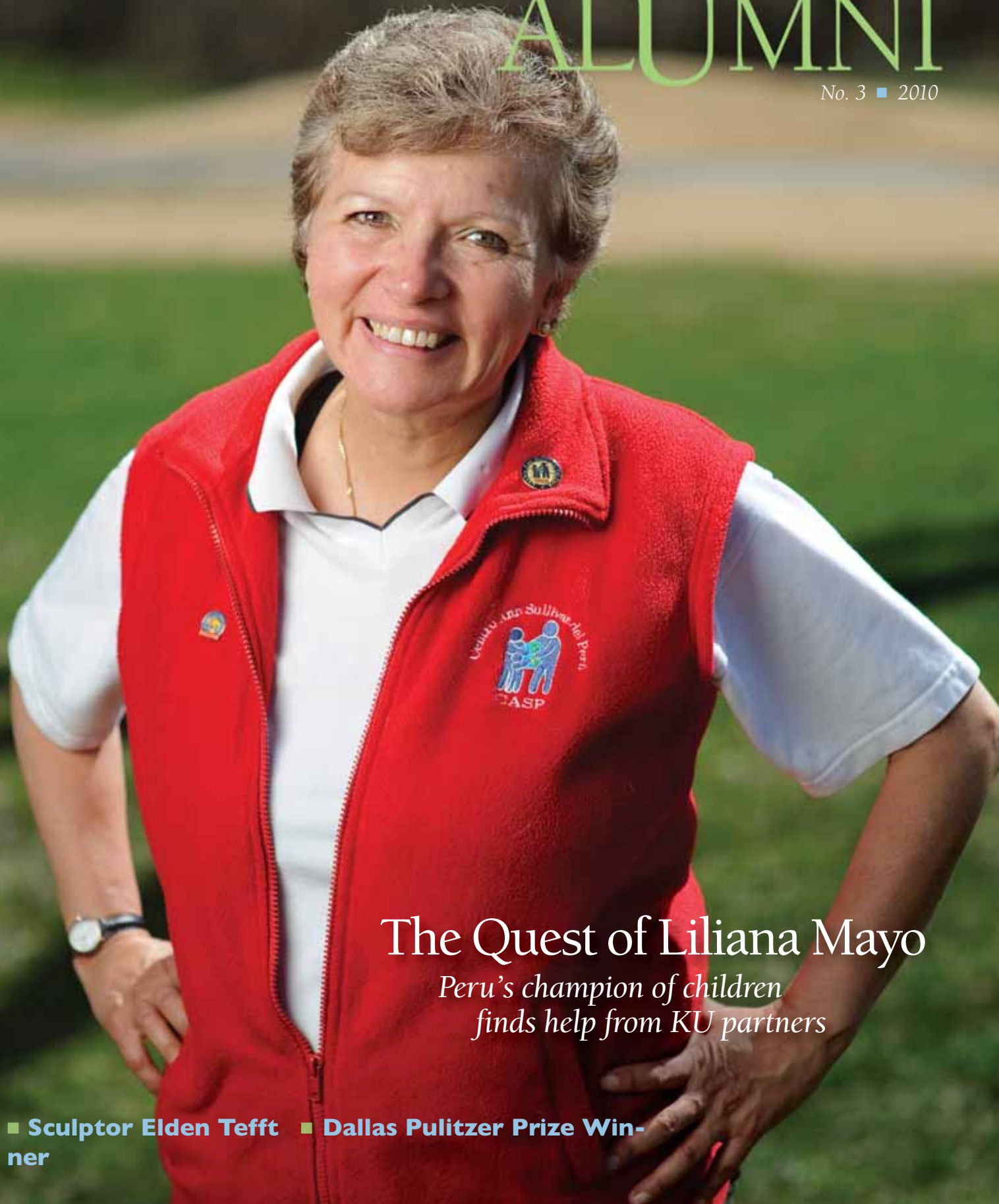


# KANSAS ALUMNI

No. 3 ■ 2010



## The Quest of Liliana Mayo

*Peru's champion of children  
finds help from KU partners*

■ Sculptor Elden Tefft ■ Dallas Pulitzer Prize Winner



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Established in 1902 as *The Graduate Magazine*



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*Inspired by her parents' example, Liliana Mayo started a school for Peruvian children with autism, Down syndrome and other developmental issues. With the help of KU, she built the Centro Ann Sullivan del Peru into a model of progressive special education—in the process teaching her mentors on Mount Oread a thing or two.*

BY STEVEN HILL

*Cover photograph by Steve Puppe*

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*Elden Tefft created many of KU's most iconic images. At 90, the sculptor is still at work in his Lawrence studio, forging new works in bronze.*

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*For journalists, a Pulitzer is usually the pinnacle of success. For Colleen McCain Nelson, one prize has proven even more precious.*

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO



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# Lift the Chorus

## Share your memories

While our gorgeous campus and thrilling basketball teams linger large in Jayhawk memories, the deeper story of a KU education invariably revolves around an enchanting, life-changing interaction with a faculty member or fellow student. Every memory is a unique affirmation of the KU experience. Would you care to share yours?

We are asking readers to submit short narratives (about 300 to 500 words) of specific academic memories, to be considered for a possible magazine or online feature.

E-mail submissions to [kualumni@kualumni.org](mailto:kualumni@kualumni.org) or mail to Kansas Alumni, 1266 Oread Ave., Lawrence KS 66045. Note "Moments in Time" in the subject line or on the envelope.  
—The Editors

## Prints of darkness

I wanted to let you know that I was very impressed with Chris Lazzarino's article on the exhibition of World War I graphics at the Spencer [“Into the Void,” issue No. 2]. It inspired me to visit the exhibition with my son.

The exhibition was more than promised, even by the article. First, it was much larger than expected. But, more importantly, the quality of what I saw was amazing.

De Groux's works were at once impressive and deeply disturbing. Some were reminiscent of Albrecht Dürer's darker works such as “The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse,” “The Knight,” “Death and the Devil,” and “Melencolia.”

Congratulations to Steve Goddard

and the Spencer for assembling this wonderful exhibition, and to Chris Lazzarino and *Kansas Alumni* magazine for reporting so well on it, and especially in a timely manner so as to encourage attendance.

Well done!

Jim Morrison, c'76, g'00  
Lawrence

## Names errant

I was fascinated by “Into the Void” in the No. 2, 2010, issue of *Kansas Alumni*. On page 25, there is a print by Henry de Groux, which is identified as “Lacrymogène” (“Tear Gas”).

It is a print of five men, four of whom are standing and one sitting. The sitting man appears to be playing a guitar and the man above him appears to be holding an accordion-like instrument emblazoned with a cross and sporting a cross on his right shoulder.

All of the men are wearing gas masks and seem to be dressed in some sort of protective clothing and gear, as if wearing a knight's armor.

As a French literature major, I knew that lacrymogène means anything that makes one cry, including onions, and that “gaz lacrymogène” were the words for “tear gas.” That error prompted me to look more carefully at the print. At the bottom left side of the print, the following words are written: “Chevaliers errants,” which translates as “Knights Errant.” The title “Knights Errant” makes far more sense for this print than “Tear Gas.”

One can see in the jaunty attitudes of the five men hints of an adventurous, devil-may-care attitude, to go with their protective shields and their ability to bring music to the

battlefield while dressed to defend themselves from what was more likely to be a chlorine, phosgene or mustard gas attack than a tear gas attack.

Ironical as it may be, these men are truly knights in shining armor. So, I'm curious how this print came to be known or identified as “Tear Gas” instead of “Knights errant.”

Joel Green, c'75  
Seattle

Spencer Museum of Art curator Stephen Goddard responds: I'm delighted that Mr. Green took the time to look and think about these matters and to share such thoughtful ideas. The short answer is that we have three variant proof impressions of different states of the print, all of which are on exhibit in “Machine in a Void.”

Each of these proof impressions not only looks very different, but has a different hand-written title as well. We apparently gave [Kansas Alumni] a photograph of one state with the title from another state. So while it is an error, we do have a slightly different version of the same composition with the title “Lacrymogène”—and a third, titled “Soldats Masqués”—so three variant impressions from the same metal plate were titled (here translated into English) “Tear-Causing” (or, taking liberties, “Tear Gas”), “Knights Errant,” and “Masked Soldiers.”

De Groux's etching style was very rapid and sometimes difficult to read. I believe that the soldier whose hands are in a position resembling that of a guitar player is actually holding (adjusting?) the hose that

descends from his gas mask. The figure holding what looks like an accordion is probably holding a box filter for his gas mask. These were bulky filters that were worn on the back or with a shoulder strap, with a breathing hose (also visible in the print) that was fitted to the mask itself.



May 2010

## KANSAS ALUMNI

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*Your opinion  
counts!*

**Kansas Alumni** welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. E-mail responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, [kualumni@kualumni.org](mailto:kualumni@kualumni.org). Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. If we print your letter, we'll send you a **free** KU sports cap!



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### GLORIOUS TO VIEW

*Scene on campus*

## rock chalk flock



# Jayhawk Generations

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," KU Alumni Association's annual online salute to crimson-and-blue heritage.

### To be included, the student must:

- be a freshman in fall 2010
- 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 resumé and high school name. Please do not send student photographs for second-generation Jayhawks.

### Third Generations and beyond

Mail in your son or daughter's resumé, 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 online in September 2010.



### Deadline for all materials is July 16.

Mail materials to Jayhawk Generations, KU Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169.

### Questions?

Contact Whitney Eriksen  
at 800-584-2957 or  
weriksen@kualumni.org.



ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION  
The University of Kansas

[www.kualumni.org](http://www.kualumni.org)



BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

# First Word



STEVE PUPPE



Inaugurations are rare, cherished occasions, especially at our university, where only 17 chancellors have led KU since its founding 145 years ago. So April 11, the inauguration of Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, was a day to stand on ceremony: academic regalia, majestic music, elegant speeches, rows of dignitaries on stage.

For those not schooled in the uncanny connections between the universities of Kansas and North Carolina, the sight of a pale blue robe behind the lectern might have been disconcerting. But the wearer of the robe, James Moeser, was right where he belonged.

Moeser retired as UNC's chancellor in 2008 after leading the university for eight years. But his career began at KU, where he started teaching on the music faculty in 1966 and became professor and dean of fine arts. He left Mount Oread in 1986.

During the search for KU's 17th chan-

cellor, Moeser suggested to Gray-Little that she consider becoming a candidate. Gray-Little, then UNC provost and a 30-year veteran in Chapel Hill, was not looking to leave her home state. Moeser nonetheless advised his trusted colleague that she and KU would be a good fit. So, on April 11, he returned to Lawrence to honor Gray-Little—and savor a bit of justifiable credit. He told the Lied Center audience that he felt a little like “the father of the bride.”

Chancellor Gray-Little liked the metaphor. “One of my friends told me that the inauguration will be like a wedding,” she said as she began her momentous speech. “Everyone will be dressed up. There will be music and flowers, and people will process down the aisle before the ceremony.

“In that case, *I do*.”

After pausing briefly for the laughter and elated applause, Gray-Little

declared her vows as chancellor.

Student recruitment and retention top her list. “Too many of our students simply do not graduate,” she said. “That costs them time, money and esteem. It costs their families. And it costs us, as a university, state and society.”

To improve retention, Gray-Little said, KU must review its general education requirements and change them to enhance learning and preserve academic rigor.

Better retention starts with more successful student recruitment, especially close to home, she added. “There is still a lingering feeling in much of Kansas that KU does not do all it can to persuade students who are eager for a college education that we want them here. ... People throughout Kansas tell me KU is doing a better job of being visible around the state, now we need to match that energy with new ambitions for recruitment.”

The chancellor also wants to continue increasing research productivity, and find more comprehensive ways to measure the impact of research. These in turn will help KU climb in prominence.

“If we make the changes to our academic programs that will lead to greater student success, then KU will expand the horizons of its students, its state and the world,” she said. “We will give our students the knowledge they need to succeed in their careers and in their lives.

“We will deliver the economic and societal benefits that come from a world-class research university. And we will ensure that Kansas is recognized around the world for its commitment to excellence in higher education.”

The chancellor's bold, firm declarations came as no surprise to her former boss in Chapel Hill. Moeser aptly summed up his friend in Jayhawk terms. “Your chancellor is a rock,” he said.

“Rock Chalk.”



# On the Boulevard

SUSAN YOUNGER (2)



■ Flags bearing the name, age and hometown of each American killed in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars covered the lawn of Stauffer-Flint Hall in April. The memorial to the nearly 5,500 dead was organized by the KU student organization Young Americans For Liberty and the Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice.

## ■ Exhibitions

“Textures of Interpretation: Meaning and Materiality in Global Contemporary Art,” Spencer Museum of Art, through June 6

“It Starts with Art!” Spencer Museum of Art, through June 30

“Mobile Landscape: Kim Jongku,” Spencer Museum of Art, through July 25

“Beaded Heritage,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Aug. 1

“Reviving the Past: Antiquity & Antiquarianism in East Asian Art,” Spencer Museum of Art, through 2010

## ■ University Theatre

### JUNE

**25-27, July 1-3** “Sister Cities,” written by Collette Freedman, directed by Nicole Hodges Persley

### JULY

**16-18, 22-24** “Shiloh Rules,” written by Doris Baizley, directed by Mechele Leon

## ■ Lied Center 2010-'11

### AUGUST

**20** Jeffrey Broussard and the Creole Cowboys, free outdoor concert

### SEPTEMBER

**30** Neil Berg’s 100 Years of Broadway

### OCTOBER

**2** Punch Brothers featuring Chris Thile

**3** Adam Gyorgy

**8** Bayanihan Philippine National Folk Dance Company

**9** Turtle Island Quartet

**21** “Fiddler on the Roof”

**22** Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

**27** “Spring Awakening”

### NOVEMBER

**5** Armitage Gone! Dance

**12** Peter Goodchild’s “The Real Dr. Strangelove”

**13** Interpreti Veneziani

### DECEMBER

**7** “Legally Blonde The Musical”

**11** Jim Brickman’s 15th Anniversary Holiday Concert

### FEBRUARY

**8** Black Violin

**15** Alexander String Quartet

**19** William Inge’s “Bus Stop”

**24** The Spencers: Theatre of Illusion

### MARCH

**6** Kansas City Symphony

**9** An Evening with Garrison Keillor

**13** “Carnival of the Animals” and “Peter and the Wolf”

### APRIL

**8** Alpin Hong

**14** Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Del McCoury Band



## ■ Academic calendar

### JUNE

- 8 Summer classes begin

### JULY

- 30 Summer classes end

### AUGUST

- 19 Fall classes begin

## ■ Special events

### JUNE

- 14, 16, 18 KU Natural History Museum Science Day Camps, [www.nhm.ku.edu/Hdocs/Day-Camps.html](http://www.nhm.ku.edu/Hdocs/Day-Camps.html)

## ■ Jayhawk Generation picnics

### JULY

- 8 Wellington
- 11 Kingman
- 11 Manhattan
- 11 McPherson
- 11 Pittsburg
- 12 Colby
- 12 Dodge City
- 12 Fort Scott
- 12 Leavenworth
- 12 Topeka
- 13 Emporia
- 13 Great Bend
- 13 Garden City
- 13 Hutchinson
- 13 Wichita
- 14 Lawrence
- 14 Hays
- 14 Hugoton
- 14 Salina
- 14 St. Joseph, Mo.
- 17 Denver
- 24 St. Louis
- 24 Chicago



■ Samuel Richardson, Wichita junior in physics, and William Stewart-Starks, f'09, placed the flags: red for Afghanistan, yellow for Iraq. The display took more than four hours to set up.

- 29 Houston
- 31 Austin

### AUGUST

- 1 Washington, D.C.
- 1 Dallas

## ■ Alumni events

### MAY

- 22 San Francisco: Bay Area wine tour
- 24 Dallas: Jayhawk Lone Star Classic golf tournament

### JUNE

- 4 Smoky Hill Chapter golf tournament and pig roast
- 6 Lawrence Chapter wine tasting
- 7 Kansas City: Legends of KU golf tournament
- 11 Tri-State Chapter golf tournament and alumni dinner
- 12 Great Plains Chapter Jayhawk golf festival and dinner
- 13 Dallas: "Wicked" musical
- 16 New York: KU night on Broadway, "American Idiot"
- 19 Kansas City: KU Day at Barnes & Noble on the Plaza
- 19 Salina Steak Out

- 21 Castle Pines North, Colo.: Front Range golf tournament
- 22 Washington, D.C.: KU Night with the Washington Nationals
- 25 Southwest Kansas Jayhawk Golf Classic
- 25 Miami: Boat cruise
- 26 Jacksonville, Fla.: KU Night with the Suns
- 27 East Kansas Chapter wine tasting
- 27 Chicago: Day at the Track
- 28 St. Louis golf tournament

### JULY

- 11 Chicago: KU Day with the White Sox
- 16 Colorado Springs: Night at the Zoo
- 25 Indianapolis Chapter family picnic
- 30 New York: Night at the Met
- 31 San Antonio Chapter beer tasting

For more information about watch parties and other Association events, call 800-584-2957 or see the Association's Web site at [www.kualumni.org](http://www.kualumni.org).

Lied Center .....	864-ARTS
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
Athletics .....	1-800-34-HAWKS
Booth Hall of Athletics .....	864-7050
Dole Institute of Politics .....	864-4900



# Jayhawk Walk

STEVE PUPPE



## Strike up the band

Every year the Homecoming parade meanders past Fraser Hall, named for the Scotsman John Fraser, the University's second chancellor, and it's high time the annual Jayhawk jamboree include a bagpipe band.

So argues bagpiper Jim Williamson.

A grant writer for Family Service & Guidance Center in Topeka and a freelance sportswriter for Jayhawk Illustrated magazine, Williamson is already in Kansas Territorial Pipes and Drums, but he'd rather a Jayhawk Boulevard band be filled only with KU alumni, friends and supporters. Hence the creation of the Marching Scothawks pipe and drum corps.

"It's more meaningful, a neat way to get together and show University pride," he says, adding that a bagpipe band is perfect for any parade: "You can't be in a bad mood when you hear bagpipes. They get a party going."

Williamson, j'86, g'90, says the Marching Scothawks will play traditional numbers any bagpiper would know, so there won't much—or any—practice, and benefits could be bountiful.

"The way I see it, we'll play the parade, then we'll march down toward the stadium and walk the circuits through all tailgate parties," Williamson says. "Tips would be fine, but beer would be better."

Interested musicians can learn more at the Marching Scothawks Facebook page, or by e-mailing Williamson at phogfan86@yahoo.com. Note the one-gig-a-year band's primary eligibility requirement: Be available for Homecoming, which this year is Oct. 23 vs. Texas A&M.

## Colbert for President

Whereas Tom Cox, the longest-sitting senator in the Student Senate, has attended many a boring meeting in six years, and

Whereas the Shawnee grad student in strategic communications is a loyal Jayhawk desiring more national attention for KU,

Therefore he resolved to name popular Comedy Central star Stephen Colbert honorary student body president for life.

Cox's resolution passed in February, 54-9. It extolls Colbert for "tackling the tough issues, defending America, contribut-

■ Jim Williamson and his 13-year-old son, Jack, are founding members of the Marching Scothawks.

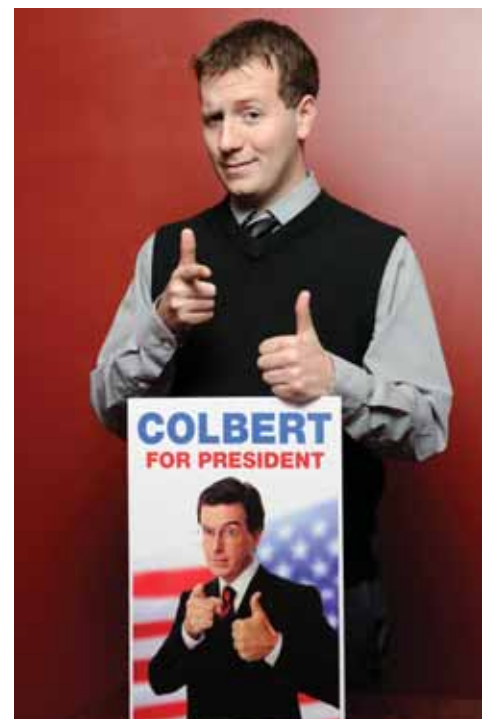
ing to the English language, embodying the spirit of Captain America, furthering the American dream, and protecting the bald eagle." The catch: Colbert must come to campus to accept his charge.

"We take ourselves far too seriously sometimes, and I thought this would be a fun thing to do," says Cox, c'08. "But I also wanted to reach out to students, because senate's biggest problem is most students don't know about us."

Mission accomplished. E-mails and text messages opposing the move allowed Cox to make a point. "I asked what they knew about Student Senate before, and most said, 'Nothing.' Now they've learned something, interacted with us, taken a stand. That was my goal."

Cox sent a plaque and a copy of the resolution to the "Colbert Report" host, but got no response. What did he learn?

"I can tell you how much a plaque costs and that Stephen Colbert is really, really hard to get hold of."



STEVE PUPPE



## O' give Google a home where the search engines roam

**L**awrence native Brian McClendon, e'86, co-creator of Google Earth and vice president of engineering for Google's geo products, on April 1 announced in an online status update, "Time to move back to Lawrence ... my company is apparently relocating near there."

McClendon linked to a Google blog, where the Internet communications giant announced that for one day it would rename itself "Topeka," in honor of Kansas' capital city, which already had done the reverse, calling itself "Google."

"We didn't reach this decision lightly," wrote Eric Schmidt, chairman and chief executive officer of Google ... err, Topeka Inc. "After all, we had a fair amount of brand equity tied up in our old name."

Schmidt highlighted new usages necessitated by the name change, including, "Before a blind date I did a Topeka search on him." (Not OK: "Before our blind date I topeka'd him.")

Unfortunately for McClendon's many local friends who would have delighted in his and his multibillion-dollar company's move to Kansas, the all-in-good-fun April Fools' prank was a "one-shot deal that will have no bearing on which municipalities are chosen to participate in our experimental ultra-high-speed broadband project, to

## Mount Oread's life lessons

When he announced March 29 that he'd enter the NBA draft, junior center Cole Aldrich thanked coach Bill Self and assistant coach Danny Manning, c'92, for helping him reach his lucrative lot as a professional basketball player.

"Coach will definitely attest to this: I couldn't walk and chew gum up on Jayhawk Boulevard freshman year," Aldrich said. "I mean, I was uncoordinated. I was *not* that athletic."

Sensitive to rules limiting athletics activities to 20 hours a week, Self quickly added, "I hope the NCAA doesn't frown on the fact that we taught him to walk and chew gum at the same time. I hope that doesn't go against our 20 hours."



