



KANSAS ALUMNI


No 1, 2018 ■ \$5

Miracle on Ice

Club hockey returns, better than ever

■ BILL TUTTLE

■ ERNST HARDWARE



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The Mighty 'Hawks

Driven by their love for the game, a group of dedicated sports club athletes is leading a hockey resurgence at KU.

By Chris Lazzarino

Cover photograph by Steve Puppe

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Freedom Fighter

Personal stories—his and others’—have long been the foundation of Professor Emeritus Bill Tuttle’s “bottom up” approach to history.

By Jennifer Jackson Sanner

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He's Got It If He Can Find It

By embracing tradition and defying trends, downtown merchant Rod Ernst keeps a Mass Street mainstay thriving.

By Steven Hill

Lift the Chorus



Monster appreciation

I ENJOYED YOUR ARTICLE on the KU Natural History Museum grotesques [“Monsters of the Mind,” issue No. 6]. It was good and interesting.

It will be interesting to see how and when they replace them. It’s hard to believe limestone deteriorates so fast. (One hundred years is a blink of an eye, historywise.) I guess it is pretty soft, so it must be easier to work with. Maybe they could make molds and use a synthetic material that would look the same but last longer.

I also read the next story, “Murder Most Foul.” I had already read the book, so it was interesting to read the article.

Lee Larson, assoc.
Prairie Village

Just received and read your most interesting article about the grotesques. Hard to believe that they are so old! So glad that they are being preserved indoors.

Clyde Toland, c’69, l’75
Iola

Win or lose

THE ARTICLE ON 57 YEARS of tailgating by the Dietz family [“Huddle up, ’Hawks!”, Jayhawk Walk, issue No. 6] brought back wonderful memories of the fun part of being a Jayhawk. My wife, Jane, d’58, and I lived in Lawrence in the 1970s and ’80s. We attended every game, every tailgate party. We must have had a penchant for punishment, because despite our frustrations with on-the-field performance, Gayle Dietz and I saw 83 out of 87 games at home and on the road from coast to coast during that span. Our biggest thrill was beating Southern Cal in L.A. It’s great being a Jayhawk.



Gayle
and Raelene Dietz

Bob Hopkins, ’58
Las Vegas

Time well spent

HAVING LIVED in the nurses’ dorm for two years (1963-1965) and having worked at KU Medical Center following graduation (1965-1972), I thoroughly enjoyed your article “Hold the Corner” in issue No. 5, 2017, of *Kansas Alumni*.

I was curious to know where the new Health Education Building is located, and it appears to be on the site of a long-ago gravel parking lot. I would leave my trusty convertible in that lot, unattended, all week until I went home the following weekend. Our dorm room overlooked the quadrangle with the Clendening Fountain and also the entrance to the ER. With no air conditioning in the dorm, we slept with our windows open in the warmer months; ambulances would scream in all through the night, shattering our sleep!

I value the time I spent at KU and I continue to value opportunities KU has to offer, such as the Alumni Association’s “Flying Jayhawks” travel program. My husband and I recently toured Scotland, our fifth adventure with KU



Health Education Building at KU
Medical Center

alumni, which was terrific! Looking forward to the “Great Journey Through Europe” when it is next offered!

Linda Holder, n’65
Jacksonville, Oregon

World view

Editor’s note: Due to our regrettable oversight, the Association’s Annual Report published in issue No. 6 did not include current statistics on international alumni alongside graphics detailing Jayhawks living in Kansas and across the United States. According to the latest Association records, the University proudly boasts 6,054 alumni living abroad, including 3,685 degree holders and 257 Association members. Our inadvertent error of omission in no way reflects the Association and University’s shared commitment to fostering global interaction as a centerpiece of KU’s academic, social and alumni experiences.



Your opinion counts

Please email us a note at kualumni@kualumni.org to tell us what you think of your alumni magazine.

January 2018

KANSAS ALUMNI

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KANSAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE (ISSN 0745-3345) is published by the KU Alumni Association six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November. \$55 annual subscription includes membership in the Alumni Association. Office of Publication: 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Periodicals postage paid at Lawrence, KS.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Kansas Alumni Magazine*, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169 © 2018 by *Kansas Alumni Magazine*. Non-member issue price: \$7

Letters to the Editor:

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Email responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. For letters published, we'll send a free gift of Campus Playing Cards, a \$15 value.



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Scene on campus



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ROCK CHALK!



U.S. hockey team, 1980 Olympics

Day after day, pranksters tacked phone messages to the lobby bulletin board in our sorority house, “Molly: Jim Craig called.”

Thankfully, Molly Maloney was a good sport. As the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team made its memorable run to the gold medal in Lake Placid, Maloney often declared her mad crush on gorgeous goaltender Craig. For Maloney, one of our resident comedians (and for many of us who shared esteem for her main man), the running joke of fake notes from our favorite phantom caller extended our “Miracle on Ice” euphoria until Spring Break.

Such is the extent of my connection to hockey, so when Associate Editor Chris Lazzarino proposed a story on the KU hockey team (huh?), I was not the ideal arbiter of news value. As a loyal Jayhawk, however, I understand the unifying power of sport and, after hearing tales from countless alumni, I know that campus sports offered by KU Recreation Services have helped forge lasting KU kinships for generations.

Intramural sports annually draw 3,000 students to campus competitions, and 31 club sports, including KU Hockey, rally 1,200 students to vie for regional and national dominance against teams from other schools. In fact, the 2016-’17 KU Men’s Volleyball Club finished ninth at nationals, and the Waterski Club finished 10th. Disc Golf finished 11th, and Quidditch was ranked 14th. As Lazzarino, j’86, reports in our cover story, the stalwart coaches and players of KU Hockey have revived a once discredited team and could soon ascend to the elite national ranks.

Club sports, along with more than 600 student organizations at KU, offer Jayhawks innumerable ways to make a large university feel small.

Club sports, along with more than 600 student organizations at KU, offer Jayhawks innumerable ways to make a large university feel small. Of course, academic programs and stellar professors provide the most critical connections; for graduate students, they are the linchpins. Zanice Bond, PhD’11, left her native Tennessee to pursue her doctoral studies in Lawrence because of the reputation of KU’s American Studies department. A weekend as a guest in the Old West Lawrence home of Professor Bill Tuttle and his wife, Kathryn Nemeth Tuttle, d’72, PhD’96, sealed the deal. Our feature story chronicles the career and community leadership of Tuttle, whose colleagues, friends and family honored him last fall. Bond returned for the celebration.

“I just fell in love with Lawrence and KU,” she says of her summer visit in 2003. “Bill introduced me not only to the American Studies faculty, but he also provided me with a fascinating history of Lawrence,” she recalls. “I had such a good feeling about the people and the energy and the vibe of the town—the local gardens, the Merc and Red Dog.”

Lawrence’s beloved Merc Co+op (formerly the Community Mercantile) and Red Dog, aka Don “Red Dog” Gardner, are local institutions. Gardner, a former Lawrence police officer, in 1984 started a free community fitness program for people of all ages. Red Dog’s Dog Days, now a lauded tradition, is one of the many ways in which Lawrence retains the charm of a small college town. Bond’s workout “family” helped her feel so much at home that she even thanked the Dog Days folks in her dissertation.

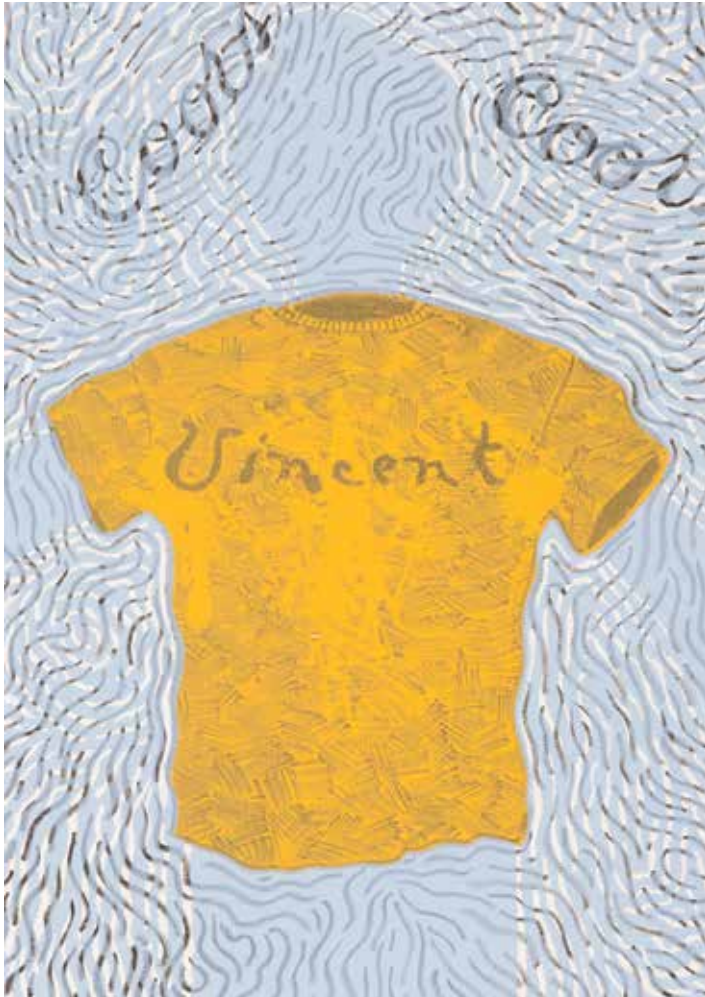
Ernst & Son Hardware is another Lawrence anchor. In our third feature, third-generation owner and raconteur Rod Ernst, c’57, guides Associate Editor Steven Hill through a fun and fascinating tour of the curiosities that spill out of shelves and drawers within the Mass Street landmark that has stood since 1905. If you need an anchor to fasten a heavy towel rack in drywall—or tacks for your bulletin board—Ernst is your man.



STEVE PUPPE

On the Boulevard

SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART



Michael Ott, *Art Student*, late 1900s, is featured in the Spencer Museum of Art exhibition “Power Clashing: Clothing, Collage and Contemporary Identities,” on display through March 4. Professor Ott, '73, taught at KU from 1969 until his death in 1996. The exhibition was curated by Samantha Lyons, a graduate research assistant and doctoral candidate in art history. “This is a work that I think a lot of people can connect with on some level,” Lyons, g'12, says. “If you think of an art student, a certain image or stereotype might pop into your head. I think Ott was playing into those assumptions to some extent, but also based the image on his own art student days.”

