# KANSAS ALUMNI

# Yes!

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## Contents Established in 1902 as The Graduate Magazine



#### COVER



#### **Redemption and Relief**

*Eerie similarities with the 1988 title* run seemed to suggest that this could be Kansas' year in the NCAA Tournament. But it took Mario's Miracle-the shot heard 'round the Jayhawk Nationto pop the cork on a championship celebration 20 years in the making.

BY KATIE MOYER *Cover photograph by Steve Puppe* 

#### FEATURES



## 28 An American Experience What happens when 20 students take the

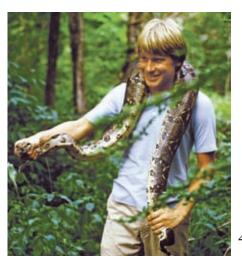
What happens when 20 students take the field trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C.? They get an up-close-andpersonal glimpse at the halls of power and a refresher course in the founding principles of American democracy.

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

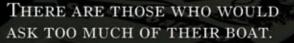
#### 46 King of the Kaw

In his forthcoming book, The Snake Charmer, Jamie James details the life and tragic death-by snakebite in the jungles of Myanmar-of eminent herpetologist Joe Slowinski. An exclusive Kansas Alumni excerpt reveals how Slowinski's passion for field research evolved into a love of snakes during his student days at KU.

BY JAMIE JAMES



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Typically lacking the inhibitions that lifelong careers in banking bring along, these well-meaning owners impose on their Cobalt a daunting set of requirements: a perfect wake every run, fuel efficiency that belies the horsepower under the hood, comfortable come-onecome-all accommodation for a dozen friends, bedrock stability in the ride, nuanced control at the helm, and an all-around boatly attitude suggesting that indeed all things are possible.

Well. Maybe it's not too much to want after all.



COBALT



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Party like it's 1988



## Lift the Chorus



#### National champions

Pardon me Stephen Curry, Kevin Love and Chris Douglas-Roberts, but winning is so much fun. Never mind that I was alone in my living room, dressed in my KU socks, sweats, T-shirt, sweatshirt and cap, wrapped up in my KU stadium blanket and holding my Jayhawk plush mascot (which by the way was singing "I'm a Jay, Jay, Jay, Jay, Jayhawk...") when I watched KU claim the national title. For that special winning moment, I was one with every other KU alum all over the world. Thank you to the 2008 KU men's basketball team for a wonderful ride, and thanks for taking me along.

> Leslie Guild Kelly, j'79 Whidbey Island, Wash.

> > Jayhawks

Maker's

Sw Mark

WHISKY

CAA CHAMPIONS

I've been waiting for years to write this. Two remarkable events set the stage.

First, in the 1980s two Kentucky teams with "some" measure of success on the basketball court resumed an annual series. Their respective colors are red and blue. Second, since the 1950s a Kentucky distiller with "some" measure of success making handcrafted bourbon has been hand-dipping their bottles in red wax. To commemorate the annual grudge match each year, the distiller releases a bottle dipped in red and blue wax.

When I saw this, I thought to myself, "Self, wouldn't it be a hoot if someone did this for the Jayhawks when we win our next championship?" After all, the color scheme is correct.

We're back! The problem, as I see it, is that probably the only legally distilled product made in Kansas is ethanol, and that just won't get it.

There is always hope, though. Someday, someone may sink a 90 foot gamewinner. If I was still assistant innkeeper at the Teepee, I'd find a way.

For now, I've got my commemorative bottle, and when championship No. 4 comes around, I'll have another. Unopened, of course.

> Frederick H. Jones III, b'64 Charlestown, Ind.

#### Hurra for Sara

I was pleased to see your cover and feature story about Sara Paretsky ["Back Story," issue No. 2]. In the early 1980s, when I saw Sara's first book on the bookstore shelf, I was immediately drawn to it because of the name Paretsky.

Dr. David Paretsky was my adviser and professor at KU in the early 1960s. He was the head of

> the bacteriology department and a respected researcher in that field. I was pleased to be among the students invited to a holiday dinner at the Paretsky farm home. We had a great time, and the Paretskys were gracious hosts.

Reading one of Sara Paretsky's books made me a devoted follower and I have enjoyed all her books. I was pleased to hear of her many other accomplishments. Thanks for a great article.

Marilyn Young Miller, c'63 Scott City

Thank you for the lovely profile of Sara Paretsky. One of my favorite KU memories is meeting Ms. Paretsky after she spoke at a reception honoring Emily Taylor. We Sellards Scholarship Hall alumnae are proud to call her one of our own. What a great example she is to University women, past and present.

Erin Lockley, b'03 Evanston, III.

#### Hersh criticism

Your effusive praise of Seymour M. Hersh ["Watchdog bites back," Hilltopics, issue No. 2] is understandable, consider-



ing that it was the School of Journalism that honored him. Mr. Hersh has a political bent that is in total phase with what we have come to expect from a significant percentage of journalists. I totally agree with his statement, "We [journalists] have an amazing ability to change things.

..." People have died and continue to die for the protection of free speech and the need for a free and independent press. My concern is that those in the trade are more propagandists than true reporters. They seek to "change things" in their image, by failing to report the entire story factually or by ignoring facts they find uncomfortable for their agenda.

The power and scope of the press car-

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### KU Endowment says Thank You to our 2007 Watkins Society donors.

The Elizabeth M. Watkins Society recognizes donors who have included KU Endowment in their estate plans. We thank these individuals for joining the society or for adding to an existing commitment in 2007. Donors join the society through bequest intentions, trusts, charitable gift annuities, life insurance or by naming KU Endowment as a beneficiary of an IRA.

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**Bold** denotes members of the KU Alumni Association.

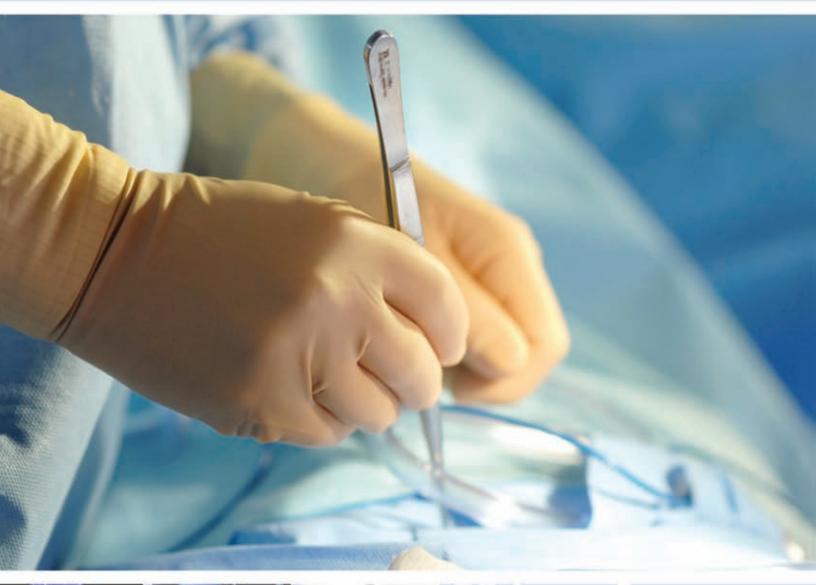
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#### Continued from page 4

ries a heavy burden to report truthfully, whether that reporting is detrimental to right, left or center. My opinion is that journalism, unfortunately, has lost its credibility. This is catastrophic to the republic. I truly do not know if Mr. Hersh has maintained his neutrality during any part of his pursuits, be they at his "day job" or otherwise. As you state, he has been a revered investigative reporter. I would hope that he never reported what he wanted the story to be rather than reality.

I would ask that we all seek the truth and have the courage to act on that truth, even if it offends our chosen agendas.

James S. Craig, p'69 Lenexa

#### **Bison** rebuttal

I merely have a comment on the letter from John P. Hastings, c'67, published in *Kansas Alumni*, No. 1, 2008. I'm

sure his friend is sincere in his advice to avoid thinking of farm-raised American bison as domestic animals. No doubt that friend would expand that advice to include livestock in general.

It is not necessary, however, to suggest that our bison are, in general, unusually dangerous animals. A visit,

unusually dangerous animals. A visit, highly recommended for any number of reasons, to the Black Hills Lodge in western South Dakota will reveal tourists and free-range bison mingling freely on the grounds. Visitors are advised not to approach the animals to make close-up pictures for the folks back home, but there are no physical restraints other than closed doors to keep the species apart from one another. In my experience, peaceful coexistence was easily maintained.

Peter A. Trump, e'65 Cherry Hill, N.J.

#### Don't make us blush

I write to let "you all" know that *Kansas Alumni* is easier to read and the articles of greater interest than what has often been in the magazine in past issues. Thanks.

Franklin W. Hamilton, EdD'61 Flint, Mich.

#### Memorabilia in the making

In the latest issue, I enjoyed a handful of beautiful pictures from KU campus settings and events. I find the wonderful color photographs in each issue to be excellent pieces to add to some of my recent scrapbooks.

I was a student sports correspondent on campus for the Kansas City Kansan and Kansas City Star from 1979 to 1983. I started scrapbooking as far back as those KU years, but we called it a "clip book" because it held my sports articles from the newspapers.

Now scrapbooking has come a long, long way, and there are many wonderful ways to use materials from *Kansas Alumni* as potential decorative pages in the art of scrapbooking. I like to pick up special KU stickers and other small decorative items that showcase the things I get from the magazine sometimes, too.

I kept a scrapbook of the football team's Orange Bowl season last fall and have added this year's basketball team items to the same scrapbook.

Mark Lee, c'83 Bonner Springs

#### Don't spare the bowlers

I read with interest the latest *Kansas Alumni*, which carried a story about Rhino Page on the Professional Bowlers Association tour ["Rhino on a Rampage," Jayhawk Walk, issue No. 2].

Since I am an avid bowler, I already



#### A thank-you gift for writing! If we publish your letter, we'll send you a KU cap (\$15 value). Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to

the editor—let us know what you think! Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. E-mail responses may be sent to kualumni@kualumni.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

> was familiar with his success. I think this is the first time the magazine has ever mentioned bowling, although it stated that Page was a member of the KU bowling team when he was in school. I did not know KU had a bowling program.

I was an excellent bowler (200-plus average) when I went to KU from 1950 to 1953, but to my knowledge there was no KU bowling team in that era.

I also noticed that in the Sports Calendar there is no mention of bowling. Perhaps the people involved with the bowling team should seek more recognition.

> William E. Kuster, e'54 Escondido, Calif.

Editor's note: We've written about the KU bowling team from time to time, but we do not list its matches in the Sports Calendar. Bowling is an intercollegiate club sport at KU, and calendar listings are limited to varsity sports because of space constraints.

We are happy to report that Rhino Page, '07, won the Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award in April. The Jayhawk set a rookie record for earnings (\$84,811) and championship round appearances (five).



Page

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A Better Way to Bank

CREDIT UNION

## by JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER First Word



Rachel, I, and Jenny

hen my husband and I asked our firstborn, Rachel, whether she wanted to travel to the 2002 Final Four in Atlanta, she asked, in all seriousness, "Who's playing?"

Rachel, then 15, stayed home, perfectly content to cook Easter dinner with Grandma and Grandpa.

Such nonchalance was typical for our eldest daughter, who in her younger years had accompanied us on Saturdays to Memorial Stadium carrying a book to read during the games. Not even a KU touchdown could pry her eyes from the pages. Our friends two seats down would gaze and grin at Rachel, shaking their heads, as Bob and I grinned back and shrugged our shoulders—universal gestures among parents whose own children often baffle them.

As it turns out, Rachel's indifference was only a phase. After enduring the usual procession of phases through the teenage years, her father and I happily report that she has transformed into a die-hard KU fan. Score one for genetics.

The signs first appeared last Novem-

ber, when Rachel, now a junior on the Hill, became livid upon discovering that she had missed the chance to stand in line for a student ticket to the KU-MU showdown at Arrowhead. Through the winter and spring, her passion steadily grew. A little wiser in the ways of parenting, we said nary a word

Come Final Four weekend, Rachel asked whether she could have friends

over to the house to watch the games on Dad's HD TV. After KU trounced the Tar Heels Saturday night, jubilant students thundered through our Vermont Street home and burst out of the doors, running toward Mass Street. We followed them at a more restrained pace, returning home later to find that one set of doors had remained wide open for two hours.

Rachel's crew chose a local nightspot to watch Monday night's action while the rest of our family huddled around the TV. As the game ended, we ventured no farther than the front porch, happy just to listen as the sound of utter joy (punctuated by car horns and fireworks) wafted from downtown.

Next morning, my husband received a smug phone call from a sister in Topeka, congratulating him on the fact that his eldest child was carrying on his tradition of Mass Street partying. The proof was in the Topeka newspaper: a photo of Rachel and her best friend, Jenny, hugging amid the masses on Mass. After checking the photo for telltale signs of bad behavior, Bob and I sighed with satisfaction.

Though I've shared the tale of Rachel's metamorphisis with many friends, one dear Jayhawk has been painfully absent throughout the KU family's celebration. B.J. Pattee, a stalwart of 30 years on the Alumni Association staff and former editor of Kansas Alumni, died March 19. Twenty-two years ago, Betty Jo O'Neal Pattee, c'46, was the first person at work with whom I shared my excitement and fear over the prospect of motherhood. She was my mentor and my friend, seeing me safely through the various bewildering phases of my life as a professional and a mother with her laughter and encouragement.

For KU, B.J. became an essential connection to a vast, extended family. David Ambler, retired vice chancellor for student affairs, recalls that B.J., the late Millie Clodfelter, b'41, and longtime executive director Dick Wintermote, c'51, were leaders who served the growing population of KU alumni exceedingly well. "They personal-

ized alumni relations, and it has paid off big time for KU," he says."She was great to me and so much fun to work with. I loved her!" Me. too.

B.J. would have howled with delight at KU's champi-

B.J. Pattee

onship, an improbable encore to this year's Orange Bowl win—which so delighted B.J. and her husband, Frank, b'48, who played on another KU Orange Bowl team.

And B.J. would chuckle with glee– maybe even murmur "I told you so"– upon hearing that my firstborn has become a full-fledged Jayhawk.



## On the Boulevard



Former NBC Nightly News anchor Tom Brokaw presented the 2008 Dole Lecture April 10 at the Dole Institute of Politics. The newscaster shared observations from his latest book, Boom! Voices of the Sixties: Personal Reflections on the '60s and Today. He also reunited with Claudine "Scottie" Scott Lingelbach, b'44, Lawrence, one of the World War II veterans he profiled in The Greatest Generation.

### Exhibitions

- "Betty Austin Hensley's Flutes of the World," through May 25, Spencer Museum of Art
- "Stop Look Listen," through May 31, Spencer Museum of Art

"Japan Re-imagined/Post-war Art," through June 1, Spencer Museum of Art

"Make a Mark: Art of the 1960s," through June 1, Spencer Museum of Art

"Dreams and Portals," June 21-Sept. 6, Spencer Museum of Art

### University Theatre

#### JUNE

**5-7** "Jonathan Livingston Seagull"

### Lied Center 2008-'09

#### AUGUST

**22** Peter Ostroushko & The Heartland Band

#### SEPTEMBER

12 Laurie Anderson's "HOMELAND"

**13** Ensemble Galilei with NPR's Neal Conan

**21** ODC/Dance in "The Velveteen Rabbit"

**26** Alexander String Quartet and Branford Marsalis

#### OCTOBER

**4** "REVOLUTION: Sweat. Dance. Rock & Roll"

**IO** Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

- **12** Brasil Guitar Duo
- **26** The Harlem Quartet

#### NOVEMBER

- **5** Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra
- 9 Soweto Gospel Choir, "African Spirit"

**12** "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street"

#### DECEMBER

**13** Boston Brass. "A Stan Kenton Christmas"

#### IANUARY

- **16** Metta Quintet, "Stolen Moments: 100 Years of Jazz"
- **25** Kansas City Symphony
- 30 Interpreti Veneziani

#### **FEBRUARY**

- **4** L.A. Theatre Works, "The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial"
- 8 Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra
- II Imani Winds, "Josephine Baker: 'A Life of Le Jazz Hot'"

**12** "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"

- **19** Wu Man and Friends
- **27** "The Pajama Game"

#### MARCH

25 Golden Dragon Acrobats from China

#### APRIL

- 2 Calder Quartet
- **4** "Ain't Misbehavin'"

7 Philip Glass: An Evening of Chamber Music

**24-25** "Tree of Life" featuring Turtle Island String Quartet

### Academic calendar

#### **JUNE**

**3** Summer classes begin

#### JULY

**25** Summer classes end

#### AUGUST

**21** Fall classes begin

### Jayhawk Generations **Picnics**

#### **IUNE**

- **5** Hutchinson
- **5** McPherson
- IO Paola
- 12 Hugoton
- I6 Colby
- **I7** Emporia
- **17** Hays
- **19** Great Bend
- **26** Wichita
- **30** Pratt

#### JULY

- **IO** Wellington
- **14** Dodge City

#### **I5** Garden City 22 Manhattan

was a gift from the Class of 1997.

- 24 Pittsburg
- **28** Lawrence
- 29 Topeka

### Alumni events

#### MAY

**29** Phoenix: Big 12 Happy Hour

#### JUNE

**7** Denver: Big 12 Golf Tournament

**13** Hays: North Kansas Chapter Golf Tournament and Dinner

14 Chicago: Wrigley Field Tour

**18** St. Louis: Alumni night with the Cardinals

**21** Denver: Alumni night with the Colorado Crush

**21** Phoenix: Big 12 Golf Tournament

**23** Kansas City: Legends of KU Golf Tournament

**27** Liberal: Southwest Chapter Golf Tournament and Dinner

28 Denver: Rafting trip

#### JULY

- **17** Denver: Networking event
- **20** Phoenix: Alumni volunteer day
- **25** Wichita: Kansas Football Fan Fest

#### AUGUST

24 Chicago: Alumni day with the Cubs

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

Lied Center	
University Theatre tickets	864-3982
Spencer Museum of Art	864-4710
Natural History Museum	864-4540
Hall Center for Humanities	864-4798
Kansas Union	864-4596
KU Info	864-3506
Adams Alumni Center	864-4760
KU main number	864-2700
AthleticsI-800	-34-HAWKS
Booth Hall of Athletics	864-7050
Dole Institute of Politics	864-4900







## Jayhawk Walk

#### Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch?

oping to foster better student-faculty relations, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is serving up a program called Take Your Professor to Lunch that gives \$15 campus dining vouchers to students who want to treat teachers to a meal.

"KU is a big place, and the College, being the largest academic unit on campus, is a big place," says Christie Appelhanz, assistant to the dean. "This is a way to facilitate one-on-one interactions between students and faculty members."

Last fall about 100 students took the College up on its offer. Lauren Moore, St. Louis senior in art history and journalism, dined with Linda Stone-Ferrier, professor and chair of art history.

"I thought it would be a good way to get to know her, and to ask questions about the career path I'm thinking about," Moore says. "She gave me good advice."

Stone-Ferrier, who heavily promoted

the program to her classes, says she got as good as she gave.

"Sharing and engaging with students is really a huge part of the pleasure of teaching," she says. "Having lunch is just an informal way to engage, to let them know you are interested in their lives outside the classroom. It really enhances the teaching experience for me."

Moore savored the chance to spend quality time with a professor in a setting more relaxed than a classroom or faculty office. But not too relaxed, mind you.



"I like to think I have good manners, but I did have a crunchy chicken cheddar," she jokes. "It's pretty messy. I was careful to keep it from spilling everywhere."



#### KU from A to Z

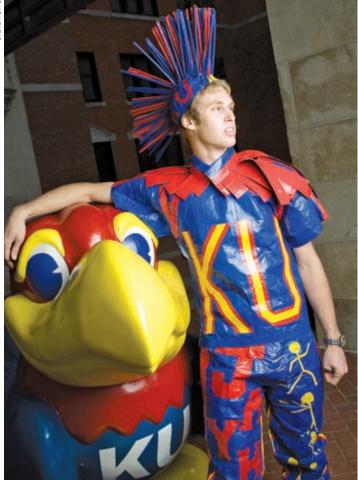
Wikipedia, "the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit," is an indispensable information source; thousands of Web surfers visit daily to read and edit the site's 9 million articles. Now ConnectKU student coalition has started a similar Web encyclopedia "to help navigate the often complicated life of a college student at KU."

Wi(KU)pedia started as a Student Senate resource, says webmaster Riley Dutton, '10."But our original aim was far too shortsighted, and it didn't take long before students and alumni started contributing articles about all of KU."

In two months Wi(KU)pedia has drawn 120,000 page hits. Some 600 articles cover aspects of KU life great and small: basketball camping, historical figures, current professors, student organizations and more. But there are gaps in the record.

"We definitely appreciate any help alumni can offer, whether it's writing about a different experience they've had at KU, or filling in information on a historical building that current students don't know about," Dutton says.

So surf over to Wi(KU)pedia at connectku.com/wiki/index.php/ Main\_Page/ and share how you used to kick it—old school.



#### Stuck on the Jayhawks

When Ryan Saxton heard about the KU Student Alumni Association's spirit contest, the decision to enter was hardly a sticky one: He already had the costume.

The McLouth freshman in biology claimed the \$100 prize for his dapper take on crimson-and-blue craziness, a Jayhawk outfit he debuted at the KU-Nebraska football game last fall and donned again during SAA's March Madness festivities.

"Everybody is wowed, pretty much," Saxton says of reactions to his super suit. "People want to know what it's made of."

That would be eight rolls of duct tape, 92 straws (in the spiky headgear) and a whole lot of KU pride.

Saxton was thrilled that his tape togs earned him the title of most high-spirited Jayhawk on campus. "And being a college student strapped for cash," he says, "the hundred bucks was very exciting."

Just be careful when you take that thing off, Ryan. That's gonna sting.

## Heard by the Bird

It has always looked good to us, but now Dyche Hall has a chance to make it official as one of the "Eight Wonders of Kansas Architecture," a contest

sponsored by the Kansas Sampler Foundation. Vote online at 8wonders.org or call 620-585-2375. Voting continues through June 30.

#### **Vote for Earl**

Earl Richardson got a chuckle out of the posters that class officer hopefuls had taped up in the Green Hall commons area. Three years later, on the eve of his second stroll down the Hill, the former *Kansas Alumni* photographer is still haunted by the sophomoric scene.

"You know, law school is a lot like junior high," he says with a laugh. "You've got lockers, you're in the same building all day, and there's lots of drama and rumors."

Obviously Richardson, j'83, l'08, approached his midlife U-turn with a big dose of his wry humor—as well as his passion for argument. As part of the school's lauded Defender Project, Richardson helped convicted clients find resolutions that otherwise would have been out of reach. One client couldn't get early release from federal prison because she faced old drug charges in another state; after being

told the charges could not be dropped, Richardson convinced the prosecutor that his client had changed her life and needed to take this next step. Cleared of the weighty prospect of extradition and trial, she entered rehab with a fresh start.

For such work, Richardson won the Paul E. Wilson Advocacy Award, given by the Kansas Association for Justice for outstanding advocacy, compassion and respect. Particularly notable is

that early in his first career, as a photojour-

nalist, Richardson met and photographed the legendary former law professor for whom the award is named.

> "In my second semester, one of my teachers said, 'Many of you are going to go to a big firm and play a small role in weighty matters, but some of you will work for yourself or a small firm and play a big role in small matters,' and I thought to myself, *small to whom*? I think people who do this at an older age certainly have the potential to be better lawyers, simply because

they understand more about life."

Now there's a sentiment that would look good on a poster.



## Hilltopics BY STEVEN HILL

Charles Greenwood and Martha Staker are wrapping up a successful drive to build a Kansas City site that provides social services for families and research and teaching opportunities for KU and the Medical Center.



## A campus for kids

New Kansas City complex will unite long-standing KU research partners who put women and children first

for the social services they provide at-risk children and families in Kansas City, two KU research groups with a long history of collaboration are working on their biggest partnership yet.

Project EAGLE, an early childhood education group affiliated with KU Medical Center, and the Juniper Gardens Children's Project, an education research group that's part of the Schiefelbusch Institute for Life Span Studies on the Lawrence campus, will break ground this summer on the Children's Campus of Kansas City. The \$15.5 million building will house under one roof both research groups and several other organizations that serve underprivileged families in Wyandotte County.

Early childhood classroom space will be avail-

able for 120 children, and several thousand children and their families will benefit from 22 agencies that will offer family services, including K-State Research and Extension, Parents As Teachers, the Wyandotte County Health Department and Sunflower House.

"We're thinking of an educational campus where families can come as soon as a woman is pregnant all the way up to the time when the children enter school," says Martha Staker, director of Project EAGLE and assistant professor of research. "What this campus is all about is giving children and mothers and fathers a great startwith prenatal care and early education so the children are ready and anxious to learn when they start school."