## KU Info remains in the know

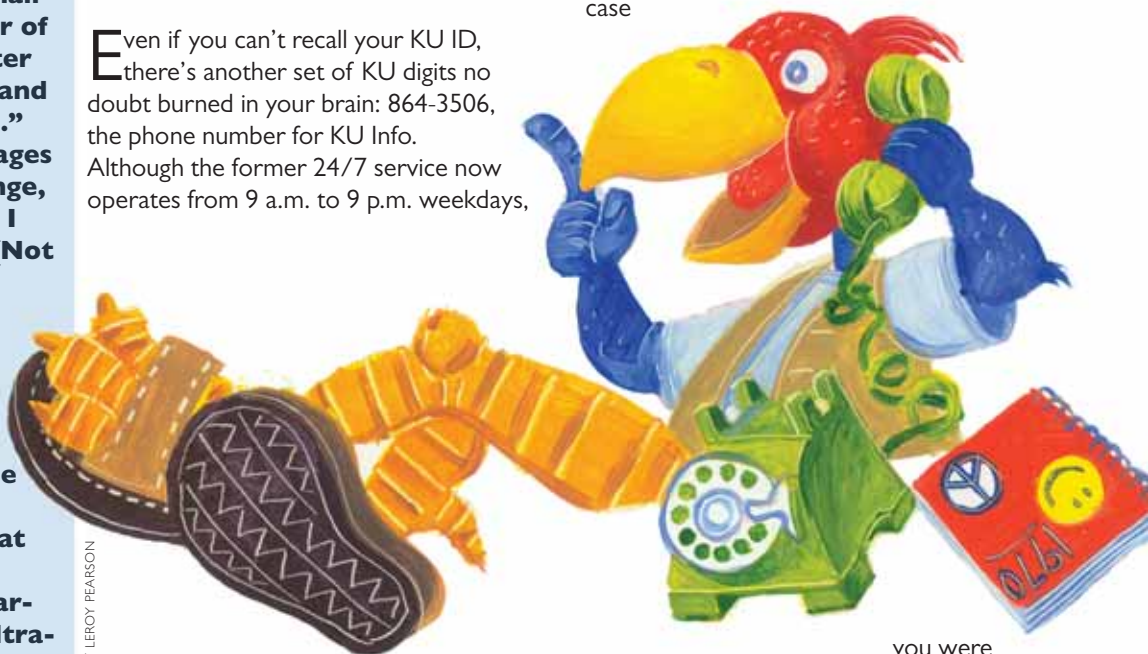
**E**ven if you can't recall your KU ID, there's another set of KU digits no doubt burned in your brain: 864-3506, the phone number for KU Info. Although the former 24/7 service now operates from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays,

the number thankfully remains the same.

Born in April 1970 to quell rumors amid campus violence, KU Info celebrated midlife with a party to promote its expanded services. Students still answer the phone, but they also field questions face to face at booths on Jayhawk Boulevard and in the Kansas Union. They respond to e-mail, text messages, Facebook and Twitter, and they manage a searchable Internet database, created in part from the thousands of handwritten or typed index cards that KU Info had collected through the years.

Director Curtis Marsh, j'92, reports that his team receives 300 inquiries daily—mostly the old-fashioned way. "Despite the technology available, the vast majority of students prefer to call us or walk up and ask a question," he says.

For those who fear the questions are mostly esoteric, Marsh counters that 93 percent relate to essential KU academic or operational matters. And even some of the remaining 7 percent tilt toward the Hill. An example: How many Allen Field Houses does it take to fill the world's oceans? 6.4 trillion. Just in case



wondering.

you were





# Hilltopics

BY STEVEN HILL

CHUCK FRANCE, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS



■ Jeffrey Vitter will become the University's new provost and executive vice chancellor this summer, part of big changes near the top of KU's organizational chart.

## Search and deploy

*Committees tap new provost and two new deans to fill campus leadership roles*

National searches for three key administrative posts on the Lawrence campus concluded this spring, and the people chosen to fill the jobs will start their new roles July 1.

Jeffrey Vitter, professor of computer science and former provost at Texas A&M University, is KU's new provost and executive vice chancellor. His arrival will allow Danny Anderson, who has served as interim provost since 2009, to begin his new job as dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Robert Walzel, director of the School of Music at the University of Utah, will become the first dean of KU's newly formed School of Music.

Vitter built his academic career at four public and private universities. In announcing his hiring in March, Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little noted his "extensive academic and administrative experience, from faculty member at Brown to department chair at Duke, to dean at Purdue and provost at Texas A&M."

Though a New Orleans native and a graduate of Notre Dame, Stanford and Duke, Vitter's move to Kansas is a homecoming of sorts. His wife, Sharon Weaver Vitter, p'78, is a Kansan and a Jayhawk.

"Kansas is Sharon's home and we have spent quite a bit of time here" on the Weaver family farm in Miami County, Vitter says. "What comes across loud and clear is the genuineness of the people here and the pride they have in the state, not to mention the pride the people of KU have in the University."

As A&M provost, Vitter led development of the university's academic master plan.

"I think that the interactions I went through were very stimulating. It reaffirmed the importance of building synergies and the importance of communication and transparency, which helped me be a better provost and build connections with people on campus."

Vitter was a teacher and administrator at Brown from 1980 to 1993. From 1993 to 2002 he was at Duke, where he held a distinguished professorship in computer science and chaired the computer science department. He was dean of the college of science at Purdue, where he oversaw faculty growth and led the development of two strategic plans and a new curriculum, from 2002 to 2008. He joined Texas A&M in 2008.

Vitter has more than 280 scholarly publications and is a Guggenheim Fellow and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. At KU, he will hold the rank of professor in the department of electrical engineering and computer science.

Anderson will succeed Joseph Steinmetz as dean of the College, KU's largest academic unit. Greg Simpson, professor and chair of psychology, is the interim dean.

Anderson joined the faculty as assistant professor of Spanish in 1988 and became chair of the



Anderson



Walzel

department of Spanish and Portuguese in 2000. He has advanced quickly since then, becoming the College's associate dean for interdisciplinary programs and area studies centers in 2005, vice provost for academic affairs in 2008, and interim provost in 2009.

"As interim provost, Danny Anderson has been a highly effective leader for the University during a time of budgetary challenge," says Chancellor Gray-Little. "With his broad experience and deep commitment to scholarship and teaching, he will be an outstanding dean."

Anderson, g'82, PhD '85, played a key role in developing the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship, which grants partial tuition waivers to out-of-state students whose parents are alumni. He also helped establish the Latino Vision Council, which contributed to the founding of a Hispanic chapter of the KU Alumni Association and the launch of KU's Spanish-language website.

As a scholar, Anderson has published two books and is known as a leading authority on Spanish literature. He began his academic career at the University of Texas.

As dean of music, Walzel will serve as the first leader of the University's newest school, which was formed in 2009 under a reorganization of the School of Fine Arts. He will oversee more than a dozen programs in band and solo performance, musicology, music education and music therapy, voice and opera, and theory and composition. He has directed Utah's school of music since 2001, and before that held a similar position at Sam Houston State University. He was also a faculty member for 11 years at Texas Tech University and principal clarinetist of the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra.

Walzel has toured widely as a soloist and chamber musician in Texas and in Europe, Asia, Africa and Central America. He completed his PhD at North Texas University.

## Self help

### *Gift expands donors' effort for School of Engineering undergrads*

A \$10 million gift from the founders of the Self Engineering Leadership Fellows program will allow the academic enrichment initiative for engineering and computer science students to enroll more undergraduates and offer more financial support.

Madison "Al", e'43, and Lila Self, '43, started the program in 2007 to give extra education, mentoring and leadership opportunities to select students. SELF fellows attend meetings with top leaders such as Alan Mulally, e'68, g'69, Ford CEO; Brian McClendon, e'86, Google vice president of engineering; and Linda Zarda Cook, e'80, former executive director of Royal Dutch Shell.

The program's emphasis on entrepreneurial skills and visionary leadership reflect Al Self's experience as the head of Bee Chemical Co., a Lansing, Ill., firm he acquired in 1947, just four years after he graduated with a chemical engineering degree. Self transformed the company from a three-person operation into an international producer of polymers and polymer coatings used on plastics. When he sold it in 1980, the company

"The Selfs are not only visionary, they are so passionate about helping these students grow and develop."

—Lucy McGilley



LISA SCHELLER

■ The latest gift from the Selfs helps strengthen their leadership program for engineering and computer science undergraduates.



## Head count

Spring enrollment remained about the same as last year, at 28,414, while minority enrollment hit an all-time high for a second straight year. This semester 3,608 minority students are enrolled—12.7 percent of the student body. The largest enrollment increase was posted by international students on the Lawrence campus. Their numbers rose 17.2 percent over last spring.

had five U.S. manufacturing sites and operations in England and Japan.

“Through my years in business and industry, I’ve been able to identify key attributes such as leadership, interpersonal communications, motivation and problem solving that lead to success,” Self said in a statement. “Lila and I are happy to contribute to the personal growth of these KU students with the goal that they continue on as exceptional leaders working to build positive change in the American economy.”

In its first three years, the program has enrolled an average of 15 freshmen and three to five upperclassmen each year. The new gift will allow 18 to 20 freshmen and as many as seven upperclassmen to participate, according to Lucy McGilley, program director. Freshmen fellows have been eligible to receive up to \$20,000 over four years; that stipend will now rise to \$24,000.

In addition, McGilley says, more money will be available to attract visiting speakers, and a new full-time staff member will be hired to help administer the program.

“It’s hard to fully express how thankful we are to Mr. and Mrs. Self,” she says. “They’re not only visionary, they’re so passionate about helping these students grow and develop.”

Engineering Dean Stuart Bell says the fellowship program has had “an amazing impact” on the School of Engineering and on the University as a whole. “The enhanced program will follow this success and we will build one of the foremost leadership programs in the country.”

The couple has a long history of supporting the School of Engineering. Since 1978, they’ve given more than \$44 million to KU Endowment, making them the University’s largest individual donors for academics. More than two-thirds of that amount supports graduate and undergraduate fellowships. Their other gifts provided infrastructure funding for the Self Fellowship Program and created the Mossberg Pharmacy Professorship.

STEVE PUPPE



STEVE PUPPE

◆ ◆ ◆

## We dub thee Del

*West Campus research hub named for chancellor emeritus and former Association leader*

Reciting a list of the many roles Del Shankel has filled at KU since he joined the faculty as an assistant professor of microbiology in 1959, Regent Jill Docking, c’78, g’84, had to stop and wonder aloud before an audience of family, friends, colleagues and former students of the chancellor emeritus gathered April 15 at the Structural Biology Center.

“It’s extraordinary,” Docking said of Shankel’s long and varied tenure as a Jayhawk jack-of-all-trades. “He can only be described as the most devoted servant of our KU community.”

The occasion—a ceremony to name a West Campus research building the Delbert M. Shankel Structural Biology Center—was a chance for that community to say “thank you” to Shankel, who has filled seemingly every key administrative job at the University, often more than once.

He served as a department chair, acting dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and vice chancellor of academic affairs. He was appointed the first executive vice chancellor of



the Lawrence campus and later filled that office again in acting and permanent roles. He also led KU affiliates, as acting director of athletics (twice) and interim president of the Alumni Association.

Most prominently, Shankel twice led the University as acting chancellor—from 1980 to 1981 and from 1994 to 1995. After his second term in Strong Hall ended, the Kansas Board of Regents officially recognized him as KU's 15th chancellor.


Jeff Aubé, professor of medicinal chemistry, highlighted Shankel's microbiology research, citing his decade's long collaboration with Les Mitscher, distinguished professor of medicinal chemistry, as an example of the approach now favored at the Structural Biology Center.

"What continues here today is the collaborative model that Del and Les developed together," Aubé said. Noting that the building's open design is intended to foster interaction between scientists, he said, "It's through these interactions that we hope to honor him."

Constructed in 2004 and expanded with two new wings in 2008, the 44,000-square-foot building houses the Specialized Chemistry Center; the High-Throughput Screening Laboratory, and the Center for Cancer Experimental Therapeutics, among other labs. In all, it is home to four major NIH Centers and 99 scientists, students and staff.

"It's a great honor and I'm really pleased," said Shankel after the ceremony. "This particular building is especially appropriate because it relates fairly closely to my own area of research. I think the building does a great job encouraging those kinds of interactions between biology and chemistry and pharmacy, so I'm very pleased with that aspect."

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little praised Shankel's role as teacher and mentor to countless students, and concluded the celebration by unveiling a plaque mounted at the main entrance of the building, located at 2121 Simons Road.

She read aloud the last line of the inscription, calling it a particularly fitting tribute to the scope of Shankel's service to the University: "Teacher. Scholar. Leader. Mentor." 



Delbert M. Shankel Structural Biology Center

## Visitor

### Reality check

**W**riter and former diplomat Rory Stewart addressed "Afghanistan: Rhetoric and Reality" as part of the Hall Center for the Humanities 2009-'10 Humanities Lecture Series.

**WHEN:** March 29

**WHERE:** The Kansas Union



STEVE PUPPE

**BACKGROUND:** Stewart was a 29-year-old former British army officer in 2002, when he walked 6,000 miles across Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Nepal. His Afghanistan trek, just weeks after the Taliban's fall, is the subject of his best-selling *The Places In Between*. He chronicled his later work for the Coalition Provisional Authority in *The Prince of the Marshes*. He's now Ryan Family Professor of the Practice of Human Rights at Harvard, where he directs the university's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, and chief executive of the Turquoise Mountain Foundation, a nonprofit group he founded to preserve Kabul's historic architecture and traditional crafts.

**ANECDOTE:** Stewart, who faults U.S. policy in Afghanistan for its focus on worst-case scenarios, recalled a phone call from a high-ranking Afghan official who asked him to stop referring to the country as a humanitarian crisis. "We need to be the world's No. 1 terrorist threat," the official told him, "because otherwise we won't get any more money."

**QUOTE:** "Let's recognize the limits of our power. Instead of a foreign policy based on fear, let's acknowledge that Afghanistan is one of 40 countries that matter."

"The fundamental illusion underlying all this is the illusion of omnipotence. The idea is that if we want it, we can do it. We do not want to take on board the idea that we are limited."

—Rory Stewart



PUBLIC RELATIONS, EDWARDS CAMPUS

## EDWARDS CAMPUS

### \$25 million building to house new Johnson County programs

Ten new undergraduate and graduate programs will be introduced at the Edwards campus over the next several years, and construction has begun on the green classroom building that will house them.

The \$25 million building for Business,

Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST) programs will include classrooms, lecture halls, a business conference center, computer labs and offices for faculty and administrative staff. It will be built to LEED energy efficiency standards and is designed to accommodate the

diverse teaching styles that result from having so many programs under one roof.

“Different faculty have different teaching styles, different disciplines have different teaching styles, and we wanted the configurations of the classrooms to support those differences,” says Gregory Freix, a lecturer in information systems and one of the faculty representatives who met with architects to share suggestions for the building’s design.

## ENGINEERING

### Chemical engineering student wins Goldwater award

Sophomore Kevin Changhun Song this spring won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, considered the premier undergraduate award for excellence in science, engineering and mathematics.

A chemical engineering student planning a career in biomedical science, Song is the 48th KU student to win the prestigious scholarship since the program began in 1989. The Goldwater provides as much as \$7,500 annually for tuition, fees, books, and room and board.

Song, who is from Lawrence and Seoul, South Korea, will pursue a medical degree and a doctorate in structural biology, with a specialization in molecular modeling of proteins. This summer he will study membrane biophysics as the intern for a National Institutes of Health researcher in Maryland. At KU he has worked in the lab of Wonpil Im, assistant professor of molecular science, since he began studying on the Hill during his senior year at Free State High School.

Katherine Harry, a Spring Hill junior in chemical engineering, won honorable mention in the Goldwater competition. The two were among more than 1,100 students nominated by their universities for the scholarship; 278 scholarships were handed out nationwide.

## STUDENT HOUSING

### Housing renovations will likely make women’s hall co-ed

*continued on page 17*

## Class credit

**B**randon DeKosky, Overland Park senior in chemical engineering, has been on a roll. In spring 2009 he was named a Nagel Scholar by Tau Beta Pi, the national honor society for engineering students, and won a \$7,500 Goldwater Scholarship, the premier undergraduate award in engineering, science and mathematics.

This spring Dekosky snagged an even bigger prize: He was one of 15 U.S. students to earn a \$250,000 Hertz Fellowship. The nation’s most generous PhD fellowship, the Hertz gives young scholars in the applied sciences the financial freedom to pursue innovative research ideas for up to five years of graduate study.

“It is really, really exciting to get that kind of recognition for sure, but finally it’s going to come down to the work I do,” says DeKosky. “That’s what’s so exciting—it frees me to do more creative things. Since I’m supported externally, I can work on the next big thing, the new idea that doesn’t have a grant yet.”

After graduation in May he begins work on a PhD at the University of Texas, where he will apply enzyme and antibody engineering to the fight against cancer.



STEVE PUPPE





## *Be the difference for KU*

A charitable bequest to KU Endowment in your will or trust is a powerful expression of your faith in the university. Bequests can create permanent scholarships to benefit future generations of Jayhawks. Whatever your greatest passion at KU, your bequest can support any academic or program area.

*Please remember KU Endowment in your will or trust.*

To include KU Endowment in your estate plans, the recommended legal language is:  
"For the benefit of The Kansas University Endowment Association."

For more details, contact John Hillis  
at 800-444-4201 or [jhillis@kuendowment.org](mailto:jhillis@kuendowment.org),  
or visit [kuendowment.org/bequests](http://kuendowment.org/bequests)

**KU**  
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The University of Kansas  




# North American Tours

*Check out these Flying Jayhawks travel opportunities close to home!*



## Islands of New England Tour

**Oct. 1-8, \$1,649 per person, double occupancy, land only**

- Enjoy seven nights' hotel accommodations
- Tour Plimouth Plantation
- Visit Boston, Martha's Vineyard and the Marble House Mansion in Newport, Rhode Island
- Spend a day in Nantucket among its beautiful cottages and tour a working cranberry bog
- Explore Hyannis, hometown of the Kennedy family, and visit Plymouth Rock
- Indulge in a traditional New England lobster feast
- Eleven meals (seven breakfasts, four dinners)



## New York Theatre Thanksgiving Tour

**Nov. 23-27**

**\$2,399 per person, double occupancy, airfare included \$2,049 per person, double occupancy, land only**

- Roundtrip air from Kansas City to New York City and transfers
- Four nights at the Hilton New York and Towers Hotel, within walking distance of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
- Tickets to two award-winning Broadway shows: "Promises, Promises" and "Love Never Dies."
- Tickets to the "Christmas Spectacular" at Radio City Music Hall
- Thanksgiving dinner and Farewell dinner



## 2010 Kansas Basketball Las Vegas Invitational

**Nov 25-28, price TBD**

- Roundtrip air from Kansas City to Las Vegas
- Three nights at the Monte Carlo Hotel and Casino, located in the heart of the Vegas Strip
- Private motorcoach transfers to and from the Las Vegas airport and the KU games

*(Tickets for tournament games on Nov. 26 and 27 not included)*

**TRAVELLERS**  
INC. 

For more information and reservation forms, call 785-749-0711 (Lawrence), or 800-382-6700, or visit [travellersinc.com](http://travellersinc.com) or e-mail [khouk@travellersinc.com](mailto:khouk@travellersinc.com).

continued from page 14

Gertrude Sellards Pearson Hall, one of two remaining large residence halls on campus open only to women, may switch to co-ed living after a renovation scheduled for next year.

The Department of Student Housing is considering the move because of changing trends in student housing requests.

"We have fewer requests for single-gender housing in residence halls," says Diana Robertson, director of student housing. "Nationally you find fewer and fewer single-gender halls at public institutions."

A \$14 million renovation will begin in summer 2011 and wrap up by summer 2012. GSP will be the fifth large KU hall renovated in recent years. "Our goal is to work our way through them all eventually," Robertson says.

Corbin Hall, next door to GSP, will continue to offer female-only quarters, and six of KU's 12 scholarship halls are female-only.

The housing department is now in the process of selecting an architect, who will engage students in further defining issues such as room configuration and whether or not GSP will go co-ed.

Housing rates for the next academic year will increase 2.8 percent. Robertson says the hike represents an attempt by the Department of Student Housing to "hold back" on housing costs, which are traditionally closer to 4 percent. "We understand the economic times and



want to try and help our students as much as possible," she says.

## Milestones, money and other matters



Tompkins

■ **ANDY TOMPKINS** will become president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents June 1. Tompkins, EdD'77, was associate professor of education at KU from 2005 to 2007 and commissioner of education for the Kansas Department of Education from 1996 to 2005. Tompkins succeeds Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, who will become professor of law and director of the Center for Law and Government at Washburn University.

■ **A \$1.3 MILLION GRANT** from the National Institutes of Health will fund research by two associate professors of engineering. Cory Berkland and Michael Detamore will use the five-year NIH grant to continue their collaboration on a surgical implant that aids the repair and treatment of degenerated cartilage.

■ **SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR** addressed an invited audience of law students, faculty and lawyers April 12 at the Dole Institute of Politics. The retired U.S. Supreme Court justice was the guest of Gail Agrawal, dean of law, who clerked for O'Connor during the court's 1984-'85 term. Her appearance, which was not open to the public, was the second-annual Shook, Hardy & Bacon Center for Excellence in Advocacy Lecture.

■ **A \$1 MILLION GIFT** from the Kansas City-based engineering and design firm Burns & McDonnell is the largest corporate donation yet to support the KU Cancer Center's effort to achieve National Cancer Center Institute designation. The gift will help establish a clinical high-risk prostate cancer prevention program at the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Care Pavilion by recruiting key personnel and creating an endowed fund to support program growth.

■ **CHRISTINA HIXSON** was named a life trustee by KU Endowment in honor of her long-time support of the arts and academics at the University. The sole trustee of the Ernst F. Lied Foundation Trust, she has overseen \$22.7 million in philanthropic support for KU from the foundation (including \$10 million for construction of the Lied Center) and added \$1.6 million in personal support. The honor was announced in April at the groundbreaking of the Lied Center's \$2.5 million expansion.



COURTESY LAWRENCE JOURNAL-WORLD

■ **EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING TOPPED \$200 MILLION** for the first time during fiscal 2009. Overall funding rose by nearly 5 percent, while federally funded research for science and engineering increased 4 percent. KU ranks 43rd among national research universities for external funding for research, development and training.

■ **JOHN KARANICOLAS**, assistant professor of molecular biosciences and bioinformatics, is KU's 14th professor since 1955 and the third in four years to receive a prestigious Sloan Fellowship. The \$50,000 award gives research support for two years to young faculty members with promising research in physics, chemistry, computational and evolutionary molecular biology, computer science, economics, mathematics and neuroscience. Karanicolas uses computer modeling to design proteins, and his current work focuses on Alzheimer's disease.





# Sports

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

STEVE PUPPE (2)



## Spin to win

*Freshman thrower dreams of adding Olympic gold to his collection of championships*

■ Mason Finley won the Kansas Relays discus title, adding to the shot put gold he won a day earlier. He prefers discus, and not just because he's better at it. Says Finley, "I like to watch it fly."

Mason Finley, the 2009 Track and Field News Boys Athlete of the Year and national high-school record holder in the discus, was cruising. A day earlier he'd won the Kansas Relays shot put competition by nearly three feet. From the first throws of warm-ups it was clear that the sensational KU thrower was simply the best, spinning inside the shot-put circle with a furious combination of coiled strength and harnessed mass that seemed more like a truck in a tornado than a college freshman throwing the shot.

Now, late in a sun-soaked afternoon on the Relays' final day, April 17, Finley was again dominating, this time the discus. His first throw sailed 55.18 meters, and his second flew another meter further, 56.1. That earned a double-clap of approval and an exclamation of "Yes, Mason!" from KU throws coach Andy Kokhanovsky, who typically remains silent until quietly conferring with his athletes, and even then sometimes uses

nothing but body language to point out necessary adjustments.

As the event—it hardly seemed right to still call it a competition—continued to drag on, Finley stifled a yawn. Long day, hot sun, is this thing over yet? Finley fouled on the final throw of the preliminary round and the first of the finals, but could anyone make him pay for his apparent disinterest?