Exhibitions

“Civic Leader and Art Collector: Sallie Casey Thayer and an Art Museum for KU,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Feb. 4

“Power Clashing: Clothing, Collage and Contemporary Identities,” Spencer Museum of Art, through March 4

“Race, Gender and the ‘Decorative’ in 20th-Century African Art: Reimagining Boundaries,” Spencer Museum of Art, through May 7

Lied Center events

JANUARY

20 Kansas Sousa Junior Honor Band

21 Ovation! USD 497 Talent Show

26 Andrea Gibson

27 KU Chinese Students and Scholars Friendship Association Chinese New Year

28 Moscow Festival Ballet: “Cinderella”

31 “The Wizard of Oz”

FEBRUARY

3 KU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble I

4 Prairie Winds Concert

6 All-City Choir Concert

7 “Birdman Live” by Antonio Sanchez

9 “Becoming a Man in 127 EASY Steps”

11 Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas

13 “Jersey Boys”

16 KU Wind Ensemble

18 Dublin Irish Dance: Stepping Out

20 “The Sound of Music”

25 Lillian Sengpiehl, soprano

MARCH

6 KU University Band and Symphonic Band

8 “UNVEILED”: A One-Woman Play

11 Anthony Trionfo, flute

13 The Staatskapelle Weimar Orchestra of Germany

15 KU Symphony Orchestra

26 Lindsey Stirling: Warmer in the Winter Christmas Tour

30 Frank Waln

University Theatre

FEBRUARY

16, 18, 20-22 “Black Box Productions,” directed by Rana Esfandiary, William Inge Memorial Theatre

MARCH

2-4, 9-11 “When the Rain Stops Falling,” directed by Andrew Lewis Smith, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

30-31 “Perfect Arrangement,” directed by James Dick, William Inge Memorial Theatre

Murphy Hall

JANUARY

19-21 KU Opera: *Candide*

24 KU Tuba/Euphonium Newcomers Concert

26 Visiting Artist Series: James Ogburn, composition

29 KU Choirs: Chamber Singers

FEBRUARY

- 6** Visiting Artist Series: Nino Jvania, piano
- 10** Student Chamber Music Recital
- 15** Faculty Recital Series: Michael Kirkendoll, piano, and Michael Compitello, percussion
- 18** Kansas Virtuosi with John Corigliano, composer
- 20** New Morse Code
- 21** Graduate Honor Recital
- 25** KU Choirs: Women's Chorale
- 27** Visiting Artist Series: Tiffany Blake, mezzo-soprano

MARCH

- 3-4** 41st-annual Jazz Festival Concert
- 4** Faculty Recital Series: Paul Stevens, horn
- 5** Faculty Recital Series: Roberta Gumbel, soprano, with Hannah Collins, cello, and Michael Compitello
- 10** Visiting Artist Series: Yale Percussion Collective
- 11** Faculty Recital Series: Veronique Mathieu, violin, and Steven Spooner, piano
- 11** Faculty Recital Series: Vince Gnojek, saxophone
- 13** Undergraduate Honor Recital
- 14-17** KU Opera: Regina
- 26** Faculty Recital Series: Matt Otto, saxophone
- 27** Faculty Recital Series: Joyce Castle, mezzo-soprano
- 31** Visiting Artist Series: Molly Barth, flute

Performances

JANUARY

- 21, 28** Carillon Recital, Campanile

FEBRUARY

- 4, 11, 18, 25** Carillon Recital, Campanile

MARCH

- 4, 11, 25** Carillon Recital, Campanile

Lectures

FEBRUARY

- 22** An Evening with Peter Balakian, Humanities Lecture Series, The Commons

- 23** Humanities Lecture Series Conversation: Peter Balakian, Hall Center conference hall

MARCH

- 26** "American Golddigger: Law, Culture and Marriage in the Early 20th Century," Brian Donovan, Humanities Lecture Series, Lied Center Pavilion

Academic Calendar

JANUARY

- 16** First day of classes

MARCH

- 19-25** Spring break

Alumni Events

JANUARY

- 1-31** KU Libraries Commemorate the Gr8s events (for more information, visit kualumni.org/commemorate)

SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART (2)



The Commons and the Spencer Museum of Art have partnered to present the nationwide public art project Pledges of Allegiance, a series of 16 flags commissioned by New York City-based Creative Time, which asked acclaimed artists to design flags illustrating their views of today's political climate. *Imagine Peace* by Yoko Ono (top) flew outside Spooner Hall last semester, and *Fly Together* by MacArthur Fellow Ann Hamilton, f'79, is on view through Jan. 16. KU is one of 14 U.S. locations to host the project.

- 20** KU vs. Baylor watch parties

- 22** KU Night with the Charlotte Hornets, Charlotte, North Carolina

- 23** KU at Oklahoma watch parties

- 25** KU Night with the St. Louis Blues, St. Louis

- 27** KU vs. Texas A&M watch parties

- 29** KU at Kansas State watch parties

FEBRUARY

- 1-28** KU Libraries Commemorate the Gr8s events (for more information, visit kualumni.org/commemorate)

- 3** KU vs. Oklahoma State watch parties

- 6** KU vs. TCU watch parties

- 10** KU at Baylor pregame party, Waco, Texas

- 10** KU at Baylor watch parties

- 13** KU at Iowa State watch parties

- 17** KU vs. West Virginia watch parties

- 19** KU vs. Oklahoma watch parties

- 19** Wichita Network bus trip to Lawrence for KU vs. Oklahoma game

- 24** KU at Texas Tech watch parties

- 26** KU vs. Texas watch parties

MARCH

- 1-31** KU Libraries Commemorate the Gr8s events (for more information, visit kualumni.org/commemorate)

- 3** KU at Oklahoma State watch parties

- 6** KU Night with the Charlotte Hornets, Charlotte, South Carolina

Jayhawk Walk

LARRY LEROY PEARSON



Take a bite out of crime

Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to read is true. The names have been changed to protect the innocent.

OK, we don't have any names. Innocence? Well, that's for you to decide.

All we have is the crime. The scene. The pilfered provisions. Break-room refrigerator, Malott Hall. Oct. 3 or 4, report filed with KU police Oct. 5.

Missing: 10 bananas. 12 tortillas. Estimated value: \$7.

In the annals of KU law enforcement, there have been

higher profile cases. But to the grub's hangry owner, enough was enough.

"Sometimes it's out of principle they'll call it in," Deputy Chief James Anguiano told the Lawrence Journal-World of the lunchroom larceny. "Maybe it's happened to them more than once."

While investigators comb through crumbs to put a fork in the case, we must also question whether more than one crime was actually committed: \$7 for 10 bananas and 12 tortillas?

Mobile museum

THE KU NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM is taking its treasured collection of plant and animal specimens to the streets—literally.

Last fall, the museum debuted its mobile counterpart, Professor Dyche's Biodiversity Emporium, which features more than a dozen micro-exhibits displayed in the KU Mobile Collaboratory, aka the MoCOLAB, a 1972 Airstream Land Yacht converted into usable space by KU design and engineering students.

The mobile museum's moniker is an affectionate nod to Professor Lewis Lindsay Dyche, c'1884, g'1888, the self-described "Dashing Kansan" who led the creation of the museum's Panorama of North American mammals. True to Dyche's flair as an entertainer and scholar, the name playfully suggests "a cross between an old medicine show and a cabinet of curiosities," says Jen Humphrey, j'96, c'02, g'10, director of external affairs for the KU Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum.

The traveling trailer has been spotted at several locations in Lawrence, including the Douglas County Water Festival at Clinton Lake, the Lawrence Public Library and, most recently, in front of the Kansas Union, where Jayhawks enjoyed gourmet hot dogs from Coney Island LFK as they perused jars and displays packed with reptiles, roaches and more.

"As long as it's in a jar, I'm OK with it," joked Muditha Kapukotuwa, a sophomore in communication studies and sports management, as he pondered the snakes.

We couldn't agree more.

CHRIS LAZZARINO



A rare hoppertunity

THE 2013 PHONE CALL summoning entomologist Michael Engel to investigate an Impressionist masterpiece at Kansas City's Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art might have been unexpected, but it wasn't entirely out of the blue.

"Forensics involving insects pop up in all sorts of weird ways," says Engel, c'93, c'93, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and senior curator at the KU Biodiversity Institute, "but this was certainly one of the more fun ones."

While examining Vincent van Gogh's 1889 "Olive Trees" for an in-depth online catalog of 104 French paintings and pastels in the Nelson-Atkins collection, conservator Mary Schafer discovered a grasshopper embedded in the paint. Hoping an expert could use the evidence to date the time of year van Gogh painted "Olive Trees," Schafer reached out to Engel.

Although thrilled to scrutinize a van Gogh, Engel found only fragmentary



remains, which prevented even a species designation; he was, however, able to determine that the grasshopper was never alive during the mysterious process that led to parts of its exoskeleton being subsumed by van Gogh's thick brushstrokes, because there was no sign of movement in the sarcophagal swirls.

As the Nelson-Atkins begins its final push toward the 2019 publication of its new catalog, a November news release about the van Gogh grasshopper immediately grabbed headlines, including a story in *The New York Times*, assuring renewed interest in "Olive Trees" from intrigued museumgoers, and Engel is looking forward to a return trip to the Nelson-Atkins this spring to complete work on a short paper about his findings. He hopes awareness of the grasshopper's presence adds an unusual element to the joy of visiting a van Gogh.

"In a very small and minor way, it does kind of pull you back into that real moment, in your own mind, of sitting in that field and seeing the trees about us on a spring day," Engel says. "This helps put some tangible aspects to that moment when that painting was being done, while van Gogh was in that grove on that day."

Big champ on campus

KU'S NEWEST NATIONAL CHAMPION isn't a basketball, track or debate team. It's a tree.

Standing 39 feet tall and measuring more than 4 feet around, a 50-year-old rock elm near McGregor Herbarium on West Campus made the American Forests 2017 National Register of Big Trees as the largest specimen in the United States.

Ulmus thomasii is one of six champion trees on campus. The other five hold state titles. All but one was measured by retired biologist Jon Standing, c'66.

"I like trees," says Standing, a Lawrence native who earned a degree in zoology and studied marine life on both coasts before returning home to work for Allen Press. "I like to be outside, and it's fun to go and look for big trees. It's a lot like hunting: You hunt, but they don't move."

Standing believes the rock elm was planted by H.A. Stephens, a former curator of the herbarium. Compared to some other campus champs—the 112-foot-tall pin oak growing near Memorial Stadium, say, or the 92-foot American basswood towering over Marvin Grove—the rock elm isn't an obvious titan.

"It's not a big tree, as trees go," he says, "but it's the biggest rock elm we know of."



STEVE PUPPE

Height is only part of the formula that determines a champion. One point is awarded for each inch of circumference, every 4 feet of crown spread and each foot of height. A special instrument records the latter safely from the ground.

"One time I asked an owner if I could measure his tree, and he said no," Standing recalls. "I said, 'Why's that?'" And he said, "Well, an old man like you shouldn't be climbing trees."

"I said, 'Well, that's right,'" he says with a chuckle. "While it's a God-given right for a boy to climb trees, it's not for an old man. We use a clinometer instead."

Top cadets

Two KU seniors are among the top 10 Army Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets named by the U.S. Army's Cadet Command.

Joseph Schroer, chemical engineering major from Denver, and Joseph McConnell, Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian studies major from Newton, placed 4th and 6th respectively on the national order-of-merit list, by which Cadet Command annually ranks ROTC seniors who expect to graduate and be commissioned in May. Criteria include grade-point average, performance on the Army Physical Fitness Test, college athletic participation, and performance during college ROTC training and Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The 2017 order-of-merit list ranks 5,536 seniors, and the top 20 percent earn the designation Distinguished Military Graduate. One-third of KU's 21-member senior class earned that designation, and KU was one of only two schools to place more than one cadet in the 10.