Project EAGLE and Juniper Gardens have collaborated since 1989, and both

are located in the northeast corner of Wyandotte County, a neighborhood that features the county's highest poverty rate. Children born here face elevated risks of academic failure: Only 17 percent of kindergartners enter school ready to learn. Mothers are more likely to be single, to leave high school before graduating and to go without health insurance.

"A big part of this vision is the location," says Charles Greenwood, director of Juniper Gardens, senior scientist at the Lifespan Institute and professor of applied behavioral science at KU. "If we can put multiple organizations that work with children and families in one location and make it easy to get to, we can share resources, use our money more efficiently and do a better job with services and research by working close together."

Money saved on overhead, both note, is

money that can be used to help families. And having many agencies under one roof not only makes things more convenient for families, but also improves the quality of services and the prospects for success.

"Right now if we find a child we suspect has autism, say, or hearing loss, we have to give them a referral and hope they get to the next agency and get the help they need," Staker says. "On the campus we'll have most of the services they need, and those efforts will be in partnership with researchers."

The Children's Campus of Kansas City's \$8 million fundraising campaign had raised \$6.2 million by the end of April, with \$1 million donations from the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation. The latter is a matching grant that depends on the campus raising an additional \$1 million by April 2009. Further funding comes from a \$5.5 million mortgage loan and \$2 million in Federal New Market Tax Credits.

Groundbreaking at the site at Fifth Street and Minnesota Avenue is scheduled for August, and the building should open by September 2009.

## Once more to the lake

#### Student group leads new effort to restore campus landmark

otter Lake ranks right up there with the Campanile, the Fraser flags and Allen Field House as one of Mount Oread's most recognizable campus icons. But England Porter and John Kenny say the lake in Marvin Grove is in decline, and they are leading a student-directed effort called the Potter Lake Project to rejuvenate it.

They plan to address problems with water quality and silting that have put the ecology of the lake at risk, and, they believe, have lessened student interest in what once was a big part of campus life.

"Even on the best days there are maybe 10 to 15 people out there," says Porter, an Independence junior in environmental studies. "On Wescoe Beach there are hundreds of people every day, just hanging out on concrete. It would be nice to see the lake transformed into the focal point it used to be."

When it was constructed in 1911 to supply water for campus firefighting needs, the lake measured 16 feet deep at the north end. A recent survey conducted with the help of the Kansas Biological Survey showed the deepest point is now around 3 feet.

"If we don't do anything about Potter Lake, it will fill in," says Porter. "It was dredged 50 years ago to its original depth, and it has been filling in continuously ever since. From 16 feet to 3 feet in 50 years—at that rate it won't take long to fill completely."

Once upon a time the lake was the site of summer swims and winter skating. Many a Question has been popped on its shores. Many a Memorial Stadium goalpost sleeps with its fishes.

In more recent times, however, algal blooms have fouled the lake in warm weather. The thick green clouds of algae, a product of phosphorous loading caused by fertilizer runoff, suck up so much oxygen that fish and other aquatic species have a hard time surviving, says Kenny, a Leavenworth senior in environmental engineering. The blooms also contribute to the stench that has been a topic of campus comment in recent summers.

One possible solution is to plant a buffer of native plants in key areas.

"So many people identify with Potter Lake and have fond memories of it, and they don't want to see it in a bad situation." —John Kenny



A rejuvenated, more environmentally friendly Potter Lake is the goal of students England Porter and John Kenny.

### Hilltopics



#### **Moving up**

A dozen KU programs placed in the top 10 nationally in the annual "America's Best Graduate Schools" ranking from U.S. News and World Report. Two programs—city management and special education—were ranked best in the nation. Overall, seven of KU's 43 nationally ranked programs improved their positions over last year's report. "Native landscaping would absorb nutrients and sediment before they run into the lake," Kenny says. "They also look beautiful, require very little maintenance, less irrigation and less mowing. They're pretty self-sustaining."

Before that happens, though, the Potter Lake Project wants to test the lake's sediment. A task force of students and others headed by Kenny and Porter hopes to raise \$10,000 to pay for the testing. What they find will determine how costly the reclamation project will be.

If money can be found to dredge the lake to its optimum depth, the Potter Lake Project hopes to come up with a design that will protect the waterway from further silting while also making it more attractive to students. Permeable stone pathways would increase access and cut down on the bankside soil erosion that now contributes to silting. Benches would encourage students to linger. The native plants would beautify the lake, filter pollutants from runoff and save on maintenance costs.

The project would make a good field study for KU science classes, Porter and Kenny believe, and if successful could serve as a kind of pilot project for a new way of looking at landscaping and grounds maintenance across campus.

More important, say the Potter Lake Project leaders, is the possibility that their efforts will help ensure that a KU treasure is preserved.

"So many people identify with Potter Lake and have fond memories of it," Kenny says, "and they don't want to see it in a bad situation. They want to help out."

## Changes in latitude

A KU research project seeks to pave the way for migrations brought on by global warming

he cloud forests of Mexico are home to thousands of species of flora and fauna that thrive in the high-mountain habitat. Refuges now protect these vulnerable species, but biological researcher Jorge Soberon knows these sanctuaries and others like them around the world will someday be rendered obsolete by shifts in species and habitat distribution brought on by climate change.

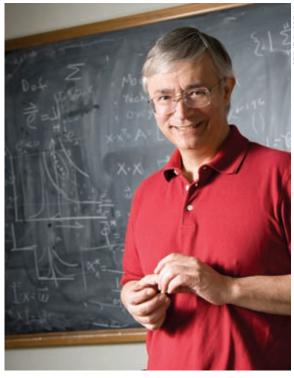
"In 60, 70 years, the current protected areas in

a country like Mexico are going to be useless," says Soberon, senior scientist with the Natural History Museum's Biodiversity Research Institute. "Rain forests will be shifting, piny oak forests will dry up and become shrublands instead of forests."

When that happens, the species adapted to that particular habitat will die out or move on.

Making sure they have a place to move to and a route to get there is one important goal of a collaborative research project that Soberon is leading between KU and researchers at CONABIO, a national biodiversity institute in Mexico. Researchers will try to develop a virtual world, a computer-simulated natural environment that will allow the scientists to test the tools they've developed for predicting how various species of plants, animals and insects will react to global warming.

The project's use of complex computer algorithms attracted the interest of Microsoft Research Inc., the Cambridge, the England-based research arm of Microsoft. The research group awarded an \$850,000 grant to support the project—the Biodiversity Research Institute's



To help scientists cope with global warming, Jorge Soberon and his colleagues at the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center are collaborating with a Mexican biological institute to study how plants and animals react to climate change. first corporate research grant.

The project will tap large databases on species distribution located in Mexico and at KU. By developing "work flows," which Soberon describes as a kind of extremely complex computer macro, the researchers hope to simplify and automate some of the complicated computer programming that researchers must now use to crunch data. When perfected, these work flows will make it easier to explore many different potential scenarios of climate change, in the cloud forests of Mexico and elsewhere.

Creating a virtual world—a kind of supercharged version of the SimCity computer game, if you like—will let scientists hone their predictive powers much more quickly and efficiently than in the field.

"We already have a set of tools to predict species distributions, but it's extremely complicated to test which factors are important, because each one represents an entire research project in the field," Soberon says. "We're going to create an artificial environment where we can play with factors at will, and then test our predictive tools against that artificial world."

Their findings will give local scientists in Mexico and elsewhere a more accurate means of identifying future sites for wildlife refuges.

"Right now, organizations rely on educated guesses when they want to preserve a threatened area such as a cloud forest in Mexico," Soberon says. "This project will compile a large database and develop the tools to forecast future scenarios. Future choices will be made with hard science instead of guesses."

Once the choices are made, scientists also need to carve out corridors that will allow species to move from old haunts to new, free from human interference.

"Climate change has happened many times in the past," Soberon notes, "but in the past we weren't there." Changes then were more gradual, giving species time to adapt. Now the pace of change is much greater, as are the obstacles to movement.

"The right place might be just across the valley, but in the valley is sugar cane, cattle ranching, big cities, highways. Very few things will be able to cross."

Balancing the needs of human settlement and migrating species won't be easy. But if Jorge Soberon and his colleagues have their way, scientists will at least know exactly where the wild things are headed.

## Visitor

#### Green guru

ndustrial engineer Ray Anderson is founder and CEO of Interface, one of the world's largest interior furnishings companies, best known for commercial floor covering. He delivered the Walter S. Sutton Lecture for the School of Business, sharing his quest to make Interface completely sustainable by 2020.

Time magazine named Anderson one of its International Heroes for the Environment in 2007.



WHEN: March 26

#### WHERE: Kansas Union

**BACKGROUND:** Anderson in 1994 read Paul Hawken's *The Ecology of Commerce*. "I was convicted as a plunderer of the earth," he recalls. He created a task force at Interface to guide the company up "Mount Sustainability." Fourteen years later, Interface, which grosses \$110 billion in annual sales, is halfway up the mountain; operations at six of its 11 factories are entirely green. The goal is to "take from the earth only that which is renewable."

**ANECDOTE:** Product design is one of many ways in which Interface has gone green. After spending a day in the forest, designers created "Entropy," a carpet "pattern" that replaces cookie-cutter repetition with the variety found in nature. No two carpet squares are alike, so no defective squares are wasted.

**QUOTE:** "What has our climb up Mount Sustainability cost? It hasn't. Costs are down. We've saved \$372 million in waste alone. People are galvanized around a shared higher purpose."

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Anderson urges business leaders to "think upside down," and become determined to "abandon the comfort of the status quo. The status quo is an opiate."

### Hilltopics



Alfred P. Sloan fellow Yang Zhang's work on protein structure in cells allows the pharmaceutical industry to design more effective drugs.

#### RESEARCH **Professor wins** Sloan fellowship

Yang Zhang, assistant professor of molecular biosciences, was one of 118 researchers nationally to win an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship. The prestigious award comes with a \$50,000, two-year grant that will allow Zhang to continue his research in drug development.

Zhang and his research team have developed a computer server that other scientists can use to predict protein structure in cells, a process that greatly reduces the time and cost of developing new drugs. The server is in high demand with researchers around the world-so much in demand that many scientists must wait in line.

"Fortunately, I will be able to use part of this funding to buy more computers to expand the server space," Zhang says. "That will help more people to develop protein structure predictions, because hundreds of researchers are waiting in the queue. This arrives at a great time."

This marks the second consecutive year a KU professor has won a Sloan Fellowship, which rewards outstanding researchers in science, mathematics and economics.

## Class Credit

**B**arry M. Goldwater Scholarships went to two KU juniors this spring: Rachel Debes, a math major from Hays, and Rebecca Lynn Totten, a geology major from Abita Springs and New Orleans.

Debes, who is studying mathematics in Hungary during the spring semester, will pursue a career researching biostatistical applications in medical fields. Totten plans an academic career as a teacher and researcher in paleontology and isotope geochemistry. Each will receive up to \$7,500 for tuition, fees, books and room and board.



"I am proud to congratulate Rachel and Rebecca," Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway says."They represent not only the best among KU students but also the best among the science and mathematics scholars in our nation."

Since 1989 45 Jayhawks have won the Goldwater, regarded as the premier undergraduate award for excellence in science, engineering and mathematics.

#### LIBERAL ARTS

#### Ohio State scholar named to first Johnson professorship

During an extraordinarily productive 35-year career with drug maker Eli Lilly and Co., Irving S. Johnson conducted research that led to the discovery of a recombinant DNA/genetic engineering technique that made it possible for the pharmaceutical industry to produce human insulin.

Johnson, PhD'53, also participated in the Salk polio vaccine clinical trials, created a new class of cancer-fighting drugs



and helped develop the anti-depressant Prozac

Now retired, he hopes a distinguished professorship that he has funded will help KU students follow in his footsteps. "I think there

are hardly any Oakley limits to what

can be done in biomedical research anymore," Johnson says. "I wanted to endow a chair of molecular biology so that other students in Kansas could have the courses they need to be able to do biomedical research."

The first recipient of the Irving S. Johnson Distinguished Professor of Molecular Biology is Berl Oakley, an internationally recognized leader in cell cycle research. His latest line of research attempts to identify and purify metabolites that have anti-tumor, anti-bacterial and anti-cholesterol properties.

Oakley will come to KU this fall from Ohio State University.

Joseph Steinmetz, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, says Oakley brings first-rate skills in research, teaching and mentoring. The work of Oakley and his students, he predicts, "will have a significant impact on the fields of genetics, molecular biology and biomedical science in general."

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- Roundtrip air from KCI to Ottawa
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- Roundtrip transportation between airport and hotel
- Game tickets and roundtrip transfers to all three games

KU vs. Carleton KU vs. Ottawa University KU vs. McGill



#### Islands of New England Tour Oct. 3-10, 2008 • \$1,499 land only

- Eleven meals-including Cape Cod Dinner Train
- Seven nights' hotel accommodations
- Tour of Boston
- Visit Plimoth Plantation
- Day in Nantucket
- Working cranberry bog
- Traditional New England lobster feast
- Also included: Newport, Martha's Vineyard, Hyannis and Providence.



#### New York Theatre Thanksgiving Tour

Nov. 25-29, 2008 • \$1,995 land only

- Four nights at the Hilton New York & Towers Hotel
- Two Broadway shows
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- Dinner at Tavern on the Green (or similar)
- Thanksgiving dinner at your hotel
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- Optional air from Kansas City available

#### KU Football Tours KU vs. South Florida Sept. 11-13, 2008 • \$795

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- Two nights' hotel accommodations
- Roundtrip transportation between airport and hotel
- Game tickets and roundtrip transfers to this game

#### Motorcoach Football Tours

Fall 2008

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Oct. 4 • \$99

**KU vs. Missouri** Nov. 29 • \$59



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#### STUDENT SERVICES

#### Multicultural center opens

The University's efforts to promote cultural diversity have a new high-profile home with the April dedication of the Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center.

The 7,000-square-foot building, on the north side of the Kansas Union near the Docking Family Gateway, replaces the old multicultural student center, which was tucked behind the Military Science Building in a renovated military annex. It includes space for meetings, speakers and student organizations as well as academic resources such as a library and tutoring programs.

Jonathan Ng, c'03, j'03, who made a new center the main platform of his successful 2002 campaign for student body president, says the facility gives KU an opportunity to prepare students for life in today's global society.

"It has been geared to serve multicultural students, which is very important and very necessary," says Ng, an attorney at White & Case in New York. "But I think our mission for a new center was to continue serving the multicultural population and also to make this a place that's very relevant and useful to all KU students."

The project was funded by student fees and a \$1 million gift from the Sabatini Family Foundation. Family members include Frank Sabatini, b'55, l'57, and Judith Sabatini, and his sons Michael, a'82, and Dan, a'86.



Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center

## Milestones, money and other matters



■ **STATE LAWMAKERS** passed legislation May 7 allowing for the School of Pharmacy's \$50 million expansion ("Dire Diagnosis," issue No. 1), including new homes on West Campus and in Wichita that will allow for increased enrollment. KU ultimately will educate more pharmacists to help relieve a statewide shortage. Lawmakers also increased funding for Kansas Board of Regents institutions by about \$10 million and approved 2.5 percent cost-ofliving salary boosts. As *Kansas Alumni* went to press, the final budget bill awaited approval from Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, g'80.

■ A \$2 MILLION GIFT from the family foundation of Mark, '56, and Bette McGehee Morris, '84, will establish the Mark and Bette Morris

Family Chair in Cancer Prevention at the University of Kansas Cancer Center. A physician or scientist specializing in breast cancer will hold the professorship. The gift completes a \$15 million campaign mounted by the Kansas Masonic Foundation in 2003 to help KU fight cancer.

#### THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY RANKED FIRST

in the nation for the percentage of faculty members receiving National Institutes of Health funding. Twenty-two researchers, representing 61 percent of Pharmacy's full-time faculty members, won NIH grants in fiscal 2007. Overall, the school secured more than \$11 million in NIH funding for the year, fourth highest in the nation.

■ A \$1 MILLION GIFT from the estate of Wanda and Thomas Pyle will support K-CART, the new Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training established this spring by KU. More than 40 researchers from the Lawrence and Medical Center campuses will collaborate on the effort to help children with autism and related disorders.

**KU RANKS SEVENTH** nationally for the percentage of students (about 29 percent) who add study abroad to their undergraduate curricula, according to the Open Doors report from the Institute of International Education. Another report, from Chronicle of Higher Education, singled out KU for using innovative programs to keep study abroad numbers on the rise.

■ JOURNALISM STUDENTS TOOK FIRST PLACE in the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards competition for the second straight year. Ten of KU's 12 entries placed in the top 20. "In a way, we were like our national championship basketball team, which had no All-Americans," said Ted Frederickson, Budig Teaching Professor of Writing in the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications. "None of our writers finished first in any one category, but 10 out of 12 scored significant points, which is why we won."

■ JOHN COLOMBO, professor of psychology and associate director for cognitive neuroscience at the Life Span Institute, will serve as interim director of the institute. A search is underway to replace Steve Warren, c'74, g'75, PhD'77, who became vice provost for research and graduate studies in March.

## Sports BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Clint Bowen, who led KU in tackles as a safety in '93 and continues to coach the position, says he might add "a few more wrinkles to coverages, just because that's what I know best," but otherwise fans will see few major changes in defense.



### Pride in ownership

Fan, player, assistant and now coordinator, Clint Bowen is invested in KU football

hen he arrived at KU in 1989, New Jersey native Keith Loneker formed a fast friendship with teammate Charley Bowen, a lifelong Lawrencian. Loneker, '94, an offensive guard who went on to play in the NFL, and Bowen, '94, a safety who later became a fan favorite in the hard-hitting arena league, established themselves as renowned tough guys on a team full of toughies.

So you can bet their beloved bass boats that they watched intently as Bowen's little brother, Clint, sprinted downfield on the first kick coverage of his first game.

Loneker grins broadly now as he slaps his big hands together and says something along the lines of, "*Splat*!"

But they knew the big hit was entertainment; the key was what came next:

"I saw that Clint was a survivor, because he

jumped right up, got right to his feet," Loneker says. "Even more important, he ran just as hard on the next kick coverage. Clint is a go-getter. Whatever he needed to do or learn to become a better football player, he did. He sought out anybody who could help him find the answers he needed to learn more about the game."

Clint Bowen, d'96, takes over this season as defensive coordinator from Bill Young, who joined the University of Miami soon after KU's Orange Bowl victory. At 35, Bowen is one of only 17 coordinators in the Football Bowl Series 35 or younger, though his promotion was anything but a surprise.

After serving as a graduate assistant for his KU coach, Glen Mason, at Minnesota in 1997, Bowen was a KU grad assistant in '98 and '99, and in '99 he also coached Topeka's semi-pro indoor team. He served as KU's football operations assistant in 2000, and in 2001 Terry Allen named Bowen tight ends and special teams coach.

Mark Mangino kept Bowen on staff when he took over in 2002, and in 2003 asked him to coach safeties, Bowen's former position. Three years later Mangino named him co-defensive coordinator.

After Young's departure, which was not unex-

pected, everyone around the KU football program, and many across town, hoped the popular younger Bowen brother would get the job, and Mangino made it official within a week.

"We've been grooming Clint to take over as defensive coordinator here," Mangino says. "A lot of the stuff you saw on the field last year was not only Bill Young's stuff, but it was Clint Bowen's stuff, too. He had a major impact on our defense, and I think the transition has gone very well. We had a good spring, and I think we're on track to have a good defense again."

The 12-1 Jayhawks were fourth in the nation in scoring defense in 2007 (16.38 points per game), eighth against the run (94.77 yards per game), and 12th in total defense (317.31 yards per game). They held six of eight Big 12 opponents to fewer than 80 rushing yards, allowed only two runs longer than 25 yards all season, and had 100 tackles for loss. In the 24-21 Orange Bowl victory over Virginia Tech, KU defenders intercepted three passes, and five different Jayhawks recorded quarterback sacks.

Best of all, nine starters return. (Only junior All-American cornerback Aqib Talib, a first-round pick of the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and senior tackle James McClinton were lost.)

"We have had success with this defense, so it wasn't like we had to go and make a bunch of wholesale changes and invent a new defense or anything," Bowen said after the April 14 spring game. "We just stuck with what the kids know, and they didn't have a long layoff from the bowl game to now. These veteran kids picked it right back up."

Though he returns a proven group, Bowen still faces a daunting inaugural season. The Jayhawks will face all-out passing attacks from Missouri (Nov. 29, in Kansas City) and Texas Tech (Oct. 25, Homecoming in Lawrence), and the schedule also has Oklahoma (Oct. 18, in Norman) and Texas (Nov. 15, home).

Good thing Bowen is in full agreement with Mangino about defensive philosophies:

"You've got to be able to stop the run,

"We've been grooming Clint to take over as defensive coordinator here. ... He had a major impact on our defense, and I think the transition has gone very well." -coach Mark Mangino

no matter how much teams are passing, and then you've also got to be good on third down," Bowen says. "Within that, be solid fundamentally and technically sound against whatever your opponent can bring."

Bowen's defense dominated the offense in the spring game, including a fumble recovery for a touchdown and two interceptions. It wasn't a surprise, because spring-game limitations generally hobble offenses far more than defenses, yet quarterback Todd Reesing



Crystal Manning placed fourth in the Kansas Relays' long jump, a day after winning the triple jump in miserable conditions.

was quick to admit that the defense had been on top of its game all spring.

"They've got a lot of guys who can make plays, they really understand their assignments, and I think coach Bowen has put together some pretty good schemes that we had to adjust to this spring," Reesing says. "I definitely think they have a chance of being real good, which is encouraging for the offense."

With expectations higher than ever, and the schedule bearing the full brunt of a Big 12 onslaught—plus a Sept. 12 game at South Florida in the nonconference schedule—Bowen is sure to face long days and nights of preparation. Good thing he's already had all spring to receive well wishes from his countless friends and fans.

"I've known every player to come through KU football since 1988," he says. "It's been a big part of my ... really, my whole life, either as a fan, a player, and now a coach. I've got a lot of ownership in this program."

**Jumps for joy** Triple jump wins don't deter Crystal Manning from her first love, long jumping

he conditions could not have been more miserable. Biting cold. Driving rain. Ceaseless wind and occasional gusts. Then again, it *was* the Kansas Relays, which typically is deluged by at least one spring storm, and triple jumper Crystal Manning was prepared.

Well, as prepared as she could be.

"The wind can help me, but the wind can also hurt me," says the lithe leaper from Terrell, Texas. "Going up against

### Sports

the wind in the triple jump, everytime I got up in the air it just pushed me back. So I wish I was a little heavier. ... Maybe."

Challenging conditions didn't stop Manning, a senior, from winning the relays' triple jump April 18 with an NCAA Regional qualifying mark of 41 feet, 5 3/4 inches. She won both the triple and long jumps at the Big 12 Indoor, and last year she won the Big 12 outdoor triple jump before finishing ninth at the NCAA championships.

Manning was fourth in the relays' long jump, posting an NCAA Regional qualifying mark of 20 feet, 7 inches.

"In high school, I never made state in the triple. It was always the long jump," says Manning, who also runs on KU's 4x100 sprint relay squad. "Now I don't love the long jump; I love the triple jump, so I usually do better in that."

Wayne Pate, in his first season as KU's horizontal jumps coach after a long career as associate head coach at Indiana, says Manning has good top-end speed, which she can use to her advantage in the lengthier triple jump, but not the explosive quickness that usually benefits long jumpers. Regardless, she has the qualities he most admires:

"She's really determined, she works extremely hard, and obviously she's got a lot of talent," Pate says. "I'd like her to be in the top three in the country at the NCAA's, which I think she can do in the triple jump."

Senior thrower Egor Agafanov won the relays' hammer throw by nearly 5 feet; as of press time, Agafanov had won all nine of his outdoor meets.

Other KU highlights from the relays included junior Nickesha Anderson setting a school record in the 100-meter dash with a victory in 11.23 seconds; and senior Julius Jiles running the 110-meter hurdles in 13.6 seconds, good for third against a world-class field.

"The last time I ran 13.6 was when I [set a personal record while running eighth] at the NCAA Championships last year," Jiles said. "For me to do it this early, it only says the nation had better watch out for me."



■ KU rowing (seen here in a victorious Novice Eight race vs. KSU April 12 at Wyandotte County Lake), placed second at the Big 12 Invitational May 3 in Austin, Texas. Texas was the regatta's overall winner, and Kansas State was third. KU's First Varsity Four boat beat Texas' by more than three seconds to earn a varsity conference title. The Jayhawks hope to qualify for the NCAA Championships May 30 and June 1 in Sacramento, Calif.

