring in 1980. He is survived by his wife, Lori, a son, two daughters, two stepsons and eight grandchildren.

Charlie Waters, 66, Oct. 8 in Henderson, Nevada. He had been an editor of the Reno Gazette-Journal, the Fresno Bee and the Los Angeles Times Sunday magazine. He also had been professional in residence at the KU journalism school and was a trustee for the William Allen White Foundation. Surviving are his wife, Linda, and three children.

Patsy Fowler Whitney, g’75, g’92, 73, June 20 in Overland Park, where she was former academic coordinator of clinical education at KU Medical Center. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Megan Whitney Schuster, f’94; a brother; and a sister.
In Lindsey Yankey’s delightful picture book *Bluebird*, a little bird boldly ventures from its nest without the help of its constant companion, the wind. Searching for its missing friend, the bird discovers new vistas and gains confidence in its ability to soar on its own.

The story of the bird is in some ways the story of the book and the young illustrator who worked for several years to get it off the ground.

In 2011 Yankey, f’09, entered five illustrations from the work-in-progress (which also was part of the design major’s senior project in 2009) in a juried art competition sponsored by the Bologna Children’s Book Fair, in Italy. Winning entries are exhibited at the fair, the world’s largest international gathering for publishers of children’s literature.

Yankey’s work wasn’t selected for the ultra-competitive showcase, but she attended Bologna anyway, making the rounds of publishers with her illustrations.

“I couldn’t even get an American publisher to talk to me,” Yankey recalls. Undaunted, she went home and completed the book, entered the 2012 illustration competition and made plans to attend the book fair again.

The second time around, the Lawrence illustrator ended up in the bathroom, in tears.

“They were tears of joy,” Yankey says with a smile. She found two publishers interested in the book—Simply Read in Canada and Donzelli Editore in Italy. “Both were serious and wanted to talk about contracts. I went to the bathroom and cried, because I was so overwhelmed that it was finally happening.”

*Bluebird* and its Italian translation *In Cerca del Vento* appeared in 2013 to strong reviews. Booklist called the book a “visual treasure,” noting that “Gorgeous flowered wallpaper and multicolored scarf patterns contrast with quieter pages employing exquisitely detailed pen-and-ink drawings and collage.” Multiple reviews noted Yankey’s “whimsical” illustrations and the gentle, low-key tone of her storytelling.

“It’s an unbelievably beautiful book, and everyone is really struck by that,” says Heidi Raak, owner of Lawrence’s Raven Bookstore, which hosted a Yankey reading last spring. “But I think one of the strong points is that Lindsey wrote the text, and the text and art go together quite well in a lovely fashion. It’s just a very appealing book: It’s like a beautiful soft world that you want to enter.”

Much of Yankey’s visual palette can be traced back to her student days, when she worked in Watson Library’s conservation lab, where damaged books are repaired.

“Working with old materials, faded inks, aged papers, influenced what I was trying to do: Soften things, give it a different feel than just a white piece of paper,” Yankey says. “I did a lot of tea-staining and collage.
and layers and things like that to get me started and kind of establish a feel.

Another campus job, at Hilltop Child Development Center, also helped inspire. Yankey kept a notebook of the outrageous things kids said and did.

“It was so much fun,” she says. “I’m trying to keep that side of me alive. As we get older, those more imaginative thoughts kind of get smashed with reality and growing up. I don’t know if I even really want to grow up all the way. Doing picture books is a link to holding on to that kind of thinking.”

Yankey recently completed her second book, Sun and Moon, due out this spring. She exhibits and sells her work around Lawrence and through her website, lindseyyankey.com, and she’s started creating hand-painted toys and puzzle blocks and other childhood ephemera that draw inspiration from the world she creates in her books, which have an old-school, European feel in their design.

“I’m more concerned with traditional childhood, so you’re not going to see tablets and e-readers in my illustrations,” she says. “If I’m going to make a book, I want it to seem a little more timeless. I put books in my illustrations, or little animal toys, and that led to me thinking that maybe I should make the toys, the blocks, that it would be really fun to apply some things I know from illustration to more three-dimensional ideas.”

Picture books will still be her main focus, Yankey says, because they combine so many of her interests in one form.

“I get to design everything, from the toys on the floor to the wallpaper to the way the buildings look. And I get to play with different materials and tell a story that I think can be engaging to young people and old people and everyone in between.”