Hooah!



Schroer and McConnell

STEVE PUPPE



Creature feature

Famous fossil and its prey showcase newest Mount Oread space

As campus characters go, the Bunker mosasaur is an old hand. Discovered in Wallace County in 1911 by a team of fossil collectors led by KU Natural History Museum curator C.D. Bunker, the 83-million-year-old apex predator, thought to be one of the largest complete mosasaur skeletons ever found, has resided in the museum's paleontology collection for more than a century, and a replica of the 45-foot-long skeleton has hung above Dyche Hall's fourth-floor entrance since 1998, posed in a tight spiral to fit into the small space.

With the completion of the new Earth, Energy and Environment Center—which opens for classes this month, with a formal dedication to come April 25—Kansas' state marine fossil will finally be able to unfurl in full glory, thanks to a new skeletal replica cast and posed in a dramatic tableaux by Triebold Paleontology of Colorado.

Diving from a height of 53 feet above the floor to a low point of 25 feet in pursuit of a fossil sea turtle, the EEE

mosasaur showcases the building's soaring four-story atrium and the predator's fearsome grace when in full-on attack mode.

"It was amazingly agile and very, very fast," says Jacob Jett, one of two Triebold staff members who installed the mount in November. "So we want it to look like that."

The adult *Tylosaurus* weighed an estimated 8 tons when it roamed the shallow inland sea that covered Kansas and much of the North American interior during the Cretaceous Period. Triebold's resin cast weighs about 600 pounds and is suspended on braided steel cables mounted into ceiling joists.

"We were trying to come up with a place in the building where the fossil impacted the entire space," says John Wilkins, a'86, of Gould Evans, the architects on the project. "It's a way to activate all four floors. You get a different perspective of the fossil depending on where you are in



the building." The wall of glass that encases the atrium even extends the effect outside to Naismith Drive, especially at night when the building is lit from within.

Anthony Maltese, c'04, a curator at the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center, where Triebold is based, helped excavate and prepare the fossilized remains of the mosasaur's hapless victim, a sea turtle known as *Protostega*. Discovered by a Fort Hays State University student near Quinter in 2011, a century after Bunker's find, the turtle seems a natural pairing with the mosasaur.

"This was the biggest turtle in Kansas at that time, and there was only one thing that could actually get it in its mouth and start gnawing on it," Maltese says, "and that was *Tylosaurus*." The presence of nearly 100 unhealed bite marks on the turtle's shell are evidence of a fatal attack

from a Tylosaurus. “There’s no other plausible suspect.”


The Earth, Energy & Environment Center is actually two buildings, Slawson Hall and Ritchie Hall. Elevated pedestrian walkways connect them with each other and with Lindley Hall next door and Learned Hall across Naismith Drive. The complex increases the University’s active-learning, research and meeting and conference space by about 130,000 square feet, and it’s designed to connect students, faculty and researchers for cross-disciplinary research on energy and the environment.

“It’s all about bringing geologists, paleontologists, petroleum engineers, environmental scientists and energy scientists together,” says Robert Goldstein, the provost’s special adviser on campus development and a former associate dean of natural sciences and mathematics. “We wanted that to be represented in the building as part of our history,” Goldstein says. “Tylosaurus happens to be the state marine fossil of Kansas, and this particular specimen came from Kansas, excavated by a team from the KU Natural History

Museum. Having the state fossil taken from Kansas, chasing a fossil sea turtle also taken from Kansas and partially excavated by a Kansas alum, we think that really makes a statement about the things that matter to Kansas.”

Maltese savors his part in helping his alma mater display a specimen that he believes is the finest of its kind—the largest and most complete mosasaur in the world.

“I can just imagine the traffic jam on game nights coming down Naismith, and people looking over at this building and seeing the animal lit up and just being in awe of something like that sitting on campus,” he says.

Consider it one more reason to Beware of the Phog. 



STEVE PUPPE

Roberts

Rainy day resource

Helping grad students weather setbacks is goal of new fund

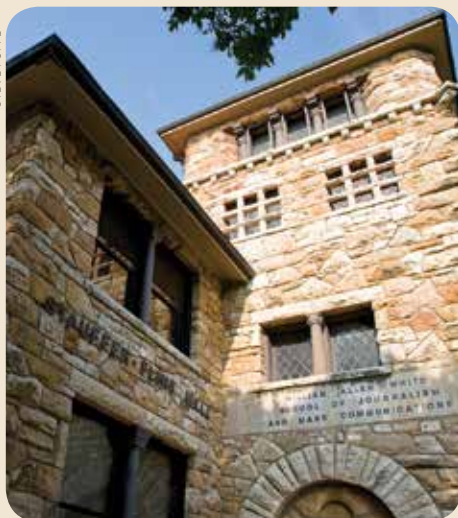
Michael Roberts has heard the stories, told by the directors of graduate studies in various departments around campus, about excellent students whose promising graduate school careers were felled by the fickle hand of fate.

“They say, ‘Oh, we had a great student who had an automobile accident and just couldn’t pay the bills and had to go off and



More online: Videographer Dan Storey’s coverage of the installation can be seen at kualumni.org/extras.

STEVE PUPPE



The William Allen White Foundation Board of Trustees in November voted to rescind the National Citation award presented last spring to journalist Charlie Rose.

“After recent reports detailed sexual harassment and a pattern of unprofessional behavior by Rose during his career, the William Allen White Foundation decided that Rose does not exemplify the ideals of this award,” the board said

in a written statement.

The Washington Post reported in November that eight women had accused Rose of lewd behavior and unwanted sexual advances. The detailed allegations led to his dismissal from CBS and PBS.

Rose was unable to attend the April 20 ceremony at KU awarding the prestigious citation, which since 1950 has honored American journalists who exemplify White’s

ideals in service to their profession and community. His CBS News colleague Bob Schieffer accepted the award on Rose’s behalf [Hilltopics, issue No. 3, 2017].

“The trustees’ vote reflects the inscription on the citation,” said journalism dean Ann Brill. “William Allen White was an important journalist who also felt that it was important to make a positive difference in the community.”

UPDATE

Hilltopics



WINTER GRADS: Recognition events in December honored more than 1,300 Jayhawks who earned degrees this fall. The new graduates represent 54 Kansas counties; 44 states, territories and the District of Columbia; and 25 countries. Degrees are officially conferred in January, and graduates are invited to walk down the Hill at Commencement on May 13.

work, and we've never heard from them since," Roberts says.

He's seen the need firsthand, too.

"I've been a faculty member here and at another institution for more than 40 years," says Roberts, dean of graduate studies at KU, "and I've probably faced hundreds of examples where graduate students either had to drop out or go on leave to rebuild their resources" because of sudden emergencies.

After regularly fielding inquiries from administrators about what could be done to help graduate students weather a rough patch brought on by accidents, illness, fire, flood or the death or serious illness of a family member, Roberts set out to create the KU Graduate Student Emergency Fund to assist students hit by unforeseen financial setbacks that might prevent the completion of their graduate studies.

A Launch KU crowdfunding campaign through KU Endowment this fall raised \$4,895, not quite half of the \$10,000 goal.

KU has more than 6,000 graduate students, and they are among the most vulnerable students on campus, Roberts says.

"Most are financially independent from their parents, and many come in with undergraduate debt because their parents were not able to pay the full share of their undergraduate education," he says. "Most are going to be living off their savings or their appointments as graduate teaching assistants or graduate research assistants, and those are not substantial enough to withstand any kind of unforeseen accident

or challenge to getting their degree done."

The fund is open to currently enrolled graduate students on the Lawrence campus who demonstrate financial hardship resulting from an emergency, accident or other unplanned event. Applications are reviewed by the Office of Graduate Studies, and the fund will award one-time assistance of up to \$500 for a range of needs that might include medical, psychological or dental services; travel costs related to a death or illness in the immediate family; safety needs (such as changing locks); and costs related to childcare in an emergency situation. Support from the fund is not a loan and does not need to be repaid.

Roberts says the Office of Graduate Studies consulted other universities that maintain similar emergency funds in order to set a benchmark on what can be done at KU. One thing they learned is that students who do find themselves needing help at some point in their schooling often are quick to offer it later on.

"At other universities, those students have come back to the school and said, 'You made a difference in my life; thank you,' and have become more committed to the university and have contributed to the emergency fund so that other students can benefit," Roberts says.

Building a formal structure for dealing with emergencies—instead of the ad hoc efforts that have characterized the school's

response to student need in the past—will pay dividends not only for students, but also for KU. The institution itself has a significant investment in students who have to drop out because of an accident or injury or family setback beyond their control, Roberts notes.

"Graduate school is tough enough without having things like that happen to you," he says. "We want to provide resources to keep them in school and get them past the hump. Then their investment of time and commitment—as well as the University's—is not lost."

Ear play

Lawrence comedy troupe gets last laugh in Liberty Hall finale

Right Between the Ears," the award-winning sketch comedy program that began airing on the campus National Public Radio affiliate KANU (now Kansas Public Radio) in 1985, brought the curtain down on three decades of satire, spoof and goofy fun with its last performance, "The Over and Out Show," Nov. 18.

"I wanted to go out on a high note," says show creator and producer Darrell Brogdon, "and not because somebody was shutting us down or we ran out of money or some awful thing like that."

Brogdon, program director at KPR, got the idea for the program while teaching a class on radio's Golden Age at the Lawrence Arts Center.

"I had this foolish idea: Wouldn't it be cool if the final class project would be to actually create a live radio show that we





“Right Between the Ears” cast members Teri Wilder, John Jessup, Andi Meyer, Roberta Solomon, Kip Niven, Brie Henderson, David Martin and David Geusel performed during the comedy troupe’s final show, Nov. 18 at Liberty Hall.

could broadcast on KANU?” he recalls. “That’s how it got going.”

Originally called “The Imagination Workshop,” the program started as a mix of long-form dramas broken up by short comedy sketches. When Brogdon and the cast realized audiences were reacting more strongly to the comedy than the drama, they began emphasizing sketches, shifting to an all-comedy show by 1990.

In the early ’90s, the show attracted production funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)—enough to start paying actors and writers and to build a distribution network that spread the laughs beyond Kansas. About 200 stations carried the show at its peak. National Public Radio broadcast it for several years, and SiriusXM, the satellite radio network, featured it for more than a decade. It won awards, including four Gold Medals for Best Comedy Show at the New York Festivals, four Gold Program Awards for Best Live Entertainment Program from CPB, and a Best of Show prize in the Silver Microphone Awards. In 2000, while trying to broaden distribution and considering moving to a weekly format, Brogdon and his cast members changed the name to “Right Between the Ears.”

Brogdon describes the program as “Saturday Night Live” meets the Golden Age of radio.