Up stepped a man in black, competing unattached. It seemed certain that few in attendance knew that last year Michael Torie, then a senior at Lindenwood University, had placed third in the discus at the NAIA nationals and 12th at the World University Games in Serbia. So it fell to Torie to energize the competition, launching a discus 56.97 meters on his second attempt of the final round. That bested Finley by nearly a meter, and Finley, perhaps a bit stunned, responded with a throw of 54.39 meters. Good, but not nearly good enough.

Torie failed to improve his mark with his final throw, leaving Finley one last attempt. The early lethargy was long gone; Finley had even yanked off a pink bandana he'd presumably worn as a nod to the glory days of the famous pink and blues (especially fitting now that KU's newest track uniforms again include hints of pink).



As spectators began clapping, Finley nestled into the discus ring, on the field east of Memorial Stadium, and zoned in on the task at hand. As he began whipping his long arms and huge shoulders back and forth, spinning 340 pounds around his 6-foot-8 frame, the Mountain of a Man from Salida, Colo., flew the disc 57.15 meters (187 feet, 6 inches).

Victory.

"It's a very good sign. It means a person is very competitive," Kokhanovsky said moments later. "Usually there are two types of throwers who can throw far. One throws far when they feel good, but those guys usually do not win big meets. People who can throw when they have less can win the big meets. He came through. He competed well. He's tough. He's stepping up."

A bear of an athlete like Finley will always be first noticed for his size, and then for his seemingly unlimited potential. (His father, Jared, himself a former collegiate thrower, insists Mason will qualify for the U.S. squad at the 2012 Olympics in London.) All of which is accurate, but possibly not fair. Certainly not complete.

The quiet young man stepped away from his winning throw pleased, but not jubilant. He accepted a handshake from Torie, who said, "You're going to be a star, a big star. Keep working."

"Thanks, you too," Finley said, and then turned to find his family, visiting from their hometown high in the gorgeous Rocky Mountains between Pueblo and Gunnison. Salida is an epicenter of whitewater rafting, and Finley says it's one of his favorite pastimes, along with exploring caves found in rocky canyons.

That a man so large is capable of rafting and spelunking in the most challenging venues the continent has to offer is testament to his balance and athleticism, as well as a steady nerve and inner calm—which add up to a dynamic track-

**"People who can throw when they have less can win the big meets. He came through. He competed well. He's tough. He's stepping up."**

**— throws coach Andy Kokhanovsky**

and-field thrower, too.

"He's the best discus thrower ever in the United States in high school, he wants to make it to the Olympics, and everything is there," Kokhanovsky says. "The potential, he has. But also, a lot of work to do. The big things are already there. You just try to fix little things, and little things are going to make a difference on that level."

A three-time Colorado champion in both shot put and discus, Finley in 2009 also won discus gold at the Pan American Juniors Championship and swept the discus and shot put at the Nike Outdoor Nationals. He says he knew he'd be coming to KU almost as soon as he and coach Kokhanovsky sat down in the Finleys' Colorado living room and started talking about throwing technique. A Ukraine native who traces his coaching lineage back to legends of the Soviet track-and-field dynasties, Kokhanovsky in four years has coached KU throwers to 13 All-America honors, six conference titles and two national championships.

Finley immediately added to the totals by winning the Big 12 indoor shot put. When the action moved outdoors, Finley

promptly won discus at the Texas Relays, followed by the both discus and shot put at the Kansas Relays and Arkansas Twilight, and was twice named Big 12 Athlete of the Week. As of press time, the Big 12 Championships, May 14-16 in Columbia, Mo., awaited, as did the country's top-ranked thrower, Texas Tech freshman Julian Wruck, from Queensland, Australia.

"My dream is to go to the Olympics in discus. Maybe I'm not supposed to say that out loud, but that's my goal," Finley says. "But that's a long way away. Right now my goal is the Big 12, and the Big 12 is stacked."

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## Numbers game

*Pick, Webb emerge as leaders to replace Reesing at QB*

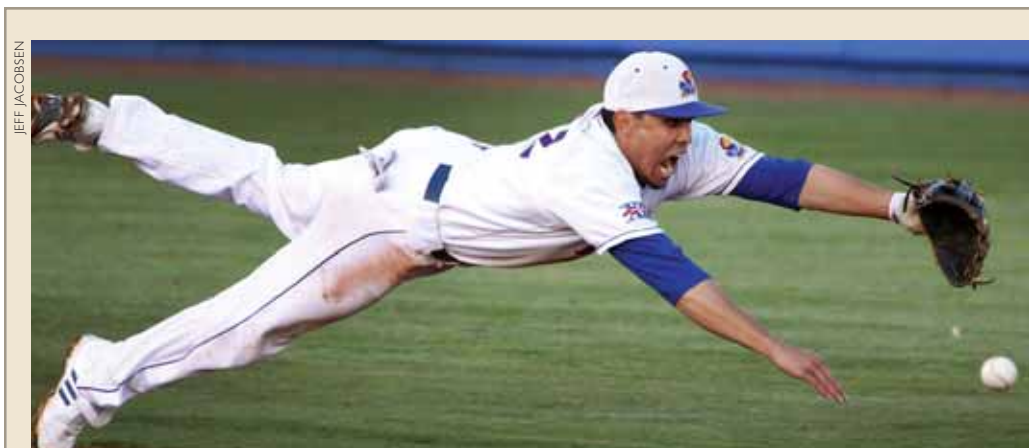
With names no longer stitched to the back of jerseys, Jayhawk football fans will have a bit of memorization work to do before the Sept. 4 opener against North Dakota



STEVE PUPPE (2)



■ Coach Turner Gill and his players focused on a fresh start during spring practice. "Guys are upbeat," defensive end Jake Laptad said. "Everybody is learning their new offense and defense. Things are going really well."



JEFF JACOBSEN

■ Extra effort by Brandon Macias was nothing unusual for KU baseball, which again battled through injury as star reliever Brett Bochy had arm surgery in April. Tony Thompson returned as hoped from his knee injury, Brian Heere led the 'Hawks with a .398 batting average and Jimmy Waters had eight home runs and 49 RBIs. As of press time, KU was 26-19-1, and 12-4-1 in Hoglund Ballpark.

State. A complete roster can be found at kuathletics.com, but for now let's keep it simple:

Sophomore Kale Pick, 7; freshman Jordan Webb, 2.

Those are the two leading contenders to replace Todd Reesing, who had been KU's starting quarterback since 2007.

"I wouldn't say there's a leader, but I can say Webb and Pick are the two guys," first-year coach Turner Gill said after the April 24 spring scrimmage, which attracted a festive crowd of 12,500 to Memorial Stadium. "And they're going to continue to battle it out as we go on."

Pick, a third-year sophomore from Dodge City, completed 14 of 22 passes for 214 yards and two touchdowns (one for each side, in fact). Webb, a redshirt freshman from Union, Mo., was 8 for 13 for 46 yards and a TD.

Webb connected with tight end Tim

Biere (86) for the game's first score, a 20-yard TD. Pick responded with a 72-yard TD strike to freshman receiver Chris Omigie (83).

"I don't think it matters whose name [Gill] says first on the list," Pick says. "I'm going to come out and prove myself, whatever the situation is. If anybody

gets a lead, or if I get a lead, I'm not going to stay comfortable with it."

KU returns 39 letterwinners from 2009, including 17 starters. Most notably, the entire offensive line—tackles Tanner Hawkinson (72) and Brad Thorson (76), guards Sal Capra (59) and Jeff Spikes (74), center Jeremiah Hatch (77) and tight end Biere—returns intact.

That experience will be invaluable for Gill and offensive coordinator Chuck Long as they bring along a new quarterback and test new schemes.

Speaking not about a new playbook but instead relating Gill's fondness for inspirational sayings, Spikes says, "There's so

many that I can't really say. Every day there is a new one and it brings so much joy to our faces. It means a lot that he is willing to identify with us. He wants us to have a good time. The No. 1 thing in college sports, and in sports in general, you have to have fun, you have to do something you love."

## Updates

**KU joining Conference USA?** Yes ... kind of. And only in rowing. The NCAA will begin recognizing automatic conference qualifiers for its national regatta in 2013; to qualify, conferences must already have conducted two championships and include at least six schools. To meet those standards, KU, KSU, OU and Texas, plus two SEC schools and three from Conference USA, will affiliate as a nine-school rowing consortium under the Conference USA banner.

**Sherron Collins**, part of a KU-record 130 victories, was named Lute Olson Player of the Year. Only players who have been with the same team for at least two years are eligible. ... **Danielle McCray**, who lost much of her senior season to a knee injury, was drafted No. 7 by the WNBA's Connecticut Sun. ... **Paige Higgins**, f'05, three-time All-Big 12 in the 10,000 meters, was the top U.S. woman at the April 19 Boston Marathon. ... Former KU captain **Tad Boyle**, b'85, was named coach at Colorado. Another former Jayhawk, **Brett Ballard**, d'04, stepped down as KU's director of basketball operations to become coach at Baker University. ... Philadelphia sportswriter **Donald Hunt** is leading a drive to get the late **Wilt Chamberlain**, '59, a Philly hometown favorite, honored with a postage stamp. A petition and the stamp advisory committee mailing address are at [thepetitionsite.com/1/wcpccpetition](http://thepetitionsite.com/1/wcpccpetition). "We would appreciate any support," Hunt says. "Wilt dearly loved Kansas."



JEFF JACOBSEN

Pick



## 83rd Kansas Relays



■ Senior Lauren Bonds (right) made the most of her final Kansas Relays as a Jayhawk, winning the 800-meter run and distance medley and placing second in the 5,000. Bonds, of Hutchinson, was also named, along with former quarterback Todd Reesing, Robert Frederick Scholar Athlete of the Year. Other highlights from the April 14-17 relays in Memorial Stadium included freshman Taissa Makhamayva (above) taking second in the 400-meter hurdles, junior Keron Toussaint's third-place run (below) in the 800 meters, and freshman Andrea Geubelle (below right) taking third in the triple jump.







# Doña Mayo

She calls herself a radical optimist, this Peruvian woman who has dedicated the past 30 years to helping children who struggle with the most confounding, intractable developmental disorders.

Working on her undergraduate degree during the 1970s, a time of military rule in Peru, she planned a career in clinical psychology. But her academic advisers branded her a troublemaker.

Her crime?

"I asked too many questions," says Liliana Mayo, g'86, PhD'96. "People who asked too many questions were sent for punishment to work in special ed."

Her banishment was meant to last three months. She expected to finish her internship and go on with her career. What she saw changed all that.

Children—with Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy—were tied naked to chairs and posts. They were kept in cages on the flat rooftops, where many Peruvians keep their pets. "One even had a sign on his cage: 'I bite,'" Mayo remembers. "Like a dog."

Her punishment became her cause. "When you see a reality like that you cannot close your eyes," she says.

When Mayo was a girl, her mother used to sing to her "The Impossible Dream," the signature song from "Man of La Mancha." The play-within-a-play tells the story of the mad knight, Don Quixote, gentleman quester, tilter at windmills, striver—as the song would have it—for unreachable stars.

The theme resonated with Mayo's parents, pharmacists who set up shop in the poorest part of town. "I am doing what I'm doing because I saw service in my family," she says. "I saw my father creating formulas, always for the poor people. My mother, who was a missionary, always talked to me about following my dream."

Mayo's dream was to open a school for the children who'd been failed and abandoned by her country's education system. "They were not given any hope."

She submitted a proposal to Peru's minister of education. The government offered her directorship of an existing center. When she visited she saw people who didn't want to be there: They were being punished, too.

"I decided I better start something very small, with people who really like to take this as a passion."

The problem was space. She talked to her mother.

"I said, 'Mom, this is a time I am going to follow my dreams. This is something I want to do but nobody give me a space.' She said, 'Let me talk to your father.' They talk all night, and the next morning they tell me, 'Why don't you start in the garage.'"

There was no money, of course. A grateful client of Mayo's with law enforcement connections drafted the police to work as carpenters; they built walls out of discarded packing crates. "So many policemen were in my house the neighbors thought I was in narco-trafficking," Mayo says.

"What do you need?" the grateful client asked. "Eight tables and eight chairs," the radical optimist replied.

And with that the Centro Ann Sullivan del Peru welcomed its first class of children.



Among those first eight students was Patty, a little girl with big problems.

"I have never seen tantrums as severe as she had," Mayo recalls. "She would slap her own face, and she could destroy a room very quickly. But she was my teacher."

Patty, whom Mayo first encountered during her internship, had autism—though Mayo didn't know it at the time. "In Peru they thought she needed an exorcism," she recalls. The books said Patty would learn slowly, if at all. Mayo found otherwise.

"Once we began to work with her to teach her other ways to ask for what she wants, she began to change. She was my inspiration, because she's the one who gave me hope that these kids could learn. If she could learn so fast, then we were using a correct approach."

By 1981, the Ann Sullivan Center had grown from eight kids to 50. (Mayo chose the name after watching the "The Miracle Worker," the film about Helen Keller and her teacher. "Any person who teaches has to have the characteristics of Annie Sullivan," Mayo says. "She was perseverant, she never criticized

*A quest of three decades began as a detour for the ingenious Dr. Liliana of Lima. Nothing less than a miracle could sway her from it now.*



the parents and she had passion.”)

Mayo and her small staff were reading everything they could find on behavioral analysis, an approach to psychology well-established in the United States, but then considered radical in Peru. The questions Mayo had been asking, when exiled to the wilds of special education, were about treatment, not politics. “If I was treating a person, was I making them better or worse? I wanted a way to measure that.” The psychoanalytical approach used in Peru at the time did not provide that information. “I would ask, ‘How do I know this person is improving?’ Always the answer is, ‘We don’t know. Do the best you can.’”

Mayo had been raised by scientists. She wanted evidence, data, proof. Behavioral analysis, which emphasized observing behavior rather than psychoanalyzing thoughts and feelings, seemed to promise just that. The proof was right there in black and white, on the pages of books.

But books have their limits.

“We wanted to know if we were doing things right,” Mayo says. “Nobody was guiding us.” So her mother sold a small house the family owned to send her daughter to America, where she might find someone to show her the way.

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The first time Richard Schiefelbusch, g’47, met Liliana Mayo was at the Lifespan Institute that now bears his name. “There goes a con artist,” he told a colleague as Mayo left his office. “Thank God she’s conning for a good cause.”

That colleague was Judith LeBlanc, PhD’70. LeBlanc was then professor of applied behavioral science and co-chair of the department of human development. She knew Mayo’s powers of persuasion firsthand. The two had met during Mayo’s 1981 trip to America, at an American Psychological Association conference in California.

Mayo was roaming the hallway, asking for help. “She was looking for somebody who’d be foolish enough to come to Peru

to help build their program,” LeBlanc says, “and somebody told her, ‘Well, if anyone will Judith LeBlanc will.’ I guess they were right.”

So began a long, productive partnership—between the two psychologists and between KU and the Ann Sullivan Center.

Impressed with what she saw in 1981 on her first trip to Peru, LeBlanc made a



■ “She was my teacher,” Liliana Mayo says of Patty, a girl with autism whom she encountered while serving an internship in special education. Patty’s positive response to teaching convinced Mayo she was on the right track. The two remain in touch today.

second visit in 1983 and returned for a sabbatical year in 1985.

“They were doing everything by the book, but they weren’t satisfied with their progress. They wanted so badly to learn, to get better,” recalls LeBlanc, who had worked at Parsons State Hospital in Kansas with people with mental retardation before earning her PhD under Don Baer. “If you’re going to have a cookbook approach, they were following the recipe correctly. But I’m enough of a radical rebel that I went in saying, ‘Don’t believe

everything you read in a book. A lot of it is just opinion.’”

The radical optimist who asked too many questions and turned to books for answers met the radical rebel with enough experience to say, “Don’t trust everything you read.” Mayo had found her guide.



Over the years, Mayo used her powers of persuasion to finagle airline tickets for LeBlanc and a long line of KU colleagues and students who followed her to Peru. After the 1985 sabbatical, LeBlanc began teaching one semester in Lawrence and spending the rest of the year in Peru.

She saw an opportunity to test her beliefs about how people learn, which stressed positive reinforcement and respect. On her first visit she observed a



teacher working with two children. The girl cooperated, but the boy “was all over the place” and the teacher was spending most of her time on him. “I said, ‘Try this: Give all the attention to the little girl for doing good work, with lots of obvious praise, and let’s see what happens with the boy.’ What happened was the boy came back and started working, so the teacher would praise him too.”

As important as the result, to LeBlanc, was the teacher’s ability and willingness to put her suggestion into action.



"I thought, 'OK, this is a good place to work.'"

LeBlanc would help the Ann Sullivan Center build a curriculum designed to teach students skills they need to hold jobs and live as independently as possible. She brought KU colleagues to Peru. One of the first was Stephen Schroeder, former director of the Lifespan Institute and the department of applied behavioral sciences and now professor emeritus. In Mayo and LeBlanc he sees a classic case of a whole greater than the sum of its parts.

"They're like Alphonse and Gaston," he says, a reference to the classic comic strip duo who constantly defer to each other. But unlike the pair who were so polite they could never get anything done, Mayo and LeBlanc "complement each other's skills tremendously," Schroeder says. "Judy is the brain trust, the master teacher and consultant. Liliana has a way of motivating people. She makes a study of it, reading motivational books. She shows her gratefulness to people; she rewards them for doing good. People flock to her."

The two have worked together so long they finish each other's sentences, but their personalities are opposite: While Mayo wears her compassion and empathy on her sleeve, LeBlanc cracks wise with the seen-it-all brio of the tough Texan—down-to-earth Sancho to Mayo's star-striving Quixote.

"One of the things we saw in Judy was the humbleness to teach us; she respected our culture," Mayo says. "Second, we gave her the toughest cases, because she was the doctor from the U.S. Kids who were breaking windows—"

"—biting teachers and drawing blood," LeBlanc interjects.

"—we say, 'Give them to Judy.'"

"Rough crowd," LeBlanc laughs.

"She didn't know Spanish, but when she talked to them in English there was a calmness, a respect. We began to imitate that. She taught us about the Golden Rule: Always treat others as you would like to be treated."

"I'm old enough to remember that on my ruler at school. Funny part is, they



thought the idea was original to me."

LeBlanc convinced Mayo to pursue a PhD at KU, and became her adviser. Spending half her time in Lawrence and half in Peru, she finished in a dozen years—long enough for her son to go through the K-12 system and earn a high school degree in both countries.

When she took him to school for his first day of kindergarten in Lawrence, a familiar motto caught her eye from the flagpole.

Another mantra she'd heard as a girl was a Latin phrase urging persistence through trouble: "Ad Astra Per Aspera."

"I thought, 'They have copied my mother!'" Mayo laughs, recalling her first sighting of a Kansas flag. "I did not know it is the state motto."

"In my country, when we face difficulties we turn them into opportunities," she says. Or, as Schiefelbusch told her once: "Problems are opportunities to put on our work clothes."



The Centro Ann Sullivan del Peru long ago outgrew its humble garage. In 1984 Mayo moved operations to Lima, where she carried on in pre-fab wooden classrooms built with private donations and volunteer labor. A civil war between rebel groups and the government claimed many civilian lives and led to frequent blackouts and water outages throughout the 1980s and '90s, but KU faculty members continued to make the trip to Lima. When picking them up at the airport Mayo carried a white flag.

In 2003 a new three-story center was completed, a proposed 10-year project finished in three thanks to international donor support. Designed with the help of Glen White, g'88, PhD'92, professor of

■ The Ann Sullivan Center is a welcoming place for more than 400 families. Training targets not only students with different abilities, but also their siblings and parents.





{ The **radical optimist** who asked too many questions and turned to books for answers met the **radical rebel** with enough experience to say, “Don’t trust everything you read.” }

applied behavioral science and an expert on how environmental factors influence the independent living of people with physical disabilities, it is Peru’s first fully accessible building.

An armed security guard is present—a must in a country with Peru’s violent history of civil war and domestic terrorism—but he greets all who enter with a handshake. Staff members say hello to everyone they encounter, no introductions necessary. Flowers abound, music plays. Mayo wants to create “a place of peace” for parents who are often under great stress raising children with serious developmental issues in a country where poverty is widespread, social attitudes toward “people with different abilities” (Mayo and LeBlanc’s preferred term) are often harsh, and government support for special education, while improving, is still inadequate.

Parents and siblings of the roughly 450 students get extensive training in how to care for their children—an essential part of the center experience that’s codified in contracts that parents sign promising to participate in their child’s education. There are classes in ballet, bellydancing, meditation and relaxation. Single mothers are invited to sleep at the center if they need a break. “It is not easy when you are living with a child who is slapping himself all the time,” Mayo says. “Many of our mothers are simply tired.”

So successful is Mayo’s model that it is now exported. CASP raises a portion of its \$1.1 million annual budget through consulting fees with schools throughout Latin America and Europe that are instituting the CASP curriculum. The rest of the budget comes from tuition and constant fundraising; the nonprofit gets no government money.

■ Mayo and LeBlanc with (l to r) Tempe, Montana and Lucas, service dogs whose presence at CASP helps engage the children and contributes to the center’s welcoming atmosphere.



Along the way, the one-time exile became a national hero, in her own country and abroad. Her many awards include the Medal of Honor of the Congress of the Republic of Peru, KU's Distinguished Service Citation and the Queen Sofia Award, Spain's highest honor. On April 27 she was awarded the Medalla Defensoria del Pueblo, established in 2006 to recognize those who fight for human rights in Peru. Previous winners include Mario Vargas Llosa and Jimmy Carter.

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**A**t the urging of KU faculty, the center has broadened its reach to embrace the entire lifespan. A supported employment program has put well more than 100 adults to work in Peru's most prominent companies, where they earn competitive wages and are valued for their strong work ethic and productivity. Some are their family's sole supporter.

One of the original eight students, Julio, a 5-year-old boy with autism, now works in a prominent Peruvian bank and two years ago realized his dream to run the New York City Marathon. Diego, a boy with Down syndrome who was also in the first class, last year appeared in a play with Peru's most popular actress, fulfilling his long-held desire to act. Another pays for his father's chemotherapy, treatment that otherwise would be out of reach. Others are putting a roof on their family's house, and, one, Sam, dreams simply of going to Kansas. Why? "Because that's where the good people come from."

After Schroeder became interested in early screening and treatment, he began "preaching about it" to his friends at CASP. They started a program to identify at-risk babies and toddlers and those in need of dental and vision services. "I couldn't believe it," says Schroeder, who went to Peru last year to see it in action. "People were lined up around the block at 8 o'clock, and by 4 they'd seen 400 families and everyone was gone. I think I heard two babies cry all day. I've never

seen such a thing in my life. I don't see the system in this country working that way, integrating comprehensive care and training. To be honest I don't know of any other program like this in the world. They put together the whole package."

He's made the trip to Peru more than a dozen times in 20 years, and he sees no end to the parade of KU faculty and students who go back again and again to lend their hearts and know-how to the cause. Next year marks the 20th anniversary of a formal affiliation agreement between KU and CASP, initiated in 1991 when Schroeder was the Lifespan Institute director. A formal document signed by the chancellor, "It basically says you're down there, we're up here and we'll help you anyway we can," Schroeder says. "Being able to claim a connection with a major University is important to them. KU is their major resource and sponsor."

But his experiences have taught him that the giving goes both ways.

"You go down there and you feel like a million bucks," Schroeder says. "You feel like you're really doing something, and a

lot of that is because of Liliana's style. She lives a humble life. She's a model for the people of Peru. She's just a really good person, and she appreciates people—she gives them credit."