## Updates

The baseball team swept Oklahoma for the first time in nearly 30 years, capping a weekend series at Hoglund Ballpark with a 9-4 victory May 4. The 17-15 KU victory that opened the series was coach **Ritch Price**'s 200th in his six



Powers

KU seasons. On April 29, sophomore **Shaeffer Hall** threw a complete-game shutout to lead KU to a 3-0 victory over Missouri in the Royals' Kauffman Stadium. ... Three days after qualifying for the NCAA regional tournament, sophomore golfer **Emily Powers** was named to the All-Big 12 team. ...

By defeating Iowa State May 4 at Arrocha Ballpark, the softball team scored its 100th Big 12 victory. The Jayhawks were 37-18 entering the Big 12 tournament in Oklahoma City. It was the most wins since 1997, the first season for coach **Tracy Bunge**, '87. ... The men's basketball team is expected to visit the White House June 3. ... Four football players—corner **Aqib Talib** (1st, Tampa Bay), tackle **Anthony Collins** (4th, Cincinnati), tight end **Derek Fine** (4th, Buffalo) and **Marcus Henry** (6th, N.Y. Jets)—were chosen in the NFL draft. Fullback **Brandon McAnderson** signed with St. Louis, and defensive tackle **James McClinton** got a tryout in Kansas City.





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## KANSAS RELAYS PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE PUPPE





Senior hurdler Julius Jiles (above, next to Descome Wright of World Class Track Club) surged late to finish third in the Kansas Relays' invitational 110-meter hurdles. "I got out slow, but I knew I could come on strong," he said. "I decided to keep my composure, keep my technique correct." Other Jayhawks in action at the 81st annual spring track carnival included sophomore pole vaulter Kirk Cooper; junior Victoria Howard (next to Illinois' Cheria Morgan), during her third-place run in the 100 meters; and senior distance runner Lisa Morrisey.



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# AN AMERICAN EXPER

## University Scholars take the field trip of a lifetime

by Jennifer Jackson Sanner







nside the marble temple of the Lincoln Memorial, the words of the nation's 16th president tower taller than even the magnificent sculpted figure of the man himself.

Inscribed upon the grand expanse of the south wall is the Gettysburg Address. No one can begin to guess how many people of all ages have

fought back tears, or let them flow, while gazing upon Lincoln's soaring statement. Stephen McAllister, by his own admission, is one of them.

As a young lawyer in Washington, D.C., he grew to cherish the city's famous sites—not as mere tourist attractions, but as precious symbols of the monumental principles that guided our nation's founders. If you're going to ponder truly big

ideas, there's no better place than the city where they are literally etched in stone

and larger than life. So McAllister, professor and former KU dean of law, vowed this semester to expand the classroom for his undergraduate honors seminar far beyond the confines of Room 107 in Green Hall. As he shaped the syllabus for his course, "Law and Society: The Supreme Court's Role in American Government and Culture," he envisioned taking his 20 students to Washington for five days in March. Following weeks of Friday-afternoon classes in which McAllister and his colleagues from varied disciplines explained the nuances of the law in the contexts of international relations, health care, religion, politics and racial justice, the students would travel to the capital. They would visit the monuments on the National Mall, the National Archives, Arlington National Cemetery, the Capitol, the White House, the Department of Justice and, of course, the U.S. Supreme Court. McAllister's fantasy Spring Break also included meeting a Supreme Court justice and connecting with KU alumni who live in the Washington area.



s fate would have it, the trip exceeded his expectations. The Jayhawks' day in court, March 18, proved momentous. On that morning, dozens of broadcast reporters and protesters jostled for attention and space outside the Supreme Court, beneath its proclamation of "equal justice under the law" (a phrase proposed not by jurists but by the architectural firm that designed the building in 1932).

A line of people hoping for tickets to sit in the courtroom had started to form two days before and still snaked along the marble plaza. But 20 KU students and their professor bypassed the throng to take coveted seats inside, where only 66 people enjoyed the privilege of hearing oral arguments in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, a historic case in the nation's long debate over the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Following the oral arguments, the students heard personal accounts of the court's workings from justices Clarence Thomas and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, as well as Clerk of the Court William Suter.

One week after the experience, Carnez Williams, a journalism and international studies major from Wichita, remained incredulous: "It's simply amazing to me that we were there."

The court's ruling in *District of Columbia v. Heller* ultimately will determine whether a

local government's ban on handguns violates the Second Amendment. The case demands that the nine justices, for the first time in more than 200 years, interpret

whether the amendment guarantees the right of the states to maintain militias, or also the right of individuals to own guns. The decision is expected in late June. In the realm of the law and society, "as far as theatre goes," McAllister told his students, "this is as good as it gets."



■ Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (front, center) shared her views of the court with the students. The 2008 University Scholars are (front, I to r): Emily Hane, Lara Pracht, Katie Oberthaler, Nora Burt, Callie Schlegel, Ella Fund-Reznicek and Emily Sheldon; (back, I to r): Sandra Ristovska, David Wilcox, Carnez Williams, Nathan Locke, Cassie LaMar, Luis Lopez, Vanessa Copple, Alan Schurle, Sam Atherton, Stephanie Temaat, Margaret Yoe, Sai Folmsbee and Chris Hinton.

o how did McAllister's 20 get so lucky? First, they earned their spots in his class. As accomplished undergraduates, they were chosen by KU faculty as the 27th class of University Scholars.

Since 1981, University Scholars have received special academic opportu-

nities and challenges. One of KU's many efforts to make a large institution feel small, the program offers an interdisciplinary honors seminar taught by a senior professor in the spring of 20 students' sophomore years (though many already are jun-

iors by virtue of credits earned). In addition, University Honors Program staff members pair each scholar with a faculty mentor—a partnership that ideally endures through undergraduate years and beyond.

This year's scholars also are fortunate because their seminar professor is himself a former University Scholar. McAllister, c'85, l'88, was a member of KU's second class of scholars. An economics major from the tiny Kansas town of Lucas, McAllister as a sophomore met his mentor, Max Sutton, professor of English. "We spent two and a half years reading great books and meeting weekly," McAllister recalled. "I was lucky to have a professor of literature guiding me one-on-one through the likes of Hemingway and Faulkner."

Thus the 2008 University Scholars basked in their professor's personal affection for a KU academic tradition. But they also reaped the benefits of McAllister's impressive history with the Supreme Court. During his Washington years, he worked as a clerk for justices Byron White and Clarence Thomas. Since then McAllister has tried three cases in oral arguments before the Supreme Court. When it comes to securing behind-thescenes glimpses—especially on a historic day—it helps to know people on the highest court in the land.

And, when it comes to paying for 20 students on Spring Break in D.C., it helps to know how to make a deal. Travel is

#### PHOTOGRAPHS BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

rare for the University Scholars program, which derives modest scholarships (\$250 per scholar for as many as five semesters) from the Office of the Provost and a KU Endowment Association fund honoring Francis Heller, professor emeritus of law and political science who chaired the University Scholars Steering Committee from 1981 to 1988. The Honors Program's goal is to boost the scholarships (which have not increased in 27 years) to \$500 per semester. Money for a colossal field trip—the first for a class of University Scholars—would be hard to come by.

McAllister looked elsewhere. He persuaded Athletics Director Lew Perkins to foot the bill for the trip, and he convinced Alumni Association President Kevin Corbett, c'88, to host a reception March 18 in Washington for the scholars to meet local Alumni Association members.

So, thanks to a combination of savvy, sentiment and serendipity, the University Scholars landed March 15 in our nation's capital—or, as scholar Vanessa Copple, an art history major from Salt Lake City, renamed it, "The District of McAllister."

ost of the students had never visited Washington. Copple's classmates came from 11 Kansas communities (including Ogallah, WaKeeney, Spearville and Goff), the suburbs of St. Louis and Chicago, and Skopje, Macedonia. So before they pondered big ideas in the big city, the scholars found comic relief in small but essential lessons. For example, the doors of a Metrorail train will remain open just long enough for 16 students and their luggage to exit through the same door. The doors will then slam shut, forcing the four remaining students to wait, get off at the next stop and catch another train back.

In addition to learning the finer points of subway travel, this year's class carried on a prized academic tradition of the University Scholars program, which unites students from scattered academic pursuits. All semester long, during 4:30 Friday afternoon seminars in Green Hall and throughout their stay in Washington, the insatiably inquisitive scholars devoured lessons from one another, because each brought decidedly different interests to any discussion. Their KU majors (most aim to earn two) include accounting, architecture, biology, chemistry, civil engineering, dance, English, history, international studies, journalism, linguistics, political science, neurobiology, psychology, Spanish and voice.

All of the students had a story to tell, but perhaps the most surprising was Sandra Ristovska's. In her hometown of Skopje, the capital of Macedonia, she set her sights on studying theatre and film at the University of Kansas because her high school creative writing teacher, Bela Gligorova, '03, had been a KU graduate student in American Studies.

\* \* \*

n Washington, McAllister required his students to fulfill two prerequisites before attending the oral argu-L ments at the Supreme Court. First, they stood in line on Sunday morning, waiting patiently to enter the National Archives, where they viewed the Charters of Freedom: the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Before the students entered the rotunda to view the original documents. McAllister instructed them to search for "Article the Fourth" in the Bill of Rights, even though the passage under debate in District of Columbia v. Heller is now known as the Second Amendment. As he explained, the First Congress of the United States originally proposed 12 amendments to the Constitution, but the first two were not ratified by threefourths of the state legislatures. So the first 10 amendments, the Bill of Rights, were originally Articles 3 to 12.

Second, the students rose early Monday and took the train to Arlington National Cemetery. On a morning so cold that no bud on the famed cherry blossom trees dared open, the KU crew witnessed the changing of the guard at

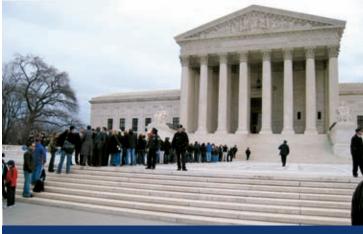


Callie Schlegel felt a kinship with former Chief Justice William Howard Taft, the subject of her class paper, so at Arlington she captured a moment with his monument.

the Tomb of the Unknowns, then walked briskly through the hallowed ground, stopping to pay respects at President John F. Kennedy's grave and those of several Supreme Court justices. McAllister, who had traced these paths many times before, offered historical tidbits nearly every step of the way. Emily Hane, a creative writing and political science major from Topeka, marveled, "He just tells us the answer before we even ask the question. Does he know everything?"

Callie Schlegel, a voice major from Ogallah, posed for a souvenir photo with the monument honoring "her justice," former Chief Justice William Howard Taft. As part of their semester's study, the students wrote and presented papers on a justice or a pivotal Supreme Court case in history. For her tribute to Taft, the only man to serve as both U.S. president and chief justice, Schlegel borrowed the

## $\star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star$



Potential spectators for *District of Columbia v. Heller* began lining up at the Supreme Court 48 hours before the oral argument.

portly public servant's childhood nickname, titling her paper "The Big Lub."

Nathan Locke, a biology major from WaKeeney, snapped Schlegel's photo before they caught up with the other students at Arlington's Iwo Jima Memorial. Locke and Schlegel grew up in neighboring Kansas towns, where there is a local Iwo Jima landmark; the two allowed as how WaKeeney's version, though impressive, couldn't quite compare with its Washington, D.C., counterpart.

Just after 7 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, a distinctive racket heralded the day's importance. Business attire had replaced jeans and sneakers, and the clomp-clomp of high heels and dress shoes echoed through the subway corridor as the students' march quickened. Preparing to board the train, Sai Folmsbee, a neurobiology major from Topeka, announced, "This is the most stressed out I'll ever be—I'm going to the Supreme Court." Carnez Williams showed off his tie, which he had expertly knotted after watching a how-to video on YouTube.

After breakfast in the Supreme Court's cafeteria, McAllister and his charges took their seats in the courtroom, where Walter Dellinger, the attorney for the District of Columbia, attempted to persuade the justices to reverse the Court of Appeals

for the District of Columbia, which had ruled the district's 32-year-old handgun ban unconstitutional. Attorney Alan Gura, the lawyer for those opposing the ban, including security guard Dick Anthony Heller (the named party in the lawsuit), hoped to convince the court to uphold the lower court's decision.

Also arguing before the Supreme Court was U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement, who later that day discussed his role in the case with the KU students during their visit to the Department of Justice. In his brief to the court, Clement stated that the Second Amendment provided an individual right, but that the appeals court had failed to provide the "proper standard of review" of the Second Amendment. In addition, he wrote, the absence of such review could cast doubt on existing federal statutes prohibiting certain types of firearms. Clement argued that the case should be returned to the appeals court for a more extensive review of the amendment.

At the heart of the debate was the interpretation of the language in the amendment: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Each side parsed the language—especially the phrases "well regulated Militia" and "the right of the people"—to suit its cause.

Though the justices won't reveal their conclusion until this summer, court watchers that day began to speculate, attempting to infer the justices' leanings from the questions they asked during oral argument, which stretched 40 minutes beyond the hour normally allotted. McAllister predicted only that the court's ruling would include "some provision for individual rights" to bear arms.

Following the oral argument, the KU group returned to the courtroom for a docent's lecture on the history of the chamber. Then, ignoring hunger pangs that demanded lunch, the students waited in a ceremonial conference room for the arrival of Justice Thomas, who answered the students' questions for more than 30 minutes. His jovial, talkative demeanor and thundering laugh charmed the students (along with his choice of Kansas as the last team standing in his NCAA bracket), and he easily explained the contrast with his trademark silence in the courtroom. He usually finds all the nuances of a case in the written briefs, he said, so he prefers to observe and listen rather than wade into the oral arguments.

Next was William Suter, clerk of the court since 1991 and a former career officer and judge advocate in the U.S. Army. Suter traced his career path for the students and explained the tradition and discipline that are hallmarks of the Supreme Court, where he and his 31 staff members are the liaisons for attorneys who are preparing to try cases before the court. Having heard more than 1,000



Travis Lenkner, I, McAllister and Suzanne Valdez McAllister, I'96. Lenkner, I'05, will clerk for Justice Anthony Kennedy during the 2008-'09 term.

oral arguments during his years at the court, he quickly tallied the questions asked by the justices that day: 129.

Following Suter, Justice Ginsburg visited the group. She first posed for a photograph with the awestruck scholars, then quietly imparted her views of her role as justice and her career as a lawyer. Through the years, she had argued several pivotal cases before justices who ultimately became her colleagues. Unlike Thomas, Ginsburg relishes the verbal presentations. Though the written briefs are most important, she said, she appreciates the interaction in court. "Having argued before a 'cold bench'—no questions—I prefer a 'hot bench' as an advocate and a judge," she told the students. "I appreciate knowing what's on my colleagues' minds, and those strong cues will help when we confer later."

After their audience with Ginsburg, the students made a mad dash for the court's vending machines, settling for 3:30 p.m. munchies rather than lunch on their way to a meeting with Solicitor General Clement at Justice. His argument before the court that morning had been his 48th. His office includes 20 attorneys, he explained; all but two are career appointees whose jobs remain secure despite the results of elections. The Solicitor General's office will represent the government, usually as a "friend of the court," in 60 of the Supreme Court's 72 cases this term. "It's a great line of work if you have a short attention span," he joked before describing the extent of study before each case. "I've gotten to the point when I'm sick of preparing and I wish it were over," he said, "but I've never gotten to the point when I'm done preparing."

fter finishing their tour of the Justice Department, the scholars were slated to be guests of honor at a reception with nearly 130 alumni. Luckily the day's adrenaline rush lasted just long enough to fuel a mad dash on foot. At the restaurant, they at last would taste food, glorious food.

By 7 p.m., sufficiently fortified by heavy hors d'oeuvres, the students were ready to make their formal debut. After remarks by Stanley Lombardo, professor of classics and director of the University Honors Program, McAllister welcomed fellow alumni, including former honors "I get so consumed by going to class and getting straight A's and all the things that students get caught up in, so seeing someone who is actually *done* with all of this was wonderful."

-Cassie LaMar

students and University Scholars. Then each current student personally greeted the crowd, sharing hometowns and academic majors in the hope of finding common ground with their elders.

For the first time, the students glimpsed the power of KU connections. Ella Fund-Reznicek, a linguistics major from Goff, met an alumna and fellow linguistics major. Vanessa Copple, the art history major from Salt Lake City, met someone whose career path she hopes to follow. "For so long, I've been answering the question, 'What are you going to do with your major?'" she said, "and I met a woman who majored in art history and business and works at the National Gallery of Art. *That's* what I want to do."

Cassie LaMar, a biology major from the St. Louis suburb of Carlinville, Ill., said the alumni reception provided precious reassurance. "I got to talk to two women who really motivated me," she said. "I get so consumed by going to class and getting straight A's and all the things that students get caught up in, so seeing someone who is actually *done* with all of this was wonderful. These women have a life, and it all works out."

• • •

B ack in Green Hall, as McAllister and the students reminisced about their adventures, the professor's hunch proved true: Monuments, both the edifices and the ideas writ large, would linger in the minds of the scholars.

For Sam Atherton, a history major from Overland Park, seeing the monuments "restored what we would like to believe about our history and our government."

McAllister said he especially hoped his students would remember the civil discourse personified in justices Thomas and Ginsburg, who in many ways could not be more different and yet remain colleagues and friends. "They have completely different political philosophies and judicial leanings, and they disagree strongly," he said, "but they still respect each other.

"This has always been a tradition in the legal profession: You can disagree on the merits of a case, but it does not have to be personal."

Devotion to high ideals resonated with Emily Hane of Topeka, whose father, a retired military officer, explained to her the rigorous requirements of the sentinels she had seen at the Tomb of the Unknowns—the members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (the Old Guard). "What we saw with them and with the justices on the court is the belief that 'the job is more important than I am," she told her classmates.

Along with purity of purpose, the students grasped possibilities. "Now that I've seen people who have succeeded, who have done it, I think I can get there, too," said Luis Lopez, a biology major from Salina.

Nora Burt, a dance and Spanish major from Gurnee, Ill., said she had wondered before the trip about people who climb to the highest levels of their professions: Are they so consumed that they don't have other lives?

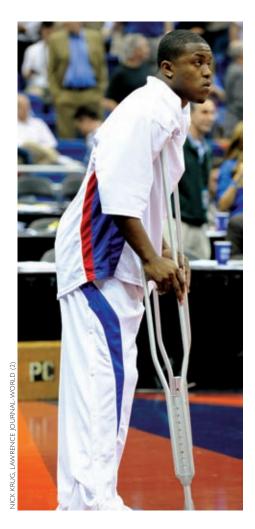
"I was so impressed when Justice Ginsburg talked about how in law school she stopped studying at 4 o'clock every afternoon. That was time for her family," Burt said. "To me that's why Justice Ginsburg is so intelligent and has such a profound mind—because she doesn't limit herself to work. She embraces all of life's experiences."

For 20 students who made the most of Spring Break and are—in their professor's words—"ultra-everything," perhaps there's no better lesson.



THE JAYHAWKS' INCREDIBLE JOURNEY TO A NATIONAL TITLE REVEALED A TEAM OF HEROES AND ENDED WITH A SIGH OF RELIEF 20 YEARS IN THE MAKING

# Redemption&relief



odrick Stewart struggled to his feet from a folding chair behind the KU bench, leaning hard on a pair of crutches. Although a bit of time remained on the clock toward the end of a surreal national semifinal game, he turned away from the action on the court with instructions to start his slow trek to the locker room before the buzzer sounded. Every step produced a wince of pain, visible on the senior's face. After limping just a few feet away from the bench, he stopped

and looked back. There was more than just physical pain in his expression. You could see in his tear-filled eyes what he was thinking. Stewart knew he would never again play with this group of guys who had come to mean so much to him. That's what really hurt.

The day before KU played North Carolina in the semifinal, Stewart went up for a dunk during a public shootaround at the Alamodome in San Antonio and came down with a fractured right kneecap. Lying on the hardwood floor, Stewart looked in disbelief at the concavity where his kneecap had been intact just a moment before, and he realized his lifelong hopes for playing in the Final Four had disappeared in an instant.

The gruesome injury made it obvious that the senior needed immediate surgery, but Stewart chose to stay in San Antonio. He wasn't about to miss this.

#### **BY KATIE MOYER**

Down but not out: Senior guard Rodrick Stewart's gruesome knee injury during a Final Four shootaround (right) gave the Jayhawks yet more inspiration to win a national championship. Stewart stayed to support his teammates against Memphis (p. 35) and shared the joy when KU rallied to clinch its third national title (p. 34).



aturally, Stewart's teammates and coaches were heartbroken by his unexpected injury. But his prevailing spirit rubbed off on the rest of the team, and the men found an extra incentive to win it all: "Do it for Rod" became a new motto. After an emotional roller coaster of a regular season—and for some on the

roster, a lifetime of difficulties—these Jayhawks had proven their maturity. Many times in the past year, they had rallied around a teammate in need.

The postseason was no different. Adversity followed the Jayhawks every step of their journey. In the first and second rounds of tournament play March 20 and 22 at Omaha's Qwest Center, KU overcame Portland State and openinggame jitters, but struggled with foul trouble when UNLV forced the Javhawks out of their fastpaced comfort zone and into a grind-it-out game. Despite committing 26 fouls and giving the Rebels' Wink Adams 17 free throws, KU held UNLV to just 26 percent from the field and outscored the eighth-seeded Rebels by 28 points in the paint.

"Our first-shot defense was

really great when we didn't foul them, which was every other possession," Coach Bill Self quipped after the win.

All joking aside, Self later answered a question regarding whether this team had given him more confidence in the tournament than in years past.

"I do think we have a really good team," he said. Choosing his words carefully, the fifth-year KU coach added, "I won't say it's the best team we've had, because I'm going to wait and see how it plays out." It would take another couple weeks to play out, but soon enough,

> Self would have his answer The most anticipated game in INSA . the first round of the Midwest Region was a showdown between Kansas State's Michael Beasley and Southern California's O.J. Mayo, both probable one-and-done players looking for postseason success to finish

off short but sensational collegiate careers. Thursday night ended with a Wildcat win and Beasley's 27th doubledouble performance of the season.

Saturday morning before secondround action began, Kansas fans enjoyed a brief respite from a long-standing instate rivalry. Across the street from the Qwest Center in a jam-packed Hilton lobby, blue and purple blended—if only for a moment-while Wisconsin and UNLV fans scattered about in splotches of red. Intermittent chatter turned to a dull roar in the standing-room-only crowd as KU and K-State supporters, seemingly forgetful of the regular-season enmity, swapped college stories and toasted first-round wins, mingling as they awaited Saturday afternoon's competition.

Although the Jayhawks made it out of Omaha and into the Midwest Regionals without rehashing the rivalry with KSU, which fell out of the running to No. 3 seed Wisconsin, Detroit held another pair of Wildcat teams to be reckoned with.

intry conditions welcomed the Jayhawks to Motor City the following weekend. Energized after a victory over Clemson, 12th-seeded Villanova awaited KU, hungry for another upset. Since tournament seeding began in 1979, the Wildcats have claimed an NCAA-record 13 wins as the lower seed. Not about to make it 14. Self dug deep into the bench and called on 11 players during the first half of play. A 10-0 scoring run gave KU a double-digit lead at intermission. Despite a secondrate second-half performance, the Jayhawks advanced past the March 28 Sweet 16 round with a convincing 15point win. In fact, Kansas handed 'Nova its worst loss in the NCAA Tournament since 1988, when the Wildcats lost to Oklahoma by 19. As most any KU fan knows, OU went on to miss out on a national title because of a certain squad known as Danny and the Miracles.

By the time the last second ticked off

#### PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE PUPPE AND CONTRIBUTORS

the game clock, it was five minutes until midnight, and the 70,000-plus seats of Ford Field had all but cleared out. With Kansas fans strewn about the vast dome, the Rock Chalk Chant was barely audible from the court below, but the message was clear: Bill's bunch was just one step away from reaching the elusive Final Four.



In Detroit's March 30 Elite Eight matchup, adversity came in the form of a star guard with boyish looks and a grown man's game. By the time Kansas met red-hot Davidson College—"darling Davidson," some nicknamed the tiny school in North Carolina–Stephen Curry had led his Wildcats past heavily favored teams like Georgetown and Wisconsin, posting a staggering 103 points in three tournament games. America had fallen in love with the sophomore's smile, his unassuming nature and downright remarkable shooting ability. Media dubbed the contest Davidson versus Goliath, and KU players were well aware of the nation's infatuation with the underdog of the tournament.

"He's going to have the whole country behind him," senior guard Russell Robinson said of Curry. "Everyone is rooting for him."