“Visually, it’s like watching an old radio show,” he explains. Actors stand before microphones with scripts in hand, a sound effects person works onstage, and musicians create a live soundtrack. “We used the same techniques they used to create radio shows back in the ’30s and ’40s,” Brogdon says. “But when you hear the show, it doesn’t sound like an old radio show. I’ve tried over the years to make it a very contemporary satirical comedy show, just using the techniques of days gone by.”

The follies of politicians. Awkward Christmas rituals. Musical parodies and faux commercials. Subjects to skewer and spoof have been plentiful over the last 32 years, perhaps never more than today. “It’s very difficult to stay ahead of the news,” Brogdon says with a laugh.

But the time felt right to move on. The self-described “radio rat” whose first job was DJing at his hometown radio station in Kerrville, Texas, has other projects he wants to try, some of which will likely involve “Right Between the Ears” alumni.

“I’m tremendously proud of it and really grateful for the opportunity to work with some really tremendous actors,” Brogdon says. “The magic they brought to it was so important to helping it become what it became. I’m just really happy to have worked with all those great folks to make people laugh. It doesn’t get any better than that.”

Milestones, money and other matters



■ **KU’s top legislative priority** for 2018 is to return the University’s funding to 2016 levels. KU’s budget was cut \$10.7 million in 2016, with lawmakers restoring \$3.3 million of those cuts in 2017. The University will ask legislators to restore the remaining \$7.4 million during the current session, which opened Jan. 8. For the latest news, join Jayhawks for Higher Education, KU’s higher education advocacy group headed by the Alumni Association. Members receive updates throughout the session, are notified of legislative events in their area, and are called upon at key moments to contact legislators on behalf of KU. More information is at kualumni.org/jhe.

■ **A \$10 million** gift from Cheryl Lockton Williams will buy medical equipment and furnishings for the University of Kansas Hospital’s new Cambridge A Tower. The tower’s fifth level will be named the Jack and Cheryl Lockton Intensive Care Patient Unit in recognition of Cheryl and her late husband, Jack, who died in 2004 from pancreatic cancer. The gift is among the largest ever to the University of Kansas Health System. The planned 11-story tower began treating patients with the opening of 92 beds in November, and another 32 beds will open this spring.

■ **John Jeter**, c’77, m’81, retired as president and CEO of HaysMed on Jan. 1 after 21 years at the hospital. Jeter was instrumental in HaysMed’s successful effort to join the University of Kansas Health System.

Hilltopics



Lunte



Peterson



Tao

SCHOLARSHIP

Three professors honored for advancement of science

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION for the Advancement of Science included a trio of KU professors among the 396 new fellows it honored in 2017 for their efforts to advance science.

Susan Lunte, Ralph N. Adams Distinguished Professor of Chemistry & Pharmaceutical Chemistry, was recognized for her work in the development and application of capillary and microfluidic separations that enable the specific quantification of important markers in biological systems.

A. Townsend Peterson, University Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and senior curator at the KU Biodiversity Institute, was honored for contributions to ecology, systematics, conservation and epidemiology, particularly in the geographic distribution of birds, viruses and viral vectors.

Franklin (Feng) Tao, Miller Associate Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering and Chemistry, was recognized for contributions to the field of in situ/operando studies of material at a molecular level, particularly catalysts under reaction condition and during catalysis.

The prestigious AAAS fellowship is

among the honors tracked by the Association of American Universities, a group of 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada which KU has been a member of since 1909. The University has 23 active faculty members who are AAAS fellows.

“It is always gratifying to have our faculty members receive this recognition from AAAS, one of our country’s most distinguished scientific organizations,” said Chancellor Doug Girod. “Designation as fellows is a well-deserved honor for all these scientists, and it reflects well on the research efforts of our entire University.”

HONORS

Google Maps co-inventor wins cartography award

BRIAN MCCLENDON, whose innovative work at a gaming software startup grew into the technology that underlies Google Earth, was awarded the American Geographical Society’s O.M. Miller Medal, which recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of cartography.

“Brian’s involvement with mapping has given us the critical tools which have transformed the way we interact with

VISITOR

Global advocate

Award-winning entrepreneur and innovation supporter Shiza Shahid, who co-founded the Malala Fund and NOW Ventures, delivered the 2017 Oswald Lecture at the School of Business as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week.

WHEN: Nov. 16

WHERE: Capitol Federal Hall

BACKGROUND: In 2013, Shahid co-founded the Malala Fund with Nobel Peace Prize

winner Malala Yousafzai, who at 15 was shot by terrorists in Pakistan for promoting girls’ education. Shahid served as CEO of the nonprofit organization, which advocates for girls worldwide to receive 12 years of free, safe and quality education. She launched NOW Ventures, a seed-stage venture capital fund and platform that supports mission-driven startups, in 2017.

ANECDOTE: When Malala was shot in 2012, Shahid was just 22 years old, a recent



Shahid

Stanford graduate with a consulting job in the Middle East. In the wake of Malala’s tragedy, Shahid asked the young girl how people could help. “She said, ‘I’m fine. You should tell them to help the other girls,’” Shahid recalled. “It

was in that moment that I came to realize that what Malala had been through could be far more than a day in the news cycle.”

QUOTES: “I believe that there are certain moments in your life where you have to decide who you are. This is true in your careers, in your values, in your relationships. For me, leaving my career and my plan to be with Malala and try to make something good out of this horrific tragedy was one such moment.”

—Heather Biele

geospatial information,” said Deborah Popper, vice president of AGS and chair of its honors and awards committee, who presented the award to McClendon at the society’s fall symposium Nov. 17 at Columbia University. “They have allowed us to share information readily and democratize geospatial information in important ways.”

After stints as a vice president at Google and Uber, McClendon, e’86, joined KU in 2017 as a research professor. He works with the department of electrical engineering and computer science and the Information and Telecommunications Technology Center on innovation and entrepreneurship and translating University research into the marketplace. A member of the National Academy of Engineering, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of science from KU in 2015.

RESEARCH

New leader tapped for Children’s Campus center

AN NIH-FUNDED SCIENTIST known for expertise in autism research and early childhood intervention programs will become only the third director to lead the Juniper Gardens Children’s Project in the KU research center’s 53-year history.

Brian Boyd, associate professor of occupational science and associate chair for research of the department of allied health sciences at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will take over leadership of Juniper Gardens Feb. 1. Located on the Children’s Campus of



Boyd

Kansas City and affiliated with KU’s Life Span Institute, the center uses research-based interventions to help children and their families in urban-core communities.

Previously a fellow and investigator at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC, Boyd has been principal or co-principal investigator on several grants funded by the National Institutes of Health and Institute of Education Sciences. His research focuses on developing early interventions for children with autism spectrum disorders to increase participation at home and in school.

“We see him as a bright star among the new generation of autism researchers and one whose expertise in autism and early intervention is a perfect fit for Juniper Gardens,” says Judith Carta, PhD’83, interim director. “He will continue our rich tradition of developing meaningful solutions for children with developmental disabilities while working in close partnership with families and the community.”

Boyd succeeds Charles Greenwood, who stepped down as director in 2017 after 26 years in that role but remains active in center research projects.

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **The 2017 H.O.P.E. Award** was presented to Amii Castle, a lecturer in the School of Law, during halftime of the Kansas-Oklahoma football game Nov. 18. Castle, c’94, l’97, teaches courses in business law and electronic discovery. The H.O.P.E. (Honor for Outstanding Progressive Educator) Award is presented annually by the senior class.



Castle

■ **A \$2 million gift** from William Bradley Jr., c’77, l’80, will endow a \$1 million scholarship and a \$1 million research fund. The Bradley Family Scholarship will benefit law students, with preference to those with financial need who contributed to their own undergraduate educations. The Bradley Family Research Fund will provide competitive grants to faculty in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences whose research involves undergraduates.

■ **Rolfe Mandel, g’80, PhD’91**, was named director of the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) this fall. University Distinguished Professor and senior scientist and executive director of the Odyssey Geoarchaeology Research Program at the survey, Mandel had been leading KGS as interim director.

■ **A \$10.8 million grant** from the National Institutes of Health will support research into cancer, neurological disorders, lung and heart diseases by the Center for Molecular Analysis of Disease Pathways. An NIH Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE), the KU center established in 2012 works to better understand the genetic, chemical and physical basis of a range of diseases. Susan Lunte is the principal investigator on the second-phase, five-year grant. Co-investigators are Blake Peterson and Erik Lundquist.

“My only advice is to follow your heart, to be bold, to be courageous, because your heart already knows what’s best for you.” —Shiza Shahid



STEVE PUPPE

Go big or go home

'Hawks hope Preston, De Sousa add bulk to guard-heavy rotation

Silvio De Sousa, a native of Luanda, Angola, spent nearly four years at IMG Academy, in Bradenton, Florida. The coveted 6-foot-9, 245-pound power forward signed with KU in November, hustled to finish high school in December, and on Dec. 26 arrived at Kansas City International Airport.

Wearing shorts. In 1-degree weather.

His new teammates prepared a warm welcome for De Sousa's first foray into the teeth of an arctic blast, and were ready with tips nearly as important as learning how to dress during Kansas winters.

"Try hard, listen to coach, and just worry about the team and doing the little things," said senior guard Svi Mykhailiuk. "Rebounding, playing defense, getting the loose balls."

The midseason arrival of a newly minted freshman who is expected to quickly contribute is rare enough that when asked to compare it with any similar circumstance, coach Bill Self had to reach back to 2000, when he coached Illinois, and Missouri thrust guard Travon Bryant into action against Self's Illini team.

Yet it seems fitting in a tumultuous

season already marred by consecutive nonconference losses that the Jayhawks will likely count on two freshman big men—De Sousa and Billy Preston—to improve from "not very good," in Self's words, to elite.

"Certainly we're not going to be as good as we can be until February," Self said Dec. 27, two days before KU opened conference



STEVE PUPPE

De Sousa

play with a victory at Texas. "I mean, let's just write it down."

Preston, a 6-10, 240-pound forward from Los Angeles via Virginia's Oak Hill Academy, was a McDonald's All-American who had been expected to play alongside 7-foot center Udoka Azubuike. But Preston was held out of the Nov. 10 season opener after missing class and curfew, then, following Preston's apparent single-car accident the night of Nov. 11, KU Athletics chose to sit the young star while department officials investigated the background on ownership of Preston's car.

Although he continued to practice with the team, Preston watched as Self turned to lanky 6-8 forward Mitch Lightfoot as the team's only other big-man option. The investigation into Preston's car lingered throughout the holiday break—and had not yet been resolved as *Kansas Alumni* went to press—and certification of De Sousa's amateur status was slowed by the NCAA's holiday vacation.

"We're talking about two months since [Preston] has played," Self said Jan. 4. "Has he practiced? Yes. But he's also been on the scout team a lot. If Silvio takes three to four weeks to get comfortable, Billy would take a week to get comfortable."

During a break in two-a-day practices before the conference opener, Self predicted that a 13-5 Big 12 record "will get it free and clear. Everybody in the league is going to lose two in a row. Everybody is going to lose. So how you respond to those negative performances will be very, very important."