Says LeBlanc, who took early retirement in 1997 to devote more time to the center, "She draws people to her. She's inspirational. Is she perfect? No one is. This is her mother talking, because I am like a mother to her."

Teaching functional skills will always be just the beginning, Mayo says. "Always we ask them, 'What is your dream?'"

Dreams, impossible and otherwise, are the fuel for this quest—opportunities for hard work, not wonder.

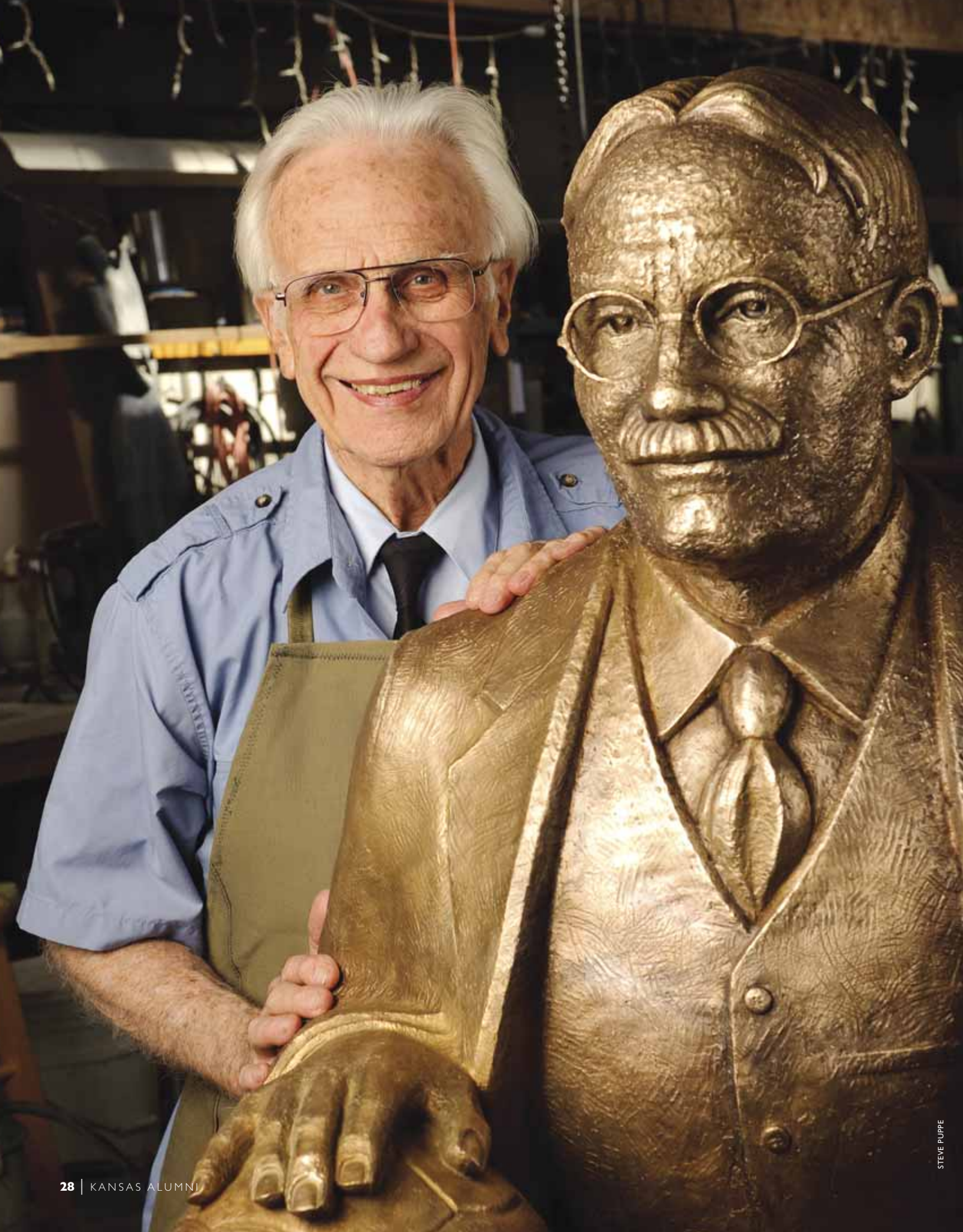
"She's a person with dreams, and when she has one she intends to fulfill it—she persists until she gets there," says LeBlanc. "Each time the staff and I think we've accomplished her dream she has another; we accomplish that and she has another. And now the staff has started having them."

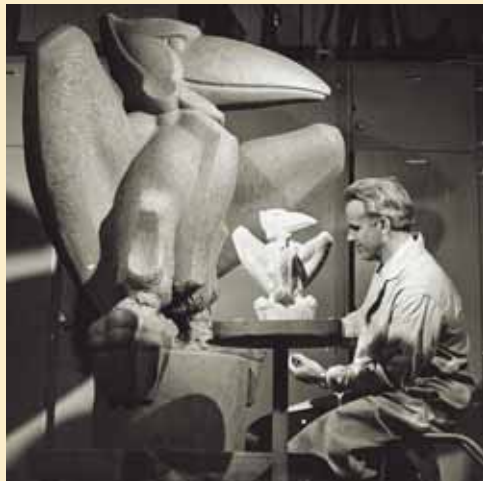
It's contagious, she says. Even the dreams are getting dreams.



■ Though Mayo's annual trips to Lawrence are occasions for fundraising and collaboration with KU colleagues, she also enjoys time with family, including her son Alonso, and grandson Axel.







# BRONZE AGE

**At 90, sculptor Elden Tefft still creates works in the studio**

**I**t's mid-morning on a weekday, and the light is streaming through the large windows in Elden Tefft's studio.

The sunlight illuminates Tefft's white hair as he hunkers over a sculpture decades in the making. It's a buffalo—or at least it will be.

Tefft started it four decades ago, when he was teaching sculpture at KU, and plans called for it to sit over a fireplace in the Burge Union. But KU decision-

makers changed their minds, and Tefft never took the time to finish the buffalo on his own.

He's between major projects today, so Tefft is trying to get the buffalo's legs to look just right. That's been the trouble with this piece. But it's also the type of problem that keeps him coming back to the studio six days a week, even at age 90.

"If I didn't," he says with a smirk, "I'd probably curl up and die."

**BY TERRY ROMBECK**



Tefft, f'49, g'50, uses a brown, rickety office chair to steady his gait as he shuffles through his studio, which is attached to his son Kim's house in southeastern Lawrence.

Miniature bronze Jayhawks peek out from many of the shelves. Models for other projects—a Washburn University Ichabod, an Olathe East High School Hawk, a crucifix for Benedictine College—are stuffed everywhere, reminders of a long career that has produced some of the most iconic art images in north-eastern Kansas.

Those include three pieces that, today, are as much a part of the KU landscape as the Campanile: the Jayhawk in front of Strong Hall, the Moses sculpture outside Smith Hall and the current version of the University seal.

"Campus is pretty stuck with me," Tefft says. "I've lived in Lawrence ever since the fourth grade. I suspect I have so many pieces just because I was around so long."



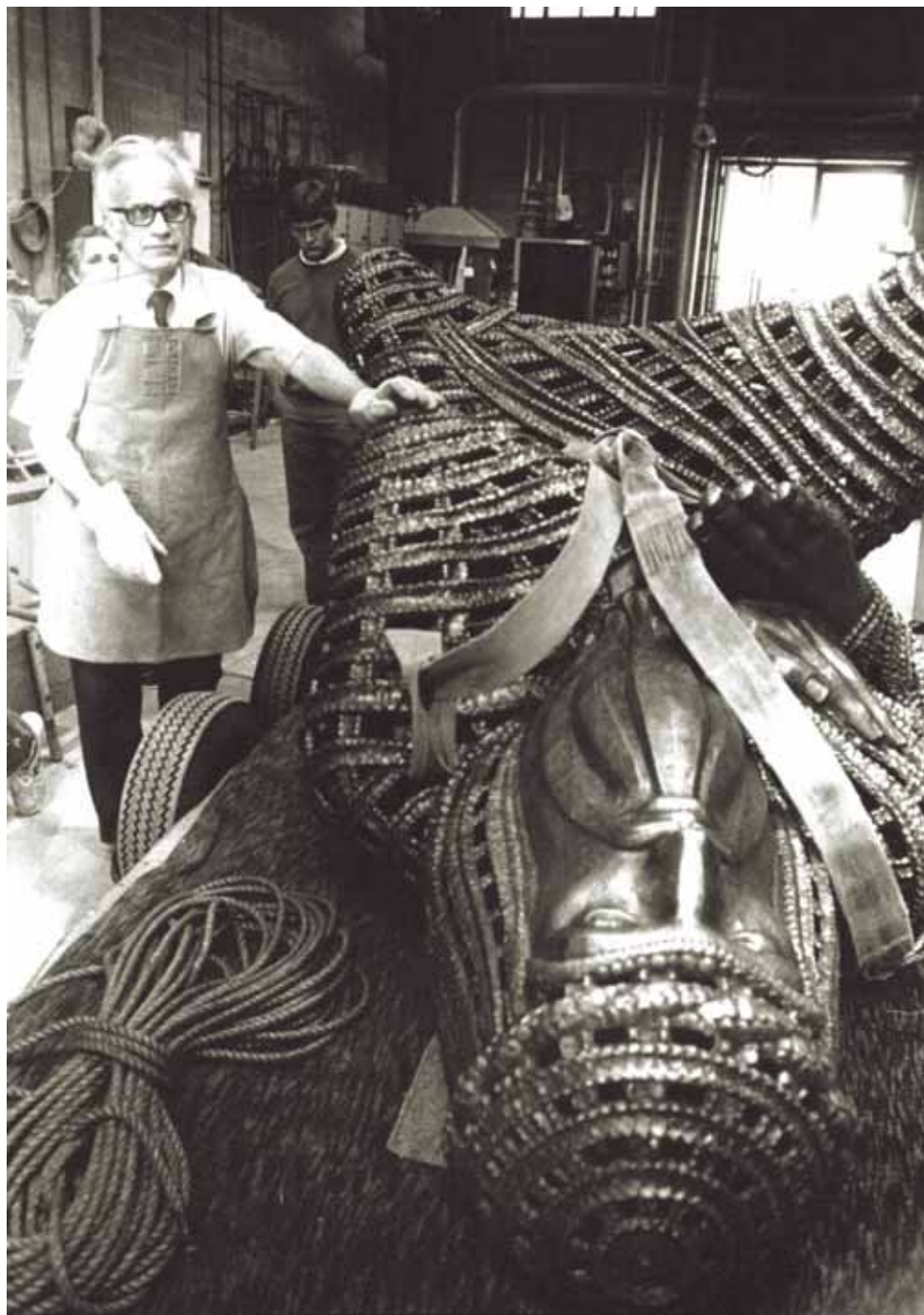
Born near Emporia, Tefft moved with his family to Lawrence when his father accepted an oil-field job.

As a child and teen, Tefft carved figures, made marionettes out of rag dolls and even constructed a ventriloquist dummy. Those props—along with the skills of fire-eating and sword-swallowing he picked up from local carnival workers—allowed him to entertain his friends with shows.

It wasn't until high school, when an acquaintance introduced him to Bernard "Poco" Frazier, the longtime KU sculpture professor and artist-in-residence, that Tefft realized he could create a career making the kinds of things he'd been constructing.

"Suddenly, when he invited me up, I learned what I'd been doing was sculpture," Tefft says.

Frazier, f'29, hired Tefft to paint backgrounds for some of the dioramas at the Natural History Museum.



■ Elden Tefft loads his sculpture of Moses for delivery to Smith Hall. The sculpture, one of the highest-profile pieces Tefft has cast, was completed in 1982. Tefft's newest projects are a pair of sculptures of James Naismith, including one for Springfield College in Massachusetts (page 28).

Later, after a year as a student at KU, Tefft would use those same skills as an artist for the Army Air Forces. He painted sets for USO-style shows and used his circus-style talents to entertain troops. He constructed plaster masks of soldiers

and carved figures using the native woods of the places he was stationed, including Stockton, Calif., Deming, N.M., and the Philippines.

When he returned to the United States, Tefft finished his KU degree.





■ Elden Tefft chats with visitors from Spring Hill High School during a recent pour at his studio in southeastern Lawrence. In addition to casting his own pieces, Tefft often opens his studio to area artists and students.

He once painted a mural at the Kansas Union to help pay his tuition bill.

A favor that Tefft did for Frazier helped set him on a path as a sculptor of bronze. KU commissioned Frazier to create the doors for the Campanile when it was constructed in 1950. Tefft drove the molds to be cast in bronze at a pair of industrial foundries in Mexico City.

At the time, Frazier was one of a handful of sculptors working with bronze. The ancient casting process had largely been abandoned over time. Many artists found the form tedious and cumbersome, because foundries were rare and expensive to use.

Tefft was convinced that foundries could be scaled down and housed at universities and studios across the United States, giving artists and students the opportunity to rediscover bronze casting.

"It took the process back into the artist's studio," says Kim Tefft, f80.

Tefft convinced Chancellor Franklin Murphy that KU needed a foundry. He

received permission to establish one on the third floor of Strong Hall in the early 1950s.



But Tefft wasn't satisfied that KU had a foundry. He wanted to spread the word. In 1960, he established a yearly conference that brought together sculptors from around the world.

"He was an educator," says Jim Bass, g'62, a sculptor who lives near Topeka. "The feather in his cap—one of his big feathers—was promoting national education for sculpture. He spent hours and hours on that when he could have been working on his own sculpture."

In fact, Tefft now jokes that he never truly "graduated" from KU until he retired in 1990, when he finally could concentrate full time on his own art.

Though the conferences initially taught how to cast bronze and establish

## Well-known sculptures and projects

- "Moses," outside Smith Hall at KU
- "Jayhawk," outside Strong Hall at KU
- Redesign of the KU seal
- "Chesty Lion," Lawrence High School
- "Ichabod," Washburn University stadium
- Fred Ellsworth Medallion
- William Allen White Medallion for children's literature
- "Keepers of the Universe," Burcham Park in Lawrence
- "Wildcat," Baker University
- "Hawk," Olathe East High School
- "Trails West," at the former Kansas Travel Information Center in Olathe
- "James Naismith," Springfield College in Massachusetts and soon to also be at Almonte, Ontario



■ Kim Tefft, left, and Tom Costello pull a sculpture by Kansas City artist John McCoy from the furnace at the Teffts' studio in Lawrence. Top right, Kevin Fulton and Kim Tefft scoop sand around the sculpture mold. Lower right, pieces of scrap metal are melted to be poured.



a foundry, they adapted to the times, eventually covering topics such as sculpting with glass and plastic. Those annual conferences morphed into the International Sculpture Center, based in New Jersey.



Which piece is your favorite? The question stumps Tefft. “I don’t know,” he says. “Moses has worn well. And the Jayhawk is still the school emblem. I’m pleased with it yet.”

Tefft calls the Jayhawk outside Strong Hall, which initially was near the Kansas Union, “one of the first sizable things I did of importance.” It was a gift from the Class of 1956

and was dedicated in 1958.

“The Jayhawk is a real singular piece,” says John Hachmeister, f’72, a KU sculpture professor. “It really is an Elden Tefft take on the Jayhawk. It captures the modernist thinking of the time of the Jayhawk identity. It’s a branding issue. It’s important for the University.”

While the Jayhawk took a couple years to complete, Moses was a much longer process. The 1.5-ton, 10-foot-high kneeling figure was a 15-year project. A film crew meticulously followed the process, and Tefft incorporated it into his classes.

“Somebody made the comment, ‘It didn’t take Michelangelo 15 years to do the Sistine Chapel,’” Tefft recalls. “I said, ‘He didn’t have as much help as I did.’”

Tefft sits in a corner of his studio to watch the video of Moses’ creation.

The narrator says, “Genius is the infinite capacity for taking pains.”

Tefft laughs.

“He means we were nitpickers,” he says.



Though Moses, the Jayhawk, the University seal and dozens of other pieces in the region have become part of history, the man who made them isn’t done creating.

The Moses piece, with its see-through design, represents the style of some of Tefft’s current projects. He calls it “gossamer,” meaning gauze-like, and he wants to complete enough pieces in the style to hold an entire show.

“This will probably be my final show,” Tefft says. “I probably won’t





■ Tom Costello, left, and Kim Tefft, right, pour molten bronze into a mold that will become a bronco statue at Spring Hill High School. Top right, sculptor John McCoy chips away at a mold containing a portion of his sculpture. Lower right, the bronze glows red after being removed from the furnace.



get one done after that.”

Tefft also is working on a project involving James Naismith, the basketball inventor who was KU’s first coach. For a decade, the sculptor hoped to cast a bronze version of Naismith. In March he completed one that was delivered to Springfield College in Massachusetts, where Naismith invented the game.

The statue now sits outside the college’s student union.

Richard Flynn, the college’s president, says he’s struck by how Tefft was able to capture Naismith’s personality in the bronze.

“We kind of think (Naismith) came back home,” Flynn says. “Elden is a marvelous man, a dedicated man. I was very impressed by him.”

A second, identical statue is scheduled for delivery this summer to Naismith’s

hometown in Almonte, Ontario. Tefft still hopes a donor will contribute money for a similar sculpture at KU.

Tefft’s ultimate dream is to create a full basketball sculpture garden featuring the history of the game and statues of players from today and from previous eras. He would like it to be in or near Lawrence, and he thinks it would become a tourist destination for basketball fans everywhere.

Those dreams, and his productivity, remain an inspiration to his former students.

“Here’s someone who is 90 years old and hasn’t lost his passion for art,” Hachmeister says. “I think that’s a great lesson for everyone to learn. It’s a really important thing for students. If you have that level of drive, that level of passion, you can make a life for yourself in art.”

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Tefft is giving a tour of his studio, where a guest book records every visitor who walks through the door. His son calls out for help.

“Professor!” Kim Tefft yells, looking for a newspaper story about a particular project. Binders of clippings document the sculptor’s work through the years.

The father directs his son to the proper file.

Sure, looking through those binders, there are pieces Tefft would like another chance to sculpt. But mostly, he’s proud of his career.

“Every once in a while,” he says, “I look back and think about how good I was back then.”

But then he stops. After all, there are still sculptures to cast. —





BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

**D**allas Morning News editorial writer Colleen McCain Nelson runs marathons, yet when she was given five minutes notice for an all-staff meeting in the third-floor newsroom, she spurned the stairs and instead rode the elevator from the editorial board's fourth-floor offices. McCain Nelson recalls no particular reason why she chose the elevator; perhaps she was simply following her boss, editorial page editor Keven Ann Willey.

"As the doors closed Keven said, 'Well, since it's just us, I will tell you that you're about to win the Pulitzer Prize.'"

McCain Nelson gasped, and just that quickly the doors opened onto a newsroom where the news had yet to be announced. McCain Nelson, j'97, put on her poker face, found an unoccupied chair, and started shaking.

In an era of relentless layoffs and plummeting profits, hastily assembled newspaper staff meetings rarely signal anything pleasant. But on April 12 the buzz around the Dallas Morning News had been positive. That's how Eric Nelson, j'93, a metro editor who supervises the general assignments desk, recalls it.

The managing editor had asked him for the number to a nearby speakerphone, and another colleague asked that a GA reporter be ready to cover a 2 p.m. newsroom meeting. As Nelson began considering the request, the colleague swore him to secrecy and whispered, "It's possible we are either a Pulitzer finalist, or maybe even took one home. And it may involve your wife."

Nelson recalls trying to focus on the task at hand while thinking, "Could this be possible? Is this happening?"

**Powered by dedication  
to career and family,  
Colleen McCain Nelson  
knows there are prizes  
more precious than  
even a Pulitzer**

■ After enduring a hellish 2009, Eric and Colleen McCain Nelson's blessings now include Colleen's Pulitzer Prize and a champagne toast (p. 37) in the newsroom. They are passionate KU basketball fans who named their dog "Phog" and, despite living in Dallas, keep season tickets. In fact, after recovering from the accident that nearly took his life, Eric's first trip was a return to Allen Field House.

Precisely at 2 p.m., editor Bob Mong stood and told the assembled staffers that he had good news. Editorial writers Colleen McCain Nelson, Tod Robberson and William McKenzie had won the Dallas Morning News' ninth Pulitzer Prize, for their ongoing series examining economic and social disparities between northern and southern Dallas.

"He spoke for a little bit, and people clapped, and they called us up to speak, and I have no idea what words came out of my mouth but apparently I accepted," McCain Nelson says. "It was just amazing. You could not ask for a better moment in your life than that, and it's definitely one I never saw coming."

There are other events that one never sees coming, and Colleen and Eric Nelson know all too well they can bring not joy, but horror. A year and a half earlier, shortly after they'd completed a race, Eric and two other runners had been swept out of a crosswalk by an inattentive driver.

Doctors feared that Nelson, the most critically wounded of the three, might not survive. A month of hospitalization was followed by months of physical and cognitive rehabilitation and wheelchairs and tears and pain and worries and even legislation—officially known as "Eric's Law"—to stiffen absurdly lax traffic laws that allowed the wayward driver, who didn't have a license or insurance, to walk away with a \$555 fine (which has yet to be paid) and two citations.

For the final two months of 2008 and all of 2009 Eric Nelson overcame every challenge put in his way, and because he was back to work he was there that fine mid-April afternoon to watch his wife



CHRIS WILKINS, DALLAS MORNING NEWS (2)

and colleague collect American journalism's highest honor. They celebrated that night, a Monday, with friends and margaritas and on Friday at a fabulous restaurant surrounded by family.

The toasts weren't easy.

"Eric couldn't even say the words 'Pulitzer Prize' without getting choked up," McCain Nelson recalls. "The very best thing about the Pulitzer was the fact that Eric was in the newsroom for that moment. To have him there and to share that moment after having such a terrible shock a year and a half ago, I think we appreciated this most fabulous surprise more than just about anybody."

Says Nelson, "We had been through a pretty tough year. Seeing that good things do happen to good people was so life affirming."



Colleen McCain, who grew up in Salina, always knew she wanted to study journalism, and she was sure it would be at KU. But as decision time neared, she began exploring options opened to her by superior academic performance. She applied

to Northwestern University and the University of North Carolina, and, after being accepted to both, she surprised herself by choosing UNC. She was so close to becoming a Tar Heel that she'd even been assigned a roommate.

That's when "a crisis of conscience" altered her destiny.

"I said, 'I've always wanted to go to KU, and I'm not sure what I'm trying to prove by going so far away. You know what? I'm going to be a Jayhawk.'"

When she arrived on Mount Oread, McCain marched into the University Daily Kansan newsroom and asked how soon she could work there. Freshmen, who have yet to complete any reporting or editing courses, aren't allowed on the staff, but the newspaper's editorial board welcomes applications from anyone at the University.

So the future Pulitzer Prize winner for editorial writing joined the editorial board as a freshman, and as a sophomore served as editorial page editor. She adored the work, and loved the late John Ginn's editorial writing class, but maintained her focus on becoming a reporter.

"I loved the idea of getting a behind-the-scenes pass to different things, and



the chance to ask people questions and be a little bit nosy. I've always loved politics, too, so this was a way to marry those two interests. I've been of a single mind for quite some time, I guess."

McCain was UDK editor in fall 1995, and after earning her degree in 1997 joined the Wichita Eagle, assigned first to local government and then to Topeka to cover the Legislature and Gov. Bill Graves' re-election campaign. In 1998 she accepted a job offer from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram; shortly after giving her two-week notice at the Eagle she attended another friend's going-away party, where destiny awaited.