Tenth-seeded Davidson may not have seemed like much of a roadblock to some, but the 'Hawks knew better than to look past a team with the tournament's most touted player and the country's longest winning streak. At the same time, they couldn't ignore the pressure to get their coach over the Elite Eight hump and into the Final Four. They desperately wanted to remove their leader's name from the unofficial list of best coaches who have never won the game that matters most.

Robinson just wanted a chance to finish his collegiate career knowing he'd be a fond memory in Self's '08 scrapbook. "He'll always remember his first Final Four team," Robinson told media the day before the regional final. "And for me to be a part of that would be great. Here we are with an opportunity to do it, and we have the team to do it."

So the guys did their best to brush off that nearly palpable pressure; they paid no mind to their big, bad Goliath role, and pretended the sea of red in the Davidson-heavy crowd was KU crimson. But from the tip, onlookers knew the Jayhawks weren't themselves. They played tight, "sped up," as senior Darnell Jackson described it later. The back-and-forth tempo of the game was agonizing to



■ Junior guard Brandon Rush (above) helped KU escape Detroit with a two-point win over Davidson and star guard Stephen Curry (30). While the nation cheered on the underdog, KU fans rooted for their 'Hawks and were rewarded with a trip to the Final Four. Olga Kaun (right) celebrated the victory with her Goliath, senior center Sasha Kaun, who led the team with 13 points.



watch. By the end of regulation, after being held well below their season scoring average, the Jayhawks found themselves in survive-and-advance mode. It was the last possession of the game, and KU guards swarmed Curry to prevent him from taking a three-point shot that would send the 'Hawks back to Kansas with tail feathers tucked between their legs. They did their job, and Curry was forced to pass the ball to fellow guard Jason Richards, who failed to add a game-winning shot to his nine assists for the night.

Self was on both knees during the last seconds of that nerve-racking game, hoping and praying that he could stand up after the final buzzer feeling a lot less weight on his shoulders. During a postgame news conference, he responded to a question about the absence of an 800pound gorilla with a smile. "I thought it was 1,200 pounds."

After drenching his coach with a cooler full of freezing water in the locker room, Jackson sat down to speak with

reporters. Tucked safely into the cubby behind him was the Midwest Regional championship trophy. He laughed and said he planned to hold onto it awhile. "What's going through your mind right now?" a voice inquired from behind the cluster of microphones and bright camera lights. Jackson replied without hesitation: "San Antonio."

ot wanting to miss the chance to be part of history in the making, Jayhawks flew south. Some drove. Some couldn't find a direct flight to San Antonio, so they did a bit of both, arriving at surrounding airports and making the rest of the trip in rental cars.

Alumna Jan Cole Easterday, d'72, of Westwood, drove all night Thursday with her daughter, niece and sister. The four stayed overnight in Austin and made



their way to the River Walk Saturday in search of game tickets. Enjoying the warm Texas weather-a pleasant departure from Motown-Easterday strolled with her family along the winding walkway with a clever sign in hand: "Housewives desperate for tickets."

"They just don't realize I'm their good luck charm," she said, laughing. "Or they would probably just mail me some tickets." A Kansas fan since the day she set foot on campus as a prospective student in the late '60s, she followed the 'Hawks to Final Four appearances in 1971, '88, '91 and '93. Even if they couldn't get tick-

#### More than just a game

fter KU's win over North Carolina, senior guard Russell Robinson described the impact success could havenot only on players' lives but also the lives of their families and KU fans."One thing coach always told us, winning can cure a lot of things," he said.



Arbogast and Gregg

That statement takes on a whole new meaning for Karen Gregg, a breast cancer survivor whose "season of cancer," as she calls it, went hand in hand with the 2007-'08 basketball season. Before moving to Jacksonville, Ala., Gregg, assoc., worked at the KU Endowment Association while her husband, Kelly, PhD'95, was a geography graduate student at the University. During her time there, she bonded with the late JoAnn Douglas, '46, over KU basketball.

Now miles away from the Hill in Jacksonville, Gregg worked with a team of her own—her surgeon and oncologist—to get through chemotherapy by late February, just when the Jayhawks were preparing for the postseason.

She followed them every step of the way, wearing her Jayhawk bandana for luck. After the buzzer announced the end of the championship game and an extraordinary season, Gregg realized, "Their season is over and they've won. Now my season is over, and hopefully I've won, too."

Finally healthy enough to make a trip

back to Lawrence, Gregg joined friend AI Arbogast, c'82, g'92, PhD,'96, of East Lansing, Mich., and thousands of other proud layhawks, for the championship parade downtown. Arbogast has survived some struggles of his own. While dealing with a brain tumor  $\ddot{0}$ that's now benign, he got wrapped up in the 'Hawks."The joy of the season," he says, "helped alleviate the stress for sure."

Gregg will cherish the Jayhawks' journey and all the memories that have come from it, but she isn't one to hold onto the past. Along with an eagerness to live her healthy future to the fullest-and perhaps assist the Alumni Association in creating a line of Jayhawk bandanas for cancer patients dealing with hair loss-she already anticipates the start of another important phase of her life, one that comes around once a year or so. In true Jayhawk fashion, Gregg asks, "How many days until Late Night?"

The past few months will come and go in the memories of many, but to her, it has meant much more:"And some people think it's just a game."-—К.М.



ets to this game, she said, they'd stay as long as KU kept winning. "I'm making memories down here with my family, and that's something I'll never forget."

Easterday was joined in San Antonio by thousands of fellow Jayhawks making memories of their own. More than 7,000 attended pregame pep rallies co-hosted by the Alumni Association and Kansas Athletics, nearly tripling attendance at pregame gatherings in both Omaha and Detroit combined. Fans lined up at the Texas-sized convention center just down the street from the Alamodome. Once inside, Jayhawk supporters enjoyed the company of the pep band and spirit squad, along with Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, g'80, who finally had the chance to get comfortable in her blue vest after switching from Wildcat purple to KU blue between games in Omaha. She noted with a hint of superstition that the timing is just too perfect for this not to be the year.

Tom Rinehart, e'57, loyal basketball follower since 1945, also felt there was something about this season that just made it feel right. He traveled from his Tulsa home to brave the cold weather in Detroit for the regionals. His reasoning was simple. "It's fate," he said—"and a real good ball club."

n the days leading up to Kansas meeting North Carolina in the April 5 national semifinal. there was much left to be reconciled in the minds of the Jayhawk faithful. The most recent and by far the most publicized source of bitterness came from UNC head coach Roy Williams' departure from Lawrence five years ago after 15 years of service that included four Final Four appearances. Self reminded those who suggested this might be a distraction that the game should be Kansas against Carolina, not Kansas fans against Roy. He also advised that Williams should take fans' hard feelings as nothing more than a backhanded compliment because they didn't want him to leave.

The San Antonio River Walk was chock full of KU spirit. Before fans headed to the Alamodome to watch the 'Hawks go head to head with Memphis, they reveled in crimson and blue during a parade down the river and a pregame pep rally.



KU's thorny history with North Carolina dates back to 1957, when a team led by Wilt Chamberlain was torn from a national title in a triple-overtime loss to the Tar Heels. In the most recent tourna-

ment meeting between the two schools, KU lost by 10 at the 1993 Final Four in New Orleans. The Jayhawks' only NCAA Tournament win over Carolina came in '91. when KU overcame the Tar Heels in the semifinal, only to fall to Duke in the championship. KU entered the 2008 game in the unlikely role of the underdog. For the first time in NCAA seeding history, the Final Four all were No. 1 teams. But Carolina was the overall top seed, and boasted the recently named Associated Press Player of the Year Tyler Hansbrough. Critics didn't think KU had a chance at containing Psycho T and the Heels.

While the announcer introduced game starters, junior guard Brandon Rush sat quietly on the bench. He was the last to join his teammates on the floor, and as he waited for his name to be called, he gazed straight ahead with an unchanging, unblinking look of pure focus. A million thoughts must have raced through his mind at that moment. Or maybe, just one thought. Maybe Rush was silently repeating something he had said in Detroit. Maybe he was telling himself, "This is just our time. This is our time to shine."

or the first 15 incredible minutes, the Jayhawks played the game of basketball beautifully. After blind-siding Carolina to take a 40-12 lead, KU put the Tar Heels, well, on their heels, for the first time all season. The 'Hawks knocked down all but four of their first 17 shots, and freshman center Cole Aldrich rescued KU's big men from foul trouble with six points, six rebounds and three

blocked shots in his 13 firsthalf minutes. But the Heels cut the lead



Leadership from Russell Robinson (below) and his fellow seniors was pivotal in the Jayhawks' run to the title, but freshman center Cole Aldrich was a powerhouse in the paint against North Carolina. Junior guard Mario Chalmers (right) will be remembered for sinking the 3-pointer in the final seconds of regulation that sent the 'Hawks on their way to the national title—what Bill Self calls the biggest shot in Kansas basketball history.

to four at the 11:15 mark in the second half. Kansas fans, once reveling in a blowout, couldn't believe it. Sensing an uneasy KU crowd, the pep band broke out in its signature "We're not gonna take it anymore" song at the perfect moment, and fans regained their composure, raising their cheers to fever pitch to push Bill's boys back into that 20-plus lead. In the end, they couldn't quite make it back to 20, but settled for an 18-point margin of victory, the largest by any UNC opponent this season.

> "They hit us right between the eyes," Williams admitted after his team's defeat. Carolina's stats also took a hit that night. KU held its opponent to season low assists, first-half points and field-goal percentage, while bludgeoning UNC on the boards, pulling down nine more than the best rebounding team in the nation.

Just a day before, Williams had given Robinson credit as the most important sevenpoints-per-game scorer in college basketball. Saturday night, Robinson proved him right and scored seven, while the Jayhawks proved every KU critic wrong.

ne day after the Jayhawks sent the Tar Heels home in a daze, Robinson spoke to reporters about Aldrich's impressive performance, and made a prediction about the upcoming championship contest against Memphis.

"I am sure there will be someone else to step up on Monday night. I am just ready to go out there and see who it is."

The next night, with 2.1 seconds left on the clock, Robinson got his answer. Mario Chalmers' miracle three-point shot gave his 'Hawks new life and another five minutes to prove their worthiness as national champions after already enduring a grueling 40 minutes. Players, coaches and media described KU and Memphis as mirror images of team balance and individual unselfishness. The tournament was a prime example, as four different Jayhawks stepped up each game to lead KU in points, rebounds and assists. Both Self and Memphis Coach John Calipari were after their first ring. And both teams were ravenous for a win,



## "BELIEVE. YOU GOT TO BELIEVE." —Coach Bill Self





Post-win bliss: One of four KU players to score in double digits in the title game, sophomore guard Sherron Collins (above) was thrilled to help Self cut down his first championship net. An emotional Jeremy Case embraced his coach before taking the stage to help Darnell Jackson and fellow 'Hawks hoist their prize. each school fighting for a championship after decades of coming up short. "Believe," Self told his bunch in a late timeout. "You got to believe."

After the final buzzer—the second final buzzer—announced the end of an overtime dominated by KU, Jayhawks everywhere were in disbelief. As Coach Cal's self-proclaimed dream team left the floor and Alamodome staffers scrambled to set up a stage midcourt, the reality of it all was slow to sink in for everyone.

Jackson claimed his piece of history in the form of a nylon net, snipped a piece for fellow senior Stewart, and retreated to a seat on the stage by himself. "I just realized that this was my last game. This was my last game as a Kansas Jayhawk. I'm going to miss these guys when I go."

Nearly unbearable pain seemed to disappear for Stewart. "I just feel like I could walk out of here with no crutches," he grinned. "Seriously, this is the greatest day of my life, by far." Having just earned the honor of becoming the third national championship basketball coach in KU history, Self wore a smile on the court that stretched from ear to ear, but the emotion of the intense experience finally caught up to him in the locker room after the victory. His strong façade dropped for a moment, and the proud coach teared up. "He might not admit it, but he did," Stewart reported. "He's one of those tough guys. He never cries or anything, but you have to on a day like this. You have to."

During a post-game press conference, Self praised the never-quit attitude of his guys and the remarkable poise under pressure of "Mr. Clutch." He also alluded to something bigger having a hand in the team's success. Citing their journey through Nebraska and Detroit, identical to that of the '88 team's passage to the championship, Self revealed another similarity he noticed before game time. Ed





## Post-championship news

**April 9:** Senior guard Rodrick Stewart has successful surgery to repair a fractured right kneecap. A full recovery is expected.

**April 10:** Coach Bill Self turns down an offer to coach at his alma mater. Despite rumors that Oklahoma State University would make him the highest paid coach in college basketball, Self says his decision was simple: "Home called, and I love home, but this is home now."

**April 17:** Brandon Rush and Darrell Arthur declare for the NBA draft. Rush, who declared last year but came back to KU after a knee injury, cannot return for his senior year and has hired an agent. Arthur will not sign with an agent, leaving open the possibility of withdrawing from the draft by June 16.

**April 21:** Sophomore guard Sherron Collins undergoes successful arthroscopic surgery on his left knee, with plenty of time to heal before the 2008-'09 season begins.

**April 23:** Mario Chalmers declares for the 2008 NBA draft without hiring an agent. He'll return for his senior season if it looks as if he might fall out of the first round.



Sophomore forward Darrell Arthur (above), the team's high scorer in the championship game, was welcomed home by thousands of congratulatory fans, including Maria Scarpello, f'05, who watched the parade with Buddha, her canine good luck charm.

SUSAN YOUNGER

Hightower, who refereed the title game that same year, was slated to officiate. "The stars were aligning, for whatever reason," Self said. "There were so many reminders to me that this was gonna be a special night."

Searching for the perfect explanation, witnesses will attribute the win to goodold-fashioned fate, or to those worn-out lucky T-shirts finally getting the wash they deserve. But the real reason for this miraculous ending to an unforgettable season is just a group of guys in Kansas

jerseys who put everything on the line, led with their hearts, and followed a coach with more passion for the game and for his players than many may ever realize.

Following the win. Rock Chalk owned the River Walk in San Antonio And back in Lawrence, fans in the tens of thousands flooded Massachusetts Street. Those who cheered KU on from the bleachers of Allen Field House rushed the court and then headed to Mass to continue the celebration. Downtown became a sea of blue, in which fans swayed together at the sound of their Alma Mater and hands stung from the constant high-fiving of perfectly happy strangers.

Twenty years after the first such occasion, Memorial Stadium filled up once again on a cool, cloudy Tuesday afternoon with supporters waiting to congratulate the Jayhawks, the best team in the nation. The following Sunday, after celebrating among family and friends, KU players and coaches celebrated with the Jayhawk family. An estimated 80,000 supporters lined up for a parade that stretched two and a half miles. down Massachusetts Street. 19th Street and Naismith Drive, all the way to Allen Field House, where the festivities concluded with an awards ceremony. Robinson reminded the 10,000 in attendance that he had kept a promise he made on Senior Night to come back and make one last speech before his KU career ended.



nd just like that, basketball season was over. A few fateful weeks in 2008 will go down in KU history as a story with the perfect ending. Those lucky enough to say, "I was there when they won it all," will recount the experience for generations. Every legend has a lesson, and this one is no different.

Bob Whitehouse, c'90, of Overland Park, brought his three young children to the stadium to welcome the team home. He came that day because he knew it would become a life lesson his children would never forget. So what's the moral of this story?

"That's obvious," he said. "Never give up."

## So far, and yet so close

he street party that drowned downtown Lawrence was just gaining steam when I stepped off an elevator, 4,500 miles away, in Madrid's Hotel Wellington. It was 7 a.m., and I had planned to hit the Internet nook to get the KU-North Carolina score before joining our Flying Jayhawks traveling party for Sunday breakfast.

Del Campbell beat me to it.

Campbell, e'59, of Independence, Mo., was one of the most spirited Jayhawks on our trip, a tour from Lisbon to Madrid, and while he didn't let March madness ruin his vacation, he very likely let it interfere with his sleed.

So there he sat early that Sunday morning in Madrid, hunched over a computer, his back to the door.

"Well?" I asked.

Without turning around or uttering a word, he raised both arms and jubilantly punched the air. After devouring the details, we headed downstairs for breakfast, and soon we were joined by the other 16 Flying Jayhawks. More eager than most was Ron Rarick, b'56, of Lompoc, Calif., who exclaimed, "I just can't believe it!"

The sparkly parlor was filled with swank Continentals nibbling sophisticatedly while stiffly ignoring the boisterous Americans. Rarick couldn't have cared less.

"I just can't believe it!" he bellowed again, striding triumphantly toward our tables. "Rock Chalk, Jayhawk!"

The next morning, half of the group traveled on to Barcelona, while the rest dispersed to our homes. After 20-some hours of grueling flights, I made it back with seven minutes left in the championship game and promptly snoozed through it all: Mario's shot, the championship, the celebration, everything.

Ridiculously well rested, I settled into my Adams Alumni Center office early the next morning. Messages arrived immediately and continued all day.All week.

"What a great year to be a KU sports fan," wrote Megan Maciejowski, j'98, a former Kansas Alumni staff writer who now

lives in Los Angeles. My friend Jay Dodd, c'89, a great-grandson of James Naismith, sent a text message from Chicago: "I can't believe it's been 20 years! Rock Chalk, Jayhawk!"

From Athens, Greece, jubilant Jayhawk Dimitri Theodoridis, g'75, wrote, "It was 6:30 a.m. when the OT ended. I was screaming and screaming and screaming like crazy. I am sure the neighbors thought I'd gone mad. ... I don't know where I am—I am probably walking on the clouds!"

Jim, '77, and Patty Bower Regan, d'73, who are teaching at an international school in China, wrote that their students joined together in a multilingual Rock Chalk Chant.



Flying Jayhawks in Madrid

When a Korean girl made a 3-point shot on the playground later that day, a classmate exclaimed, "Sally was Mario Chalmers!"

Our travelers in Barcelona were consttantly on my mind, and I later learned from Jean Challinor Hall, d'61, herself a Jayhawk of unwavering enthusiasm, that Del Campbell again was up early the morning of the title game and delivered the happy news at breakfast. When I heard that, my melancholy for missing the Mass Street madness evaporated, replaced by a longing to have been back in our little group's warm huddle.

I know now that when our memorable KU events play out, you need not be here on the Hill, or romping through downtown, to be in the heart of Jayhawk merriment. It's not a place, it's an emotion, and emotions travel light.

-Chris Lazzarino

## **BY JAMIE JAMES**



■ Joe Slowinski spent his days at KU hunting fossils on Kansas River sandbars when not attending classes. His knack for making spectacular finds—like the bison skull above—would later bring him international renown in the field of herpetology.

Excerpted from The Snake Charmer by Jamie James. Copyright © 2008 Jamie James. Published by Hyperion. All rights reserved. Available in June wherever books are sold.

# King of the Kaw

## JOE SLOWINSKI'S PASSION FOR SNAKES AND SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY MADE HIM A WORLD-FAMOUS HERPETOLOGIST—AND A CHALLENGING DORM MATE

Even among "herpers," as those who wrangle snakes, gators and Komodo dragons in the name of science call themselves, Joe Slowinski was a towering figure. "A hard-drinkin', fast-smokin', fast-talkin' kind of guy," as one colleague described him, who'd "stay up damn near the whole night—and then be the first one up in the morning," Slowinski, c'84, also was a brilliant thinker and a hugely promising researcher who'd already made his mark on herpetology by 2001, when he mounted an ambitious expedition to Burma. There he hoped to document the biological diversity of a land still largely unexplored by science.

Slowinski's passion for nature—which he honed as a kid digging fossils along the Kansas River near his Kansas City home—kept him in good spirits under Burma's abysmal conditions. Biologists fought off leeches, malarial mosquitoes and incessant rains that made collecting difficult. But on Sept. 10, buoyed by a break in the weather that allowed him to gather several promising specimens, including a couple of new species, Joe Slowinski stood in the remote village of Rat Baw, and in both hands lofted a pile of full specimen bags above his head and jubilantly shouted, "I am the king of snakes!"

The next morning, as Slowinski reached inside one of those bags, he was bitten by a many-banded krait, a deadly Asian snake that is one of the world's most toxic. Despite heroic efforts by expedition colleagues, who administered mouth-to-mouth respiration for 23 hours to buy time for a helicopter rescue, Slowinski died.

In The Snake Charmer: A Life and Death in the Pursuit of Knowledge, Jamie James recounts the desperate attempt to save Slowinski's life, which was complicated by the terror attacks then unfolding in the United States, and traces the development of his epic passion for science– a passion shaped at KU.

–Steven Hill

oe's formal education as a scientist began in 1980, when he enrolled at the University of Kansas. After his summer in South Dakota, everyone—including Joe—assumed that he would major in paleontology. As soon as he arrived in Lawrence, he got a

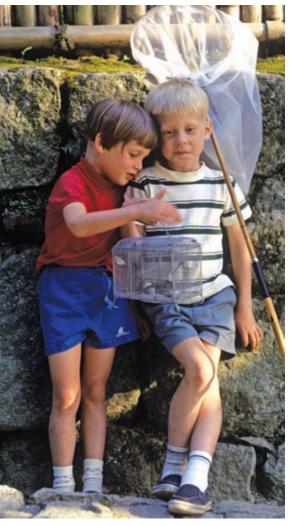
work study position supervised by paleontology professor Larry Martin, a frequent guest speaker at the Heart of America Geology Club. It was a good job: Joe was responsible for identifying and interpreting fossils in the backlog of the University's Natural History Museum.

The collection was housed in Dyche Hall, an eccentric, turn-of-the-century Romanesque pile built of local limestone. Working in the building's basement, a dim warren of offices, labs, and musty storage bins, Joe met another freshman named Stanley Rasmussen, the son of a paleontologist who had once taught at the University. Tall and rangy, with a long, solemn face that belied a sly sense of humor, Rasmussen was as smart as Joe and shared his passion for the outdoors; he had also picked up a lot about paleontology from his father. The two young men soon became fast friends.

The first weekend he could borrow a car, Joe took Rasmussen to Bonner

Springs to look for fossils. The Kaw was at the lowest level Joe had ever seen; sandbars that had always been submerged were now exposed. He and his new friend made a spectacular haul that day: three bison skulls, three deer skulls, a mastodon pelvis and part of a mastodon jaw, moose antlers, a covote ulna. a bit of fossil turtle shell, and a fish vertebra-a pocket Pleistocene zoo in stone, well-preserved in the soft river silt. It was exhausting, back-breaking work: dragging hundreds of pounds of fossils up the riverbank to the road, loading them into their friend's car, and scraping themselves up in the process. They dropped one of the bison skulls, breaking it in half.

Joe sent a letter home detailing what they had found and explaining how the expedition had ended, a story that must



have exacerbated any maternal misgivings Martha Crow may have had about sending her excitable seventeen-year-old son into the world on his own: "As we were collecting on a sandbar near the railroad bridge, a man with a rifle (on the opposite side) began shooting in our direction. Apparently, he didn't see us. Each time he shot we could hear the bullet whistle past us. Then we wisely decided to leave." When they returned to



Slowinski at KU (above) with a timber rattlesnake, one of the many creatures in his campus menagerie, and in Kyoto, Japan, with his sister, Rachel, and a cricket in a cage.

Lawrence, Joe and Rasmussen donated most of the fossils to the museum—but kept the best specimens for themselves.

Joe soon came to feel at home in Lawrence, a college town that was at once more easygoing and more intellectually stimulating than Kansas City, where business ruled. He was shy with girls, preferring male camaraderie; he quickly developed a love of drinking beer and playing pool at the bars that catered to KU students. Most weekends, he and Stan Rasmussen would collect fossils and chase snakes. They were both Clint Eastwood fans and could recite the dialogue of the Dirty Harry movies by heart. Above all, they loved Warner Bros. cartoons; as they bounced through the woods, they would talk to each other in character as Bugs Bunny, Elmer Fudd, and Yosemite Sam. Their all-time favorite cartoon was "Lonesome Lenny," a Tex Avery riff on John Steinbeck's Of Mice

*and Men*, about a feeble-minded dog at a pet shop that squeezes his best friend, a squirrel, to death. The boys named one of their most beloved snakes after the cartoon's title character.

Joe's penchant for collecting put some strain on his living situation. Before classes started, he had been too lazy to join the matchmaking system for assigning roommates, so he was arbitrarily paired with a Japanese graduate student.

In spite of Joe's childhood experience of living in Kyoto, the two didn't get along. Joe soon filled their room with fossils and wildlife; he had a vivarium that was always crawling with snakes, lizards, and spiders that he and Rasmussen had collected on the Kaw. In a letter home, Joe wrote: "Yukihiro is irritated by the build-up of bones in our room."

That spring, Joe and Rasmussen made several major finds, some of which are still on exhibit at Dyche Hall today, such as a complete, well-preserved fossil mastodon skull Joe dug up

from a sandbar on the river. One of his earliest scholarly papers, published in the *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*, described the ulna of a giant beaver that Stan Rasmussen found on the Kaw. Joe also made a significant archaeological discovery his freshman year: On a solitary hike he found the remains of a bison kill, a place where early Plains Indians had rounded up a herd of bison and slaughtered them. An archaeologist at the University expressed interest in excavating the site.