After KU's victory at Texas, Texas Tech throttled KU, 85-73, in the Jayhawks' Big 12 home opener, a game that Self described as "a beat down. We have allowed our guys to be finesse guys and that is a formula for disaster. This could happen a couple or several more times, without question, even at home, because we have shown everybody we have a chink in our armor." As for KU's prospects of winning an unprecedented 14th-consecutive conference championship, Self on Jan. 4 cautioned, "I think we need to quit talking about winning the league, even though that's kind of expected around here."

Senior guard Devonte' Graham—the only player in the Big 12 to rank among the top five in scoring, assists, steals, 3-point field goals made and assist-to-turnover ratio—in early January shared the message Self delivered to the Jayhawks at the onset of conference play.

“He said you could lose the Big 12 in a week if you come into a game underestimating an opponent,” Graham recalled, “and then the next thing you know you lose two in a row and the race is over.”

KU lost at home to Texas Tech just a few days later, then traveled to face 16th-ranked TCU. Should the Jayhawks find a way to win their 14th-consecutive Big 12 title, their 88-84 victory Jan. 6 in Fort Worth could prove to be a turning point.

“You need to hold serve at home, and when you don't, you have to go steal one,” Self said afterward. “And this was a steal, the way I look at it.”

Tennis' new No. 1

Rychagova is 1st Jayhawk atop national singles rankings

Anastasia Rychagova—“Nas” or “Nastia” to teammates and coaches—was checking her phone minutes before her accounting class when she slowly came to grips with the realization that she was not, as hoped, ranked among the country's top 10 singles players.

She had finished the fall season 10-2, including an 8-1 mark against ranked opponents, and her only losses came against the eventual champions of the two biggest fall tournaments: the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American and the ITA National Fall Championship.

As she scrolled through a news flash announcing the ITA's final rankings of 2017, Rychagova recalled assistant coach Caroline Lilley telling her, “You for sure will be top 10.” But the higher she scrolled, she still didn't see her name.

“I'm scrolling up the rankings, and I was like, great, I didn't make it,” Rychagova recalls. “I almost started crying.”

As she neared the top, Rychagova had to

“Certainly we're not going to be as good as we can be until February. I mean, let's just write it down.”

—coach Bill Self

force herself to continue on, telling herself, “OK, whatever, let's look.”

“And I look at the first position, and I'm like, no, no, there is just no way ...”

Rychagova desperately wanted to stand and shout the news—“I'm No. 1!”—but class was mere moments from starting and she did not want to make a scene. Instead she buried her face in her hands to muffle tears of joy—“The girl who sits next to me, I don't know what she was thinking”—and later shared the news with an excited phone call to her parents in Moscow.

“My dad was like, ‘This ranking system is so weird.’ I was like, ‘Thanks, Dad.’”

Rychagova, a 5-foot-6 dynamo who

relies on smart and steady play to overcome opponents, flashes her charming laugh and smile, and shares the story of her introduction to tennis. When her older brother began playing, she was quickly enthralled: not by the sport's intriguing beauty and athleticism, but by running around to pick up balls.

So when their parents asked her to choose between dance and tennis, she opted for tennis. During her first lesson, when it dawned on her that the sport involved more than retrieving balls, Nas felt deflated. She was only 5 years old, yet her coach saw no future for her in tennis.

“He came to my dad and said, ‘No, this kid cannot play tennis.’ I don't know why my dad didn't give up on me.”

She didn't give up, either, and began logging 12-hour practice days. Within a few years, Rychagova recalls, “No one could beat me.” She won a slew of European titles and at 16 Rychagova rose to No. 60 in the ITF World Junior Rankings.

Then she suffered a hernia in her back—“I think part of this was because I was practicing so much when I was little”—and stopped

“To watch the growth of Nastia as a player and as a person in the last two and a half years has been so fun to watch,” says coach Todd Chapman. “The exciting thing is, knowing Nastia the way we do, she won't be satisfied until she is No. 1 in the year-end rankings.”



STEVE PUPPE

Sports

playing tennis. A year and a half spent studying physical therapy at a Russian university convinced Rychagova she should return to tennis, but this time in the United States.

She followed Moscow tennis friend Nina Khmelnitckaia, already a KU signee, to Lawrence, but arrived here badly out of shape and with no English skills.

“I was not fit at all. Not athletic, no muscle. [Coach Todd Chapman] was like, ‘Oh my gosh, who did I take?’”

Rychagova embraced her old practice habits. After a grueling summer, she led the Jayhawks in her freshman fall season at 11-4. She completed the spring season as Big 12 Freshman of the Year and ITA Central Region Rookie of the Year and helped push the Jayhawks to their first Big 12 semifinals since 2002 and their first NCAA Championship invitation in 17 years. She went 25-8 as a sophomore and was named to the All-Big 12 Singles First Team, and now enters her junior spring as the No. 1 player in the country.

“I felt a lot of pressure, but I told

Caroline that has passed. I don’t care about this anymore. I have other goals. I still want to get All-American, I want to have a better NCAA, I want our team to do well.

“I have so many goals, and if I concentrate on my ranking I won’t achieve anything. I celebrated when I found out, but now it’s time to not celebrate any more. Put it in the past and move forward.”

Hot start

Early success extends into Big 12 season for women’s hoops

Women’s basketball on Jan. 3 won its first Big 12 road game under third-year coach Brandon Schneider, a 60-47 victory at Texas Tech that pushed the Jayhawks to 11-3 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

KU opened the season 7-0 and concluded nonconference play 9-2, holding opponents to 57.7 points and 32.9 percent



Kopatich

field-goal shooting per game.

Junior guard Kylee Kopatich entered conference play averaging 15.3 points per game, including a career-high 26 in KU’s 71-60 victory over Arkansas in the Big 12 SEC Challenge Dec. 3 in Allen Field House.

“We’ve overhauled our roster,” Schneider says, “and we’re in the midst of making some major changes from a cultural standpoint.”

UPDATES

Junior linebacker **Joe Dineen Jr.**—who led the country with 7.8 solo tackles per game and the Big 12 in total tackles (137), tackles for loss (25) and solo tackles (93)—earned second-team All-America distinction from Sports Illustrated, the first Jayhawk so honored since cornerback **Aqib Talib**, ‘09, in 2007. Junior defensive tackle **Daniel Wise**, who had 16 tackles for loss and seven sacks, was named first-team All-Big 12 by conference coaches. ...

Sophomore **Jenny Nusbaum** broke the meet record in the Kansas Classic’s 200-yard freestyle Nov. 18 in Capitol Federal Natatorium in Topeka, winning by two seconds in 1 minute, 47.81 seconds. Senior



Dineen

diver **Nadia Khechfe** closed out her fall season by being named Big 12 Co-Diver of the Week after a pair of third-place finishes in the one- and three-meter events. ...

The American Volleyball Coaches Association named senior setter **Anise Havili** its Midwest Region Player of the Year. Havili was named Big 12 Setter of the Year for a record-

setting third time and joined senior right-side hitter **Kelsie Payne** and senior outside hitter **Madison Ridgon** on the All-Big 12 first team. ...

Big 12 cross-country champion **Sharon Lokedi**, a junior, was named Big 12 Runner of the Year for the second-consecutive season. Lokedi placed second at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships and 44th at the NCAA Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. ... Sophomore pole vaulter **Andrea Willis** jumped to a personal record of 13 feet, 8.25, inches at the Dec. 2 Bob Timmons Challenge in Anschutz Sports Pavilion. Willis is No. 5 on KU’s indoor pole vault record list. ...

Along with forward **Silvio De Sousa**, the men’s basketball team also signed five-star guard **Quentin Grimes** of The Woodlands, Texas. “We feel Quentin Grimes is as good a guard as there is in high school basketball,” said coach **Bill Self**. ... KU announced a home-and-home series with Villanova, Dec. 15, 2018, in Allen Field House and Dec. 21, 2019, in Philadelphia. ...

Memorial Stadium will soon be known as **David Booth** Kansas Memorial Stadium, after the Kansas Board of Regents unanimously approved a name-change request to honor donor Booth, c’68, g’69. A timeline for the change has not been set.

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Sports Photographs by Steve Puppe



Devonte' Graham (4), Malik Newman (14), Sam Cunliffe (3), Lagerald Vick (2) and Svi Mykhailiuk (10), along with Marcus Garrett, manned the four-guard rotation coach Bill Self was forced to deploy with only Udoka Azubuike (35) and Mitch Lightfoot (44) available as big men. "It gives guys a lot of confidence," Mykhailiuk says of the guards' increased playing time. "Everybody's got it going and feels pretty confident about themselves."





Freedom

Professor's personal history infuses scholarly calling

FIGHTER

Bill Tuttle believes in recording history from what he calls “the bottom up,” sharing the past as seen through the eyes of ordinary folks. For his 1970 book, *Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919*, based on his 1964 master’s thesis, Tuttle talked with the black Chicagoans who lived through the riot, including John Turner Harris, who, as a 14-year-old in July 1919, was floating on a raft in Lake Michigan with four other black friends when a white man began throwing rocks at them, hitting Turner’s friend Eugene Williams in the head. Turner attempted to save his friend, but Williams drowned. A white police officer refused to arrest the rock-thrower, sparking community outrage that fueled a five-day riot. Thirty-eight people died.

Race Riot, published only three years after Tuttle joined the University’s faculty in 1967, established his national prominence as a scholar. Fifty years later, now KU professor emeritus, he delivered the 10th-annual Bill Tuttle Distinguished Lecture in American Studies Oct. 5.

When Tuttle retired (sort of) from the Hill a decade ago, colleagues, friends and family members created the lecture series in his honor to bring acclaimed American Studies scholars to KU each fall. The founders asked Tuttle himself to deliver the 2017 edition to celebrate the lecture’s 10 years, his golden KU anniversary and his 80th birthday. In the Kansas Union’s Woodruff Auditorium, before a festive crowd that included his wife, Kathryn Nemeth Tuttle, d’72, PhD’96, and two rows of the Tuttle family front and center, he shared his own history in “My Life as a Student of African-American History and Culture.” With slides of personal photos and images from his research, Tuttle described the watershed moments in U.S., Lawrence and KU history that have captivated him as a scholar and activist.