Eric Nelson, who came to KU from Omaha, had been editor of the UDK in fall 1992 and, after earning his degree that December, headed to the Wichita Eagle. He left in 1996 to join the Dallas Morning News as a copy editor.

"We didn't meet at the Kansan, and we didn't meet at the Eagle," Nelson says. "But we had a lot of crossover folks we both knew, from KU and Wichita, and a lot of our friends who knew both of us were saying things like, 'You haven't met Nelson yet?' Or, 'You haven't met Colleen yet?'"

The party Colleen attended that night was in honor of a friend of Eric's, and Eric drove up from Dallas. Finally they met. Finally their love story began.

Eric had been told that Colleen was about to move to Texas, and, perhaps sensing the importance of the moment, he came through in the clutch.

"Since he lived in Dallas he kind of cheesily offered to 'show me around

town,'" Colleen recalls with a laugh. "And the rest is history."

Can I show you around town? *Really?* "Amazingly," Eric says, "it worked. I guess it was meant to be."



After a year and a half at the Fort Worth newspaper, McCain Nelson joined the Morning News as an education reporter, and soon progressed to various political beats, including City Hall and state campaigns. In 2004 she joined the national political team covering the presidential election.

"Essentially you sign off on a year of your life and just get on a plane," she says. "It's just a blur of a year of nonstop airports and hotels. You're in the press gaggle, you get to fly on Air Force One, you go to all the political conventions. It was an amazing year. A great experience. I loved every minute of it and I also wanted to sleep for a month after I got home. I wasn't sure I could repeat the process several times through."

In May 2006, the newspaper's 12-person editorial board had an opening. McCain Nelson applied, mainly "to express an interest for future reference." But, she adds, "I worked really hard on the application and worked really hard on the interview and was very pleasantly surprised to get the job."

Not long after she joined, the board began considering a suggestion that had originated with pub-

lisher Jim Moroney: investigate disparities between northern and southern Dallas and eventually champion solutions to problems that had been ignored for far too long.

"The more we learned, the more we recognized that this would be a huge undertaking," McCain Nelson says. "This wasn't going to be a few editorials and then we move on. If we committed to this, then we were going to commit to this long-term."

Before writing a word, the editorial board spent months listening to community leaders, neighborhood activists and longtime residents of southern Dallas. The Rev. Gerald Britt Jr., vice president of public policy at Central Dallas Ministries, hoped for the best, but was skeptical.

"You know how these things go," Britt says from his Dallas office. "Maybe a short, issues-based series, and after that it goes away. All of us have been surprised that it has been as sustained and as comprehensive as it has been."

In the past three years, the Dallas Morning News has published nearly 200 editorials about the divided city, along



## Previous Pulitzers

**1923:** William Allen White, 1890, Emporia Gazette, for editorial "To An Anxious Friend"

**1947:** White, for "Autobiography of William Allen White"

**1952:** Louis LaCoss, c'11, St. Louis Globe Democrat, for editorial "The Low Estate of Public Morals"

**1953:** William Inge, c'35, for the play "Picnic"

**1954:** Alvin Scott McCoy, c'25, Houston Post, for local reporting exposing corruption in Pasadena, Texas

**1992:** Jeff Taylor, j'90, Mark Ziemann, j'84, and David Eames, f'89, Kansas City Star, for national reporting on series about U.S. Department of Agriculture

**1994:** Patricia Weems Gaston, j'81, and Mary Carter, j'86, Dallas Morning News, for international reporting, as editors on series exposing violence against women in Africa

**2002:** Gerald Seib, j'78, Wall Street Journal, for breaking news coverage of Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks

**2004:** Kevin Helliker, c'82, Wall Street Journal, for explanatory reporting on aneurysms

with guest columns and, perhaps most surprisingly, vigorous and fresh reporting and research. “We have the most activist editorial board in the United States,” Moroney, the publisher, said the day the Pulitzer Prize was announced, “and I’m so proud of that.”

Professor Pam Fine, KU’s Knight Chair for News, Leadership and Community, says, “The sheer fortitude to stay with that project is a terrific example of the kind of commitment that you’d hope more newspapers would make.”

One of McCain Nelson’s regular features for the series is “10 Drops in a Bucket,” for which she chooses eyesores in the southern part of the city, such as drug houses and illegal dumps, that “wouldn’t be allowed to persist in other parts of Dallas.” She reports on progress at each site once a month, and when stated goals are accomplished, the site is removed and another takes its place.

“Even though we’ve advocated for big policy changes and big ideas,” she says, “we’ve also acknowledged that even just fixing up a trashy vacant lot makes a big difference if you live next door.”

From his view in the newsroom, where only straight reporting and editing are allowed, Eric Nelson says the editorial board is seen as being “pretty aggressive, and I think that comes from the top down. They are really on the attack, reporting and digging and trying to find answers. Obviously as an editorial board they can play an advocacy role, and I think that’s something Colleen is really enjoying.”



At about 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 2, 2008, the Nelsons had just completed a 13.1-mile half-marathon at Dallas’ White Rock Lake. They were hoping to post times that would qualify them for an upcoming marathon in Japan, which they planned to add to the seven others they’d completed together, including the famous Boston and Chicago races.

They and a pack of fellow runners were in a crosswalk, crossing with the

signal, when a car driven by a woman whose driving privileges had already been revoked plowed through them without slowing.

“It had been a perfect day,” McCain Nelson recalls. “We were walking back to our car, and we were having a conversation ... I mean, we were mid-sentence, and all of a sudden Eric was gone. At first I couldn’t even wrap my head around where he might have gone, and then literally I saw people flying through the air, and I just started running and tried to find Eric. I couldn’t find him at first because he was under a parked car.”

Also injured that day were science teacher Mary Oliver, a mother of two who had just completed her first half-marathon, and Fort Worth attorney Jay Newton, whose pregnant wife was out shopping for paint for the baby’s nursery. According to a Dallas Morning News article, a nurse who had rushed to the scene cried for an hour. As she spoke with her husband’s trauma surgeons at Baylor University Medical Center, McCain Nelson still wore her race medal on a ribbon around her neck.

The first thing Nelson recalls after waking up a week later was somehow seeing, through a hazy lack of focus, the words “President-Elect Obama” on a television screen.

“I turned to Colleen and said, ‘Did I miss the election? Do I need to call work?’ She said, ‘No, everything’s fine.’ That was the first conversation I remember after the accident.”

Nelson fractured both legs and the C7 vertebra in his neck, and suffered severe head injuries, including a hematoma at the base of his brain. After 23 days in the hospital, he was discharged in time to join his family for Thanksgiving.

“Heavenly Father,” his father said in prayer, “we all know what we’re thankful for. Amen.”

Nelson’s grueling year of therapy meant a grueling year for his wife, too. She got him in and out of his wheelchair and the car, in and out of the shower, and tended to all the household duties—all while doing Pulitzer Prize-quality work on editorials about fundamental

and sensitive aspects of life in Dallas.

“I’m honestly just glad to have a ticket on this ride, and very, very proud,” Nelson says. “But knowing more about the rest of the story, it really means a lot to us. I know the incredible work that she’s put into this, when at the same time 2009 was a year when she was so busy carting me to rehab sessions, to therapy, to doctors’ offices. Many times she would put me to bed early and then stay up all night writing and working.

“When you see something like that firsthand you appreciate it more. She did so much to bring me back. We’re still working with things, it’s never quite over, but we’ve come such a long ways that you feel lucky. You feel fortunate.”

McCain Nelson ran her first marathon without her husband in January, in Houston. He cheered her on by waving a big sign. Yet he hasn’t given up his own dreams. Nelson and the other two injured runners, now calling themselves “Team To Hell and Back,” in August completed a 100-kilometer bike race, and in February they ran and walked through a 10K.

His goal is the same as it was before the accident: running with his wife in the New York City Marathon. This year’s race is Nov. 7, almost two years to the day after the accident.

“It’s been such a long process,” McCain Nelson says. “He was in ICU for a long time, in the hospital for a long time, and then outpatient rehab forever, and physical therapy for months and months and months, and he was in a wheelchair for a long time. At this point he is back to work. He is walking and driving and doing his job and being the same old Eric whom I love.

“Eric is a rock star. What he’s been through and accomplished is so much more impressive than winning a Pulitzer.”

Most impressive, perhaps, is that they’ve both been through all of it, the bad and the good, together, as a team, hammering out the story of their lives and love on daily deadline.

No end is in sight. They plan to write long.



BY WHITNEY ERIKSEN

# Association



STEVE PUPPE (4)



## Rock Chalk Ball gleams

*In its 15th year, Kansas City event affirms commitment to Alumni Association student recruitment efforts*

For many Jayhawks, the annual Rock Chalk Ball is a cherished tradition in Kansas City, the nation's largest KU community. For the University's newest chancellor, April 24 marked another exciting first.

Just one week earlier, Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little had celebrated her inauguration as KU's 17th chancellor. At the ball, she echoed one of the themes of her inauguration speech: the importance of student recruitment. And she added to the ball's festive atmosphere by reflecting on the inauguration events. "I wanted that weekend to include dancing, and I got my wish," she told the crowd of more than 750. "Since I'm on a roll, I'll make the same wish again: I would be thrilled if you all would join us on the dance floor, as we continue this wonderful evening."

And dance they did. As The Karen Davis Project supplied renditions of favorite dance tunes, tireless celebrants cheered for more.

To prepare for the 2010 edition of the Kansas City KU tradition, ball chairs Joe, b'61, and Susan Morris, assoc., and Lynn, c'59, m'63, and Ann Underwood Kindred, c'59, led the Greater Kansas City Chapter in collaborating with Joy Larson Maxwell, c'03, j'03, the Alumni Association's assistant director of Kansas City programs. Nick Sterner, b'07, c'07, coordinated the silent and live auctions. Members of the Student Alumni Association, the KU band and Spirit Squad and the mascots also added to the festivities. Hunter Hess, a KU sophomore from McPherson, and Rachel Werner, a junior from Phoenix, described the impact of the Association's student recruitment

## Association



STEVE PUPPE (2)

■ The Rock Chalk Ball attracted more than 750 alumni and friends to the Overland Park Convention Center. Leading the event (above right) were Joe, b'61, and Susan Morris, assoc., and Lynn, c'59, m'63, and Ann Underwood Kindred, c'59. Following a reception and silent auction, the party moved into the ballroom (p. 39), where Toby Nigro and his team urged Jayhawks to bid

generously, and KU football coach Turner Gill greeted the crowd. Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little and Shade Keys Little led the dancing. Mike Savage, f'80, who annually donates KU paintings to the ball, admired his work on another canvas—the dinner jacket of Wally Womack, e'70, who later purchased “Band Day,” Savage’s 2010 featured work.

efforts. Proceeds from the event will help the Association increase the number of state and national recruitment events. —



## Winning work

### *Association communications awarded for excellence*

In January, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District VI honored associate editors Chris Lazzarino and Steven Hill, photographer Steve Puppe and Creative Director Susan Younger for their work on *Kansas Alumni*. The communications department also received laurels for the 2009 calendar.

Also among the best of 2009 was KU Connection, an electronic newsletter published by the Association in collaboration with University Relations, KU Endowment, Kansas Athletics and the KU Memorial Unions.

The honors received by the Association, combined with those given to KU Endowment and University Relations, helped KU earn the Communications Sweepstakes Award. —

## Together again

### *Alumni return to the Hill for reunion weekend*

Jayhawks from near and far gathered in mid-April to share memories and explore old and new Lawrence haunts. Tours of Mount Oread and the historic Quantrill's Raid route were part of the three-day itinerary for members of the Class of 1960, who also heard about 21st-century life on the Hill from a panel of current students.

A highlight for the class was the formal induction into the Gold Medal Club April 16 during a dinner and ceremony at the new Oread Hotel. Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little and her husband, Shade Keys Little, presented 50-year pins to more than 100 class members. On Saturday, the Gold Medal Club held its annual brunch and gained an additional 13 members who graduated before 1960.

Alumni also enjoyed a private concert at the Lied Center's Bales Organ Recital Hall and the Kansas Relays, held that weekend in Memorial Stadium.

Visit [www.kualumni.org](http://www.kualumni.org) for more photos from April festivities. —



TERRY ROMBECK (2)







■ Members of the Gold Medal Club (p.40) met April 17 at the Kansas Union: Don Williams, b'42, clowning with Baby Jay, who also bonded with Sharon Frahm Steele, c'57, and her husband, Paul Steele, b'57. The Class of 1960 dinner (above) April 16 concluded with a rousing rendition of the Alma Mater. Earlier in the evening, Lester and Gloria McShann Blue, h'60, got acquainted with Shade Keys Little, who helped Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little present 50-year pins to class members. Presiding over the evening was Roger Stanton, c'60, l'63, Class of 1960 vice president.

## Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who became Life Members beginning March 1 through April 30. For more information on Life Membership, please visit [www.kualumni.org](http://www.kualumni.org) or call 800-584-2957.

Stacy A. Abernethy  
Christopher J. Allen  
Steven M. Alpers  
Erin E. Anderson  
Kayl Anderson  
William A. Anderson  
John S. Armstrong  
Steven B. Armstrong  
Shelli J. Baker  
Bradley E. Banks  
Craig A. & Jennifer K. Berquist  
Nathan D. & Tobey J. Brady  
Bret W. & Erin Fisher Brown  
Adam M. Browne  
Meredith L. Bush  
Phillip C. Buttell  
John S. & Jane Weidensaul Buxton  
Stewart B. Cerier  
Mallory A. Christian  
Marisa L. Claassen  
Abigail D. Coffin  
Thomas B. Coulter  
Kristen K. Cowan  
Robert M. Crane  
Kyle T. & Helen Draffen Daniels  
Aaron E. & Keeley D. Davis  
Vanessa J. Davis  
Caitlin R. Diel  
Eric J. Dippel  
Gary C. Doolittle  
John B. Dresslar  
Mary E. Duarte  
Matthew C. Enriquez  
Kelsey M. Eriksen  
Leland B. & Sandra Lee Flachsbarth

Anita J. Freeman  
Rebecca M. Getman  
Kaitlin E. Guinn  
James D. & Hollie M. Harder  
Kelly Z. & Robyn Meyer Hart  
Ryan R. Heape  
Elizabeth A. Heath  
George M. Hudson  
Janis Mehornay Ingham  
Marilyn H. Jenkins  
Claudette D. Johns  
Neal A. Julian  
Christopher A. Katterhenry  
John W. Kellerman  
Kent D. Kirby  
Carl E. Kramer  
James J. & Shelly M. Laws  
Kelsey E. Livingston  
Daniel P. Logan  
Sara Lounsberry  
Victor C. Marshall  
Laura Jeffries Marugg  
Christine A. Matousek  
Emily J. McCulley  
James C. Milin  
Terry G. & Mary B. Miller  
David Molamphy  
Thomas L. & Marlene Barenberg Nowak  
Rodney V. Odom  
Miriam L. Ofstein  
Nicholas J. Peterson  
Robert L. Pieper  
John W. Pro  
Roy M. & Linda Bahr Rawlings

Christopher W. Rhoades  
Thomas H. & Kimberley H. Roberts  
Carroll M. Rogers  
Marlesa A. Roney  
Kristin Dehoff Ross  
Brian R. Russell  
Kim Lee Salanski  
Stephanie M. & Kenneth R. Schmidt III  
Michael D. Seeber  
Niraj N. Shah  
Rebecca Nolind Shaw  
Janice Parker Shelby  
Sara Sidebottom  
Rahul P. Singh  
Alan L. Solomon  
James L. Spencer  
Sara E. Strunk  
Scott M. Sturgeon  
Mary L. Tran  
John F. Ulrey  
Robert G. VanHoecke  
Paul R. Vernon  
Linda M. Walton  
Kurt A. Welshaar  
Andrew J. Welch  
Sherrie L. Wiedeman  
Amy Williamson  
Rose A. Wilson  
Kristen Windscheffel  
Piper J. Wolfe  
Michael A. & Julie Robinson Zybko





# Class Notes

BY KAREN GOODELL

## 1946

**Mary Jane Zollinger Byers**, f'46, lives in Boulder, Colo., where she teaches voice lessons. She recently traveled to Russia.

## 1947

**Maynard Hesselbarth**, c'47, s'49, recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Colorado chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. He lives in Grand Junction, Colo.

## 1948

**Corlyn Holbrook Adams**, '48, is retired in Fort Worth, Texas, where she and her husband, Henry, make their home.

## 1953

**James Ruble**, m'53, a retired physician, has planted more than 11,000 trees on his farm south of Overbrook.

## 1954

**Vernon Smith**, d'54, coordinates national media for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries in Silver Spring, Md. He and **Donna Arnold Smith**, c'54, make their home in Bloomington, Ind.

## 1955

**Maizie Harris Jesse**, '55, was honored earlier this year when a theatre in Carson City, Nev., was named for her.

## 1958

**John Dealy**, e'58, represented KU at the installation of a new chancellor at McGill University in Montreal, where he has been a professor for 45 years.

**David McDonald**, c'58, is a partner in McDonald & Conolly in Galesburg, Ill.

## 1960

**Gary**, d'60, g'63, and **Connie George Elting**, d'62, will celebrate their 51st anniversary in August. They live in Savan-

nah, Mo.

**Edward Wheeler**, e'60, is managing director of FlashPoint Technologies in Singapore.

## 1961

**Edward Reilly Jr.**, c'61, retired as chairman of the U.S. Parole Commission, where he served under four U.S. presidents. He makes his home in Bethesda, Md.

## 1964

**Malcolm Smith**, f'64, teaches oboe at Butler University in Indianapolis, where he's an artist-in-residence.

## 1965

**David Bartlett**, f'65, works as a nature photographer for Red Pixel Montage in Littleton, Colo., where he and **Dorothy Ensminger Bartlett**, f'68, make their home.

**Dennis Klein**, d'65, g'67, recently returned from a three-month trip that included visits to South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana. He lives in Plano, Texas.

**Van Moe**, j'65, is president of Oregon Eagle in Tillamook. He recently was named Oregon Broadcaster of the Year.

**Dean Testa**, e'65, owns DMT Enterprises in Topeka, where he and **Karen Groh Testa**, '65, make their home.

## 1966

**Bill Carpenter**, d'66, is asset manager for C.F. Asset Management in Henderson, Nev.

## 1967

**Sanda Buda**, d'67, g'75, is a factory representative for Riddell Sports in Omaha, Neb., where he and **Nancy Schroll Buda**, d'68, g'69, make their home.

**Susan Pierce Massey**, d'67, works as a parent educator for the Oglesby School

District in Oglesby, Ill.

**Robert Parker**, c'67, m'71, is vice chair of family and community medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

## 1968

**Christopher Jeter**, d'68, EdD'79, is a human resource and tuition reimbursement specialist at Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita.

## 1969

**Edwin**, c'69, and **Mary Tarr Cart**, c'69, make their home in Chesapeake, Va.

**Douglas Lindsey**, c'69, is a Christian Science teacher in Wichita, where he and **Carolyn Dean Pike Lindsey**, d'69, live.

**Stanley Vestal**, c'69, g'70, directs customer service for Avaya in Still River, Mass. He and **Claudia Gripp Vestal**, d'69, live in Harvard.

**Keith Wood**, d'69, is executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Douglas County. He and **Barbara Nottage Wood**, c'69, c'70, live in Lawrence, where she's direct sales manager for the Bureau of Lectures.

## 1970

**Sandra Thompson Chapman**, d'70, g'71, PhD'85, is retired in Olathe. She had directed professional development for USD 229.

**Gregory Gutting**, c'70, recently retired from teaching and moved to Midland, Texas.

**Gary Leikam**, e'70, a retired senior programmer/planner with IBM, makes his home in Round Rock, Texas, with **Mary Magnuson Leikam**, '71.

**Marilyn Zook Petterson**, j'70, is retired marketing communications manager for the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. She and her husband, **Michael**, c'73, live in Dana Point, Calif.

## 1971



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## Class Notes

**Steven Angell**, c'71, directs North American business development for ENVIRON International in Chicago. He lives in Glenview.

**Richard Hellman**, m'71, recently received a distinguished alumnus award from the Chicago Medical School Alumni Association. He has a practice specializing in endocrinology and diabetes in Kansas City.

**Keith Jantz**, c'71, m'74, serves as president of Kansas City Internal Medicine. He and **Rebecca Lamm Jantz**, s'79, live in Leawood.

**Carl Kell**, PhD'71, a professor of communications at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, wrote *Against the Wind: The Moderate Voice in Baptist Life*, which recently was published by the University of Tennessee Press.

**Leo Martinez**, e'71, is acting chancellor and dean of law at the University of California in San Francisco. He lives in Oakland.

**Mark Reynolds**, c'71, g'76, is senior program manager for Motorola Mobile Devices. He and **Virginia McKeefery-Reynolds**, g'78, PhD'79, live in Wheaton, Ill.

**James Steeples**, b'71, g'73, lives in Centennial, Colo., where he's Colorado president of Mutual of Omaha Bank.

**James Zimmer**, c'71, is a senior software product support analyst at Silicon Graphics International in Eagan, Minn. He lives in Burnsville.

### 1972

**Kenneth Carpio**, b'72, manages regional technical sales for AT&T in St. Louis. He lives in Chesterfield, Mo.

**Steven Childs**, s'72, is president of the Kansas Area United Methodist Foundation in Hutchinson, where he and Peggy Thorne Childs, d'71, make their home.

**Paul Conderman**, c'72, l'75, serves as a special assistant to the judge advo-

cate at HQ U.S. Army Europe. He lives in Heidelberg, Germany.

**Gaylene Cook Tunison**, d'72, works as a school librarian in Austin, Texas.

### 1973

**Marjorie Grafke-Doby**, g'73, a retired school counselor, lives in Leavenworth.

**Steven Perkins**, b'73, g'75, recently became CEO of the South Central Kansas Regional Medical Center in Arkansas City.

### 1974

**Marsha Haskin Barrett**, g'74, owns Barrett Administrative Resource Services in Lenexa. Her children's book, *Sammy Snail and his Cousin, Sedwick Slug*, recently was released by Dorrance Publishing.

**Gary Ditty**, e'74, is a project manager at R.D. Johnson Excavating in Lawrence. He lives in Linwood.

**Margaret Wood Dyck**, c'74, g'76, g'09, works as a respiratory therapist at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

**Walter Hanson**, '74, is president and CEO of the Nordic Shop in Rochester, Minn.

**Marc Mitchell**, b'74, works for Niklaus Enterprises in Lawrence.

**Kirk Taylor**, c'74, is a sales consultant for Davis-Moore Automotive in Wichita.

**Steven Tosone**, c'74, m'77, practices pediatric anesthesiology at the Emory Clinic in Atlanta. He lives in Dunwoody.

**Chris Wilkinson**, p'74, works as a physician assistant at Gastroenterology Associates of SW Florida. He lives in Punta Gorda.

### 1975

**John Hamilton**, c'75, is an associate professor at Park University in Kansas City.

**Susan Harthorn**, f'75, directs chaplain and spiritual care services at Clarian West Medical Center in Avon, Ind. She lives in Indianapolis.

**Christine Intagliata**, c'75, lives in Takoma Park, Md., where she's a writer for documentary films and television. She edited *Angel of Death Row: My Life as*

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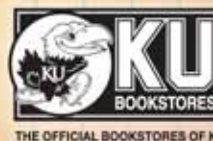


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## Class Notes

a *Death Penalty Defense Lawyer*, which was published earlier this year by Kaplan Publishing.