Joe was getting a reputation: His classmates at KU called him the King of the Kaw. He and Rasmussen dreamed of taking their paleontological pastime to a professional level: Rasmusssen knew about a place in Montana where there was a complete fossil Triceratops, one of the largest dinosaurs of the late Cretaceous period, just waiting to be dug up. They formed a bold scheme to excavate the great reptile's skeleton during their summer vacation and sell it to a museum; a complete Triceratops specimen was worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. Yet it was doubtful whether a pair of teenage students would have been able to make a convincing legal claim to ownership, even if they had succeeded in extracting such a huge, complex fossil by themselves. In the end, they abandoned the project after Rasmussen got a summer job at a Boy Scout camp in New Mexico. Yet by this time, Joe's focus was turning from fossils to snakes.

\* \* \*

kU mainly because of its proximity to home and to some degree because of his friendship with Larry Martin, it was an excellent place to study herpetology. Among the faculty stars were William Duellman and Linda Trueb, who between them (and together) had written some of the basic texts in the field, and emeritus professor Henry Fitch, an internationally recognized expert on copperheads who would play an important mentoring role in Joe's education.

Improbably, the state of Kansas has fostered a noble tradition of herpetology. Edward Drinker Cope, America's greatest herpetologist, did his first fieldwork in Kansas in 1871, under the auspices of an official U.S. government survey. Just two years before Joe arrived at KU as a freshman, another giant of the field, Edward Harrison Taylor, had died in Lawrence at the age of 89.

A native of De Kalb County, Missouri, Taylor studied paleontology and zoology at KU. After graduation, he went to the Philippines, then an American dependency, where he became an administrator at the Bureau of Science. Taylor's field experience as a herpetologist ranged across the Malay Archipelago, Thailand, Mexico, and Costa Rica. (He also served as a spy for the American government in Siberia in the early 1920s, and in Java and India at the end of World War II.) Taylor described more than 500 new

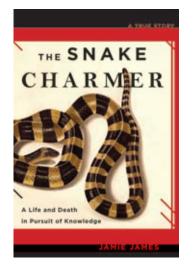


Slowinski with snake stick and a bagful of specimens during a 1999 expedition to the Moyingi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary in Burma.

species of amphibians and reptiles, most of them specimens he had collected himself. Eventually he returned to KU, where he served for a time as the curator of herpetology at the Natural History Museum.

That fall, Joe and Rasmussen caught Penny, a gravid (pregnant) copperhead, and brought her back to the dorm, where she delivered a squirming litter of seven baby snakes. Most snake species simply abandon their newborn young or, if they are oviparous, leave eggs behind immediately after they've laid them. Yet some pit vipers exhibit a greater degree of maternal behavior than most snakes. After they give birth, copperheads watch over their brood for a week or more, until the young are able to strike out on their own and fend for themselves.

Juvenile copperheads have a highly



The Snake Charmer: A Life and Death in Pursuit of Knowledge by Jamie James, Hyperion, \$24.95

specialized hunting strategy: They are born with a bright yellow tail tip, which they use to attract prey. The tiny snake coils itself on the forest floor and extends its tail tip in the air and wiggles it, to mimic the movements of a worm or grub. When a small frog or lizard approaches to investigate, the copperhead strikes, envenoming and subduing its prey, and then eats it. It's only a transitional tactic; as soon as the snake is big enough, it shifts to hunting rodents. More is known about the copperhead than almost any other North American snake, thanks in large measure to a comprehensive study of the species by Henry Fitch, published in 1960, which Harry Greene praised as "without peer in the literature on snake ecology."

Joe and Rasmussen eventually released the baby copperheads in the ravine where they had found Penny, but they decided to keep her through the winter as a pet. When she came down with a case of mouth rot, they nursed her back to health: Rasmussen held her down on the table while Joe swabbed out her mouth with hydrogen peroxide and squirted it with liquid tetracyline. In the spring, they returned Penny, healthy again, to her old haunts.

It was inevitable, living among venomous snakes as he did, that Joe would eventually get bitten by one of his pets. His junior year at KU, as he was dropping a copperhead into a pillowcase, the snake caught a fang in his thumb. He lanced the wound with a razor blade and had a friend take him to the hospital. The thumb turned purple and swelled to a comic hugeness, until, Joe said, it looked like a Fred Flintstone thumb injury. "It felt like someone took a mallet and pounded my thumb with it, and kept pounding," he told Rasmussen the next day, when his friend came to pick him up at the hospital. They drove straight to the woods for more snake hunting. Joe could only use one hand, because his thumb was still swollen and swathed in bandages, but he still managed to catch another copperhead that day, left-handed.



W

hat compels someone, even an impetuous twenty-year-old college student bursting with
curiosity, to go running

back to repeat an experience that has made him seriously ill? Ordinary people develop a fearful aversion to snakes after such an encounter, but there was nothing ordinary about Joe's attraction to reptiles. ...

By the time he was studying biology at KU, Joe had discovered in himself a consuming, deep-lying fascination with venomous snakes. George Zug, a senior curator at the Smithsonian who would later be the codirector of the Myanmar Herpetological Survey, Joe's research project in Burma, believes that this primal connection with snakes was an integral part of Joe's scientific career. Zug said, "Joe was a snake freak. His extreme enthusiasm for snakes drove the carelessness in his handling of them—but it also drove his appetite to study them."

Joe himself was baffled by his enthusiasm. When he was interviewed on the Discovery channel in 2001, he said, "I can't even explain why I'm interested in venomous snakes. I've been that way ever since I was a little kid. I always loved snakes, but for some reason the sight of a rattlesnake or a copperhead really got me excited. There's no way I can explain that. It can't be a gene: How could a gene

"A snake freak," as one colleague called him, Slowinski never missed a chance to get close to snakes in the field. With a Burmese Spitting Cobra—a species he discovered—near Mandalay in 1999 (left), and a boa constrictor in the jungles of Costa Rica in 1985 (opposite page). like that ever survive natural selection?"

While he was a student at KU, Joe's burgeoning passion sent him even farther afield in his search for herps (biologists' argot for reptiles and amphibians collectively; those who pursue them are known as herpers). Now with a car of his own, a homely Volkswagen Beetle, he drove to Taos after his junior year to visit his father at his usual summer retreat, accompanied by a large *Crotalus atrox*, the western diamondback rattlesnake. Then Stan Rasmussen joined him, and they headed farther west, into the Sonoran Desert, where both young men felt overwhelmed by the mystical power and beauty of the landscape. After hiking Organ Pipe National Monument, they dipped into Mexico, where they collected rattlesnakes and a fine Gila monster, the legendary venomous lizard of the Southwestern desert. It would have been illegal to collect the animal in the United States, and it was probably illegal to bring it back from Mexico. When it came to reptiles, Joe never let rules and regulations stand between him and a good specimen.

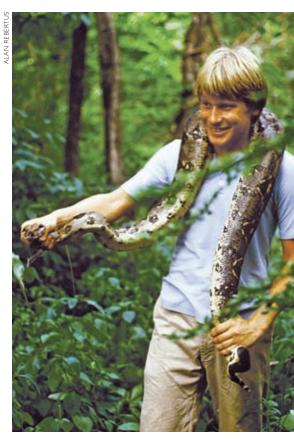
oe's dedication to field research had become intense, but perhaps more significant was his transformation into a disciplined thinker who excelled at the demands of the academic life. His classroom style as an undergraduate wasn't flashy, but his intuitive comprehension of complex issues of evolution and ecology was profound. When he got a 95 on the midterm exam of a tough biology course, the professor wrote at the top: "This is a very good exam. I had no idea what to expect from you since you seem reluctant to participate in discussion. Also, you frequently appear to be bored with the lectures. Have you had much of this material previously?" No, Joe hadn't "had" the material, in the sense of having studied it in a course; he had read and thought about the issues on his own and talked about them with Stan Rasmussen while they walked down rivers and through woods.

By his senior year, Joe had made a firm commitment to go to graduate school in biology. His weekend wanders with Stan Rasmussen were now informal scientific field expeditions, and they knew what they were doing. In the spring, they discovered a den of timber rattlesnakes sharing a rocky ledge with a troop of sociable copperheads in an exurban area slated for a future housing development. It was far from the city, in rural Johnson County, but it already had a Kansas City street address. Joe called on Henry Fitch and brought him to see what he had found.

Fitch was amazed by the density of the snake population. He taught Joe how to tag them by clipping the subcaudal scales, those on the underside of the tail. Each specimen is marked in a different pattern, like Morse code, so that it can be identified later if recaptured. The two of them, the retired professor and the aspiring scientist, caught thirteen rattlesnakes and eleven copperheads that day; all were weighed, measured, marked and released. "I was very pleased to find a youngster so seriously interested in studying snakes," Fitch recalled many years later. "I was anxious to show him what I knew about capturing and handling them."

The winter of 1984 was one of the coldest in memory in Kansas. One weekend, Joe and Stan Rasmussen had planned an excursion to the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Mound City, Mo., to see the bald eagles the place was famous for, but when they phoned ahead, the rangers told them there were no eagles, on account of the cold. Wintering eagles, Joe knew, required open, unfrozen water, and there was none at Squaw Creek, with its shallow, manmade swamps created to lure the birds in warm weather. So he and Rasmussen went to the Kaw, in the hope that there would be some open water there. They were in luck. He wrote his mother an account of what happened:

The morning we went out it was very cold and snowy. The Kaw was frozen solid, so we walked on top of



it. We walked for several miles without success, and were ready to give up, when I decided to scan a large grove of cottonwood on the north bank with my binoculars. There in the branch of a cottonwood I saw a black form with a bright white head. Twenty feet from it was another eagle. It was much more exciting than seeing them at Squaw Creek, because here they were truly in the wild. We tried to approach them, but they flew away before we could even see them with our unaided eyes. We walked over to where they had been, and sure enough, there was a thin strip of open water amidst all the ice.

A few months later, on their graduation day, Joe and Rasmussen went out for a celebratory snaking expedition with Martha and Henry Fitch. It seemed to the others that every rock Joe turned over had a snake underneath it; he bagged more than the rest of them combined. It was uncanny.



## Association



## Reliable rite of spring Like lilacs and redbud blooms, senior Jayhawks return every April

Fifty-year KU graduates first gathered in 1929; the Gold Medal Club officially formed in 1949. ome parts of the annual Gold Medal Club reunion and brunch were, thankfully, unchanged. Polly Roth Bales, '42, played the piano as Gold Medal Club members and their guests gathered April 19 in the lobby of the Kansas Union; Don Williams, b'42, was back with his natty crimson-and-blue vintage wool cap; club president and former Alumni Association executive secretary Dick Wintermote, c'51, was on hand to meet and greet; and Jayhawk cheer filled the air.

This year, though, there were changes large and small, happy and sad.

For the first time in recent years, the Gold Medal Club reunion is now the centerpiece of Gold Medal Weekend, as the 50-year class will now join the Gold Medal elite at a fall reunion. (The Class of 1958 gathers Oct. 9-12, on the weekend KU hosts Colorado in Big 12 football.) So instead of squeezing into long tables in the Union's Big 12 Room, the 133 attendees took over the spacious ballroom, where they heard updates on University activities from campus leaders and a vocal performance by the Oread Singers.

Unfortunately, one change was decidedly not for the better: Otto Schnellbacher Sr., d'48, the Gold Medal Club president until he handed over the duties to Wintermote in 2007 and a faithful reunion participant, had passed away March 10 in Topeka.

"We miss Otto a lot," Wintermote told the gathering. "We miss all of our friends who are no longer with us."

Happy spirits were quickly renewed when Wintermote recognized Marie Stevens Huey, c'37, as representing the earliest class in the room. To a round of applause, Huey waved to her classmates, not in the least hesitant to accept acco-

lades that others might shy from.

"Just the fact that I'm 92, still fairly able-bodied and able to be here, that's the best part," she said with a smile.

Huey and her late husband, Ben, lived in California, Colorado and Oregon, where he was a college professor and she taught school. After he passed away, in 1985, Marie returned to live in Tonganoxie, where her "little brother," the revered family-practice physician Philip Stevens, c'50, m'54, is a community mainstay.

Association president Kevin Corbett, c'88, told the group that Association staffers had organized more than 300 worldwide events in the past year, a number that seemed to rise with every athletic success: "What a great time to be a Jayhawk," he said. "After the last 100 days, it couldn't get any better."

Provost Richard Lariviere reminded the senior Jayhawks that their University remains committed to the sacred missions of teaching, research and service: "Educating the people who go out and make Kansas and the world a better place is exactly what we love to do here," Lariviere said. "We believe deeply in instilling a sense of service



Chancellor Hemenway congratulated Dave Baker, c'55, on receiving his 50-year pin. Baker and his wife, Jane Underwood Baker, d'55, of Eureka Springs, Ark., had missed their 50th reunion, but they returned this spring for a belated celebration.

in our students. For all of these reasons, and many, many more, it is an exciting time to be at KU. You are an important part of KU's traditions and an important part of KU's future."

Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway joined the other speakers in applauding

recent athletics and academic success stories, and he also noted that most similar institutions around the world, and many in this country, do not participate in such traditions.

"We here at KU make the connection between academics and athletics, which is something that's not done in other countries," he said. "This is a tradition that you helped establish, and you should be very proud of that."

First Vice President Don Fambrough, c'48, Lawrence, was elected the group's next president, and Bill Hougland, b'52, Lawrence, was successfully

nominated to succeed Fambrough. The new second vice president will be Beverly Jennings Logan, c'52, Olathe, and the next pair of counselors, to serve until 2011, are Marilyn Mundon Breidenthal, d'57, Leawood, and Roger D. Warren, c'54, m'57, Hanover.



Gold Medal Club members honored the most senior Jayhawk in attendance, Marie Stevens Huey, c'37, Tonganoxie. Joining Huey for the day on campus was her fellow Jayhawk and friend Harriet Le Suer Mark, '45, also of Tonganoxie.

## High praise from peers

Kansas Alumni won six awards in January at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District VI Circle of Excellence Awards. The Alumni Association's magazine honors and those won by other campus entities combined to help the University earn the top communications prize, the Sweepstakes.

Among the publications earning praise was KU Connection, an e-mail newsletter published by the Alumni Association in collaboration with University Relations, KU Endowment and Kansas Athletics and the KU Memorial Unions. KU Connection won a silver award in electronic publications.

For Kansas Alumni, Associate Editors Steven Hill and Chris Lazzarino and Creative Director Susan Younger each received two awards for their work in 2007:

• Grand gold for writing: Hill, "Eyes Wide Open" (profile of student trip to China led by Pok Chi Lau), issue 2

• Grand gold for writing: Hill, "Day's Last Drive" (profile of Robert Day in conjunction with anniversary release of *The Last Cattle Drive*), issue 1

• Grand gold for editorial design: Younger, "Peril in Paradise" (feature on researchers in New Guinea) issue 2

• Gold for writing: Lazzarino, "By the Book" (cover story on Kansas Athletics' improvement in NCAA compliance monitoring following probation), issue 1

• Silver for writing: Lazzarino, "Return of the Native Son" (preview of the Spencer Museum's Aaron Douglas exhibition), issue 5

• Bronze for magazine cover: Younger and freelance illustrator Charlie Podrebarac, '80, "Methods in Our Madness"(story on KU basketball fans' fervor), issue 2

## Association

## Rock Chalk Ball

There's nothing like April in Kansas City when the Jayhawks are champs

he Greater Kansas City alumni chapter of the Alumni Association couldn't have gotten luckier in choosing April 12 for the 13th Rock Chalk Ball. When 735 alumni and friends gathered at the New Grand Ballroom of Bartle Hall, basketball beads and victory T-shirts and caps gave new meaning to "creative black tie."

Creativity highlighted many aspects of the event. Gone were the live auction and seated formal dinner, replaced by a longer silent auction and leisurely dinner buffet. For many, the ball offered the first glimpse of the new ballroom in downtown Kansas City, Mo., and even bitter temperatures and a freak snowfall couldn't deter revelers. The event raises money to continue expanding the Association's outreach programs, especially in student recruitment. In fiscal year 2007, 315 alumni and student events attracted more than 42,000 participants.



■ San Antonio spirit lingered in Kansas City, as alumni and friends watched the same video that had revved up the men's basketball team April 7 before the championship game. Association President Kevin Corbett, c'88, also paid tribute to KU's national-champion debate team and the victorious Orange Bowl team, led by Coach Mark Mangino, who attended the ball. Corbett then thanked 2008 ball chairs Michael and Blish Mize Connor, j'97; and auction chair Stephanie Rawe, b'96. With help from the KU pep band and Spirit Squad, the four led the crowd in the Crimson and the Blue, which gave way to bayou tunes, provided by Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band.













## Growth continues in chapter contests

Volunteers recruit members in national, KC and state efforts

he Association's 2008 chapter challenges produced more than 1,300 new or upgraded members in three months. Winners were determined by the largest percentage growth, and each victorious chapter will receive \$500 for an event of its choice.

Winning the large chapter division of the Jayhawk Nation Chapter Challenge was the Black Alumni Chapter; taking the title in the small chapter division was the Austin Chapter. The groups recruited and upgraded 58 new members. "It is our job as informed members to educate others about the Association's programs that strengthen KU," says Luke Bobo, e'82, Black Alumni Chapter president.

In a league of its own, the Kansas City Chapter set a goal of 500 new and upgraded members. The chapter board's grassroots effort resulted in more than 520 new or upgraded members. "The members of our board are obviously excited about the direction the Association is headed," says Mark McFarland, c'86, the board's membership committee chair. "It is easier to recommend and encourage fellow alumni to join the Association when you can show them how their KU degree is becoming more valuable each and every day."

Kansas chapters succeeded in their campaign to Paint the State KU Blue; all in-state chapters combined to exceed their goal of 500 new members. Leading the pack was the Southwest Chapter with an overall percentage increase of 4 percent. Southwest Chapter President Erick Nordling, c'79, knows the importance of a strong chapter far from the Hill. "The Alumni Association really has made an effort to have a presence out here in western Kansas," he says, "We have Jayhawk Generations Picnics, golf tournaments and even a highway sign. Membership is important simply because it supports all of our efforts out here, and as a result Jayhawks are even more visible."



■ Joe Morris, b'61, national chair of the Association's Board of Directors, and his wife, Susan, assoc., participated in the May 4 Class Ring Ceremony, and not only as Association representatives at a gathering of graduating seniors and families: Morris, of Leawood, also received his first KU class ring. The Association, the University and KU Bookstores offer a selection of official Balfour rings; to obtain your own, visit www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

## Association

James R. Allen

#### • •

## Thank you, life members

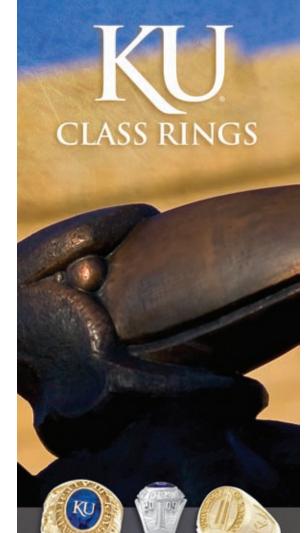
he following Jayhawks have committed to the KU Alumni Association as new life members. This list includes those who became life members beginning March 1 through April 30, 2008. Life membership dues are \$1,000 single and \$1,500 joint; 12-month installment plans are available. For more information, please visit www.kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Robert D. Haneke

Jeffrey D. Andreas Rula C. Andriessen Jennie Boedeker Bennett Collin L. Bielser Larry S. Bonura Chad A. & Melissa Wills **Bowles** Stephen C. Brandt Brett A. Brenner Karen Maginn Burton Robert C. Cage II & Christi Wright Cage Richard H. Carter Jr. Allison K. Chalfant Thomas C. Chalfant Elizabeth D. Cohen M. Jenise Comer Catlin D. Curtis Peter T. Curzon Brian L. & Amy Ross Cussimanio Hemant K. Day Dennis G. Delantonas Jr. Margery M. Docking Sharon R. Dodd Whitney A. Eriksen Joyce D. Everhart Alexander R. Fehr Matthew R. Foster Thomas J. & Kyle Futo Ernest E. Garcia Brian J. Gaul Corban H. Goble Ryan E. Grass Allison E. Green Erin E. Gregory Michael A. Griffith Kristin Maxwell Gunn & John C. Gunn Chad A. Gunther Ramsey S. Hagan Richard L. Hall

Richard R. & Karen A. Hargrove Thomas W. & Pamela S. Harris Ofelia I. Harrison Nicole E. Hofmann John M. Holt Jr. Jessica Scott Holthaus & Jeremiah D. Holthaus Rev. Kevin W. Hopkins Jaime A. Hornbaker **Beckwith Horton** Kristin L. Howard Joan Sherar Hunt Kent S. & Catherine ackson Christopher C. Jones Dietrick L. & Jennifer Smith Kastens Carrie A. Klipp Jerry F. Kobler Rebecca D. Koehlhoeffer Jeffrey C. Konrath Michael K. Krattli Ian E. Leo Paul D. Loney Michael S. Mader & Amy S. l erman Dan E. McCarty Charles F. McElhinney, Mark E. & Amy Witt McFarland Justin McNulty Stephanie L. Meehan Aaron M. Miller Lorraine Alvarado Moeder Eric O. Moore Scott P. & Susan J. Moore Carole Jackson Moreno Shari D. Morgan Jeffrey P. & Barbara Jacobs Murphy

John Newcomer Maggie Newcomer Michael J. Niedenthal Mark I. Niederee James W. Oberwortmann David O. Ochoa Natasha L. Parman Rvan L. Pfeiffer Margaret E. Pugh Tiffany A. Relph Joseph L. Remick Vicki Monnard Rice Edward S. Riss Jr. Robert R. Riss Travis L. Robinett Michael E. Rome Joanna Rupp Margaret K. Saricks Theresa A. Schramka Leslie McElfresh Schweitzer William D. Short III Jerry D. Skillett Kathryn A. Skogsbergh Michael B. Smith Steven E. & Margaret A. Songer Daniel S. Stanley Sarah L. Starnes Aimee Riss Strobl Meghan B. Sullivan Khemarat Suthiwan Charles R. & Evelyn Scott Swyers Amanda J. Tuck loel Tucker David A. Van Eekeren Mark A. & Kristen Merchant Whitaker Richard E. Whitlow & Noelle King-Whitlow John C. Wigner Andrew H. Winetroub Jason M. Wolford



Display your school spirit with pride. New designs feature the Jayhawk, the official KU logo and the Campanile. To find out more, go to www.kualumni.org.



My parents went to KU.

You look just like your Dad.



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

#### To be included, the student must:

• be a freshman in the fall of 2008

• have at least one parent who is an Alumni Association member

• have at least one parent who attended KU (that parent need not have graduated)

#### **Second Generations:**

Please mail in your son or daughter's high school name. Please do not send student photographs for secondgeneration Jayhawks.

#### Third Generations and beyond:

Mail in your son or daughter's résumé, along with information detailing high-school activities. Please provide information about your KU ancestors. Mail a photograph of the student and college-era photos of parents who attended KU. Photos of grandparents should be sent for fifth-generation students only. We will return all photos after the feature is published in issue No. 5, September 2008.



#### **Deadline for all materials is June 30.**

Mail materials to Jayhawk Generations, KU Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Questions? Contact Erika Bentson at 800-584-2957 or ebentson@kualumni.org.

## Class Notes by Karen Goodell

#### 1949

**Charles Thomas,** '49, wrote Old Tricks for New Dogs: Sales Techniques and Tips for a New Generation, which was published last year. He lives in Loveland, Colo., and is president of College Lights.

#### 1954

**Thomas Schlotterback,** f'54, g'56, recently exhibited a drawing in the Northwest Art Center's annual America's 2008: Paperworks exhibition in Minot, N.D. He's a professor emeritus of art at Western Washington University. He lives in Bellingham, Wash.

#### 1956

**Alvin Herrington,** c'56, l'57, owns the Wichita law firm of McDonald Tinker Skaer Quinn & Herrington.

#### 1957

**Allan Hurst,** b'57, is retired president of Quorum Ltd. He lives in Palm Desert, Calif.

#### 1960

**Peter Anderson,** f'60, recently received a lifetime achievement award from the National Tour Association. He lives in Lawrence, where he's retired from a 35year career with Maupintour.

**Winston Grantham,** b'60, is a retired cost accounting manager with Hallmark Cards. He lives in Lenexa.

#### 1961

**Joyce Malicky Castle,** f'61, a KU professor of voice, recently joined the honorary board of directors of the Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation. She makes her home in Lawrence.