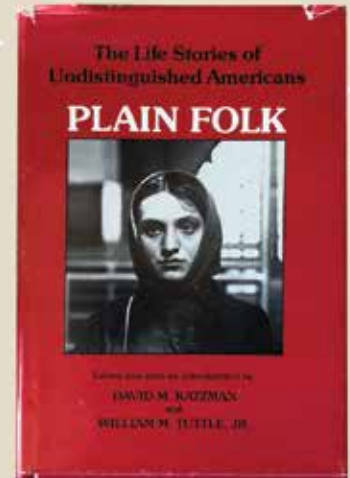
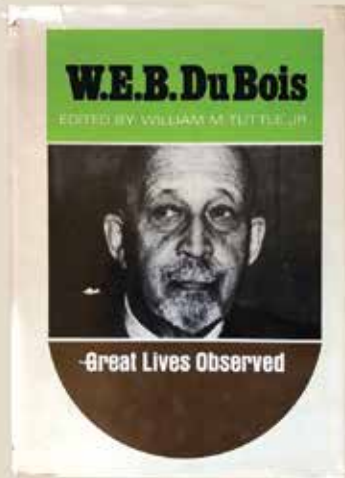
Zanice Bond, PhD’11, who convinced Tuttle to chair one final dissertation committee—hers—despite his retirement, introduced her mentor and friend and joined other scholars in a symposium honoring Tuttle. Now an assistant professor of English at Tuskegee University, Bond recalled when Tuttle traveled with her to her hometown of Brownsville, Tennessee, a focal point of her dissertation. They visited the Hatchie River bottoms, where local NAACP charter member Elbert Williams’ body was found after he was lynched in 1940, and they attended a Freedom Fund dinner for the local chapter, where Tuttle bonded with former Tennessee Supreme Court justice Lyle Reid, and Evelyn Jones, then 90, a former Avon Lady and founding member. “Neither of them has forgotten Bill,” Bond told the Woodruff audience. “In fact, they continue to inquire about him whenever I see them at home. ‘How’s that charming KU professor of yours?’ Mrs. Jones, now 96, asks.” Audience members, familiar with Tuttle’s charm, erupted in laughter.

Tuttle easily connects with others because he expresses genuine interest, Bond says: “He recognizes the human condition and the human spirit as one among all people. ... His work talks about the elements that can be oppressive, not just in the South, and how to reclaim the goodness in any community.”

Born Oct. 7, 1937, in Detroit, Tuttle was a self-described “privileged boy,” wearing a sailor suit in the family portrait. His father, a prominent surgeon, and his mother settled with their family in Rosedale Park, an all-white enclave of the city. Despite his sheltered upbringing, Tuttle clearly remembers a 1943 race riot that frightened his mother, who during World War II was raising a daughter and two sons alone while her husband served in North Africa as an Army surgeon.

by Jennifer Jackson Sanner

Portrait by Steve Puppe



Through vivid recollections of his personal and professional life, Tuttle described the influences that sharpened his scholarly focus: a lifelong passion for jazz that took hold when, as a 16-year-old, he heard saxophone greats Charlie Parker, Arnett Cobb and Illinois Jacquet at the Graystone Ballroom in downtown Detroit; and his years in the military when, as the family services officer at Dow Air Force Base in Bangor, Maine, he assisted many African-American wives and their children and became dear friends with a black bomber pilot, Capt. Woody Farmer.

“We used to get together with a bottle of bourbon and a stack of jazz recordings,” Tuttle said, pointing out his buddy in a group photo. Farmer’s wife, Jean, wanted her husband to be baptized in her church, and Farmer asked Tuttle to be his godfather. But one week before the service, Farmer and five other men died when

their B-52 crashed on a training mission. “The next few days were a nightmare for Jean Farmer, and I was with her much of the time,” Tuttle recalled. “Black pilots from around the country flew in to be with her, too. I had lost a dear friend, and I had gained an appreciation of the strength and resilience of black families and their social networks.”

Following graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, Tuttle and his family moved to Lawrence, and in fall 1968 he taught KU’s first course in African-American history. “It was an incredible experience,” he recalled. “The class of 24 students, evenly divided between blacks and whites, was filled with remarkable young women and men. They felt deeply the passions of the civil rights and the black power movements, and the Vietnam War was a mounting concern. They were not only deeply engaged, but also well informed, and our discussions were exhilarating and unforgettable.”

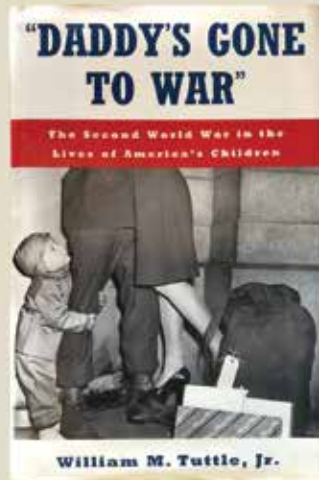
Soon after that first course, Tuttle worked with fellow faculty members and students to establish what is now KU’s nationally recognized department of African and African-American Studies.

As an assistant professor, Tuttle took notice of a dissertation by a University of Michigan graduate, David Katzman, whose research

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 In the late 1960s, Tuttle (left) helped recruit David Katzman to KU, and they ultimately collaborated on two books. “One of the great strengths of Bill—and the audience at the lecture reflected it—is the degree that he has put roots in Lawrence in many different communities,” Katzman says. “He has bridged the worlds of the University and the town.”

COURTESY BILL TUTTLE





In addition to sharing history through the voices of everyday Americans, Tuttle edited a 1973 biographical study of W.E.B. DuBois, whom he describes as “a scholar-activist, and arguably, America’s leading 20th-century intellectual.”

“He recognizes the human condition and the human spirit as one among all people. ... His work talks about the elements that can be oppressive, not just in the South, and how to reclaim the goodness in any community.”

—Zanice Bond,
Tuttle’s last doctoral student, now an
assistant professor of English, Tuskegee University

overlapped with his own, focusing on the history of the black community in Tuttle’s hometown. He helped recruit Katzman to KU, where his young colleague ultimately turned the dissertation into his first book, *Before the Ghetto: Black Detroit in the Nineteenth Century*.

A few years later, when both were fellows at Harvard University, they talked at length about “telling history from the bottom up.” (“For the record, David Katzman is the smartest man I know,” Tuttle declared in his lecture.) The two started to collect life stories for their book, *Plain Folk: The Life Stories of Undistinguished Americans*, and later they collaborated with four other historians on *A People and a Nation*, a popular textbook at many colleges and universities.

Their scholarly partnership became an enduring friendship. “Bill is an incredible academic writer,” says Katzman, now professor emeritus of American Studies and history. “He writes great narratives. We learn best from telling stories, and Bill does it better than anyone. He weaves in others’ perspectives so beautifully.”

Tuttle also melded his historical research with the study of developmental psychology through a fellowship with KU professors Frances Horowitz, John Wright and Aletha Huston. Spurred by his own memories of his family’s attempts to cope with his father’s wartime absence and return home, Tuttle conducted interviews and collected 2,000 letters from fellow children of World War II. After a decade of study, he completed “*Daddy’s*

Gone to War”: *The Second World War in the Lives of America’s Children*, published by Oxford University Press in 1992.

Other highlights of Tuttle’s long career include co-chairing with Professor Maryemma Graham KU’s 2002 symposium on Langston Hughes, which drew 600 writers, literary scholars and performers to Lawrence. When novelist Alice Walker concluded the event with her remarks during a prayer breakfast at Lawrence’s St. Luke AME Church, Tuttle was struck by the deterioration of the historic sanctuary. With the Rev. Verdell Taylor, Tuttle co-chaired the campaign to save the church, which was renovated in time to celebrate its 100th birthday.

Tuttle also helped preserve local history by “setting the record straight” about racism and turmoil in the community and on campus. He devoted much of his lecture to recalling local civil rights leaders and pivotal events, including the July 1970 killings by police of Rick “Tiger” Dowdell, a 19-year-old black KU student, and Nick Rice, an 18-year-old white student. In July 2015, Tuttle was among those who organized a tribute to Dowdell at the Lawrence Public Library, which he called “the most powerful event of its kind that I’ve attended in my 50 years in Lawrence.”

As he summed up the importance of history, including the painful episodes, Tuttle invoked the words of novelist James Baldwin, who said, “The great force of history comes from the fact that we carry it with us, are unconsciously controlled by it in many ways, and history is literally present in all that we do.”

“For this compelling reason,” Tuttle concluded, “I believe it is incumbent not only upon historians, but also upon those committed to social justice, to, first, set the historical record straight when necessary and, second, to keep our historical heritage alive by remembering—and, when appropriate, celebrating—our freedom-fighting heroes of the past.”

As the charming professor invited the hundreds gathered to adjourn down the hall for celebratory toasts, the rowdy, heartfelt applause affirmed their gratitude to a scholar who continues the fight. —

The Mighty



'Hawks

KU's hockey renaissance heats up the ice



Yo juego hockey.

When his Spanish teacher asked students to introduce themselves to a classmate, Andy McConnell turned to an unknown guy seated nearby and said, en español, “I play hockey.”

Or, rather, he *did* play hockey. McConnell grew up playing youth hockey at Kansas City’s limited venues and, as with all talented junior players and their devoted families, far beyond. When he arrived at KU, McConnell immediately sought out the men’s ice hockey club team.

“It ended up being one of the reasons that I wanted to go to KU,” recalls McConnell, j’16. “A lot of my friends that I grew up playing hockey with were here and were planning on playing with the team. So I joined up.”

What he found here was not good.

“It was just rough,” McConnell says. He concedes that he didn’t help his hockey dreams by also joining a fraternity, but it turned out his frat brothers were the only true team he identified with during his first months on Mount Oread. Hockey, for the first time in his life, let him down.



Photographs by Steve Puppe

HOMIE



“The team that was here was just kind of splintered,” he says. “We weren’t really that good. We were losing quite a bit, and a lot of the friends I originally joined up with stopped going. I finished it out until the end of the semester and told the coach I was going to stick with the fraternity and focus on my grades.

“I didn’t lose love for the sport, but it wasn’t the same experience I had had in high school that brought me so much enjoyment. I kind of hung ’em up for a while. I didn’t think I would do it again, at least not competitively like that.”

Details of the recent history of KU men’s ice hockey are, at best, muddled, especially when attempting to recreate a precise, year-by-year timeline of what happened when. What is known, though, is that the club team folded, leaving behind a trail of hurt feelings and bad debts.

There were no prospects for the sport’s return, until McConnell heard his classmate’s reply:

Yo juego hockey.

Rhett Johnston grew up playing hockey

Head coach Andy McConnell (second row), assistant coaches Rhett Johnston (l-r) and Chase Pruitt and general manager Jimmy Samuels, Las Vegas sophomore, log nearly full-time hours during the season to help coach and organize the hockey club they treasure. “It’s the love of the sport; it’s being on a team,” McConnell says of their motivation. “Being able to shoot for a goal that you built is cool. I know that’s a huge motivator for me.”

in Scottsdale, Arizona. He rose to amateur hockey’s elite AAA level, yet certainly didn’t come to KU for hockey, because hockey wasn’t here.

“When I showed up to school,” says Johnston, b’16, g’17, “there was no team. At all.”

But when “Yo juego hockey” was met with “Yo juego hockey,” an unlikely hockey renewal suddenly began. Half a decade later, the sport has been reborn.

KU has *ice hockey*? You’d better believe it.

The dark days behind them, today’s KU skaters take the ice in swank Jayhawk jerseys, win a whole lot more than they lose, unabashedly share their playoff dreams, relish victories over Mizzou while eagerly pointing toward their Feb. 15

Border Showdown renewal, and pine for the day when students and alumni cheer them on in numbers the team has seemingly earned.