—Steven Hill

Memory lanes

Walkable neighborhoods boost cognitive health for elderly, research finds

To the long list of things that affect our health as we get older—age, diet, exercise, education, genetics—add one more factor: where you live.

Research by Amber Watts, assistant professor of psychology, and her KU colleagues in the School of Architecture, Design and Planning and the Alzheimer’s Disease Center, suggests that living in more easily walkable neighborhoods can help lessen cognitive decline in the elderly.

Using geographical information system data, Watts and her fellow researchers—Farhana Ferdous and Keith Diaz Moore in architecture and Jeffrey Burns, m’89, g’09, at the Alzheimer’s Disease Center—assigned walkability scores to neighborhoods of study participants. Those who live in neighborhoods that score high for walkability showed better outcomes for both physical health (as measured by factors like body mass and blood pressure) and cognition. The study focused on 25 older adults with mild Alzheimer’s disease and 39 with no cognitive impairment.

It’s a small pilot study, Watts cautions, and walkability is by no means the most important predictor of cognitive function. But it is a predictor that people can control, and that’s what intrigues Watts.

“What I’m interested in is things that are preventable,” she says. “We know age and genetic risk factors are much stronger predictors of dementia, but we can’t change how old we are or what genes we have.

“What we can change is our behavior, and there is strong evidence for physical activity as a preventive strategy for cognitive decline and dementia.”

We can change our behavior, but it’s not easy. We all know that we should eat healthy, exercise and avoid smoking, but there are barriers that make good decisions tough to make, and these barriers only get more numerous as we age.

“For older people who already have pain, physical limitations, disease, they’re even less likely to engage in physical activity because it hurts or it’s hard or they’re afraid they might hurt themselves,” Watts notes. Our environment can also offer barriers. Neighborhoods that include hurdles such as broken sidewalks, highly trafficked streets or a dearth of places to walk to subtly discourage exercise.

“It’s easy to forget that there are constraints in the world around us that do influence how we behave,” Watts says. “There are things in the environment that...
Get with it, dads

Study encourages parents with distant kids to embrace high-tech talk

Parents who hope to maintain strong relationships when adult children leave home for college or a first job should strive to become proficient with three high-tech communication channels, according to communication studies doctoral student Jen Schon. Her research indicates that challenges she faces to stay in touch with her family in rural Iowa mirror those often encountered by others who find themselves far from home for the first time: Dad isn’t up to speed.

“I know that men tend to use technology more for coordinating schedules and work, and I think they feel like they’re kind of up on technology, but they’re just not using it the same way women are to maintain relationships,” Schon says. “They might not be fully aware that in some ways they’re falling behind with technology.”

For her study—which builds on previous research at KU by Andrew Ledbetter, g’05, PhD’07, now associate professor at Texas Christian University—Schon surveyed 367 adults; most were undergraduate students, but about 20 percent were nonstudents 23 to 29 years old.

She found that respondents’ satisfaction with their communication with faraway parents tended to correspond with their parents’ ability to use mobile phones, text messages, Skype, Facebook and other social media. She also determined a “sweet spot” of three channels, with a mix of outlets that are “synchronous,” or occurring at the same time, as with mobile-phone conversations, and “asynchronous,” such as Facebook or texts, which do not require both parties to be available at a given moment.

Schon’s father, for instance, raises livestock and is busy from before dawn until late in the evening, and their schedules rarely allow for phone calls. Although her dad lately learned to text for work and now occasionally texts his daughter, their communications still tend to route through her mother.

Schon recommends that adult children be direct with their parents and not just encourage them to learn the technology, but also offer to help teach them.

“Some older people see it as kind of a challenge, that it takes a lot of time or effort to figure out how to use these channels, so they are resistant.”

Schon cautions that today’s young adults should not feel overly confident that they’ll be better long-distance communicators than their parents when the day comes for their own brood to leave home. The more people use technology to communicate, the more they want others to respond in kind, Schon says, so it’s likely that children in coming decades will have even greater expectations than today’s young adults.

“It could,” she says with a laugh, “get worse.” —Chris Lazzarino
O’Keeffe and friends

Eldredge uses famed artist to showcase forgotten Southwestern talent

On her long journey to pop-culture superstardom, which gained its greatest acceleration after her death in 1986, the artist Georgia O’Keeffe came to dominate perceptions about Southwestern art. With what he has pledged to his wife will be his last word on the subject, Charles Eldredge now uses O'Keeffe’s “box-office gold” to attract attention to broader displays of 20th-century New Mexican art.