#### 1962

**Stanley Welli,** b'62, recently completed a play, "Red Wing! A Family's Odyssey Through Europe and the Old West." He lives in Aurora, Ill.

#### 1963

**William Woodburn,** j'63, makes his home in Estes Park, Colo., where he's a retired advertising general manager with Santa Fe Railway.

#### 1964

**Curtis Boswell,** b'64, retired recently as executive director at the Kansas City law firm of Lathrop & Gage.

**Ralph Gage**, j'64, is director of special projects for the World Company in Lawrence, where he and **Martha Senter Gage**, g'79, PhD'89, make their home.

#### 1965

**Barbara Bauerie Glanz,** d'65, received a human-resources award earlier this

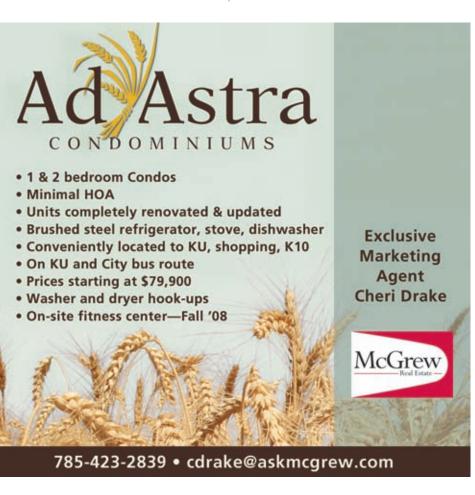
year at the Asia Pacific Human Resource Management convention in Mumbai, India. Barbara owns Barbara Glanz Communications in Sarasota, Fla.

#### 1967

**Barry Fitzgerald,** b'67, works as a computer instructor for the St. Joseph, Mo., school district.

**Richard Hoskins,** c'67, is a senior partner in the Chicago law firm of Schiff Hardin. He's also a doctoral student at the University of Chicago Divinity School, where he studies the history of religious, social and political thought.

**Myron Reed,** e'67, owns Reed Engineering in Wakarusa.



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## Class Notes

#### 1968

**Gail Davenport Austin,** c'68, c'69, owns a consulting firm in Short Hills, N.J.

**Thomas Kokoruda,** d'68, l'72, recently was elected chairman of the board of the Kansas City law firm, Shughart, Thomson & Kilroy.

#### 1969

**David Carney,** b'69, is general manager of Stonesmith Patented Systems in Virginia Beach, Va.

**Nancy Alsmeyer Dunn,** g'69, retired director of residential admissions at the Oregon Episcopal School, makes her home in Portland.

**John Kilroy,** b'69, l'73, recently was elected president and CEO of the Kansas City law firm of Shughart, Thomson & Kilroy.

**Orville Kolterman,** c'69, recently became a director of the American Diabetes Association's Research Foundation.

He's an executive officer at Amylin Pharmaceuticals in San Diego.

**Stephen Lucas,** c'69, g'73, does consulting for Jayhawker Consulting in Trumbull, Conn.

**Beverly Messick,** b'69, directs membership sales for the North Hennepin Area Chamber of Commerce in Osseo, Minn. She lives in Brooklyn Park.

**Michael Moser,** j'69, serves on the city council of Garden City, Idaho.

#### 1970

**Carl Haas,** e'70, works as a design engineer for the City of Wichita. He lives in Andover.

**Sue Dickens Hack,** d'70, recently completed her second term as mayor of Lawrence, where she's also director of Leadership Lawrence.

#### 1972

**Barry Adamson,** b'72, practices law in Lake Oswego, Ore. He wrote *Freedom of* 



Jewelry, Gifts, Accessories for Home and Wardrobe 928 Massachusetts, Lawrence, Kansas 66044 • 785-843-0611 • www.theetcshop.com Religion, the First Amendment and the Supreme Court: How the Court Flunked History, which recently was published by Pelican Publishing.

**Jorge Chamot,** g'72, is a self-employed international oil and gas consultant. He lives in Key Biscayne, Fla.

**Mark James,** e'72, works as an engineering manager for Wood Group ESP in Oklahoma City.

#### 1973

**Alan Birdsell,** d'73, teaches English at Maize High School. He lives in Hesston.

**Alan Braun,** c'73, m'76, practices medicine at Mercy Arthritis and Osteoporosis Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

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

**Lawrence Engel,** c'73, works as an implementation specialist with Mercer Human Resource Consulting in Dallas.

**Sally Morgan Huggins,** j'73, is managing editor of Kansas City Small Business Monthly in Overland Park.

**Kathleen Swiderski Saunders,** j'73, lives in Dallas, where she's vice president and general manager for KDFW Fox 4. She also serves as chair of the Cotton Bowl Athletic Association.

#### 1975

**Thomas Merkel,** '75, directs Hennepin County Corrections in Minneapolis, Minn.

**David Theel**, e'75, is senior marketing and business development representative for Composite Cooling Solutions in Fort Worth, Texas. He lives in Borger.

#### 1976

**Kathy Loughrige Heidrick,** h'76, is an MLT instructor at Barton County Community College in Great Bend.

**Linda Sebastian,** c'76, g'83, wrote *Reluctant Miracle*, a novel about infertility and surrogacy, which recently was published by Rainbow Books. She lives in Bonita Springs, Fla.

**Debbie Fuller Shapiro,** b'76, does accounting for a dentist in Leawood. She lives in Overland Park.

Marshall Wade, b'76, manages loss

#### Pear KU... Fill out a class note at www.kualumni.org and tell us what you have been up to!



## THEN AGAIN

Work it Out: Before students took spinning or yoga classes to enhance their semester schedule, there was plain old physical conditioning. In 1943 students stretched before tackling an obstacle course that included hurdles to jump, walls to scale and ditches to crawl through. Such classes were popular, and attendance generally met capacity.

prevention for Yellow Roadway Corp. in Overland Park.

#### 1977

**Murray Davis,** j'77, works as an agent for Prudential Kansas City Realty in Leawood.

**Jean Clement Johnson,** j'77, is a development specialist for constituent relations in the liberal arts college at the University of Texas-Austin.

**Cynthia Meyer Mackey,** d'77, coaches the women's golf program at McKendree University. She lives in O'Fallon, Ill.

**David Stevens,** p'77, manages a pharmacy at Dillons in Springfield, Mo.

**Jill Trask,** d'77, teaches economics at Tarrant County College in Arlington, Texas.

#### MARRIED

**Laura Epler,** c'77, g'83, to Bart Herbstman, June 8 in Santa Fe, N.M., where they live.

#### 1978

**James Cobb**, j'78, edits the Sunday



## Which one put KC on the map?

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Automobiles section of the New York Times. He lives in Weehawken, N.J.

**Gwenetth Hughes Gepford,** c'78, h'79, directs the handbell choir at the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood.

**Marsha Brown Howe,** b'78, works for Keller Williams Realty of Manatee. She lives in Bradenton, Fla.

Betty Henning McKenzie, n'78, is a

clinical supervisor at Cypress Heart in Wichita.

#### 1979

**Paul Chaput,** b'79, is a broker for Employee Benefits Solutions in Denver.

**Ellen Showalter Janssen,** '79, directs administration for YouthFriends in Kansas City.

## Thank you to the following benefactors for their support of



## April 12, 2008



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#### **University Friends \$2,000**

KU Memorial Unions KU School of Education KU School of Engineering (2 sponsorships) KU School of Journalism KU School of Pharmacy Office of the Chancellor and Provost University of Kansas Medical Center



**Mary Lawson,** c'79, is a digital librarian at Fox Business Network in New York City.

**David Long,** '79, manages national sales with Nationwide Learning in Topeka.

#### 1980

**Ronda Richardson Hassig,** d'80, is a library media specialist for the Blue Valley School District in Overland Park. She recently was named a Kansas Master Teacher.

**Charles Tickles,** e'80, works as vice president of information technology for Kansas City Power & Light. He lives in Lenexa.

#### 1981

**Erich Bloxdorf**, b'81, lives in Springfield, Ill., where he's CEO of the Real Estate Group.

**Douglas Shreves,** b'81, is president of SunOpta Ingredients in Bedford, Mass. He lives in Princeton Junction, N.J.

#### 1982

**William Colby,** l'82, recently joined the Center for Practical Bioethics as a senior fellow in law and patient rights. He lives in Prairie Village.

**Evan Jones,** c'82, recently was promoted to advanced systems manager at Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. in Albuquerque, N.M.

**Terry Kelley,** b'82, owns Officer's Club Aero in Austin, Texas.

**Reid Scofield,** c'82, is director and CEO for Sterling Energy Resources in Overland Park.

#### 1983

**Jimmie Felt,** c'83, is an associate technical fellow for Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita.

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

#### 1984

**Greg Adamson,** d'84, g'88, directs global sales training at Zimmer Holdings in Warsaw, Ind.

Beth Findlay Anderson, c'84, is an edi-



torial assistant at the American Academy of Family Physicians. She lives in Overland Park.

**Lori Majure Hutfles,** f 84, works at KU's Dole Institute of Politics in Lawrence.

**Eliu Perez,** e'84, recently was promoted to senior vice president at CDM in Miami.

**Mark Zieman,** j'84, recently was named publisher of The Kansas City Star.

#### 1985

**Lawrence Wolters,** a'85, is an associate with Shepley Bulfinch Richardson & Abbott in Boston.

#### 1986

**Thomas Jacobs,** b'86, works as director of championships for the NCAA in Indianapolis.

**Marilyn Hamilton Jenkins,** c'86, serves as a deputy director of sensitive reconnaissance for the U.S. Air Force in Washington, D.C. **Sarah Harding Laidlaw,** g'86, directs nutrition services for Mesa View Regional Hospital in Mesquite, Nev.

**Kevin Landers,** p'86, works as a pharmacist at Greenville Pharmacy in Sioux City, Iowa.

#### MARRIED

**Brian McClendon,** e'86, to Beth Ellyn, Jan. 3 in Hilo, Hawaii. They live in Menlo Park, Calif., and Brian directs engineering for Google.

#### 1987

**Irvetta Williams,** a'87, manages projects for Midwestern Construction in St. Louis.

#### 1988

**Thomas Coover,** b'88, is senior property manager for the Chesterfield Towne Center Mall in Richmond, Va.

**Vicki Reid Cross,** p'88, is an associate director at Beckloff Associates in Overland Park. She lives in Stilwell.

## Class Notes



Jim knows making Kansas the home of the bioscience industry is a dream well within reach. He also knows there are homes that are quite financially accessible. Coming from Chicago, he found he got a lot more in Kansas. That's why he and other information technology and bioscience professionals are following their heads to the heartland.

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

а	School of Architecture and
	Urban Design
b	School of Business
c	College of Liberal Arts and
	Sciences
d	School of Education
е	School of Engineering
f	School of Fine Arts
g	Master's Degree
ĥ	School of Allied Health
j	School of Journalism
i	School of Law
m	School of Medicine
n	School of Nursing
р	School of Pharmacy
PharmD	School of Pharmacy
s	School of Social Welfare
DE	Doctor of Engineering
DMA	Doctor of Musical Arts
EdD	Doctor of Education
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter)	Former student
assoc.	Associate member of the
	Alumni Association

**Mark Farmer,** a'88, manages projects for Mitchell & Hugeback Architects in Creve Coeur, Mo.

**David St. Clair,** h'88, works as a therapist at Governor Juan Luis Hospital in Christiansted, Virgin Islands.

#### 1989

**James Allen,** e'89, recently was promoted to commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves. He's an aerospace engineer for the U.S. Army in Corpus Christi, Texas.

**Charlotte Hall Burkhart,** c'89, is executive director and founder of Homes4Good, an adoption and foster care agency. She lives in Conroe, Texas.

**Frank Housh,** c'89, lives in Buffalo, N.Y., where he's an associate with Cohen & Lombardo.

**David McGrath,** c'89, works as regional manager for IHI Environmental in Denver.

**Rhonda Newcomer Percival,** p'89, '04, is president of LTC Pharmacy Consulting Services in Olathe.



**Christy Seddon Taylor,** g'89, lectures at Arizona State University in Phoenix.

#### 1990

**Kevin Brouillette,** b'90, is vice president of sales for Turtle Mountain. He lives in Valencia, Calif.

**David Brown,** d'90, g'93, teaches technology exploration for USD 260 in Derby.

#### 1991

**Ronald Baker,** c'91, is CEO of Cushing Memorial Hospital-St. Luke's Health System in Leavenworth. He lives in Overland Park.

**Curtis Estes,** j'91, recently published *Your Life by Design*. He lives in Los Angeles.

**John Gill,** e'91, a'92, is principal of CRS Engineering and Design Consultants. He lives in Birmingham, Ala.

**Michael Haws,** c'91, lives in Overland Park, where he's vice president of business development for Ciber Inc. **Herb Johnston,** c'91, is an assistant in the career and development sector for the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market in Alicante, Spain.

#### **BORN TO:**

Mark Smith, e'91, and Brandi, daughter, Peyton Angelina, Aug. 30 in San Antonio, where he's vice president of supply and trading at Tesoro Refining and Marketing.

**Sherrie Tubbs Wiedeman,** d'91, and Brent, son, Brady, Jan. 23 in Colby,

where Sherrie is office manager at Triple T. Farms.

#### 1992

**Andrew Finch,** j'92, is an assistant clinical professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

**Julia Wessel Schmalz,** f'92, teaches art at All Saints Catholic School in Frisco, Texas, where she's also a technical support representative for WatchGuard Video.

Michael Schmidt, e'92, g'96, works as

a team leader for Nokia. He lives in Tampere, Finland.

**Laura McKee Sweet,** j'92, recently was promoted to associate executive director at the University of Nebraska's Lied Center in Lincoln.

#### 1993

**Rhonda Frazier Anderson,** '93, works as a staff assistant for NCRA. She lives in Little River.

**Helen Krische,** c'93, g'99, g'08, is an archivist and museum specialist at the

## Profile BY TOM KING

#### Corporate cutup inspires creativity, communication

J oel Zeff makes fun of your business. He lampoons the "mock-turtleneck manager," that artiste of the marketing department, and he skewers the "creative zombie," vacuous thief of other people's ideas. At corporate conventions, he encourages employees to laugh at their bosses. Joel Zeff is a successful management consultant.

"Laughter is an invaluable teaching tool," he says. "It's a powerful means of engagement and an aid to relaxation."

Zeff, j'90, needed a good sense of humor at the outset of his career. In 1991, he left his hometown of Kansas City to join the metro staff of the Dallas Times Herald. The paper closed six months later. On a whim, he joined the Ad-Libs, a well-known Dallas improvisational comedy troupe. "I thought it would be a good way to lighten some



pretty dark days," he says.

He did a brief turn in public relations, followed by a stint at a Dallas ad agency, where he was asked to create improvisational games for a retreat. "The response was tremendous," Zeff says, "and that's when the light bulb clicked on." In 1994, he opened his Dallas-based consultancy, Joel Zeff Creative. Texas Instruments was his first client.

Zeff has since devised more than 30 "improvisational games," each designed to break down inhibitions and encourage open communication, and lead in turn to collaboration and cooperation.

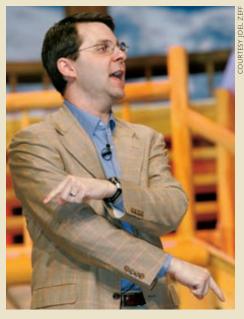
He pulls employees and managers onstage together, setting up unlikely situations and unusual interactions to illustrate the virtues of spontaneity and teamwork—to the delight and edification of audience members.

"Good business is all about making the right choices," Zeff says. "I can't stress enough the necessity of collaboration and cooperation in the modern business world."

Described by one satisfied client as "Red Bull in human form," Zeff is on the road three months a year, visiting clients such as Sprint, Microsoft, Bank of America, ARCO and Hyatt Hotels.

Last year marked the release of his first book, *Make The Right Choices: Creating a Positive, Innovative and Productive Work Life.* He also found time to appear in national TV commercials for McDonald's, Harrah's Casino and Pizza Hut.

His latest project? An endowment for the School of Journalism, effective in fall



Consultant, comedian and author Joel Zeff uses humor honed on the Dallas improv circuit to deliver corporate pep talks efficiently and effectively. "It's amazing how a well-delivered message can inspire creativity," he says.

2008. Zeff has yet to finalize a name for the fund, but leaks that he's leaning toward the "Joel Zeff Chicken Piccata Scholarship."

"You've got to stay in the game; you can't quit," he says. "Satisfaction and success come with doing what you love. My wife says, 'Joel likes to make people laugh and tell people what he thinks.' She's right. So far, so good."

*–King is a Lawrence freelance writer.* 

## Class Notes

Douglas County Historical Society. She lives in Lawrence.

#### MARRIED

**Paul Borchardt,** b'93, g'94, and **Susan Gatton,** c'98, g'01, Aug. 18 in Lac du Flambeau, Wis. They live in Kansas City, where he works for Deloitte & Touche and she's a self-employed writer.

#### **BORN TO:**

**Miriam Estrada Andaya,** c'93, m'98, and Patrick, son, Morgan Patrick, Jan. 3

in Shrewsbury, Mass., where he joins a sister, Nicolette, 1.

#### 1994

**David Etnire,** j'94, is a senior sales recruiter for Crescent Solutions in Irvine, Calif. He lives in Dana Point.

**Adam Graff,** j'94, directs media for Online Marketing in Chicago.

#### 1995

**LaRisa Chambers-Lochner,** c'95, is a development officer at the KU Endow-

ment Association. She and her husband, **Brian,** '95, live in Lawrence.

**Chad Girard,** j'95, is an area manager for APAC-MO. He lives in Columbia.

**Kristen Wewers Lykes,** j'95, works as a senior claims specialist at Liberty Mutual Insurance in Edmond, Okla.

Amy Kautter Rand, c'95, g'98, and Dennis, c'96, live in Shawnee with their children, Tyler, 8; Andrew, 3; and Anna, 1. Amy is an audiologist with Katz Head and Neck, and Dennis manages meetings for Onyx Meetings.

## Profile BY ERIKA BENTSON

#### Graphic designer gains Festivus fame

orget about stale cheese logs and lame stocking stuffers. At Julianne Donovan's holiday party, you'll find guests plunging their heads into ice water and thumb wrestling. Her festivity is a tribute to the faux holiday Festivus, which gained popularity when Frank Costanza, played by Jerry Stiller, introduced it in a 1997 "Seinfeld" episode.

Donovan, f'99, started celebrating Festivus more than eight years ago, in place of an office Christmas party at the grocery wholesaler where she previously worked. Since then, it has grown into a rowdy gala, and prompted New York Times reporter and author Allen Salkin to credit Donovan's party in his book *Festivus: The Holiday for the Rest of Us.* 

Instead of the holiday's true date, Dec. 23, Donovan holds the celebration in springtime, after winter holidays have passed. The bash accommodates more than 100 people, which has allowed Donovan to turn it into a fundraiser. This year the party was held April 26 at Kansas City's Urban Living Center, and the proceeds benefited AIDS research.

There's no doubt that this Salina native is a creative connoisseur. Today, she owns the Kansas City, Mo., design and illustration firm Keen Bee Creative, which produces magazines, brochures, greeting cards, logos and diverse illustration projects. Donovan also teaches several art and design classes at Penn Valley Community College.

The Seinfeld version of the holiday instituted three main principles: An aluminum pole replaced holiday figures like the Christmas tree; an "airing of grievances" allowed celebrants to detail what peeved them throughout the year; and the "feats of strength" required that the head of the household wrestle each person at the celebration.

Donovan sticks to the canons of Festivus, but each principle has morphed throughout years of celebration. During the airing of grievances, Donovan hands out slips of paper and guests write down exactly who and what has angered them. Then the notes are placed inside the pole and read aloud shortly later.

"Someone aired a grievance about a guest's (hideous) white shoes once," Donovan says.

Each year, the feats of strength include slightly different creative twists. Donovan has held a "hipster hulahoop." She's also introduced the "Strong man? Yeah right," competition, where contestants fight to see who can hold up an 8pound weight, or hold their breath in ice water the longest. But Donovan's most

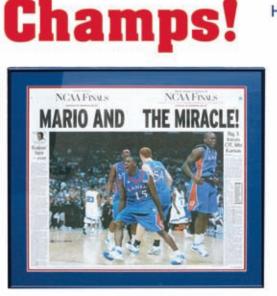


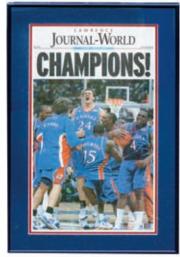
As owner of Keen Bee Creative, engineering creativity is a lifestyle for Julianne Donovan. She started celebrating the faux holiday Festivus eight years ago. Since then, Donovan's bash has gained national attention and turned into a lucrative fundraiser.

heralded twist on the holiday is thumb wrestling's addition to the feats of strength.

"I didn't want anyone to feel like they had to wrestle me," Donovan says. "I'm not big into wrestling. ... I just don't look good in those unitards."

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**Corey Ziegler,** b'95, c'95, l'98 is corporate counsel for the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. She and her husband, **Joseph,** c'96, live in Leawood with their children, Dylan, 5, and Graham, 1.

#### 1996

**Clint Bowen,** d'96, recently was named defensive coordinator for the KU football team. He and **Kristie Knox Bowen,** c'00, live in Lawrence.

**Bryan Breckenridge,** j'96, directs nonprofits and higher education at Salesforce.com in San Francisco. He lives in Mill Valley.

**David Bryan,** c'96, works as a financial adviser with Wachovia Securities in Little Rock, Ark.

**Brian Whitburn,** j'96, c'96, is a data specialist for Certrec. He lives in Coppell, Texas.

#### **BORN TO:**

**Jeffrey,** j'96, and **Brandy Bialek Frost,** c'96, m'01, son, Peter James, June 12 in

Elmhurst, Ill. Jeff works for Logicalis, and Brandy is a neonatology fellow at Northwestern University's Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

**Jennifer Gisi Himmel,** c'96, and Micah, son, Levi Andrew, Sept. 18 in Falls Church, Va.

**Lisa Pryor,** '96, and **Brent,** c'97, daughter, Lilian Rebecca, Jan. 14 in Overland Park. Lisa works for DST Systems, and Brent manages operations at Boston Financial Data Services. They live in Olathe.

**Debbie Greenfield Schroering,** b'96, g'99, and **Scott,** e'97, g'06, daughter, Tatum Sarah, Nov. 2 in Overland Park. Debbie and Scott are both software engineers for Cerner.

#### 1997

**Jennifer Davenport,** c'97, m'01, is a pediatric interventional cardiologist at the University of California-San Francisco.

**Joel Rotert,** c'97, works as an exploration geologist at Metallica Resources.



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**Casey Shook,** g'97, g'02, is an architect/planner at Black & Veatch in Leawood. He and his wife, **Kassie,** g'04, live in Lawrence with their children, Riley, 11, and Carter, 8. Kassie teaches first grade at Sunflower Elementary School.

#### **BORN TO:**

**Benjamin Delorio,** c'97, g'01, and **Lindi,** c'98, daughter, Isadora, July 20 in Belmont, Mass., where she joins a sister, Carina, 3. **Jarrod Guthrie,** c'97, and Meg, son, Elliott Ryan, Jan. 18 in Overland Park, where he joins Carson, 3, and Charlotte, 2. Jarrod is contracts counsel for SPX Cooling Technologies.

**Jonathon Kemnitzer,** f'97, and Sarah, son, Aidan, July 9 in Kansas City, where he joins a sister, Kate, 4. Jonathon is a principal at Kem Studio.

William, l'97, and Carolyn Rumfelt Matthews, l'97, son, George, Jan. 7 in Wichita, where Bill and Carolyn are partners at Foulston Siefkin. **Nicholas,** c'97, and **Bridget Collyer Pivonka,** j'98, daughter, Kaitlyn Nicole, Jan. 1 in Dublin, Calif., where she joins a brother, Colin, 2. Nicholas manages research and development for Clorox.

#### 1998

**Tracy Hepler Ahrens,** c'98, is a scientific liaison at CellzDirect. She lives in Apex, N.C.

**Jessica Gibson Pokaski,** j'98, and her husband, Joseph, live in Los Angeles with their son, Charlie, 1.

## Profile BY NICK PEASE

#### Scholar delves Lincoln, foibles and all

B rian Dirck came to KU to earn a doctorate in history. He left with a cherished friend and a new-found appreciation for one of America's greatest icons.

"My interest was Civil War military history," explains Dirck, PhD'98. "But over time I became fascinated with one man: Abraham Lincoln."

Now, a decade after his time at KU, Dirck is becoming one of the nation's premier Lincoln scholars.

Dirck, assistant professor of history at Anderson University in Anderson, Ind., is a busy man these days—thanks mostly to America's 16th president.