**Richard Magie**, p'75, chairs the pediatrics department at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

**Deborah Kraus Voth**, d'75, recently became president of Rainbows United in Wichita.

### 1976

**Paula Bohr**, f'76, is an associate professor at Maryville University in St. Louis. She and her husband, John Walsh, live in Valley Park.

**Robert Brown Jr.**, c'76, manages projects for Quintiles. He lives in Lake Winnebago, Mo.

**David Krobot**, j'76, owns Dave K Digital Kreations in Bridgeport, Conn.

**Nancy Morrison**, f'76, exhibited her paintings earlier this year at the Charno Gallery in Kansas City. She lives in Lee's Summit, Mo.

**David Palenshus**, b'76, manages

operations for IMS Electronics Recycling in Vancouver, Wash.

**Randy Ramey**, h'76, is a physical therapist at St. John's Regional Health Center in Springfield, Mo.

**Robin Walker-Lee**, c'76, commutes from West Bloomfield, Mich., to Livonia, where she's an executive vice president and general counsel at TRW Automotive Holdings.

### 1977

**Leslie Dobbins Jr.**, e'77, is retired in Suwanee, Ga., from a career with General Electric.

**Bill French**, j'77, manages accounts for Presidio in Bixby, Okla.

**Cynthia Janssen**, g'77, PhD'82, is a principal for the Collier County Public Schools in Naples, Fla.

**Roger Neugent**, d'77, works as a special-education teacher for USD 259 in Wichita. He and **Carol Chapman Neugent**, j'78, live in Haysville.

**Mark Roll**, c'77, is vice president of

Soltex in Houston. He lives in Cypress.

**James Utt**, p'77, is a scientific-affairs liaison for Santarus, a pharmaceutical company. He lives in Maryville, Tenn.

### 1978

**Michael Hutchins**, s'78, is president of Transportation Logistics Management in Littleton, Colo.

**Cindy Brunker McClannahan**, c'78, l'81, lives in Prairie Village and is a shareholder in Seigfreid Bingham Levy Seizer & Gee in Kansas City.

**Thomas Schroeder**, b'78, directs human resources for ConocoPhillips in Bartlesville, Okla. He and **Deborah Rider Schroeder**, c'79, d'80, live in Independence.

**Mary Stuart**, c'78, is a help-desk technician for Total Computer Solutions in Greensboro, N.C.

**Loren Sullivan**, c'78, g'80, makes his home in Midlothian, Va., with **Christina Wallace Sullivan**, '80.

**Bruce Van Roekel**, e'78, manages



construction for Aaron Rents in Bonner Springs. He and **Pamela Altic Van Roekel**, '80, live in Olathe.

**Roger Werholtz**, s'78, is secretary of corrections for the Kansas Department of Corrections in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence and recently was honored by the Association of State Correctional Administrators as outstanding 2009 director of corrections.

## 1979

**LaDonna Hale Curzon**, j'79, is executive producer and host of Sarah Palin Radio. She lives in Alexandria, Va., with her husband, Elliott, and their two daughters.

**Victoria Dalle-Molle**, c'79, g'81, is executive director of the SE Minnesota Center for Independent Living. She and her husband, **Richard**, PhD'82, live in Rochester.

**Doug Kirkland**, e'79, manages projects for BIS Frucon Engineering in Ballwin, Mo., where he and **Angela Harris Kirkland**, '81, make their home.

**John Thompson**, j'79, c'79, directs communications for Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska. He lives in Bethesda, Md.

## 1980

**John Clyatt**, d'80, is senior analyst at Capstone in Alexandria, Va. He and

## Profile

BY MARY O'CONNELL

### Mauldin unites neighbors by sharing their stories

As a child in war-torn Ramallah, Taj Farouki thumbed through Life magazine and thought America would be a great place to visit, but that he could never leave his native Palestine for good. Madge King joined a traveling children's troupe that entertained British families bombed out of their homes during World War II; her specialty was impersonating Carmen Miranda. Before her family escaped to America from North Vietnam, Loan Vu Nigh heard street fighting all night and slept under her bed to feel safe.

These remembrances may have been lost if not for the efforts of Jim Mauldin, who spearheaded the Ethnic Life Studies Project in Springfield, Mo. From 2001 to 2003 he matched immigrant storytellers with volunteer "story keepers," who spent about 100 hours recording and transcribing each life story.

The 38 narratives they produced are by turns heartbreaking and whimsical, and the participants—whether telling a life story or recording one—walked away changed by the transformative, healing power of storytelling.

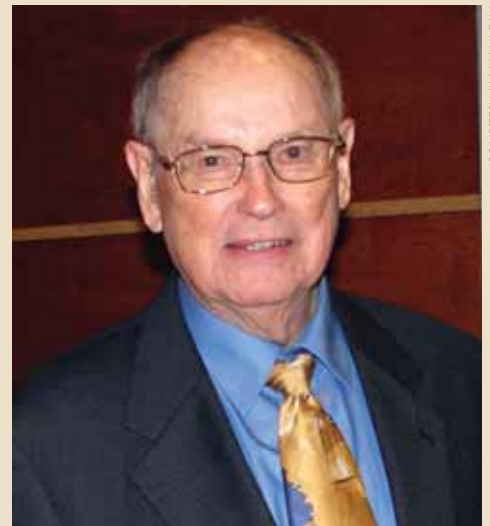
"The storytellers learned that theirs was not an isolated journey and they

grew to admire the courage of their fellows," Mauldin, g'50, wrote in his own life story. A community grew as participants gathered to share meals and stories, and the city embraced the project. Universities, schools, senior centers and libraries stock reading copies of Ethnic Life Stories, which also are available online at [thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/lochist/els/menu.cfm](http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/lochist/els/menu.cfm).

Mauldin became interested in other cultures while serving in Europe during World War II, but his egalitarian outlook was a gift from his mother. "She always taught me that, no matter what anyone's background is, we're all equals. Nobody is better than anyone else," he says.

One of the veterans who swelled KU's enrollment after the war, Mauldin earned a master's degree in bacteriology and biochemistry and enjoyed a successful career at Merck and an international trading company. But it was in retirement where he found his passion: preserving for future generations Springfield's multicultural heritage.

The life stories of people from around the globe assimilating to Missouri share familiar stranger-in-a-strange-land despairs: discrimination, homesickness, family problems, money trouble. But the storytellers also detail the levity of their adventure, the humor and delight of ordinary days, their pride in being new



COURTESY JIM MAULDIN

■ "Jim is genuinely interested in people—their food, their music, the stories of their life, their assimilation into Springfield," says June Huff, community service director of the Southwest Missouri Office on Aging, one of the sites where Ethnic Life Stories are on file.

Americans.

Story keepers asked the same final question: What is your hope for the future? Again and again storytellers gave the same answer—one that resonated with Mauldin, who earned a purple heart for his service in an armored infantry battalion during World War II.

Everyone hoped for peace. —

## Class Notes



1970 JAYHAWKER YEARBOOK

### THEN AGAIN

In 1970, KUOK was a familiar acronym in students' home away from home. In fact, the AM station, run by School of Journalism students, could only be picked up by radios in dorm rooms. Later that decade, the growing popularity of FM radio prompted a switch to 90.7 KJHK, where the student-run station can still be heard today—from any radio in Lawrence.

**Elaine Dulin Clyatt**, f'80, live in Temple, Texas.

**Linda Zarda Cook**, e'80, recently was elected to the board of directors of Cargill. She lives in Concord, Mass.

**Patrick Flynn**, e'80, manages projects for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration in Denver. He lives in Littleton, Colo.

**Dana Glover**, f'80, directs Aref & Associates Design Studio in El Segundo, Calif. She lives in Pacific Palisades.

**Thomas Myers**, e'80, works as a division manager at BreitBurn Energy in Los Angeles. He lives in Yorba Linda.

**Kathryn Klusman Piersall**, c'80, is a partner in AllStar Academy of Real Estate Realtors in Dallas. She lives in Carrollton.

**Wiley Wright**, d'80, was honored earlier this year when the pool at Shawnee Mission East High School was named for him. Wiley coached swimming at the school for 25 years. He and **Cynthia Hernandez Wright**, d'80, live in Kansas City.

#### 1981

**Tamara Dellett Crum**, c'81, directs national accounts for Mattel Toys. She lives in Brookfield, Wis.

**Henry May**, e'81, is a senior technical staff member with IBM. He lives in Rochester, Minn.

#### 1982

**Darren Karst**, b'82, is executive vice president and chief financial officer for Roundy's Supermarkets in Milwaukee. He and **Teresa Cosentino Karst**, b'81, g'82, live in Lake Forrest, Ill.

**Janet Murguia**, c'82, j'82, l'85, is president and CEO of the National Council of La Raza in Washington, D.C., where she lives. She recently was inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame.

**Mary Murguia**, c'82, j'82, l'85, serves as a judge of the U.S. District Court in Phoenix, where she makes her home. She recently was nominated by President Barack Obama for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals. She also was named to the KU Women's Hall of Fame.

**Micheal Reynolds**, b'82, is a senior financial analyst for Collective Brands in Topeka. He commutes from Shawnee.

**Fredrick Streff**, c'82, directs institutional effectiveness at New River Community College in Dublin, Va. He lives in Draper.

#### 1983

**Michael Bertrand**, a'83, a'84, owns Michael Bertrand Photography in Friday Harbor, Wash.

**Sarah Duckers**, b'83, l'86, practices law with Sechrist Duckers in Houston. She and her husband, Mark Davidson, live in Bellaire, Texas.

**Anne Frame Hertzog**, c'83, co-owns Creative Road Studio and is creative director and a partner in the Kern Group. She and her husband, Steven, live in

Lawrence.

**Ronda Adams Hume**, b'83, is a senior administrative associate for KU's department of music and dance. She and her husband, **Ken**, b'79, live in Lawrence.

**Martha Jenkins**, j'83, is acting general counsel for the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration in the Office of the Attorney General in the District of Columbia. She lives in Washington, D.C.

**Jean Burrows Truman**, b'83, manages general ledgers for Birch Telecom in Kansas City.

**Nicholas Zachariades**, c'83, is a partner in Novak Druce + Quigg in West Palm Beach, Fla. He lives in Jupiter.

#### 1984

**Thomas Bene**, b'84, recently was named president of Pepsi-Cola North America Beverages in Purchase, N.Y. He lives in Ridgefield, Conn.

**Teresa Gaines**, j'84, directs government relations for General Dynamics in Falls Church, Va. She lives in Vienna.

**Rick Smith**, e'84, is principal systems security engineer for SAIC. He lives in Crofton, Md.

**Scott Wren**, b'84, lives in St. Louis, where he's a senior equity strategist for Wachovia Securities.

#### 1986

**Amy Brown**, c'86, j'86, is deputy city administrator for the city and county of San Francisco.

**Brian McClendon**, e'86, is engineering vice president at Google in Mountain View, Calif. He lives in Portola Valley.

**Steven Wolcott**, c'86, g'91, chairs the communications department at Southwestern College in Dayton, Ohio.

#### 1987

**Padmanabh Bhatt**, g'87, PhD'89, is vice president of Supernus Pharmaceuticals in Rockville, Md.

**Aric Cleland**, b'87, is vice president of private wealth management for Goldman Sachs & Co. in Chicago, where he and **Karen Neilsen Cleland**, j'87, make their home.

**Jennifer Leaf**, c'87, g'92, does com-



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community development planning for the Hastings District Council in Hastings, New Zealand.

**Lowell Seaton**, b'87, e'87, works as an engineer with Veterans Health Administration in Arlington, Texas.

**Patrick Sturgeon**, j'87, directs programming for ESPN America in London.

## 1988

**Chris Burmeister**, e'88, is a member of Lockheed Martin's business development senior staff in Moorestown, N.J.

**Esperanza Clark**, c'88, manages the legal office of Charles Edward Clark in Pasadena, Calif., where she's also a paralegal. She lives in San Marino.

**Natalie Hotchkiss**, c'88, coaches for the Albuquerque, N.M., public-school system.

**Jaye Mueller**, s'88, recently opened a clinical social work practice in Topeka.

**Angel Reyes**, c'88, founded and is managing partner of the law firm of Reyes Bartolomei Browne in Dallas.

**Mark Simerly**, c'88, directs managed



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## Class Notes

services for Paragon Application Systems in Holly Springs, N.C.

**John Skidmore**, c'88, is chief compliance officer at Parnassus Investments in San Francisco. He lives in San Ramon.

### 1989

**Michael Bedell**, b'89, g'91, is a professor of business and public administration at California State University in Bakersfield.

**Karoline Knock Felts**, c'89, works as a development specialist at the University of Texas.

**Kelly Herman-Roberts**, d'89, is executive director of the Jones County Schools in Gray, Ga.

**Rhonda Newcomer Hornberger**, p'89, p'04, directs clinical services for Omnicare in Olathe.

**Javan Owens**, j'89, is chief of the U.S. Army's family advocacy program in Seattle.

**Gregory Pasley**, e'89, g'91, PhD'97, manages preconstruction services for BlueScope Buildings in Burwood, Australia. He and **Sonia Martinez Pasley**, g'90, have a home in Leawood.

### 1990

**Darrin Andersen**, b'90, is president and chief operating officer of QC Holdings in Overland Park. He and **Jill Ham-mill Andersen**, d'93, live in Stilwell.

## Profile

BY STEVEN HILL

### Entrepreneurial engineer flies for love and money

Unlike a lot of first-year college students, Ron Renz arrived on campus knowing exactly what he wanted to do.

"I originally went to university to learn how to build race cars," Renz says. "I was going to be a Formula 1 driver."

Then something even more exciting—if you can believe that—convinced him to change his plans.

"In second year I got my pilot's license and went hook, line and sinker into airplanes."

Renz, g'81, earned a degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Manitoba, then looked for a graduate school to study aerospace engineering. Accepted at MIT, UCLA and Wichita State, he chose KU for the program's breadth.

"It was one of the few programs I found that offered everything I wanted to do," he says. "Not just the flying or the engineering or the management—everything."

"The whole reason I'm in this is that I love everything about airplanes. I love to fly airplanes, I love to work on airplanes, I love to design airplanes."

Renz remained in Lawrence after grad-

uation, starting successful companies that showcase his full range of skills, from design to manufacture to flight testing.

GUT Works LLC installs custom equipment and readies planes for export, disassembling and shipping them overseas to foreign buyers. Renz originally intended to sell P-52 Mustang kits to hobbyists (GUT stands for Grown Up Toys), but his timing was off. He still has boxfuls of his launch press release—dated Sept. 11, 2001. "A really bad day to start an aviation project," he says.

Alligator Inc. provides product support for Mitsubishi airplanes, does flight testing, and designs and manufactures aviation equipment. The name is a playful tip of the hat to the company's emphasis on crisis response.

"There's a saying: 'When you're up to your ass in alligators, it is hard to remember that the objective is to drain the swamp,'" Renz says. "Well, we're the alligator fighters."

Work frequently puts him on the road or in the air, doing what he loves best. Export clients sometimes hire Renz to



STEVE PUPPE

■ "The airplane is the most technologically advanced product that we as a society mass-produce," says Renz, who runs two aviation companies based at Lawrence Municipal Airport. "As a techno-geek, that intrigues me."

train them to fly their new toys, and that has put him in the cockpit with some notable fliers, including a high-ranking officer in the Indonesian air force and a former Soviet MIG pilot.

Renz also has worked on the first lady's jet and recently did pro bono work to ship a donated plane to Kenya, where the Kenya Wildlife Service deploys it to protect elephants and other endangered wildlife from poachers.

The ever-changing to-do list keeps him engaged and happy.

"I don't work for a living, I play," Renz



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**Marlys Hammond**, g'90, is a senior scientific investigator for GlaxoSmithKline in King of Prussia, Pa.

**Brett Leopold**, c'90, commutes from Fairway to Topeka, where he's senior attorney for ITC Great Plains.

## 1991

**Mark Amick**, c'91, manages sales for Sprint Nextel in Overland Park.

**Mallory Buck Bryan**, c'91, g'98, works as a speech-language pathologist for USD 501 in Topeka. She lives in Berryton.

**Michael Haws**, c'91, is vice president of CIBER in Overland Park.

**William MacPhail**, c'91, works for Merck in Summit, N.J., where he's an associate scientist. He lives in Somerville.

**Cynthia Leitich Smith**, j'91, wrote *Eternal*, a young adult novel that debuted at No. 5 on the New York Times best-seller list earlier this year. She lives in Austin, Texas.

**Geoffrey Stalker**, c'91, works as a

financial representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Wichita. He lives in Andover.

## 1992

**Melissa Comstock**, p'92, is a pharmacist at Stormont-Vail HealthCare in Topeka.

**Josephine Hernandez**, s'92, is a social worker and therapist at Catholic Charities in Salina.

**Curtis Marsh**, j'92, recently received the Citation for Leadership and Achievement in Student Services from KU's Board of Class Officers. He's program director for KU Info in Lawrence.

**Leigh Ewasiuk Sittenauer**, d'92, owns Sittenauer Administrative Services in Elkhorn, Neb., where she and her husband, **Patrick**, c'94, make their home.

**P.H. Gordon Thompson**, m'92, practices medicine with Palmetto Primary Care Physicians in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

**Amy Timmerman**, c'92, directs operations for Spanish Beisbol Network. She

lives in Boston.

## 1993

**Meridith Crane**, j'93, is an inside sales associate for RJ Mann & Associates in Hugoton.

**Michael Foulston**, c'93, works as an education specialist for DataCenters, an Internet services company in Wichita.

The Rev. **Mark Frickey**, c'93, serves as pastor of the Lutheran Parish of South Columbia County in Elizaville, N.Y. He lives in Copake.

**Jeffrey Gannon**, c'93, directs business development for Envysion in Louisville, Colo.

**Armen Kurdian**, e'93, serves as a

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## Class Notes

commander and test pilot with the U.S. Navy. His home is in Lexington Park, Md.

**Michael Patterson**, b'93, owns Topeka Harley-Davidson. He and **Catherine Spencer Patterson**, c'89, live in Lawrence.

**Lorie Williams**, c'93, teaches English at Gulf University in Kuwait.

### 1994

**Jeffrey Cerjan**, e'94, is a senior engineer with Hankard Environmental in Fort Collins, Colo.

**Ed Dunn**, e'94, is a senior mechanical engineer with Raytheon Missile Systems. He lives in Vail, Ariz.

**David Kavalec**, c'94, manages accounts for Avanade. He and **Amy McMillan Kavalec**, c'95, live in Highlands Ranch, Colo.

### 1995

**Jerry Cross**, e'95, is resident engineer at PBS&J in Dallas. He lives in Garland, Texas.

**Mark Galus**, c'95, practices law with Galus Legal in Kansas City.

**Matthew Jones**, e'95, is customer manager at Plexus in Neenah, Wis.

**Patrick Kenny**, e'95, lives in El Segundo, Calif., where he's a principal at Infrastructure Factor Consulting.

**Annette Rodriguez**, n'95, is a clinical instructor of nursing at Kansas City Kansas Community College.

**Chad Sandwell**, c'95, is chief meteorologist for KPTH in North Sioux City, S.D.

**Lisa Perry Snodgrass**, j'95, commutes from Lansing to Leavenworth, where she's a senior rate analyst for Armed Forces Insurance.

### BORN TO:

**Jason**, '95, and **Amy Wolf Lovell**, c'95, son, Alexander Lawrence, Aug. 5 in Mission. Jason is an account manager at State Street, and Amy is an academic operations manager at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics.

### 1996

**Walter Braeger**, g'96, is managing director for IBM in Minneapolis, Minn.

He lives in Plymouth.

**Scott Freeman**, c'96, is chief executive officer of Million Air in Belton, Mo. He lives in Stilwell.

**Carrie Sgarlat Sinclair**, j'96, g'02, manages media relations for Honeywell in Phoenix. She and her husband, **Robert**, j'97, live in Gilbert, Ariz.

**Jonathan Wheeler**, c'96, is assistant director of athletics for the Tulsa, Okla., public school district. He and **Nichole Jeter Wheeler**, b'98, live in Owasso.

### MARRIED

**Brenton Haag**, c'96, and **Julie Wilkerson**, c'99, Nov. 21 in Kansas City. He's an account supervisor at Callahan Creek in Lawrence, and she's a reimbursement business manager at Allergan Neuroscience. They live in Overland Park.

**Michael Pisani**, c'96, and **Rebecca Burns**, c'98, Sept. 19 in Topeka. They live in Lawrence, where they both work at Hilltop Child Development Center.

### 1997

**Derek Brown**, l'97, c'94, serves as a judge advocate with the U.S. Army in Charlottesville, Va.

### MARRIED

**Michelle Blair**, d'97, to Larry Hovick, Jan. 16 in Kansas City. They live in Olathe.

### 1998

**Lesli Humphries**, j'98, manages regional sales for KAKW Univision TV in Austin, Texas.

**Marcia Hallenbeck McFarlane**, j'98, wrote a children's book, *A Good Game of Snowball*, which was published earlier this year. Marcia and her husband, **Theodore**, e'71, l'76, h'77, make their home in Overland Park.

**Samantha Bowman Mortlock**, c'98, is an attorney with the 9th U.S. Court of Appeals. She lives in Los Angeles.

**Michael Rohleder**, c'98, is a sales representative with UCB. He and **Holly Tallen Rohleder**, j'99, live in Fort Wayne, Ind.

### 1999



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**Daniel Covington**, l'99, is a partner in the Ottawa law firm of Green Finch & Covington. He lives in Lawrence.

**Tamecka Dixon**, c'99, retired from the WNBA, where she played for 13 seasons, most recently for the Indiana Fever. She also had played for the Houston Comets and the Los Angeles Sparks. Tamecka lives in Westfield, N.J., and currently plays with OMA Napoli

in the Italian League.

**Benjamin Gould**, b'99, practices law with the Chicago firm of Masuda Funai Eifert & Mitchell.

**Danielle Abernethy Merrick**, s'99, is an assistant clinical professor at UMKC's law school. She and her husband, **Joshua**, g'04, live in Leawood.

**Rene Meyer Washburn**, b'99, e'99, works as IT manager for Dell in Round Rock, Texas. She and her husband,

**Robert**, e'00, live in Cedar Park.

#### BORN TO:

**Troy**, b'99, and **Heidi Sparkman Boehm**, n'02, g'09, daughter, Alyson Grace, July 31 in Olathe, where she joins a sister, Megan, 7, and a brother, Jared, 11. Troy is an account manager for State Street in Kansas City.

## Profile

BY TERRY ROMBECK

### Archaeologist's discovery rewrites maritime history

Curtis Runnels' first archaeological expedition came at age 8, when he and some friends unearthed bones at a site in Lawrence that was being excavated for a new subdivision.

"They turned out to be bison bones," Runnels recalls. "We found some arrowheads nearby. We worked on that for weeks and weeks and weeks. I learned I could study human artifacts and there was this field called archaeology."

It was a simple start to a career that has made Runnels, c'72, one of the United States' most respected archaeologists and a leading authority on the history of Greece.

The Boston University professor recently made a huge splash in the archaeological world, discovering artifacts he says date seafaring as far back as 80,000 years earlier than previously thought.

The discovery came on the Greek island of Crete, where Runnels and other researchers had been looking for evidence of campsites made by groups traveling by boat. They expected to find such sites dating back around 12,000 years, similar to those found previously.

The archaeologists found those sites, but it was a piece of quartz found

by Runnels' wife that made the trip especially memorable.

Runnels didn't think much of the quartz at first. But the next morning over coffee, the light hit the mineral just right, and Runnels realized it was a scraper tool similar to those dating to around 130,000 years ago.