“Not very many times in life, at least that I’ve noticed, do you get opportunities to put your hat on something that can really stick for years to come,” says McConnell, who closed out his renewed playing career two years ago and his since volunteered his time as the club’s head coach. “You have that opportunity here, and I use that as a selling point to a lot of players. We’re still a young club. There’s still so much potential for this to become something really impactful. At KU. In Lawrence. In Kansas City.

“To be honest, people just don’t know about it. Yet.”



Blame it on the “The Mighty Ducks.” The 1992 Disney movie spawned an NHL franchise in Anaheim, California, and lit boyhood fires for a sport previously unknown in the McConnell family of Liberty, Missouri. Andy and his younger brother, Preston, grew up far from hockey, but close to theatres, and he was hooked.

“I just kind of fell in love with it and really wanted to do it,” Andy recalls. “Eventually, after prodding and begging, my parents got me enrolled.”

Says Preston, now a senior forward and KU’s leading scorer, “He was persistent and would not take no for an answer. Finally my mom told my dad, ‘We’ve got to get this kid playing hockey.’ So Andy started playing, and I was the little brother who always wanted to do what he did.

“But yeah, ‘The Mighty Ducks.’ It would be funny to take a poll to see how many kids started playing because of that movie.”

Unlike other sports that can shuttle young newcomers directly into skill development, the McConnell brothers first had to clear hockey’s primary hurdle: They had to learn to skate.

“Take a football player and put some hockey skates on him and see how well he does,” says assistant coach Chase Pruitt, e’16. “It’s just a whole different sport. It’s not something that you can pick up and start playing. I wish you could because we’d have a lot more involvement.”

Outside of hockey hotbeds in northern states like Minnesota and Wisconsin, youth hockey is rarely sponsored by schools. It’s a community sport, funded by

parents, and players and families routinely endure endless hours of drive time, traveling to practices at inconvenient rinks and games against distant opponents.

It seems a plausible estimation that hockey features three universal rites of passage: learn to skate, log a ton of road miles, and spend bushels of money on the first two, along with equipment that is shockingly expensive. A good set of skates, for instance, can now cost more than \$1,000, and might not last a competitive player more than a year.

All of which helps explain why KU players are completely OK with paying \$1,200 in dues each season and commuting to twice-weekly practices—usually starting around 10 p.m., thanks to the difficulty of booking ice time—at Line

Intramural sports offered by KU Recreation Services annually attract about 3,000 students, many of whom participate in multiple sports and all of whom compete against other KU students.

Short of varsity athletics, the highest level of competition is sport clubs, including men’s ice hockey. Most of the 30-plus teams, with about 1,200 athletes, compete against other schools.

Club teams are funded with a campuswide fee of \$4 per student per semester. At its current allocation of \$9,000, ice

hockey is among the best-funded teams, although club officers hope financing grows as the club continues its resurgence.

KU’s sport club teams have access to a dedicated weight room (to avoid overcrowding in the public areas of Ambler Recreation Fitness Center), trainers at games and assistance with travel logistics, but the clubs are student-run—which Assistant Director Dave Podschun views as an important aspect of the experience.

“If you take it seriously, and if

Intramurals and club sports

you’re successful, that’s a big thing for those who choose to take on leadership positions, especially for ice hockey,” Podschun says. “Their budget is probably upwards of \$40,000. Who else, as a 20-year-old getting out of college, can say they managed a budget of \$40,000?”

Despite the long hours he dedicates to team logistics on top of practices, games, and a double major in geology and

chemistry, that’s a benefit not lost on club president Will Dufresne.

“I’ll definitely talk about it in interviews,” he says. “When they ask about something you solved as a team, or the time you had to battle through adversity or work through something that’s less than ideal, the examples from hockey alone can answer those questions.”

—C.L.



Creek Community Center, in North Kansas City, and weekend home games at Centerpoint Medical Center Community Ice, a cozy rink adjacent to Silverstein Eye Centers Arena, in Independence, Missouri.

To answer the two questions invariably raised when the subject of KU hockey arises: *Yes*, KU has a team, and *no*, the Jayhawks do not play in Lawrence.

“For sure I wish the drive was 10 minutes away. That would be perfect,”

Preston McConnell says. “But, you’d probably go to practice and leave. Being forced to make that drive and have some conversation and get to know your teammates is really beneficial, and I think it’s made our team a lot better.”

When the rare grouching does surface, Preston McConnell shoots it down with college-age logic: “You’re going to be up until 1 either way; you might as well just go play. And Andy, Rhett and Chase have to wake up at 6 a.m. and go to work. You

get to sleep in and you don’t have class until 3 tomorrow. What’s so bad about it?”

Winning helps. When KU hockey was losing—often by double digits—shuttling to North Kansas City and Independence was miserable, not beneficial.

After discovering their shared interest—*Yo juego hockey*—Andy McConnell and Rhett Johnston forged a friendship that quickly grew beyond their Spanish class.

**“Something clicked,
and we started winning.
Everybody started
buying in. It was a
culture change.”**

—Brent Bockman

McConnell recalls that it was Johnston who was “really adamant” about restarting the KU club hockey team, efforts that he and another player, Chase Pruitt, supported.

After meeting with officials at KU Recreation Services, which supervises the sport clubs program, Johnston discovered a pile of debts for ice time purchased but not paid for at Kansas City arenas.

“We were forced to remedy everything the prior entity did wrong,” Johnston says. “So we were on probation even from the school when we started. Slowly and surely we started gaining more trust.”

The new team’s first two seasons were limited by finances, opportunity and roster depth. Bad feelings from schools that had been stood up—the dreaded “no call/no show”—by the previous KU team made scheduling its traditional opponents a near impossibility and prevented a return to the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

KU hockey was even a pariah on campus. Far from being eligible to return as an official sports club, KU hockey was also prevented from registering as a student club for a year. Once it did, the team received a mere \$500 from the Student Involvement & Leadership Center.

“It was bad,” Andy McConnell says. “We were hated in the league, and were hated, kind of, by the school, which is totally understandable. So that first year, you’ve got to play so many games, you’ve got to get in good standing with everybody, you’ve got to get your players. It was like trying to ski a steep learning curve.”

With limited finances, the team could afford only an hour of practice per week, and didn’t even have a coach. “It was a jumbled mess of voices those first two years,” McConnell says.

Players had to schedule ice time—paying time-and-a-half to eliminate debt at area rinks—while also recruiting new players and scheduling opponents.

“I can remember my freshman and sophomore year, we’d lose to Arkansas and Mizzou by double-digits,” says senior forward and team captain Brent Bockman. “Now we expect to beat them every time. We know where we came from. We have a chip on our shoulder.”

Near the end of their second season, the Jayhawks found themselves wavering outside Mizzou’s home arena. Although they’d beaten Missouri once the previous year, the Tigers had also handed KU a 16-1 loss. While the KU team improved in its second season, thanks to an influx of talented young players who were slowly filtering into the club, Mizzou—an ACHA Division 2 club, compared with KU’s Division 3 status—had improved even more.

“We had played them that Friday night and we got absolutely tossed,” McConnell says. “There were injuries. We were super-short benched, with maybe 10 guys. It was the end of the season, you’re already tired, you’re beat up, you know you’re going to lose. It was one of those ‘do we want to do this?’ moments. And I remember asking exactly that.”

Huddled around their cars, the Jayhawks took a vote. Leave now, drive home, call it quits. The game, the season, the club.

Or, enter the arena, take the punishment, and keep pushing forward.

“We were really bruised up, injured, and we barely had enough guys to play a game,” says senior goaltender and club president Will Dufresne. “Eventually we decided in the parking lot that we’re here and we’re going to play. We can look back at it now and laugh, but it was a low point.”

KU hockey clawed its way back to probationary sports club status in spring 2016, and spent last season proving the team’s worthiness to the ACHA, opponents, and, most critically, KU Recreation Services.

“They had to show they were serious, because it came back on us, as well,” Dave Podschun, d’12, assistant director of sport

Game photographs by Gil Anderson



“We’re guys who love the game. We’re here for school first, but we go out there on the ice and we know we’ll battle for each other. You put on that jersey, and you’re playing for the logo on the front, not the logo on the back. You’re playing for your school. You’re representing KU.” —Johan Steen



clubs, says of the previous group’s meltdown. “That’s part of why we set those parameters for them to take steps to slowly get back. We wanted to make sure they were committed to getting the club on the right track. And they are. They really are committed to making sure they keep the club’s good name now that they’ve reestablished that.”

The 2016-’17 Jayhawks also established themselves on the ice. Buoyed both by pride in perseverance as well as an ongoing flourish of talented new skaters, KU went 15-3-1 and on Feb. 23 jubilantly celebrated a 5-2 victory over Missouri in a packed Silverstein Eye Centers Arena.

“Something clicked, and we started winning,” Bockman says. “Everybody

started buying in. It was a culture change.”

Finally off probation, KU hockey this year received \$9,000 from KU Recreation Services. Along with players’ annual participation fees, the team can now afford two, and sometimes three, practice sessions each week. It is scheduling better opponents, and still concluded the fall season 14-5, including 12-2 and 9-4 victories over Missouri and winning records against Creighton and Nebraska.

KU finished the semester ranked No. 8 in its ACHA division; the top 10 teams in each division advance to the playoffs.

With only a few games remaining in the regular season—Jan. 19 and 20 at Missouri; Feb. 3 and 4 at Robert Morris University in Peoria, Illinois; home games

Feb. 9 and 10 against South Dakota State; and the Feb. 15 Border Showdown against Mizzou at Silverstein Eye Centers Arena, touted as the “Rivalry at the Rink”—Dufresne cautions that not many on the team are aware that the ACHA this year switched its rankings system from a coaches’ poll to a “finicky” algorithm.

“As far as controlling what we can control, I think we have a decent shot of making it to regionals,” Dufresne says. “That’s been our goal this season. Last year, we were establishing ourselves as a decent team. The next big leap forward is trying to make the playoffs, and it’s definitely doable. With everybody healthy, I think we have one of the better teams in our division.”

Literally and figuratively, it has been a long, hard road. But these are hockey players. They like it that way.

“You know you have a good team when you feel everyone is like your brother and you have everyone’s back,” says junior forward Miles Manson, who grew up playing Kansas City hockey alongside Preston McConnell, a duo that now forms the high-speed line that provides much of KU’s scoring, as do Bockman, sophomore forward Dawson Engle and 21-year-old freshman defenseman Johan Steen. “We had that a little bit here and there those first couple of years. Last year it really started to become evident. This year? It’s crazy.”

Steen, who was born in Sweden and moved to Dallas when he was 3, played four years of elite “junior hockey” in Dallas, Omaha and British Columbia. When New York’s Niagara University last year offered Steen a scholarship, he realized he could not accept. He was cooked.

“I played around 250 junior hockey games, with practice every single day, plus travel,” Steen says. “I just didn’t feel like going up there to play. So I came here.”

Steen had spent two years visiting his girlfriend, KU student Faith Whiteley, on quick visits to Lawrence when his schedule allowed. He says he spent more time in Lawrence than any other college town, and it already felt like a second home.