In April 2007 he published *Lincoln the Lawyer*, a narrative focusing on Lincoln's early law career in Illinois. It drew high praise for dissecting Lincoln's everyday role as a practicing attorney and how those years helped pave his way to the White House. The book received the Barondess/Lincoln Award from the Civil War Round Table of New York as the best book published on Lincoln in 2007. Previous winners include Gore Vidal and Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Dirck also wrote *Lincoln and Davis: Imagining America*, 1809-1865, published by University Press of Kansas in 2001, and edited *Lincoln Emancipated: The President and the Politics of Race*, a collection of essays released in 2007.

But it's the success of *Lincoln the Lawyer* that has propelled Dirck into the Lincoln limelight. He has given numerous book talks and lectures on Lincoln's legal career and is scheduled to speak at Gettysburg in June. Future engagements include a speech at Loyola School of Law in Chicago and a panel discussion on Lincoln and race at Harvard.

"It's exciting to be part of a new generation that is studying and discovering Lincoln in new and different ways," Dirck says. "I think younger scholars tend to take a somewhat less sentimental, more pragmatic approach to Lincoln. We all understand his image as the Great Emancipator, but we also explore his foibles, shortcomings and blind spots."

While at KU, Dirck studied under the late Lincoln scholar Philip Paludan, a Barondess winner then considered by many to be the leading authority on the life of Lincoln. Paludan, who died in August, would become not only a mentor to Dirck, but also a dear friend.

"He took me under his wing," Dirck says. "He was a great man, one of the finest scholars and teachers of the Civil War in America, and a wonderful friend. I miss him very much."

Dirck is currently working on a new



Brian Dirck, who won the Barondess/Lincoln Award for the best book about Abraham Lincoln in 2007, is a rising scholar in the field of Lincoln studies.

study of Lincoln and race, due from the University Press of Kansas in 2010. Through Dirck, Paludan's legacy lives on.

-Pease is an Anderson University senior in mass communications and history.

## Class Notes

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#### **BORN TO:**

**Jason,** b'98, g'01, and **Angela Bulman Achatz,** b'97, daughter, Hannah Grace, Sept. 26 in Roeland Park.

**Timothy,** c'98, and **Lisa Pinamonti Kress,** g'98, son, Nathan John, Feb. 22 in Lawrence. Tim is an operations group leader at Target, and Lisa directs admissions and scholarships at KU.

**Cheryl Funke Milligan,** b'98, and **Brian,** e'99, daughter, Adele Elizabeth,

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Dec. 27 in Rochester, Minn. Brian is a neurosurgical resident at the Mayo Clinc.

**Paul,** b'98, g'99, and **Tricia Elliott Stephens,** c'98, j'98, daughter, Lucy Caroline, July 23 in Prairie Village.

Matt Woodruff, j'98, and Amanda, daughter, Madison Victoria, June 16 in Shawnee, where she joins a sister, Faith, 4. Matt is a mail carrier with the U.S. Postal Service.

#### 1999

Linzi Oliver Breckenridge, b'99, owns PATH Fitness Retreat in Mill Valley, Calif.

Margret Brown, c'99, directs exhibits and education for the Tulsa (Okla.) Historical Society.

**Scott Donner,** c'99, c'03, practices medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis.

**Jill Gardberg,** j'99, manages product marketing for Perceptive Software in Denver.

Karen Neseth Hickey, c'99, manages content training for Vangent Inc. in Lawrence.

Jamie Hughes Hubbard, c'99, works as a U.S. Federal Court law clerk in Chattanooga, Tenn.

#### **BORN TO:**

Todd, b'99, and Kimberly Glasser Anclaux, p'00, son, Nicholas, Feb. 14 in Wichita, where he joins a brother, William, 3, and a sister, Ella, 5. Todd manages treasury services at Commerce Bank.

**Timothy,** a'99, and **Jessica Dunn** Fisher, a'01, daughter, Samantha Bessette, Oct. 2 in Overland Park.

Tracy Timmer Rumans, c'99, and Winter, son, Owen Paul, Aug. 6 in Colorado Springs.

#### 2000

**Luke Acree,** d'00, g'04, is a research fellow at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Aurora.

Thomas Barnes, d'00, manages sales for U.S. Vision-Davis Eye Associates in Fayetteville, Ark.

**Sally Eaton,** c'00, is assistant director of development for the Children's Center for the Visually Impaired in Kansas City.

James, c'00, and Ann Stueve Lloyd, p'03, live in Tulsa, Okla., with their daughter, Claire Elizabeth, 1.

Lara Chadwick McInerney, c'00, practices law at Chase Law Firm in Leawood. She lives in Bonner Springs.

Alyson Smith Romero, s'00, s'04, and her husband, Jose, live in Overland Park with their son, Landon, 1. Alyson is a resource family progam supervisor for Associated Youth Services.

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#### 2001

Kamra Gebhardt, d'01, manages ticket operations at the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City.

**Unchu Lerdahl,** c'01, is a Web administrator for the Church of Christ Prison Ministry in Leavenworth.

Danelle Shoemaker Perry, c'01, m'05, and Daniel. '08. live in Wichita with their son. Noah. 1.

**Colleen Pleiss,** s'01, is a social worker with the Park Hill School District in Kansas City.

Guadalupe Ramirez, b'01, works as a staff accountant with CBIZ M&S. She lives in Lawrence.

**David Slayton,** d'01, teaches third grade for USD 260. He lives in Derby.

Brenna Sweeney, d'01, works as an associate digital marketing manager for Miller Brewing Co. She lives in Chicago.

**Michael Young,** c'01, g'03, is deputy town administrator for Natwick, Mass. He lives in Medford.

#### **BORN TO:**

Jacob, c'01, and Stacey Hurst Morgan, c'01, son, Ryan Jacob, Dec. 17 in Overland Park. Jacob is a lab technician at Intervet, and Stacey is a sales consultant at Zurich Direct Underwriters.

**Eryn Downing Ridinger,** b'01, and Justin, son, Treton Ahren, Jan. 14 in Eudora, where he joins a brother, Camden, 3. Eryn is a patient-account representative with Lawrence Surgery Center.

#### 2002

**Chad Bryan,** c'02, is a general manager with Southwestern Remodeling in Wichita.

Brian Carpenter, c'02, works as a sales executive with Reece & Nichols in Overland Park.

Capt. **Aaron Cornett,** j'02, serves as an Iraqi army logistics adviser for the U.S. Army. His home is in Lansing.

Janel Warhurst Hull, d'02, is a phone coach at Fitness by Phone in Wellsville.

# Class Notes



**Brett McClellan,** c'02, an Olathe resident, is a mortage consultant and junior partner at OpenMortgage Home Lending in Overland Park.

**Jason Nicolay,** b'02, g'03, works as an analyst with Media Ventures Partners in San Francisco.

**Megan Norris O'Byrne,** c'02, g'04, is a statistical programmer analyst for the Mayo Clinic. She lives in Rochester, Minn.

#### MARRIED

Meredith Henry, n'02, g'07, and Michael DiPasquale, l'06, Jan. 19. She's an advanced registered nurse practitioner at North Kansas City Hospital, and he's vice president of Newport Television. Their home is in Kansas City.

**Crystal Nesheim,** l'02, to Chad Johnson, Sept. 1 in Tea, S.D. They live in Lennox, and Crystal is a deputy state's attorney for Minnehaha County.

#### **BORN TO:**

Jason, b'02, and Andrea Carroll Atherton, c'02, triplets, Nicholas James, Lucas Carter, and Blake Steven, Sept. 13 in Lee's Summit, Mo., where they join a brother, Dylan, 3. Jason is a financial analyst with Sprint Nextel.

**Jeffery Glasgow,** h'02, and Kerry, daughter, Kennedy Josephine, Dec. 21 in Lawrence, where she joins a brother, Grant, 4. Jeffery owns Advanced Specialty Anesthesia.

#### 2003

**Yasmeen Coleman,** c'03, is a program specialist for the State of Texas. She lives in Dallas.

**Jennifer Smith Feeney,** j'03, directs projects for Gibson Musical Instruments. She lives in Venice, Calif.

**Tate Flott,** c'03, works as an investor landlord for Flott Properties in Tecumseh.

**Patrick Lytle,** b'03, is a CPA at Hiratsuka & Schmitt in Denver. He lives in Littleton.

**Brooke Mitchell,** c'03, works as an account executive with Travelers Insurance in Overland Park.

**Mohamad Sindi,** e'03, is a high-performance computing specialist for Saudi Aramco Oil in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. He lives in Ashburn, Va.

#### **BORN TO:**

**Ryan,** c'03, and **Lyndsey Fitzgerald,** p'04, son, Asher Rylen, Nov. 8 in Eureka, Calif.

**Lisa Patterson Heinemann,** d'03, g'08, and John, Emma Katherine, March 5 in Overland Park. Lisa teaches third grade in Olathe.

#### 2004

**Aimee Damashek,** h'04, is a facility compliance liaison and coding analyst for Menorah Medical Center in Overland Park. She lives in Lenexa.

**Van Davis,** d'04, teaches business marketing at Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, Colo.

**Briana Fisk,** f'04, works for Respiratory Technology Corp. in San Diego.

**Andrew Hillin,** e'04, is a flight controller for United Space Alliance in Houston, where he and his wife, Angela, make their home.

**Christina Hass Kruse,** j'04, coordinates sales and marketing for Jayhawk Sports Marketing in Lawrence.

**Austin McKune,** e'04, is a product development engineer for Boeing in Seattle.

**Mary Ann Porch,** c'04, j'04, coordinates accounts for Text 100 in North Sydney, Australia.

**Bailey Skiles,** b'04, c'04, plans scholarly conferences and manages publications for the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

**Nicholas Vernald,** c'04, works in international sales for C.H. Robinson Worldwide in Elk Grove Village, Ill.

**Tony Vyhanek,** b'04, manages regional accounts for EVault in Chicago.

**Byron Watkins,** b'04, is a financial adviser for Waddell & Reed in Wichita.

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#### 2005

**Dahlia Alammar,** e'05, is a software applications engineer at Extron Electronics. She lives in Brea, Calif.

**Susan Henry Brown,** c'05, coordinates marketing projects at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

**Michael Christie,** c'05, g'08, is a geophysicist at Conoco Phillips in Houston.

**Abigail Seaser,** c'05, studies for a doctorate in audiology at Northeastern University in Boston.

**Britta Wakefield,** b'05, g'06, is an audit associate at KPMG International in Chicago.

#### **BORN TO:**

**Cynthia Sumner McDonnell,** p'05, and Derek, Kennedy Renee, Dec. 11 in Lawrence. Cynthia is a clinical pharmacist at the KU Medical Center.

#### 2006

**Eric Dunlap,** '06, owns Arizona Financial Group in Scottsdale. He and Kelli Edman Dunlap, '05, live in Queen Creek.



## Class Notes



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**Marcy Rutan Fowler,** c'06, studies for a master's in international affairs at Columbia University in New York City.

**Meredith Kaleal,** c'06, works as a financial analyst at Comcast Cable in Philadelphia.

**Steven Kanaby,** g'06, is an assistant manager of event operations at Princeton University in Princeton, N.J.

**Derek Klaus,** j'06, is a senior communications specialist for the Kansas City Convention and Visitors Center.

**Loren Spears,** b'06, manages sales for Contractors Choice in Cincinnati.

**April Valdez,** j'06, works in the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs for the 2008 Democratic National Convention. She lives in Denver.

#### 2007

**Katherine Butkus,** b'07, coordinates conference service for the InterContinental Hotel in Kansas City.

**Amanda Healy,** c'07, is an esthetician at Red Door Spa in Darien, Conn.

**Sean Kiely,** c'07, works as an agent's assistant for the William Morris Agency. He lives in Lake Forest, Ill.

**Caleb Leiker,** c'07, is a territory manager for the Jacobson Group in Phoenix.

**Jennifer McConnaughy,** d'07, is assistant to the director of internal operations for the National Association of Basketball Coaches. She lives in Olathe.

**Thaddeus Solander,** j'07, commutes from Garnett to Lawrence, where he's an agent with Farm Bureau Financial Services.

**Ashley White,** c'07, is an associate editor for the American Academy of Family Physicians in Leawood.

**Timothy White,** c'07, does financial advising for Merrill Lynch & Co. in Dallas.

**Richard Young,** b'07, is a producer for Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services in Kansas City.

**Matthew Zeffery,** c'07, works as an associate for Grubb & Ellis in Chicago.

#### MARRIED

**Mendy Haase,** b'07, to Kirk Borough, Oct. 20 in Overland Park, where they live.



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#### 2008

**Rachel Appelhanz,** d'08, coordinates programs for the Chicago Public Schools.

**Adam Bettis,** '08, is an investment specialist for INTRUST Financial Corp. in Lawrence.

**Stephen Cia,** e'08, designs plumbing for Flack & Kurtz in San Francisco.

**Andrew Garrison,** c'08, is an associate financial adviser with Ameriprise Financial Services. He lives in Lawrence.

**Heather Lichtenauer,** d'08, manages premium services for American Airlines Center in Dallas.

**Elizabeth Rivera,** g'08, teaches English language learners for the Gardner-Edgerton School District. She lives in Gardner.

**Richard Rytting,** g'08, is a speech-language pathologist for USD 253. He lives in Lawrence.

**Ryan Stewart,** b'08, works as a business consultant for Perceptive Software. His home is in Lawrence.

**Jennifer McLeod Uhart,** c'08, is a compensation analyst with Sprint Nextel in Overland Park. She lives in Gardner.





# In Memory

#### **1920**s

**Mildred Tucker Foster, '25,** 106, Jan. 17 in Ponca City, Okla. She is survived by a daughter, Betty Foster Yohe, d'51; two sons, Richard, c'55, l'58, and Robert, '60; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

#### **1930**s

**Irene Conley Barrows, c'33, g'35,** 97, Feb. 24 in Washington, D.C., where she had tutored at the Kingsbury Center. She is survived by a son; a daughter, Jennifer Barrows Golden, '68; and a granddaughter.

Marian Drake Cagle, c'31, 99, March 20 in Topeka, where she was a retired teacher. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by two stepsons and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Margaret Brazier Driggs, c'30, 98, Jan. 13 in Denver, where she was a retired journalist. In 1954 she and her husband, Howard, donated the Oregon Trail marker near Chi Omega fountain. Two sons, one of whom is John Quarrier II, b'56; a daughter; five grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren survive.

**Ruth Hardacre, c'34, m'38,** 94, Dec. 26 in Kansas City. A nephew survives.

Jeanette Houk Hershey, c'39, 89, Feb. 9 in Boulder, Colo. Surviving are a son, James Bodin, b'64; a daughter, Mary Bodin Welch, b'67; a stepdaughter; 10 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

**Arthur Ludwick, c'34, m'36,** 94, Feb. 24 in East Wenatchee, Wash., where he was a retired family practitioner. He is survived by his wife, Jean, a son, a daughter, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Eugene Morgan, b'37,** 93, Feb. 3 in Lawrence, where he was a retired financial executive. He had been national president of the KU Alumni Association in 1963-'64 and was a 1985 recipient of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion, the Alumni Association's highest honor for service to KU. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Helen Boyer Morgan, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Anne Marie Morgan, l'66; a brother, Bernard, '48; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Pearl "Betty" Biegert Sawyer, n'36,** 93, Feb. 26 in Topeka, where she was a retired nurse. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Nancy Sawyer Seel, c'69; three grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Eleanor Elizabeth "Beth" Baer Skaggs, c'33,** 96, March 25 in Pratt. Surviving are two sons, David Jr., d'59, g'60, and Gary, '63; a daughter, Gail, c'70; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grand-children.

**Ann Jeffords Trotter, c'37,** 91, March 22 in Austin. She is survived by her husband, Claude, e'37; three sons, Claude Jr., b'64, David, b'66, g'67, and Donald, b'70; a brother; a sister; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

#### 1940s

**Mary Lou Stanley Andrews, c'48,** 82, March 2 in Lumberton, N.C. She is survived by her husband, Bob, c'48, m'51; a daughter; a son; three sisters; and five grandchildren.

John "Jack" Armel, j'49, 83, Jan. 18 in Leawood, where he was a retired executive with Uniformed Services Benefit Association. Survivors include his wife, Virginia; two daughters, Tracey Armel Skupny, c'77, and Deborah Armel Frederick, '72; a son; a sister; a brother, Larry, b'65, l'68; and 11 grandchildren.

Joanne Williams Bauer, c'45, 85, March 1 in Prairie Village. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by her husband, Lafe, c'44, m'49; three sons, two of whom are Martin, c'69, m'73, and James, '76; three grandchildren; and two stepgrandchildren.

William "Doc" Brown, c'48, m'48, 84, Feb. 4 in Prairie Villiage, where he was a retired physician. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Barner Brown, assoc.; a son, Charles, c'78, d'78; a daughter, Patricia Brown Haas, '71; and two grandchildren.

**Betty Moore Carey, c'42,** 87, Feb. 15 in Portland, Ore. A daughter, a son, two brothers and two grandchildren survive.

**Darthea Stodder diZerega, '47,** 83, Feb. 21 in Wichita. She is survived by four sons, Augustus, c'71, g'74, Gere, c'72, Paul, '74, and Edward, d'79; and five grandchildren.

**Harold Dufek, b'46,** 86, Feb. 9 in Hutchinson. He is survived by a son; four daughters, three of whom are Linda Dufek Lake, '70, Mary, c'78, and Julie Dufek Howland, '71; a stepson, David Wilson, c'65, g'67; two stepdaughters, Beverly Wilson, d'67, and Karen Wilson McLain, s'74; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**Richard Emerson, c'49,** 80, Feb. 18 in Winfield. Surviving are his wife, Marilee; a son; three daughters, one of whom is Linda Emerson Hiebert, n'74; a sister, Beverly Emerson Locke, c'50; and 12 grandchildren.

**Nadyne Wakefield Farley, c'40, d'66,** 91, March 26 in Olathe, where she was a retired teacher. A son, two daughters, a brother, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive.

**Julia Leigh Fields, d'49,** 81, Feb. 23 in Spokane, Wash. Survivors include two sons; a sister, Ruth Leigh Yeager, b'45; and two granddaughters.

**Dan Gardner, e'49,** 80, Aug. 23 in Omaha, Neb. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Kern Gardner, c'46; a son, Timothy, '78; a daughter; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Selda Paulk Grauerholz, c'41,** 88, March 13 in Coffeyville. She is survived by a son, James; a sister, Sarah Paulk

#### Barelli, '45; and a brother.

W.C."Dub" Hartley, b'47, 85, March 10 in Kansas City, where he was a retired banker and a 1992 recipient of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion, the Alumni Association's highest honor for service to KU. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ferguson Hartley, c'47; three daughters, Elizabeth Hartley Winetroub, d'71, g'73, Laura Hartley Lintecum, d'75, and Ann Hartley Bush, j'79; and seven grandchildren.

**Mildred Hoover, c'49,** 85, Dec. 24 in Lee's Summit, Mo., where she was a retired accountant with J.C. Nichols Co. Several cousins survive.

**Dwight Horner, a'49,** 85, Feb. 21 in Prairie Village, where he was a former partner in Horner Blessing Architects. Suvivors include his wife, Josephine; two daughters, one of whom is Gail Horner Gage, s'73; a brother; a sister, Eileen Horner Bell, '50; four grandchildren; and a stepgrandson.

Harvey Hull, e'47, 85, March 22 in Biloxi, Miss., where he was retired after a 40-year career with the Veterans Administration. A daughter, a son, a brother, eight grandchildren and nine greatgrandchildren survive.

Col. **Edward Metcalf III, b'46, I'49,** 86, Jan. 10 in McAllen, Texas, where he was retired from a military career in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Surviving are his wife, Frances, a daughter, a son and a granddaughter.

**Arthur Partridge, c'47, g'49,** 83, Feb. 19 in Greeley, where he was a retired professor of education at the University of Northern Colorado. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine Teeter Partridge, c'46; a son; two daughters; and three grand-children.

**Betty Jo "BJ" O'Neal Pattee, c'46,** 84, March 19 in Lawrence, where she was retired director of special projects at the KU Alumni Association and former editor of *Kansas Alumni*. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by her husband, Frank, b'48; a son, Frank Jr., '70; two daughters, Jodie Pattee Knight, '72, and Erin Pattee Brockovich Ellis, assoc.; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Charlotte Price**, *c*'46, 83, Dec. 25 in Seattle, where she was retired from a career at Medina Children's Home. She is survived by two brothers, Edwin, c'42, and Roger, c'51, g'53, PhD'55.

Otto Schnellbacher Sr., d'48, 84, March 10 in Topeka, where he was a retired agent for American United Life Insurance. He had played professional basketball for the Providence Steamrollers and St. Louis Bombers and professional football for the New York Yankees and New York Giants. While at KU, he played basketball and football and was co-captain of the 1948 Orange Bowl football team. He was inducted into the KU Hall of Fame in 1972 and in 2000 received the Distinguished Service Citation, the highest honor given by the Alumni Association and KU for service to humanity. He is survived by his wife, Jane; a daughter, Mary Schnellbacher Decker, '82; two sons, one of whom is Otto II, '75; two stepsons; two stepdaughters; a brother; a sister; 11 grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**Ruthanna Bovaird Harwood Snow, c'44,** 84, March 3 in Tulsa, Okla. She is survived by a daughter; four sons, one of whom is Kenneth Harwood, j'75; a sister, Mary Bovaird Stark, c'49; 13 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Leatrice "Letty" Gibbs Starry, c'46,** 83, Jan. 4 in Williamsburg, Va. She is survived by her husband, Donn, assoc.; two daughters; two sons, one of whom is Michael, c'71; a brother, Paul Gibbs, b'51; seven grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren.

Walter Stueckemann, c'48, l'50, 81, Feb. 3 in Fort Dodge. He was a retired lawyer. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Daniel, e'87; two daughters; a sister, Johanna, c'63, g'69, PhD'76; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Dale Jellison Weary, d'46,** 85, Feb. 26 in Junction City, where she taught piano and voice. She and her late husband, Robert, endowed a scholarship fund at KU for fine arts students with financial need and helped create the Alexander Spiritship Fund to bring guest artists to KU. She is survived by a son; two daughters, one of whom is Gifford, c'73; a twin sister; four grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Ralph "Bud" Weir Jr., e'44,** 86, Feb. 27 in Colorado Springs. He lived in Junction City for many years, where he was cofounder of Communication Services, one of the largest cable providers in the United States. He also was a trustee emeritus of the KU Endowment Association. Survivors include his wife, Barbara Barber Weir, c'44; a son, Daniel, assoc.; a daughter, Susan Weir Ancker, '68; a sister, Beth Weir Jones, c'41; and three grandchildren.

#### **1950**s

**Kenneth Allen, d'52,** 77, Jan. 22 in Osage City. He is survived by his wife, Peggy; two daughters, Kathleen Allen Duncan, '74, and Kala Allen Hisel, '79; two stepsons; a stepdaughter; four grandchildren; eight stepgrandchildren; three great-granddaughters; and 12 stepgreatgrandchildren.

**Jack Anderson, e'58,** 79, Feb. 25 in Topeka, where he was a retired engineer with the Santa Fe Railway. He is survived by his wife, Lydia, and a twin brother.

**Jeaneene Fischer Anderson, d'54,** 75, Dec. 15 in Littleton, Colo. She is survived by her husband, James; a daughter; a son; a brother, Jack Fischer, b'62; and two grandsons.

**Neal Anderson, b'53,** 76, Jan. 23 in Palos Heights, Ill., where he was vice chairman of the board of Palos Bank and Trust. He is survived by his wife, Madeleine Hodgson Anderson, '54; two sons; a daughter; a brother, Lyle, b'53; and seven grandchildren.

**John Ashley Jr., c'53, m'56,** 76, Jan. 17 in Topeka, where he practiced ophthalmology. He is survived by his wife, Carol; two sons, one of whom is Thomas, m'84; two sisters, one of whom is Anne Ashley Jones, c'49; and several grandchildren.

**Harold Compton, c'56, m'61,** 72, Jan. 31 in Monterey, Calif., where he was an

## In Memory

obstetrician and gynecologist. His wife, Gail, two sons, two daughters, a sister and four grandchildren survive.

**Stanley Davis, g'51,** 83, Nov. 18 in Tucson, where he was a professor emeritus at the University of Arizona. Surviving are his wife, Augusta, two sons, four daughters, two stepdaughters, three brothers, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Marilyn Fleshman Gowdy, n'56**, 75, Jan. 21 in Santa Barbara, Calif. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by her husband, Robert; three sons, one of whom is Donn, b'90; a sister; and two grandchildren.

**Ronald Groening, e'58,** 71, Jan. 31 in Phoenixville, Penn., where he retired from General Electric and Lockheed Martin. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, two sons, two daughters and three grandchildren.