The researchers returned to the site and found more tools from the era. They didn't find evidence of boats, and they don't know where the humans came from. But, Runnels says, they had to get there by sea.

Most scientists previously thought the first boat travel came 50,000 to 60,000 years ago by humans traveling to Australia.

"They were not supposed to be on that island," Runnels says. "We were the first people in 100,000 years to stand on that spot and realize what those tools are. It's a goose-bumpy, spine-tingling experience to do that."

That discovery took place in 2008 but was announced earlier this year at the meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America. With his Greek research permit expired for now, Runnels and his team are working to publish papers based on the fieldwork. The find may lead to the rewriting of many textbooks, Runnels says.



COURTESY CURTIS RUNNELS

■ Curtis Runnels (standing, in hat) has led archaeological teams from Boston University to Crete and helped determine seafaring dates as far back as 80,000 years earlier than previously thought.

Previously, Runnels discovered that Greek Neanderthals were not related to Homo sapiens, and that the people of prehistoric Greece caused catastrophic environmental change through soil erosion and deforestation.

"Sometimes you make the major discovery early in your career," he says. "Sometimes it's in the middle. I've had a long career already, and this is a crown-



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## 2000

**Karl Brooks**, PhD'00, recently was appointed by President Barack Obama as regional administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7. He lives in Lawrence.

**Erin Staten Fager**, j'00, g'05, supervises accounts for Barkley in Kansas City.

**Christopher Gallaway**, '00, is a partner in FieldWorks, a political-consulting firm specializing in grassroots and field strategy. He and **Allison Bernard Gallaway**, c'01, live in Washington, D.C., where she's a public affairs officer at the Smithsonian Institution.

**Jason Hohman**, d'00, g'04, manages imaging services for the Olathe Medical Center. He and **Jenny Schierbaum Hohman**, c'04, live in Lawrence.

**David Lister**, c'00, is a paralegal at Davis Wright Tremaine in Seattle.

**Michael Pace**, c'00, practices emergency medicine with MorningStar Emergency Physicians in Grove, Okla., where he and his wife, Julie, make their

home.

**Frederick Patton**, l'00, owns Topeka Escrow Service and practices law with Patton Law Office. He recently became president-elect of the Kansas Association of School Boards.

**Cynthia Tucker-Jordan**, '00, is an analyst with Sprint Nextel and a service specialist with Transtech. She lives in Olathe.

## 2001

**Charles Drucker**, c'01, serves as a captain in the U.S. Army on a military transition team in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He and **Jill Sullivan Drucker**, c'00, make their home in St. Charles, Mo.

**Sunni Sheets Goentzel**, f'01, teaches graphic design at Cowley College in Arkansas City. She lives in Geuda Springs.

**Christopher Hines**, c'01, works as a real-estate developer and broker for



## THEN AGAIN

This year's Commencement marks the 60th anniversary of the first class that walked through the Campanile on its way to Memorial Stadium. The Campanile (in upper left corner of the photo) was only partially finished and covered by scaffolding, but "the class of '50 doubtless will take pride in being the first to observe the rite," according to the June 1950 *Graduate Magazine*.

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## Class Notes

Urban/Esprit Homes. He lives in Greenwood Village, Colo.

**Kathryn Hogan**, d'01, is a patient-care technician for Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Consultants. She lives in Merriam.

**Christopher Pettigrew**, c'01, is a test-development specialist for Applied Measurement Professionals in Olathe.

**Khemarat Suthiwan**, c'01, works as a permit technician for EnCana Oil &

Gas in Denver.

**Andrea Troutman**, b'01, g'03, directs accounting systems and analysis for American Multi-Cinema in Kansas City.

### 2002

**Roger Boatwright**, m'02, practices medicine with Smyth Regional OBGYN in Marion, Va.

**Susan Hawk**, s'02, is a medical social

worker for Allen County Hospital Hospice and Home Health in Iola.

**Shanda Powell Hayden**, c'02, is associate director of academic and career counseling for KU Athletics. She lives in Ottawa.

**Bryce Holt**, c'02, wrote *Little Island*, a novel published recently by Minor Planet Press. He lives in Lenexa.

**Scott Moore**, c'02, lives in Overland Park, where he's CEO of Indigo Interac-

## Profile

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

### Robots inspire students to compete against best

The soccer playing robots are undeniably adorable gizmos. Knee-high, bi-pedal and able to kick a ball through a goal without any remote control by their human handlers, the SpelBots are something of an international sensation. And of course the cuteness factor skyrockets when the music kicks in and the bots bust a few smooth dance moves.

But make no mistake: the SpelBots are not toys. They are one of the touchstones of computer-science education at Spelman College in Atlanta, where Professor Andrew Williams, e'88, PhD'00, dedicates himself to encouraging minority women to study computer science and engineering.

"Our students have to teach the robot how to see different objects, and how to reason what to do when it sees those things," Williams says. "They are getting exposed to graduate-level topics, and we are teaching them how to learn on their own and to solve real-world problems."

A committed Christian since his boyhood in Junction City, Williams was teaching at the University of Iowa when he read Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*. Motivated to examine his own direction, he discovered a desire to teach more

minority students than he encountered at Iowa. His wife reminded him of their hope that their own daughters would one day learn from great professors, and Williams immediately saw the direction he'd been seeking and accepted an offer to teach computer science at Spelman, a liberal arts college for women.

Soon after joining Spelman in 2004, Williams formed the SpelBots team. The following year Spelman became the first all-woman team at RoboCup, where the SpelBots faced teams from such powerhouses as Georgia Tech, Texas and Columbia.

Since that first foray, the women of Spelman and their SpelBots have qualified for similar competitions across the U.S., Europe, and even Osaka, Japan, where they tied for first in the 2009 humanoid soccer championship.

They've been featured in national magazine and TV outlets, and in April traveled to a conference at UCLA, where they hoped to encourage high school students to study engineering. Williams even wrote a book, *Out of the Box: Build-*



COURTESY ANDREW WILLIAMS

■ Spelman students create the artificial-intelligence software that powers the SpelBots. "They're learning that science and engineering can be fun," Andrew Williams says. "More important, they're learning they can compete with anyone."

*ing Robots, Transforming Lives.*

The SpelBots receive funding from the National Science Foundation, Google, Apple and Boeing, and Spelman recently received a \$1 million grant from Exxon Mobile to teach engineers.

"We're kind of like the Tuskegee Airmen used to be, like the Great Debaters used to be," Williams says, citing inspirational stories from historically black colleges. "Except the new kind of discrimination isn't necessarily based on the color of your skin or gender, it's based on what you know. If you don't know enough, you get left behind."



tive.

**Brandon Petty**, d'02, is a project analyst for Service Management Group in Kansas City.

## 2003

**Jason Lehtinen**, g'03, directs Mariner Private Equity in Leawood. He lives in Overland Park.

**Jason Shumaker**, d'03, coaches football at Dana College in Blair, Neb.

**Allison Terry**, e'03, is a systems engineer at Boeing Company IDS in Wichita.

**Joseph Utter**, c'03, is president of Oxford Financial Designs in Denver.

## BORN TO:

**Clint Carrier**, e'03, and Molly, son, Curtis Clark, Jan. 31 in Wichita, where Clint works for Cessna Aircraft.

**Lora Brandt Hofstetter**, n'03, and Dennis, daughter, Kendal Paige, Sept. 1 in Fresno, Calif., where Lora is a nurse at Children's Hospital of Central California.

## 2004

**Brett Ballard**, d'04, recently became head men's basketball coach at Baker University in Baldwin City. He had been director of operations for the KU men's basketball team.

**Lisa Miles Bunkowski**, PhD'04, is an assistant professor of history at Texas A&M University-Central Texas in Killeen. She lives in Austin.

**Ryan DaMetz**, e'04, works as a civil engineer at Level-4 Engineering in Lenexa. He lives in Overland Park.

**Misty Koch**, c'04, lives in Wichita, where she's a physician assistant for the Sedgwick County Health Department.

**Emmy Levens**, c'04, is an associate with Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll in Washington, D.C.

**James Menge**, '04, manages air traffic for Midwest Air Traffic Control Service in Topeka.

**Scott Roberts**, e'04, lives in Albuquerque, N.M., where he's a postdoctoral associate with Sandia National Laboratories.

**Kellie Stump**, c'04, works for Ceridian in Houston.

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# Class Notes

## MARRIED

**Jeremy Lill**, b'04, g'07, and **Sarah Conklin**, b'08, g'09, Dec. 19 in Danforth Chapel. He's an accounting lecturer at KU, and she's a CPA with Rubin Brown. They make their home in Tonganoxie.

## 2005

**Adam Bundy**, d'05, manages utility services for Black & McDonald in Kansas City. He and **Marissa Blanco Bundy**, d'04, g'07, live in Gardner.

**Christopher Francisco**, a'05, is an architectural associate with Goldberg Sullivan & McCreery in St. Joseph, Mo. He and his wife, Catina, live in Kansas City.

**Jason Lewis**, b'05, c'05, is vice president of Millennium Commercial Advisors in Denver.

**Boyce Richardson**, c'05, makes his home in Winston Salem, N.C., where he's an associate with Wilson Helms & Cartledge.

**Marisa Starr**, h'05, heads the medicolegal section at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. She lives in Arlington, Va.

**Russell Walker**, b'05, owns RJW Holdings in Los Angeles.

## 2006

**Carly Farrell**, l'06, owns a law practice in Olathe. She lives in Kansas City.

**Sarah Ford**, b'06, is a portfolio accountant with State Street Corp. She lives in Mission.

**Lindsay Gurbacki**, j'06, coordinates projects for Linkage Inc. in Alpharetta, Ga. She lives in Duluth.

**C'Nea Hatches**, c'06, works as a suite sales executive for the Houston Rockets in Houston.

**Jeremy Johnson**, g'06, is a contract administrator for the Defense Contract Management Agency in Indianapolis.

**Christina Kaiser Marko**, m'06, is a postdoctoral fellow in the otolaryngology department at Boston University. She lives in Cambridge.

**Lacey Morris**, b'06, is a senior statistical analyst with Armed Forces Insurance in Leavenworth.

**Tylor Shearburn**, d'06, is area manager of orthopedics for Ossur Orthopedics. He and **Sheena Quinn Shearburn**, d'04, live in Lawrence.

**Matthew Zinn**, e'06, works as an engineer with Frac Tech Services in Bixby, Okla.

## 2007

**Mark Flaspohler**, c'07, works as a sales specialist for BG Medical. He lives in Kansas City.

**Holly Hammerschmidt**, b'07, is a senior alumni relations consultant for Pennington & Co. in Lawrence.

**Elizabeth Lathrop**, c'07, recently became press assistant for Sen. James Inhofe of Oklahoma. She lives in Washington, D.C.

**Elizabeth Rogers**, l'07, practices law with Manson & Karbank in Overland Park.

**Laura Watkins**, j'07, coordinates marketing and communications for Green City Market in Chicago.

## MARRIED

**Tyler Docking**, e'07, to Maggie Joyce, Oct. 10 in Kansas City, where he's a mechanical engineer at Burns & McDonnell. They live in Mission.

## 2008

**James Allen**, c'08, is a banker with Bank of Prairie Village. He lives in Mission Hills.

**Timothy Fields**, c'08, works for Waddell & Reed in Lenexa, where he and **Heather Floyd Fields**, c'07, make their home.

**Jay Kasten**, d'08, directs operations for the Bruno Event Team. He lives in Diberville, Miss.

**Marc Langston**, c'08, recently became communications director for the U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association. He's a second-year law student at Wake Forest University.

**Matthew Lindberg**, j'08, edits sports and reports news for the Montrose Daily Press and Wick Communications in Montrose, Colo., where he and **Sarah Strathman Lindberg**, c'09,

make their home.

**Bryan Marriott**, j'08, manages accounts for P1 Sales Systems in Overland Park.

**Britton Wilson**, l'08, practices law with the Internal Revenue Service in Oklahoma City.

**Andrew Winetroub**, c'08, serves as a legislative research assistant for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Washington, D.C.

## MARRIED

**Katherine Freund**, p'08, to Eric Niemann, Sept. 26 in Topeka. They live in Andover, where she's a pharmacy manager at Walgreens.

## 2009

**Catlin Curtis**, c'09, j'09, is a business account executive with AT&T Mobility. She lives in Las Vegas.

**Robert Lutz**, e'09, is plant engineer at Westar Energy. He lives in Overland Park.

**Matthew McGinley**, c'09, works

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

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





# ROCK CHALK BALL

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and Ann Underwood Kindred, c'59

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Nick Sterner, b'07, c'07

#### **Table Host Chair**

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l'02, and Brooke Robinson

Yoder, l'05

Tom Wiggans, p'75

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#### **Crimson Couples (\$500)**

Jennie Boedeker Bennett, c'77,  
and John Bennett, c'11

William F. Bradley, Jr., c'77, l'80,  
and Roberta D. Harding

Paul "Bud," b'56, and Debbie  
Weihe Burke

Mel, g'60, and Alice C. Hawk, '63  
Mark, d'78, g'89, and Anne Jarboe,  
d'78

Greg, c'57, and Katherine Dunn  
Kallos, assoc.

Dr. Lynn, c'59, m'63,  
and Ann Underwood Kindred,  
c'59

Dr. Norman, m'62, and Shirley  
Martin, assoc.

Joe, b'61, and Susan Morris, assoc.  
Roger, c'60, l'63, and Judith Duncan

Stanton, a'62

Mary Ventura, EdD, d'73, g'77, g'83,  
and Randy Sedlacek

#### **Crimson Individual (\$250)**

Dorothy Wohlgemuth Lynch, d'59



# In Memory

## 1930s

**Willis Beller, c'37, m'41**, 95, Jan. 15 in Topeka, where he co-founded Radiology and Nuclear Medicine and had been chief of staff at St. Francis Hospital. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Thomas, c'69, m'74; a daughter; two sisters; a brother; and four granddaughters.

**Charles Klein, '36**, 95, Dec. 2 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was retired president and director of Northwest Pipeline. Two brothers and a sister survive.

**Elizabeth Winters Linscott, '39**, 92, Dec. 18 in Colorado Springs, Colo. A daughter and a son survive.

**Frederick Maier, c'37**, 94, Nov. 15 in Westwood, N.J., where he was a retired Presbyterian minister. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and two sons.

**Dwight Sisney, b'39**, 95, Dec. 16 in Kansas City, where he was a retired business executive. He is survived by a son, a daughter and a granddaughter.

**Catherine Dunkel Strasburger, d'38**, 91, July 30 in Coffeyville, where she was active in civic affairs. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Stephen, '68; a daughter; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**John Ziegelmeyer, c'38, l'41**, 91, Dec. 13 in Kansas City, where he was a retired attorney. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by two daughters, Molly Ziegelmeyer Helling, c'64, and Martha Ziegelmeyer Suess, f'69; a son, John Jr., c'74; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

## 1940s

**Robert Bond, c'42, l'47**, 89, Jan. 5 in Tulsa, Okla. He is survived by a son, Steve, '80; and two grandsons.

**Harry Callahan, e'44**, 86, Dec. 28 in Leawood, where he was a retired civil

engineer with Black & Veatch. He is survived by two sons, Michael, c'70, and Kevin, c'80, b'83; a daughter, Maureen Callahan Daniels, d'73; a brother; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Bruce Coffin, e'49**, 85, Jan. 1 in Sun City West, Ariz., where he retired after building homes in the Kansas City area for 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Gorrell Coffin, f'47; three daughters, Susan Coffin Pfannmiller, d'73, Ruth Coffin Armstrong, c'76, and Laura, d'78; a son, Bruce Jr., c'79; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Arthur Collins Jr., b'40**, 91, Aug. 12 in Hutchinson, where he was retired president and CEO of Hutchinson National Bank. He is survived by his wife, Mabel; two sons, one of whom is Thomas, c'67; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Charles Cushing, b'45**, 89, Feb. 7 in Lawrence, where he was retired CEO of University State Bank and former president of the Chamber of Commerce. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Pile Cushing, b'45; a daughter, Elizabeth Cushing Conner, d'68, g'72; a son, William, assoc.; and four grandsons.

**Alberta White Stuart Cuthbertson, f'45, g'49**, 86, Jan. 4 in Greensboro, N.C., where she taught high school for more than 40 years. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by a daughter, Mary Stuart, c'78; two stepdaughters; and a stepson.

**Marjorie Schroeder Elliott, c'43**, 88, Feb. 7 in Kansas City. She is survived by her husband, Glenn, p'41, m'44; three sons, Thomas, c'66, m'70, Robert, c'67, g'73, and Richard, c'68; two daughters, Jean Marie Elliott Carr, d'69, and Melissa Elliott Carney, c'80; two sisters; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Jessie Dawe Gale, c'43**, 90, Jan. 8 in

Malibu, Calif. She is survived by two daughters, a brother, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Doris Twente Hagen, c'42**, 86, Oct. 7 in Lake Stevens, Wis. Two daughters survive.

**Stanley Kelley Jr., c'49, g'51**, 83, Jan. 17 in Princeton, N.J., where he was a professor emeritus of politics at Princeton University. A brother survives.

**Donald Keplinger, b'42**, 87, Dec. 19 in Mesa, Ariz., where he was a retired U.S. Air Force colonel. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn; three daughters, two of whom are Nancy Keplinger Beezley, c'69, m'73, and Susan Keplinger Heninger, g'73; a son, Bruce, c'74; a stepdaughter; two stepsons; a sister, Martha Keplinger Cook, c'50; 20 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

**Shirley Moore Miller, n'45**, 85, Dec. 21 in Maryville, Mo. She is survived by her husband, Frank, two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

**Stanley Miller, b'49**, 87, Dec. 15 in Merriam, where he was retired production manager for Americold. He is survived by his wife, Hilde; two daughters, one of whom is Janet Miller Stern, f'75; a brother; a sister; and four grandchildren.

**Alice Kinney Rowlands, '40**, 91, Jan. 25 in Tulsa. She lived in Lawrence for many years and is survived by two daughters; Susan Rowlands Cronin, b'61, and Cindy Rowlands Brunelli, b'76; a sister, Helen Kinney Lutes, b'33; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**June Hammett Russell, f'43**, 88, Feb. 6 in Omaha, Neb. She is survived by her husband, Laurie, e'43; a daughter, Annette Russell Zimmerman, c'72, c'73; two sons; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Frederic Shelton Jr., e'49**, 83, Oct. 13 in Wichita, where he was a retired petroleum engineer. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; two daughters, one of whom is Sallie Shelton Strole, l'78; a son; two brothers, one of whom is John, b'47; a sister, Katharine Shelton Jones, '52; and two grandchildren.

**Dean Sims, c'45**, 88, Jan. 28 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was founder and



president of Public Relations International. He is survived by a son, David, '83; two daughters; a sister, Betty Sims Beasley, f'52; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Georgia Allen Stelse, n'42**, 90, Jan. 13 in Neenah, Wis., where she was a retired nurse. She is survived by three daughters, two sons, 10 grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Alice Wismer Stoland, c'48**, 83, Feb. 8 in Topeka, where she was retired from a 20-year career with SRS Disability Determination. She is survived by four sisters, one of whom is Mary Wismer Brewer, '52.

**Paula Reeve Virden, c'44**, 86, Dec. 26 in Overland Park. She is survived by two daughters, a son, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Barbara Barber Weir, c'44**, 87, Jan. 21 in Colorado Springs, Colo. She is survived by a daughter; a son; a sister; three grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Hans Weiter, p'49**, 86, Dec. 23 in Topeka, where he was retired from a more than 25-year career at Elkins Pharmacy. He is survived by his wife, Mary, three daughters, four sons, 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Shirley Kelley Wood, c'45**, 86, April 9, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas, where she was a retired high-school and junior-high teacher. Three sons, a brother and three grandchildren survive.

**Mary Fitz-Gerald Ziegelmeyer, c'40**, 91, Jan. 26 in Kansas City, where she was active in civic affairs. She is survived by two daughters, Molly Ziegelmeyer Helling, c'64, and Martha Ziegelmeyer Suess, f'69; a son, John Jr., c'74; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

## 1950s

**Mary Beall Porch Brakeman, n'57**, 76, Jan. 8 in San Francisco, where she was executive director of the San Francisco Boys Choir. Survivors include her husband, Roy; two sons; a daughter; two brothers, one of whom is Eben Porch III,

b'63; and eight grandchildren.

**David Burton, b'52**, 79, Feb. 13 in Pinehurst, N.C. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn, two daughters and a sister.

**Donald Deister, e'59**, 74, Jan. 27 in Kansas City, where he was a general contractor and a civil engineer. He is survived by his wife, Bernadette, two daughters, three sons, a brother and six grandchildren.

**D. Wendell Dickey, b'56**, 75, Dec. 26 in Mission Hills, where he was retired from a 50-year career with R.O. Dickey Co. He is survived by his wife, Carol; three daughters, one of whom is Sara Dickey Goodburn, j'86; three sons, one of whom is Robert, '80; a brother, Gerald, '59; and 12 grandchildren.

**James Fike, g'56, EdD'75**, 82, Feb. 1 in Golden, Colo. He is survived by his wife, Mary, a son, two daughters and two grandchildren.

**Mary Herring Greene, c'52**, 79, Dec. 20 in Baltimore. She co-founded Coachella Valley Immigration Service in Palm Springs, Calif. Surviving are two daughters; three sisters, one of whom is Laura Herring Cummings, n'56; and a brother.

**Thomas Kobett, e'51**, 81, April 15, 2009, in Boerne, Texas, where he was a retired chemical engineer. He is survived by his wife, Mary, two daughters, a son and two granddaughters.

**William Landess, b'53**, 79, Feb. 11 in Amarillo, Texas, where he was first vice president of investments at Merrill Lynch. He is survived by his wife, Claudette; a son; a daughter; a sister, Nancy Landess Hayden, j'58; and five grandsons.

**Charles "Bill" Lawrence Sr., '59**, 74, Feb. 10 in Overbrook. He lived for many years in Lawrence, where he owned Lawrence Lumber and Supply. Survivors include three sons, one of whom is Charles Jr., '79; a sister; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Oscar Loevenguth Jr., c'53, s'57**, 80, Jan. 22 in Overland Park, where he was an insurance agent and financial planner. He is survived by a son, Andrew, j'89; a daughter, Alison Loevenguth

Petralia, b'89; a sister; and two grandchildren.

**Ann Warner McClelland, '50**, 82, Dec. 17 in Mission. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Nancy McClelland Hansen, '82; a son, John Jr., '81; and a brother, Jay Warner, b'55.

**John McFarland, b'56**, 75, Dec. 26 in Topeka, where he was a founder of Gage Dental Group. He is survived by his wife, Karen; a daughter; two sons, Scott, b'86, and Mark, '89; a stepdaughter; two stepsons; a sister, Phyllis McFarland Daniels, f'52; a brother; two grandchildren; six stepgrandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Glenn Merrill, d'51**, 84, Jan. 6 in Salina, where he was a retired teacher and insurance agent. He is survived by his wife, Betty; a son, James, j'73, g'76, PhD'82; four stepsons; five grandchildren; 11 stepgrandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and six step great-grandchildren.

**Kenneth Miller, b'51**, 81, Jan. 15 in Las Vegas, where he was retired chief financial officer and director of Valley Bank of Nevada. He is survived by his wife, Betty Lewis Miller, c'53; a son; a daughter; a sister; and a granddaughter.