The traveling exhibition “Eloquent Objects: Georgia O’Keeffe and Still-Life Art in New Mexico,” curated by Eldredge, Hall Distinguished Professor of American Art and Culture, and his accompanying publication use O’Keeffe’s celebrity, and talent, to help return many of her contemporaries to public view.

“[The excitement came in the discovery, or recovery, of artists who had perhaps enjoyed attention in the 1920s, ’30s or ‘40s, but, given the fickle nature of tastes, have fallen out of view,’] says Eldredge, who from 1971 to ’82 served as director of the Spencer Museum of Art and from 1982 to ’88 was director of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American Art.

Eldredge has studied and written about O’Keeffe since the 1960s, and he first met her in 1970, shortly before an exhibition of her work opened at the Whitney Museum, launching what he calls the second phase of her career. (She previously had been a star of New York’s modernist scene, until secluding herself in New Mexico following the death of her husband, Alfred Stieglitz, in 1946, and sliding into a period that Eldredge terms “critical eclipse.”)

“I’ve always previously treated O’Keeffe as the primary, if not sole, focus of my writings on her work,” Eldredge says. “What I’m trying to do now is to put O’Keeffe in some sort of context, both of her generation and of her place, so that instead of being seen as an isolate, she is seen as part of a larger community.”

Along with highlighting other artists, the exhibition—on view at the Indianapolis Museum of Art through Feb. 15, then traveling to the Tacoma Art Museum, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and the Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi—is an opportunity for the public to consider a variety of subject matter painted by artists in the American Southwest beyond bleached skulls, jimson weed and grand vistas. Eldredge believes his mid-1980s Smithsonian exhibition and book, for which he had two colleagues, provided a boost for New Mexican artists, but he now sees its limitations.

“I’m proud of that work and it’s often cited as an important milestone, but I think we three collaborators gave primary attention to depictions of the native population, especially Native Americans, and of the landscape; both remarkable subjects and images, but we gave short shrift to the still life. So I’ve been waiting since 1986 to supplement that record with the still-life art.”

Eldredge got the opportunity when he was approached by Joseph Czestochowski and International Arts to curate the exhibition, which includes more than 50 works. Favorites for Eldredge include works by Pedro Cervantes, a self-taught artist who lived and worked in eastern New Mexico, far from the fashionable enclaves of Santa Fe and Taos, and muralist Olive Rush, the first woman to be a professional muralist in the United States, and it’s often cited as an important milestone, but I think we three collaborators gave primary attention to depictions of the native population, especially Native Americans, and of the landscape; both remarkable subjects and images, but we gave short shrift to the still life. So I’ve been waiting since 1986 to supplement that record with the still-life art.”

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“Breakfast Tray,” painted in the 1930s by Jim Morris, includes morning newspapers with headlines about the Spanish Civil War and murders in New York. With his selection of objects, Eldredge contends, Morris shows that O’Keeffe’s reverence for New Mexico as “the faraway nearby”—an exotic nook within the United States—was shared by her contemporaries.

“It suggested an attention on the part of this isolated artist in New Mexico to the larger arena,” Eldredge says. “The point being that oftentimes artists outside of New York City are thought of as being out of touch somehow. But clearly this man and others of his time intentionally included objects and images that connoted associations with the faraway.”

With O’Keeffe cleared from his desk—perhaps for good, perhaps not, he indicates with a wry smile—Eldredge is now working on a book about art and agricultural history. While there have been individual studies of American harvests, Eldredge says, he does not know of an overview that examines how bounty and poverty of the land, the industry of farmers and agriculture’s sense of community have been depicted in American art and “more important, what it means visually.”

“I have been gathering images for a number of years,” he says. “Eventually some files are stillborn; other files demand attention, and this file drawer demands attention.”

—Chris Lazzarino
At its first meeting, the Kansas Board of Regents on March 21, 1865, elected the Rev. Robert W. Oliver chancellor of the University of Kansas, and on Sept. 12, 1866, the university on the Hill finally opened classes. KU is planning more than a year of activities to celebrate the sesquicentennial, which began quietly with the arrival of festive banners on Jayhawk Boulevard.
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