**Frank Heckendorn, d'50,** 85, Nov. 27 in San Francisco. A niece survives.

**Lloyd Holbeck, j'51,** 78, Jan. 25 in Tiptonville, Tenn., where he was retired from the Memphis Commercial Appeal. A stepson, two stepdaughters; two sisters, four stepgrandchildren and four stepgreatgrandchildren survive.

**Norman McAdoo, b'51,** 80, June 27 in San Clemente, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Osborne McAdoo, c'50; a son; a daughter; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Helen Sterling McDaniel, c'58, 71, June 9 in Los Alamitos, Calif. Survivors include her husband, John, e'59; three sons; and a sister, Emma Sterling Heisler, d'61.

**Andrew Murray, b'51,** Feb. 3 in Midlothian, Va. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Horne Murray, c'56; a son, Kevin, b'82; a sister, Jean Murray Jones, '45; two grandchildren; and two stepgrand-daughters.

William Richardson, j'50, 80, Feb. 1 in Kansas City, where he was retired from a career with Hallmark Cards. He is survived by three daughters, two of whom are Carol Richardson Adams, f'78, and Patricia Richardson Alford, '78; a son; a brother; his stepmother; and six grandchildren.

**John Rockwell, c'52,** 81, Oct. 22 in Oakmont, Calif., where he was a retired athletic trainer and a founder of the National Athletic Trainers Association. He is survived by his wife, Jean, two sons, four grandchildren and a great-grandson.

**Elmer Schultz, e'50,** 81, March 23 in Wexford, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Effie, a daughter, a son, two brothers and three grandchildren.

**Rodney Swaim, b'59,** 74, March 3 in Newport News, Va., where he was retired from a career in trust tax and trust investment. He is survived by his wife, Betty, '79; a son; a daughter, Tara Swaim McLendon, s'92, s'93; a brother, Robert, b'52; a sister; and a grandson.

**Benjamin Trump, m'57,** 75, Feb. 26 in Baltimore, where he was retired chairman of the pathology department at the University of Maryland's medical school. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, two daughters, a sister and a grandson.

**Claude Wilson, e'50,** 82, Jan. 17 in Overland Park, where he was retired owner of Falconer's Carriage House Furniture. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Falconer Wilson, c'46; a son; a daughter, Jane Wilson Gottschalk, f'79, g'81; and five grandchildren.

#### 1960s

**Jack Alexander, '68,** 64, Feb. 4 in Cottonwood Falls. He is survived by his wife, Susan Rauscher Alexander, n'71; two sons, one of whom is Brian, '05; a daughter; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Larry Borden, b'62, g'68, 68, Nov. 6 in Colorado Springs, where he was the longtime executive vice president and general manager of Winslow BMW. He served on the Alumni Association's national Board from 1989 to 1994 and 2003 to 2006, including a one-year term as national chair. He received the Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award in 1989 for his KU volunteer work in Colorado. In 2006, he received the Fred Ellsworth Medallion, the highest honor for service to KU. The Borden Family Plaza at the Adams Alumni Center honors Larry and his family, which includes his wife, Nancy, assoc., a son and two daughters.

**Solomon Flores, g'63,** 79, Dec. 5 in Milwaukee, where he was a professor at the University of Wisconsin and a pioneer in bilingual education. A daughter, a son, a sister and a brother survive.

Wayne Hansen, g'63, 68, Jan. 27 in Rio Rancho, N.M., where he was retired after a career at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Jane Rohde Hansen, d'63; two sons; a brother; and a sister.

**Paul Hensleigh, c'61, m'65, PhD'70,** 68, Nov. 6, in Stanford, Calif., where he was professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology at Stanford University's School of Medicine. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie, n'61, five brothers, four of whom are Richard, '62, Hugh, d'69, PhD'73, Thomas, c'75, and David, '75; two sisters, one of whom is Joye Hensleigh Huston, n'64; two children and six grandchildren.

**Howard Letsch, e'62,** 77, March 3 in Lenexa, where he was retired after a 32year career at Bendix Allied Signal. He is survived by his wife, Jenny, assoc.; a son, Douglas, '80; a daughter, Robin Letsch, p'83; a brother; and four grandchildren.

William Logan, b'62, 69, Jan. 4 in Olathe. He had been a tax professional at Arthur Andersen, a partner in a Wendy's franchise and a director at Butler National Corp. He is survived by his wife, Judy; a daughter; three sons, one of whom is John, b'96; his mother; four brothers, two of whom are James, c'52, and Richard, b'54; a sister; and four grandchildren.

**Joseph Norton, c'64, l'67,** 66, Jan. 19 in Overland Park. He was a senior partner in the Olathe law firm of Norton, Hubbard, Ruzicka, Kreamer & Kincade. Surviving are his wife, Jane Bushfield Norton, d'64; a son, Joseph III, c'91, l'96; two daughters, one of whom is Sallie Norton Ben Attar, c'92; his father; a brother, Fielding Norton Jr., b'60, g'61; and seven grandchildren.

**Ernest Plante, PhD'60,** 75, July 5 in Bethesda, Md., where he was a retired physical chemist at the National Institute of Science and Technology. He is survived by his wife, Marie Hipp Plante, c'56; a daughter; two brothers; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

**Albert Robinson, PhD'64,** 86, Jan. 21 in Pocahontas, Ark., where he was a retired professor of biology at Williams Baptist College. His wife, Lila, and three cousins survive.

**Colleen Ryan, d'65, g'69,** 64, Feb. 2 in Coral Gables, Fla. She was a founder of Florida International University, where she was an associate professor of educational psychology. She is survived by her parents, Edwin and Charlotte Ryan; a brother, Michael, c'68, m'72; and a sister, Rebecca, c'74, g'87.

Janet Jewell Sims, d'65, g'67, 64, June 21, 2007, in Kansas City. She worked for many years in elementary education in Buhler and Hutchinson and was director of ESL education at Newman University. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. Two brothers, one of whom is Robert Jewell, '88; a daughter, Shera Sims, c'94, c'97; and her mother survive.

#### 1970s

Harry Darrow, f'73, 57, Dec. 30 in Pelham, N.Y., where he was an art director for the TV dramas "Law and Order: Criminal Intent" and "The Sopranos" as well as four Walt Disney feature films. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Edelstein; a son; two brothers, one of whom is Michael Silverglat, c'68, m'72; and a sister.

**James Merryfield, c'74,** 58, Aug. 19 in Seattle, where he was a computer programmer and analyst for Premera Blue Cross. He is survived by his wife, Lauren, a stepdaughter, his mother, a brother and two sisters.

#### **1980**s

#### Ashok, m'82, and Patricia Turner

**Bajaj, d'80,** Feb. 16 of injuries suffered in a plane crash near Wichita, where they lived. Ashok, a cardiologist, owned Bajaj Electrophysiology, and Trish was a teacher. In addition to their two sons, one of whom is Kevin, student, Ashok is survived by his parents; three brothers, one of whom is Ravi, m'83; and a sister, Anita Bajaj Newton, c'91, g'93. Trish's survivors include her mother, her stepfather and three sisters.

**Donna "Weedle" Montre Caviness, d'86,** 59, Feb. 12. She lived in Vinland and was a school librarian in Shawnee Mission. Survivors include her husband, Paul, a'79, a'83, g'85; a daughter, Laurel Babbit, '99; three sons, Kevin Babbit, c'92, l'94, Kelly Babbit, '94, and Will Babbit, '02; a sister; and three grandchildren.

**Tina Beate Hansen, b'86,** 46, Sept. 15 in Harstad, Norway, where she taught business administration and was a counselor at Harstad University. Survivors include her husband, Ola Karlsen, g'85, and three daughters.

**Dorothy Douglass Leidig, c'80,** 95, Jan. 20 in Lawrence, where she had lived since 1983. Earlier, she had lived in Lenora, where she served on the board of the Exchange Bank, and in Hays, where she was on the executive board of the High Plains Mental Health Center. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by a daughter, Marilyn Leidig Gridley, c'57, g'76, PhD'86; a sister; and two grandsons.

William "Benton" Lutsenhizer, c'87, 49, March 24 in Kansas City, where he worked in insurance and investments. He is survived by a daughter; two sons; his mother; his father, Del, m'64; two sisters, one of whom is Debra Lutsenhizer Buchfink, c'86; and a brother.

**Denise Hein Scott, g'86,** 52, Feb. 6 in Olathe, where she was a teacher. She is survived by her husband, Gary, d'72, g'76; two daughters, one of whom is Jessica Scott Holthaus, n'07; a son; her parents; seven sisters; and five brothers.

#### 2000s

Hayley Cochran McCarty, g'04, 32, March 1 in Houston. She lived in Geneva, Ill., and is survived by her husband, Brandy, a daughter, her parents, two sisters and her grandparents.

#### **The University Community**

**Jacob Enoch,** 80, Jan. 31 in Lawrence, where he was a retired KU professor of physics. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Hilda Cohen Enoch, '84; two daughters, Aviva, f'80, and Tamar, '79; a son, David, '85; and a grandson.

**Robert Findlay,** 75, Feb. 8 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor of theatre and film. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Carol von Tersch, f79; a daughter, Laura Findlay Hagen, '81; a son; three stepdaughters, one of whom is Dorinda von Tersch, a'96; a stepson, Joseph Kearns, '95; two brothers; three grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; and three stepgreat-grandchildren.

**Stanley Friesen, c'40, m'43,** Feb. 28 in Kansas City, where he was a professor emeritus of surgery and history of medicine at the KU Medical Center. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by two sons, Richard, c'66, and Robert, m'72; two daughters, one of whom is Margaret Friesen Scanlon, c'71; a sister, Joyce Friesen Marsh, d'52; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

James McLean, 33, Jan. 20 in Breckenridge, Colo. He was an assistant professor at the KU School of Medicine in Kansas City, where he was heading the expansion of the University's spine program. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. His parents, James and Jackie McLean, and a brother survive.

**John Sanders**, 73, Jan. 31 in Topeka, where he was a retired partner with the firm of Grant Thornton. He also was retired treasurer of the KU Alumni Association. Survivors include his wife, Erma, a daughter, a son and three granddaughters.

**George Swift, e'52, g'57, PhD'59,** 77, Jan. 20 in Overland Park. He lived in Lawrence, where he was a distinguished professor emeritus of chemical and petroleum engineering at KU. He also had served as associate dean of the graduate school in 1968. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Oliver Swift, c'53, g'57, PhD'73; two daughters, Lynn Swift Anderson, c'79, l'84, and Mary, c'82, g'92; a son, George II, c'85; and a granddaughter.



# Rock Chalk Review



After nearly a decade of collecting, Marjorie Swann and Bill Tsutsui have built an impressive trove of Kansas art—and a new appreciation of their adopted home. Below: "Tornado," a 1938 woodcut by Salina artist Herschel Logan.

### Landscape perspective New to Kansas, professors discovered that home is where the art is

ansas is boring. Or so thought Bill Tsutsui and Marjorie Swann when they moved to

Lawrence in 1993 to join the KU faculty.

Tsutsui, chairman and professor of history and director of KU's Confucius Institute, was born in New York City and reared in Texas. Swann, associate professor of English, grew up on a Canadian island in the middle of Lake Huron. They had to consult a road atlas to locate Lawrence, and when they arrived they were flummoxed.

"I grew up surrounded by water and rocks and trees, a rugged wilderness landscape," Swann says. "I had no way of reading Kansas."

"It was a shock," Tsutsui says.

"We spent a lot of time driving, trying to get away. Denver. Chicago. Someplace that didn't look like this."

Tsutsui says they were like a lot of new faculty he hires in the history department. "They can't imagine they'll stay at KU more than a couple of years before Yale or Stanford calls. Then they find Kansas grows on them; it's a great place to live."

As Kansas grew on Tsutsui and Swann, they needed something to help them connect with the state.

"We realized art was the thing that really made us feel more like Kansans, made us appreciate the landscape, appreciate the history of this place," Tsutsui says. "We were really struck to see Kansas art that made the landscape we found so boring look interesting, with some emotion and beauty to it."

The couple began collecting in 1999, buying a woodcut by Herschel Logan from a Lawrence gallery. They've since amassed some 200 paintings, 1,300 prints and photographs, and hundreds of pieces of pottery and craftware by Kansas artists. Parts of their collection have been featured in an exhibition at the Mariana Kistler Beach Museum of Art in Manhattan last summer and at the Lawrence Arts Center this spring.

"For a private collection, I think Marjorie and



Nerenhal Chogan

Bill have very quickly caught on and really compiled a very interesting collection," says Rick Mitchell, f'72, gallery director at the Lawrence Arts Center. "They found things they liked, that spoke to their hearts, but at the same time there's a sense that they want this to be complete. They have a real collector's mentality."

These days Tsutsui and Swann still spend a lot of time driving, but now their destinations are estate sales, flea markets and galleries within the state's borders. They keep a Kansas Guidebook for *Explorers* handy and tally a long list of favorite road cafes. The travels add to their knowledge of Kansas in ways that have direct benefits in the classroom.

"When I have students from outside the Kansas City metroplex, and they say, 'I grew up in a teeny-tiny town called Spearville outside of Dodge City,' I know where Spearville is," Swann says. "That helps me connect. I literally have some sense of where they're coming from."

Not only has collecting taught them to appreciate the subtle beauty in the state's landscape, but it also has fired their interest in Kansas history. Together they've written scholarly essays on the history of art in Kansas and the Great Plains, and Tsutsui was president of the Kansas State Historical Society.

The couple say the thrill of the chase is a chief part of collecting's allure, and they are resourceful in tracking down art: Their collection includes a painting once rescued from a trash can in an Oklahoma City High School and singed prints that survived a Wichita art studio fire. They found a Frank Olin Marvin etching at a Lawrence yard sale, and on eBay scored a vase, circa 1915, by Maria Benson, KU's first pottery teacher. The bright orange piece, made from clay dug on Mount

Oread, shipped from Portland, Ore. Now home again on the Hill, the vase enjoys pride of place on their living room mantel

"For us it really seems appropriate to bring some of these beautiful pieces back to Kansas," Tsutsui says. "These things have such a strong connection to Kansas and the land here, it seems right that they should come back to stay in Lawrence, where they can hopefully be valued as part of our heritage."

-Steven Hill

## OREAD READER That thing of theirs How the mob made Kansas City

rganized crime is as much a part of the Kansas City story as barbecue, jazz and cattle drives, Frank Hayde argues, but the mafia's role in the city's history has been largely overlooked outside the realm of Hollywood gangster movies.

Hayde sets out to correct that oversight in The Mafia and the Machine: The Story of the Kansas City Mob.

The book is an eye-opening history lesson for anyone unschooled in the city's former life as the most wide-open town in the country. For long before Vegas emerged as a gambling mecca, K.C. was America's sin city, its streets the scene of shootouts, kidnappings and gangland executions, its nightclubs places where gambling and prostitution flourished with the approval of the city's political elite.

While Hayde, c'93, describes how the mob presence in Kansas City is in many ways typical of organized crime across the country, he also believes that La Cosa *Nostra* (what the mob's Sicilian founders called "this thing of ours") was more uniquely entwined with politics in Kansas City than anywhere else. He chronicles the mob's role in the worldfamous Pendergast machine, detailing the many ways that mafia bosses like Johnny Lazia, "the Al Capone of Kansas City," horned in on the extensive political power of Tom Pendergast.

Describing Lazia as the embodiment of the "political moxie and street muscle" that set the Kansas City mob apart, Hayde describes how the mafia boss-

who was renowned for holding court with favorseekers on a

## In fine feather

Veteran birders, neophytes who rarely venture far from their backyards and anyone else with an interest in Kansas birds will equally adore the hot new title from University Press of Kansas, The Guide to Kansas Birds and Birding Hot Spots, by Sedgwick County authors and naturalists Bob Gress and Pete Janzen.

The book features stunning photographs of 295 species likely to



be encountered in Kansas. It is beautifully organized, grouping birds by appearance, habitat or behavior (a terrific aid for birding beginners), and includes a concise summary of the state's best birding locations.

This sumptuous and affordable (\$19.95) field guide is available in bookstores across the state; for more information, see kansaspress.ku.edu.~

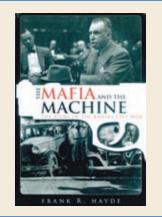
-Chris Lazzarino

The Guide to KANSAS BIRD and Birding Hot Spots



Foreword by KENN KAUFMAN

# Rock Chalk Review



Machine:The Story of the Kansas City Mob by Frank R. Hayde Barricade Books \$22

The Mafia and the

certain downtown street corner—kidnapped and pistol-whipped several Pendergast supporters during a 1928 bond election, then delivered even more votes than the Pendergast loyalists had promised.

"By boldly challenging Boss Tom and then immediately doing him a favor," Hayde writes, "Lazia had effectively beat [the machine] and joined them at the same time."

During organized crime's heyday, mob control of the city's government extended to the police department and beyond. Police officers went to prison to keep mobsters out of jail, and gangsters escaped prison time with pardons from the Missouri governor (a Pendergast protégé) and President Franklin Roosevelt. After the Union Station Massacre in 1933, in which four law enforcement officers were killed when the mafia botched an attempt to free prisoner Frank Nash, the Kansas City police refused to investigate the brutal public shootout and the city's Police Director was photographed soon after playing golf with a wanted bank robber. Mob rule was brazen: On election day 1934, shotgun-wielding enforcers roamed city streets to intimidate voters, and four members of a citizens reform group were killed when gangsters shot up their headquarters. When a grand jury challenged the mob's attempt to throw a 1946 election, then family head Charles Binaggio sent a crew to the courthouse to blow a safe and steal the impounded ballots. That the safe was one floor beneath the sheriff's office only emphasized the

audacity of mafia rule.

Hayde is a career law enforcement officer who works as a park ranger in Colorado. The native Kansas Citian lays out his story objectively, like a lawyer presenting a case, and even evinces some grudging admiration for the immigrant pluck and Italian family values behind the mob's violent exterior. But *The Mafia and the Machine* is, ultimately, the

story of good triumphing over evil. Although mafia violence would scar Kansas City for many years, most notably during an organized-crime war for control of River Quay entertainment district in the 1970s, the successful investigations and prosecutions of the Organized Crime Strike Force in the 1980s severely weakened what had once been one of the most powerful crime families in America. Hayde's long look back is not a nostalgia trip, but a harrowing reminder of the corrupting influence of absolute power.

–Steven Hill

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## **Eye for detail** Film designer shows his work on Coens' best-picture winner

rospects for film-industry employment are often portrayed as being so dicey that they're best left in the domain of dreams. But during his April visit to campus, New York-based film designer Gregory Hill offered theatre, film and design students rare words of encouragement.

"There are certain expertises in filmmaking that, when I was your age, were never considered as possible occupations," Hill told his audience April 25 in Murphy Hall's Crafton-Preyer Theatre. "Now there's a lot of them, and they're growing, such as graphic design, set illustrations and storyboarding. There's more and more of it, and there's even more and more of it in New York."

Hill, f'71, was among the more than 100 alumni of University Theatre and the department of theatre and film who returned April 24-27 for the fifth "Alums Come Home." The busy reunion included a production by University Theatre of "The Shape of Things," by Neil LaBute, g'89; student script readings for industry professionals; workshops, panel discussions and demonstrations of theatrical crafts; and a Friends of the Theatre auction, which raised \$65,000 for University Theatre tickets for KU and Haskell Indian Nations University students.

It was announced during the auction that the ticket fund, established by retired vice chancellor David Ambler and his wife, Mary Kate, will be named for Professor Jack Wright.

"Alums Come Home" was itself part of the yearlong celebration of Murphy Hall's 50th anniversary. Other events in the "Festival of the Arts" celebration included KU Opera's world premiere of an opera based on "Picnic," by William Inge, c'35, with music by Assistant Professor Forrest Pierce and libretto by Associate Professor Tim Ocel; a recital by voice professor and opera singer Joyce Malicky Castle, f'61; performances by University Dance Company, featuring choreographers Karole Armitage and Bill



Hill



Evans; KU Jazz Ensemble I's presentation of "My Fair Lady"; and performances by KU Symphony Orchestra, KU Wind Ensemble, Faculty Chamber Ensemble and the KU Alumni Choir.

During his visit, Hill, of Montclair, N.J., met with graphic design students in the School of Fine Arts, reviewed portfolios by scenography graduate students, and gave a public presentation about his graphic design work on "No Country for Old Men," the Coen brothers' recent winner of four Academy Awards, including Best Picture

Hill offered his audience an insider's look at the design process, revealing his work on the film's foundational color palette ("Sky, land and blood," he said, as examples were presented on a large screen hanging above the Crafton-Preyer stage); set and prop designs; costume sketches, and tiny, precise details that are trademarks for filmmakers Joel and Ethan Coen.

For instance, Hill displayed his authentic reproduction of a late-1970s Southwestern Bell phone bill. Not only were the bill's charges accurate for the era, the phone numbers listed on the bill were not the 555 extensions typically used in movies; instead, the Coens activated Texas accounts just so real phone numbers could be shown.

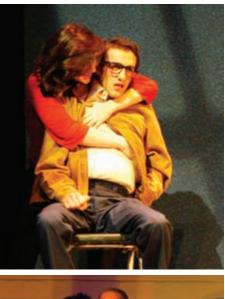
"Key fobs, soap, the map of hotel rooms that Moss and Chigurh check out ... when you are asked to do stuff like this for a film, you figure no one's going

Murphy Hall's 50th anniversary was celebrated in grand style by University Theatre and the School of Fine Arts. During a fundraiser auction (above left), Friends of the Theatre announced its student-ticket fund would be named for Professor Jack Wright (wearing tie); Spencer Holdren, Topeka senior, and Laura Zabel, c'97, of Minneapolis, Minn., chatted during the theatre reunion's "speed networking" sessions (above right), which paired current theatre students with alumni for brief career chats; and two of the most memorable plays written by KU alumni were presented:"The Shape of Things" (right), by Neil LaBute, and William Inge's "Picnic" (below right), here staged by KU Opera with music and libretto by KU faculty members.

to see it," Hill said. "In this case, you're basically going to see everything. That's the way the Coens are. If you aren't going to see it, they don't ask for it."

One of the key sets Hill designed was the Eagle Pass border crossing. It was constructed-based on his sketches. diagrams and elevations-on a highway/railroad overpass in Las Vegas, N.M. (Incidentally, one of the three young men who confront Moss at that border crossing was played by University Theatre alumnus Josh Meyer, c'01.)

"I draw environments that people can interact with: that comes from the theatre training I had here," Hill said. "It's creative in a different way from theatre.





In theatre, you start with a blank stage and you are pretty much crafting a world on your own.

"That doesn't happen too often on a film, which has to be more collaborative. It's just the nuts and bolts of the way a film is made. But I also think I've contributed quite a bit to the film."

-Chris Lazzarino



# Oread Encore by CHRIS LAZZARINO



downtown hosted the hot

action in '08 (above left).

**Back in the day ...** Twenty years later, we remember historic, miraculous 1988

fter watching KU come close in recent years, tradition-minded Jayhawks took sweet satisfaction when their third NCAA title finally arrived on a cherished anniversary. Herewith, a compilation of memories from another championship:

Party: In 1988, 30,000 crushed onto Jayhawk Boulevard immediately after KU captured the NCAA title by beating Oklahoma in Kansas City. This year the downtown bar and restaurant district, a more happening scene than in '88, was the fans' focus.

"We were pleased with fans' behavior, on campus and off," says Capt. Schuyler Bailey of the KU Public Safety Office. "They had fun. They enjoyed themselves. That's where it stopped."

Names: Danny Manning, Chris Piper, Milt Newton, Kevin Pritchard, Mike Maddox, Jeff Gueldner, Scooter Barry, Keith Harris, Lincoln Minor, Clint Normore, Marvin Mattox, Archie Marshall. Ryan Gray, the 15-year-old tower of inspiration. "Driver Jimmy," the Detroit busman who announced, "I'm Jimmy Dunlap, and I'll be your driver until we win this thing."

Opponents: The Jayhawks had earlier lost five games, including three at home, to the teams they beat in the tourney's final three games—KSU, Duke and OU.

Context: From 1957, when KU lost the title game to North Carolina, until Larry Brown's arrival in fall 1983, KU had won eight NCAA Tournament games; Brown's teams matched that in his four seasons leading up to 1988. And while we fondly remember wins over Kansas State and Oklahoma, the most satisfying might have been the dispatching of Duke, which had ousted a beloved KU squad in '86.

"I wouldn't want to take away from any of the teams," Brown told the Lawrence Journal-World in February, during his title team's 20-year reunion, "but our '86 team was pretty darn good. We didn't win it, and that was as good a team as I've ever seen in college."



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