**Dorothy Longsdorff Nowlin, g'58**, 99, Feb. 11 in Lawrence. She and her late husband owned and operated Holton Greenhouse for more than 50 years. She is survived by a daughter; three sons, David, c'64, l'67, Stewart, c'65, and John, c'61; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Avalon York Reeves, f'58**, 76, Jan. 12 in Paola. She is survived by her husband, Ken, '65; a daughter, Laura Reeves Miller, '07; two sons, Dean, b'76, m'80, and John, c'86; two brothers, one of whom is Robert York, e'50; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Rita Swearingen Rounda, d'51, g'54**, 80, Nov. 20 in Tonganoxie. She was retired head of the foreign-language department at Leavenworth High School. Survivors include a son, Daniel, d'78, g'80; a brother, Vernon Swearingen Jr., e'63; three sisters, one of whom is Lynn Swearingen Weaver, d'66; and two grandchildren.

## In Memory

**Marjo Hodgson Scott, n'59, 71,** Dec. 17 in Concordia, where she was a retired psychiatric nurse at St. Joseph Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Duane, m'60; two daughters; two sons, one of whom is Todd, '84; two sisters; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**Nancy Vosseler Snyder, c'57, 74,** June 30 in Springfield, Ill. She is survived by her husband, Bill, b'57; two sons; two daughters; and nine grandchildren.

**Richard Stephenson, c'58, 72,** Dec. 30 in Wichita, where he was a partner in the law firm of Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson and Kitch and a special trial counsel for Wichita State University. He is survived by his wife, Linda; a son, Richard, '95; two daughters; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Craig Swenson, e'59, 73,** Jan. 25 in Lee's Summit, Mo., where he was retired vice president of production operations for the Bayer Corp. He also served the the KU Alumni Association board of directors. Survivors include his wife, Carole Joy Swenson, '88; two sons; a sister; and three grandchildren.

**Ronald Thomas, b'58, 78,** Jan. 4 in Lee's Summit, Mo., where he owned Crest Flavor Co. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, and two sisters.

**James Vannest, a'51, 88,** Dec. 5 in Manteca, Calif. Survivors include two daughters, a son, three sisters, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Wayne Woodruff, c'59, m'63, 72,** Jan. 3 in Las Cruces, N.M., where he was a retired urologist. He is survived by two sons; a daughter; a sister, Barbara Woodruff Johnson, '63; and six grandchildren.

**Marvin "Bud" Zimmerman, b'50, 86,** Jan. 3 in Basehor, where he was a U.S. Navy lieutenant commander and a retired international captain with Trans World Airlines. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, assoc.; a son; a daughter, Susan Zimmerman Heider, c'81, l'84; a brother; a sister; and two grandchildren.

**Norman Zinn, g'54, 84,** Feb. 7 in Omaha, Neb., where he was a retired teacher and public-school administrator. He is survived by his wife, Judith, two

daughters, a son, a sister and two grandchildren.

### 1960s

**Corlett Cotton II, b'60, 71,** May 11, 2009, in Fresno, Calif. He worked for Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco for 36 years. His wife, Rosemary, survives.

**John Daughtrey, e'63, 70,** Dec. 18 in Tyler, Texas. He was founder and retired president of Old Jacksonville Industries. Survivors include his wife, Marcia, two daughters, a brother, a sister and two grandchildren.

**John Dewar, EdD'61, 87,** Feb. 2 in San Angelo, Texas. He had been a professor of education at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by a son, David, PhD'05, and a sister.

**Mary Janisch Hines, d'68, 96,** Feb. 11 in Olathe, where she was a retired physical-education teacher at the Kansas School for the Deaf. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is William Jr., l'61; two daughters, Susan Hines Somerville, d'64, and Barbara Hines Belt, d'68; a sister; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**J. DeWitt Lewis, e'60, 72,** Dec. 24 in Cleveland, where he was retired from National Machinery. He is survived by his wife, Gwen, a son, two daughters, two brothers, a sister and nine grandchildren.

**Mark Merriweather, c'69, 62,** Dec. 22 in Frisco, Texas, where he was vice president of operations for Bright Now Dental and former senior dental director and market manager for Monarch Dental. He is survived by his wife, Patrice; a daughter; his mother; and two brothers, Christopher, c'75, and Timothy, c'75.

**Wesley Nordstrom, d'66, 82,** Jan. 29 in Madison, Wis., where he was a former pastor and counselor. He is survived by his wife, Jan Sue, two sons, a stepson, three daughters, a stepdaughter, a brother, 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Eugene Nottingham, e'63, e'64, 70,** Jan. 14 in Tucker, Ga., where he was founder and vice president of engineering at Cinetron Computer Systems. His

electronic and mechanical designs for Cinetron earned him an Academy Award for technical achievement and the Eastman Kodak Company Technical Achievement Award. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, two daughters, a son, a sister and a grandson.

**Sam Pestinger, c'68, l'71, 63,** Jan. 16 in Cypress, Texas, where he was a retired lawyer. He practiced law in Alaska for many years and also served as an assistant U.S. Attorney and a member of the Alaska Legislature. Survivors include two daughters; a son; two brothers, one of whom is James Jr., '65; and a grandson.

**Donald Pierce, g'68, 76,** Jan. 7 in Topeka. He lived in Silver Lake and was longtime principal of Seaman High School, where the football field is named for him. Surviving are his wife, Jo Ann, two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren.

**George Shimer, PhD'67, 74,** Nov. 29 in Cedar Park, Texas, where he was retired from a 30-year career as a chemist at Dupont Industries. Three sons survive.

**Gay Morris Stuart, d'67, 65,** Dec. 22 in Parkville, Mo., where she taught French at Northwest Missouri State University. She is survived by her husband, Jim, a son, a daughter, her stepmother and two granddaughters.

**Robert Walsh, b'65, 66,** Jan. 12 in Harrisonburg, Va., where he was retired from a 31-year career in sales and marketing management. After retiring, he joined Century 21 Real Estate Unlimited. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, a son, three daughters, two grandchildren and two stepgranddaughters.

### 1970s

**Del Braddock, c'75, g'77, 56,** Dec. 16 in Leawood, where he worked for Farmland Industries and for Interoceanic Corp. He is survived by his wife, Cappi, a son and a sister.

**Darrel Corson, p'70, 63,** Dec. 26 in Kansas City, where he was a pharmacist at Providence Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Mary Conaty; two daughters, one of whom is Lisa, f'97; two stepsons; and a sister.



**Carol Stoskopf Depino, d'70**, 62, April 29, 2009, in Chatsworth, Ill. She had been a lifestyle-section columnist at the El Dorado Times. Survivors include her husband, Samuel; her father; a sister, Joni Stoskopf Augustine, c'74; and two brothers, one of whom is Mark Stoskopf, c'77.

**Lee Greever, c'71**, 61, Nov. 22 in Oakland, Calif., where he was a social worker. He is survived by a sister, Lynn Greever Allen, c'64, and a brother.

**Sally Horne Harris, l'78**, 64, Jan. 9 in Kansas City, where she was a partner in the law firm of Wallace, Saunders, Austin, Brown and Enochs. She is survived by her husband, Brad, a son, a daughter, her mother, three brothers and four grandchildren.

**Clifford Hope Jr., '73**, 86, Feb. 11 in Garden City, where he practiced law for more than 40 years and had served as the attorney for Herbert Clutter, who was portrayed in Truman Capote's book *In Cold Blood*. He also had served in the Kansas Senate and as a Finney County Commissioner. Surviving are his wife, Dolores Sulzman Hope, c'46; five daughters, two of whom are Rosemary, j'84, c'85, and Megan, c'95, g'00; a son; and six grandchildren.

**Gloria Carlton Miner, '79**, 72, Jan. 27 in Kansas City. She lived in Lawrence, where she taught at the Montessori Children's House for many years. Survivors include her husband, Kenneth, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Kepler, c'95, g'01; a brother; and five granddaughters.

**Ronald Wiseman, b'79**, 68, Feb. 9 in Kansas City. He lived in Lansing and had been a CPA and later a computer programmer for International Software Systems. Surviving are his wife, Diane, a son, two daughters, a brother, a sister and 10 grandchildren.

## 1980s

**Phillip Burgette, m'87**, 51, Dec. 7 in Sacramento, Calif., where he practiced medicine. He is survived by his wife, Deborah, a daughter, two sons, two sisters, a brother and two grandchildren.

**Pamela Hird, g'83**, 56, Jan. 21 in

Lawrence, where she owned Curves Fitness Center. She had taught physical education in the Olathe school district for 27 years. Several cousins survive.

**Janice Williams Larkins, s'80, s'81**, 62, Jan. 18 in Kansas City. She was a social worker specializing in elder and long-term care services. Surviving are two daughters; two sisters, one of whom is Candace Williams Driscoll, d'76; a brother; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Linda Zackler Solomon, PhD'82**, 69, Dec. 21 in Kansas City, where she was a speech therapist and an associate professor of communication sciences and disorders at Rockhurst University. She is survived by her husband, Mel, a son, a sister and two granddaughters.

**Geraldine Mayhew Weldon, g'82**, 85, Dec. 17 in Overland Park, where she was retired from a career at the KU Medical Center. Three daughters, six grandchildren and a great-grandson survive.

## 1990s

**Jeffery Branton, b'93, g'94**, 39, Jan. 21 in Overland Park, where he was CEO of Ticket Solutions. He is survived by his wife, Kelly Kimble Branton, c'93; two daughters; his father; his mother; and his grandmother.

**Kimberly Hewett, c'92**, 39, Jan. 22 in Lawrence, where she was a secretary in the KU physics department. She is survived by her mother; her father and stepmother; and three sisters, two of whom are Kristin Hewett Schmaus, d'96, and Kathleen Hewett Immenschuh, '03.

**Barbara Vesely Kelly, '98**, 82, Oct. 8 in Lawrence, where she was an instrumental and vocal music teacher for many years. She is survived by a son, William, d'83; three daughters, Kathryn Kelly-Scannell, d'78, Mary Kelly Shipley, n'80, and Susan Kelly Bracciano, b'86, g'89; and 13 grandchildren.

**Craig Olson, g'98**, 46, Dec. 25 in Overland Park, where he was lead mechanical engineer for Black & Veatch. He is survived by his wife, Alicia, a daughter, a son, his mother and a sister.

## 2000s

**Sandra Bremerman, b'08**, 30, Feb. 1 in Lawrence, where she was office manager and director of operations for MagnaGro International. She is survived by her parents, Donald and Carole Bremerman, and two sisters.

**Machele Mapp Timberlake, PhD'03**, 56, Dec. 10 in Overland Park, where she lived. She was an assistant professor of education and coordinator of student teachers-undergraduate programs at Baker University. She is survived by her husband, Bill, a son, a daughter, two brothers and a sister.

## The University Community

**William Baker**, 88, assoc., Jan. 24 in Lenexa. He worked at the Kansas City Star for 30 years, eventually serving as editor and president. In 1977 he retired from the paper and began a decade-long tenure as journalism professor at KU.

**Wilma Haack Bowline, g'71**, 78, Feb. 8 in Lawrence, where she taught speech pathology at KU for 23 years. She also had taught elementary school and worked as a public-school speech clinician. Survivors include her husband, Bob, assoc.; two sons, Michael, e'78, and David, '90; a daughter, Nancy Bowline Lubber, f'83, s'98; and five grandchildren.

**James Maloney**, 94, assoc., Feb. 4 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of chemical and petroleum engineering. During his 40 years at KU, he was a Fulbright lecturer at universities in Italy, Egypt, Greece and Korea, and he served a term at the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Survivors include two daughters, Nancy Maloney Rich, c'67, and Kathleen Maloney Heerwald, d'71; a son, John II, c'65, l'73; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**James Martin, g'68**, 66, April 8 in Lawrence. He led KU Endowment as president from 1991 to 2002, when he retired after 28 years with the association. He received the Fred Ellsworth Medallion in 2007 for service to KU. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment Association. Surviving are his wife, Kathryn, and a son, Grant, c'97.

**Melvin Mohn**, 83, assoc., Jan. 2 in



# Rock Chalk Review

■ A fellow poet said of Bill Holm, “To borrow from Emily Dickinson, ‘His brain is wider than the sky.’” Milkweed Editions has just published the Minnesotan’s last poems.



STAR TRIBUNE/MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL 2010

## Ursa major

*A book of new and collected poems offers a final word from the Polar Bear of American Literature*

Bill Holm was nearing 40, by his own estimation “broke, unemployed, divorced, unpublished, my immediate family dead, and most of the people I loved and valued from childhood ancient, senile, or going fast.” In these circumstances he moved back to Minneota, the isolated farm town in the tallgrass prairie of western Minnesota where he grew up, and began to write about these ghosts of his childhood.

The poems and essays affectionately acknowledge the huge debt he owed these people for their kindness and their culture. But they are also contrarian, well-reasoned critiques of an America that Holm, g’67, thought too focused on the wrong things: money, materialism and, most of all, success. Reflecting on his own failure, he came to see that the people he respected and loved most—“old Icelandic immigrants with odd accents, aunts, uncles, and baby-sitters who fed and praised me”—were also, by all conventional American standards, failures. Yet they were the kindest,

wisest, most cultured people he knew, more responsible than any professor for his love of music, art, beauty.

This study of failure, published in 1985 as *The Music of Failure*, and later expanded into perhaps his most beloved work, *The Heart Can Be Filled Anywhere on Earth*,

kick-started Holm’s writing career. That year he also published his first collection of poetry, *Boxelder Bug Variations*. A playful meditation on



the lowly boxelder bug, the book grew out of an assignment he gave his writing class; tired of hearing students complain that they had nothing to write about, he told them they could write about anything—even the boxelder bug that

happened to be crawling across his desk at the moment. Giving himself the same assignment, he proved his declaration—and produced something whimsical and wholly original.

*Coming Home Crazy*, the chronicle of a year Holm spent teaching in China (where to his



delight the students were much more enthusiastic than in America) followed in 1990. In 1991 it won a Minnesota Book Award, and another poetry collection, *The Dead Get By With Everything*, appeared. By the time Holm died, on Feb. 26, 2009, at the age of 65, he’d published

more than a dozen books of poetry and prose and won the McKnight Foundation Distinguished Artist Award, claiming his place among the top rank of Minnesota writers. Garrison Keillor called him “The Sage of Minneota.” Poet Barton Sutter, noting the big man’s splash of ivory hair and





*The Chain Letter of the Soul*

by Bill Holm

Milkweed Editions,

\$18

unruly white beard, labeled him “the polar bear of American literature.”

A literary community shocked by his early death may find some solace in *The Chain Letter of the Soul*, which gathers more than 100 new and unpublished poems and a satisfyingly hearty sample of earlier books. Those who know Holm will celebrate the large trove of new work; those who’ve not yet discovered him will find this a fine introduction.

Wry one moment and railing the next, he reveals his distrust of power, his contempt for corporate chicanery and official doublespeak in Washington or Wuhan. Sharp-tongued entreaties to his country and his fellow man are like a father’s to a brilliant but unruly child: Stern words betray high expectations and dismay, but also a boundless love. With equal passion he engages big philosophical questions like the nature of God and the mysterious purpose of the human soul, and small joys such as lemon pies and strong brown bread, fried chicken and cheap whiskey, salt breezes and winter light and Bach cantatas—often catching both in one stanza. Of the wedding feast of two well-matched friends, he writes, “They have, therefore, decided to share/all of it with

the rest of us who love them,/generously as they give everything else:/whether Brahms, blues, a fat back of lamb,/or a kiss and a wink for the whole cosmos.”

Though devoted to Minneota, Holm

traveled widely, visiting so often his ancestral home of Iceland that he bought a summer house there, a seaside idyll portrayed in *The Windows of Brimnes*. He was particularly fond of islands (his surname, adopted by Icelandic ancestors who immigrated to America in the late 1800s, is the Old Norse word for island) and he devoted another book, *Eccentric Islands*, to that subject.

Perspective gained on those travels lends a wordly authority to these poems.

“Bill Holm was a great man and unlike most great men he really looked like



one,” Keillor wrote. “Six foot eight, big frame, and a big white beard and a shock of white hair, a booming voice, so he loomed over you like a prophet and a preacher, which is what he was.” A friend

from KU days, John Rezmerski, ’67, recalls their first encounter, more than 40 years ago: “I had just arrived in Lawrence, and as I walked past a hotel, Bill came out. Eight in the morning and here’s a tall, red-haired guy wearing a purple plaid Madras sport coat with a bottle of Jack Daniels tucked under one arm. I thought, ‘Hmm, what interesting local characters they have here.’ The next day I went to a meeting for new graduate assistants and there he was.”

I never met the man, and came to his work only after his death. His words on the page, which showcase a big heart, a generous soul and a rigorous, restless intellect, make a similarly indelible impression. Words are what he left us, and a grand consolation they are. —Steven Hill

—Steven Hill



## Missions accomplished

*General advises journalists, officers to respect each other*

Rarely the best of friends, soldiers and reporters must at least acknowledge their interlocking missions and, for the sake of the American people they both serve, learn how to communicate with each other. That was one of the messages delivered April 8 by Brig. Gen. Gary S. Patton, via a live Internet video feed from Kabul, Afghanistan, to a KU classroom.

Patton, g’90, is deputy commanding general for programs with Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan, which means he’s in charge of building and training the Afghan army. A large part of his daily schedule, Patton told students, is speaking with local, international and American reporters.

“Transparency means openness and it creates credibility,” Patton said. “But it also means access, and sometimes that’s uncomfortable. It also means telling it like it is. Good, bad or ugly, the public needs to know.”



■ Brig. Gen. Gary S. Patton (on screen) extended his Afghanistan workday late into the evening to join a KU journalism course via a live, two-way Internet feed.

STEVE PUPPE



## Rock Chalk Review

Patton spoke to students in “Media and the Military,” a School of Journalism graduate-level course organized in collaboration with Fort Leavenworth’s Command and General Staff College, with financial support from the McCormick Foundation. The course, which includes equal numbers of journalism students and active-duty Army officers, grew out of thesis research by Doug Sudhoff, g’96, PhD’01. While studying reporters embedded with U.S. military units, Sudhoff repeatedly heard officers complain that few reporters had ever served in the armed forces, meaning military complexities and jargon would invariably lead to misunderstandings and mistakes.

“The goal is to try to get future journalists to understand military roles, military structure and military function,” says Associate Professor Thomas Volek, “and to try to get members of the military to understand the role, structure and function of the media.”

Patton, who worked as a reporter and editor on the University Daily Kansan while studying for a master’s degree in journalism, told his Stauffer-Flint Hall audience that embedded reporters have become an accepted part of Army life.

He advised officers to encourage soldiers to speak with reporters, but they must be cautioned that they are always on the record anytime a reporter is within earshot and they must confine comments to areas of expertise. Patton also noted that a recent conference with military bloggers proved to him that such Internet outlets “can’t be taken lightly.”

“They are expert on what they are covering and many have a large following,” he said. “I see it as a very positive development.”

As for the journalists, Patton suggested they rely on press liaisons and even the soldiers and officers they are writing about to double- and triple-check facts, figures, names and ranks—“We want to help you get it right,” he said—and they should offer the courtesy of a heads-up on intended lines of questioning.

“Transparency,” Patton said, “goes both ways.”

Patton advised all of the course’s students that they should cherish their training in tight, accurate writing and vigorous editing. Whether filing a combat dispatch for a newspaper back home or submitting a report that could reach the president’s desk within 24 hours, Patton commanded, “Don’t bury the lead until the fifth or sixth graph.”

“Every reporter has been told, ‘Cut it to eight or nine graphs and give me a hard-news lead,’” Patton said. “The lesson I’ve learned since my days at KU is that it’s almost always good advice.”

—Chris Lazzarino



## The Wright stuff

*KU institute brings novelist’s works into the Internet age*

**E**ight years ago, when Maryemma Graham organized a symposium to celebrate and study poet Langston Hughes, she helped create a website to advertise the event.

Participants started posting comments about their experiences, and the site eventually took on a life of its own. Other universities taught classes based on the



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—Steven Hill





site's material, which included videos of the symposium's presentations.

"The potential of the Web was something we had not tapped into," Graham says. "We realized there was potential. The technology had its own way of pushing us at the time. With this institute, we're taking the bull by the horns."

Graham, a professor of English, is bringing the works of novelist Richard Wright into the digital age this summer with "Making the Wright Connection: Reading *Native Son*, *Black Boy* and *Uncle Tom's Children*." The institute, which runs July 11-24, will bring 30 high school teachers to the KU campus to study the author and his works.

A slate of Wright experts, including his daughter, Julia Wright, will attend the institute as instructors. Also notable is who won't be there—presenters from around the world who will speak via the Internet throughout the two weeks.

Graham secured a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the institute. The centennial of Wright's birth in 2008 has renewed interest in his works.

Wright (1908-1960) is best known for his novels *Native Son* and *Black Boy*, which drew upon his poverty-stricken childhood in Mississippi and the segrega-

tion he encountered as a young man in Chicago.

Because his novels deal with race relations—and because Wright himself eventually joined the Communist Party and moved to France—Graham says many teachers are hesitant to read his works in class.

"He conjures up tensions that sometimes classrooms don't want to awake," Graham says. "These are classic American literature. People are reading them around the world. Why shouldn't we be reading it?"

While Graham is looking forward to the institute, it's what happens afterward that has her most excited. Teachers will return to their classrooms, where they will have students read Wright's works and create projects in reaction to the works.

Those projects—which may include videos, papers or other media—will be placed on the institute's website, [www.richardwrightat100.ku.edu](http://www.richardwrightat100.ku.edu), for teachers to use in the future.

"It's teaching from the ground up," Graham says. "If literature gives rise to something—a desire to know more, write more or act upon what you've read—it's exciting."

—Terry Rombeck



## Bond of brothers

### Book reveals new aspects of Masons' Civil War history

A century and a half after the Civil War's conclusion, it hardly seems possible that fresh nooks for historical research could possibly remain. With his engrossing book *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War*, author Michael Halleran proves that even the war's niches can be still be explored for yet another valuable chapter in our national history.

Halleran, j'85, g'89, an attorney,

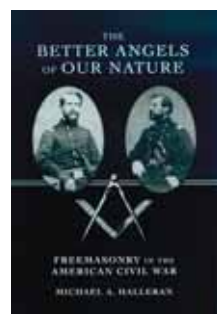
freelance writer and lecturer at Emporia State University, sets the stage with a valuable primer on the history of Freemasonry in the United States, including the evolution of the fraternal creed "Faith, Hope and Charity." Giving alms to the poor was not enough; Masons were also expected to "feel another's woe" in "the true spirit of Fraternity which is wide enough to embrace in its arms the whole world."

As was the case even with blood brothers, the call to war brought Masons from North and South into armed combat against each other. Halleran shows that many were moved to gentle and courageous acts of mercy upon learning that a wounded or imprisoned enemy was a fellow Mason.

"Both groups donned uniforms, shouldered weapons, and marched to war as their state required, with Masonry very much in the background," Halleran writes. "But when the political speeches yielded to the din of musketry the equation somehow changed."

The book is especially refreshing in the wake of the recent glut of hyperbolic conspiracy movies and breathless TV specials. Patriotic, kind-hearted men who embraced the Masonic brotherhood deserve exactly what Halleran delivers: clear-headed, well-sourced narrative of American Freemasonry in one of the country's darkest hours.

—Chris Lazzarino



*The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War*

by Michael A. Halleran

University of Alabama Press,

\$24.95



# Glorious to View



■ Red peonies and a blue-and-white sky frame Anschutz Library in cheerful spring tones. As finals approach, Anschutz—open 24 hours on weekdays all semester long—becomes a campus study hub.

Photograph by Steve Puppe





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