“The University of Kansas is the place I wanted to be,” he says. “It’s the best choice I’ve made so far.”

The one thing he didn’t want was hockey. Hockey found him anyway, and, with Whiteley’s encouragement—“She’s the one who convinced me to have my gear shipped from Dallas,” he says—Steen grudgingly accepted an invitation to join a KU practice. Expectations were low.

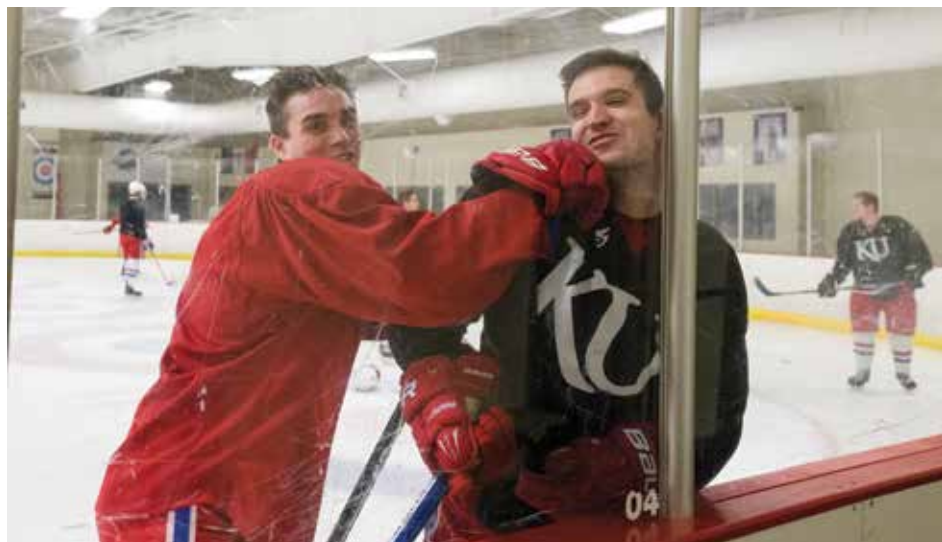
“I was trying to have an open mind,” he says. “Just try to have some fun, go meet some of the guys. That first practice, they all came up to me and introduced themselves, started talking to me, and it just clicked. We got along from day one.”

Steen wanted no part of the daily rigors of varsity NCAA athletics. But club hockey? With a couple of practices and two games a week? That felt right.

“We’re guys who love the game. We’re here for school first, but we go out there on the ice and we know we’ll battle for each other. You put on that jersey, and you’re playing for the logo on the front, not the logo on the back. You’re playing for your school. You’re representing KU.”

Time and money are the two things in shortest supply for college students. KU hockey players choose to give generously of both, and, to a man, they say their sacrifices will all be worth it if the program continues to grow and prosper.

Preston McConnell sees resurgent team pride every time he and his teammates enter their hallowed hockey locker room. Amid the swirling sea of overflowing equipment bags, skates, helmets and sticks, the KU jersey never touches the floor. It’s a matter of respect.



More online

Videographer Dan Storey’s coverage of KU hockey, including game footage and interviews, can be seen at kualumni.org/extras.

KU hockey’s internet headquarters, jayhawkhockey.com, includes links to the team’s popular Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube pages, plus schedules, rosters, statistics and news archives.

Hockey home games at Centerpoint Community Ice, adjacent to Silverstein Eye Centers Arena, are free. Tickets to the Feb. 15 Border Showdown against Missouri, which is played in the larger arena, can be purchased at silversteineyecentersarena.com.

KU Recreation Services anticipates soon offering a master calendar of all sport-club home events at recreation.ku.edu/sport-clubs.

“The first couple years were really tough. Maybe you don’t want to put this in your article, but, truthfully, it was almost embarrassing for us to put on that jersey. We were going through such a hard time trying to get this program going. But seeing where this is now, throwing that jersey on is a very special feeling.

“Not very many people get to play a sport with the sacred Jayhawk on the front of their jersey, representing the University of Kansas. I’m going to miss it more than anything I’ve done in college. I’m going to miss playing for KU very much.”

Yo juego hockey?

You’d better believe it.

Working through tight deadlines and test schedules, KU hockey players and coaches in December trekked to their practice rink in North Kansas City for a late-night photo shoot. Although final exams prevented perfect attendance, the end-of-semester session had the Jayhawk skaters in high spirits and ready for some board-crashing hijinks.



ESTD 826 MASS ST. 1905

He's got it he can find it

IN HIS ICONIC DOWNTOWN STORE,
ROD ERNST CARRIES ON LONG FAMILY TRADITION
OF SUPPLYING TOOLS AND TREASURES

Chances are you never even noticed the Gold Hammers.

The scent, well, that hits you straight away. The air inside 826 Mass St. is a heady olfactory cocktail of old wood and brass and sweeping compound and rusted iron and more than a little dust.

“People walk in, take a deep breath and say, ‘Ah, that old hardware store smell,’” says Eddie Wilson, a Lawrence film major who has worked here throughout his four years at KU.

“Some say, ‘We used to have a hardware store like this where I grew up.’ It’s half store, half museum.”

And some people, fussy sorts, turn and walk out, overwhelmed by the complete absence of any apparent organizational structure. The clutter *is* formidable: Merchandise crowds higgledy-piggledy on shelves and countertops and spills from the same handmade bins that have towered up the south wall since the place opened in 1905. “But we have our own way of knowing where stuff is,” Wilson says. “If I can’t find it, I go ask Rod.”

Rod is Philip Rodney Ernst, c’57, the third-generation proprietor of an old-school hardware emporium that seems to

defy time and trend to keep downtown businesses and residents in light bulbs and furnace filters and other nuts-and-bolts of daily life. Once one of six downtown hardware stores, Ernst & Son is now the last, and in an age dominated by the cavernous, industrial-scale big box, it remains stubbornly *small box*: Dog-eared and timeworn and bursting at the scruffy seams, it’s a place where the usual business buzzwords have no business. Vertical integration? You must mean the rolling ladders that put merchandise squirreled away on high shelves within reach. Supply chain management? If you need some chain, yeah, Ernst can probably supply it—along with all manner of indispensable tools and delightful curiosities and the know-how to tell the difference.

Plugs, ratchets, sockets. Penny nails and gutter spikes. A fondue set. Pasta makers both manual and electric. Christmas tree stands. Three kinds of corn sheller *and* the

world’s best popcorn popper. Cotter pins, thumbscrews, washers, bearings and baubles. There are obscure items (pie bird or cordless frother, anyone?) and personal treasures for sale (a Parker double-barrel that has taken a fair number of pheasants is purportedly on the block, though every attractive offer so far has been declined) and not (a box of dime safety razors—“the original Bic,” Ernst cracks—which date to 1907). There are historic pieces (a wooden bottle corker, a buggy whip socket, a bunghole spout) and bunches of boxes and bins filled with obscure items that you probably won’t ever need but will sure be glad to find when you do.

Most times, there’s music as well, jazz usually. A TV set may have a sports show on, the volume turned low, and if it’s game day Ernst will be showing his Jayhawk pride by wearing KU gear.

On this cold December morning, choral Christmas music from Westminster Abbey swells from the speakers. The ethereal choir only heightens the feeling of having stepped into a hardware cathedral.

“They’re not making any more like this one,” says Gregg Anderson, ’81. He’s known Ernst since 1975, when he came to

BY STEVEN HILL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE PUPPE





KU to study business administration and became the first employee Rod hired after his dad retired. After a long career as a hardware industry sales rep, he's back at Ernst & Son.

"I've probably been in every hardware store and lumberyard in the center fourth of the United States," Anderson says. "I can remember maybe a dozen like this one 20 years ago, but they're all gone now."

Looky-Lous make up a fair chunk of the daily traffic. Some are out-of-towners who just happen by or are dragged in by Lawrence hosts; some are Lawrence natives who left town decades ago and are surprised to see the store still open. All have a story of an uncle, father, granddad who brought them into this store or one like it. In December they come for the Remington calendars Ernst has given away for decades, or simply to indulge in the kind of holiday shopping that requires browsing offline. The only search engine in here is the one between Rod's ears.

"It's nostalgia," Anderson says of the store's draw. "Everything is modern, everything is electronic, everything is fast. Rod kind of moves at his own pace, and when you're in here you're kind of stuck at that pace. It's not a place where you should be in a hurry."

"IT'S NOSTALGIA. EVERYTHING IS MODERN,
EVERYTHING IS ELECTRONIC, EVERYTHING IS FAST.
ROD KIND OF MOVES AT HIS OWN PACE, AND WHEN YOU'RE
IN HERE YOU'RE KIND OF STUCK AT THAT PACE. IT'S NOT
A PLACE WHERE YOU SHOULD BE IN A HURRY."

—Gregg Anderson



In a tight space between aisles Ernst rises from his chair at a cluttered desk and moves aside various papers tacked to a wooden shelf to reveal two Estwing Gold Hammer Awards.

"Grandpa got his in 1955, Dad in 1975," he says, pointing out plaques bestowed by the tool manufacturer to mark 50 years in the hardware business.

Grandpa was Philip Ernst Sr., who started the store in 1905 with a partner named Kennedy. An early photograph shows the two men standing in front of the Mass Street storefront under a Kennedy & Ernst sign, a bicycle on display in the front window. Philip Ernst was an early adopter, completing three 100-mile bicycle rides on what was then a relatively new transportation technology. He also competed with a gymnastics team that met

at the Lawrence Turnhalle, a social club at the heart of the German-American community.

In 1925 Kennedy wanted out, so Ernst bought his half of the business and invited son Philip Jr., '27, then a sophomore on the Hill, to join him. Kennedy & Ernst became Ernst & Son.

Roddy, as his family called him, began working summers for his dad and grandpa in 1946, when he was 12. He started at KU as a business major, but found that he hated accounting. A geology class fired his imagination, sparking a passion for earth sciences and paleontology that continues today. Petroleum companies were hiring great guns at the time, so he switched majors but found himself "top dog on the draft board" when he graduated, and by the time he completed his Army hitch,

“fighting the battle of the bars” in Germany during a Cold War lull, oil companies were no longer hiring; they were laying off. The hometown hardware store looked like a pretty good play, and he became a partner in 1961.

Rod’s Gold Hammer hangs near the cash register, a brass behemoth from around 1892 that Ernst Sr. bought used in 1908. “He’s got it hooked up to the mainframe in the basement,” Anderson quips as Rod rings up a purchase.

The cash register is a fitting symbol for Ernst’s business philosophy: It’s old, but it still works. Why replace it?

It’s an ethic that carries over to his dealings with customers—not always to the benefit of his bottom line.

In a 2014 letter in the Lawrence Journal-World, a Lawrence native who moved back to town after a long absence described his dismay at Mass Street’s shift from a retail to a restaurant district. An exception was a “truly unique” visit to Ernst & Son Hardware. A new showerhead had clogged, and fearing he’d be pressured into buying a new one elsewhere, he presented his problem to Rod Ernst and was pleased to get some good advice: Soak it overnight in vinegar and try again. “I did and it’s working just fine. Try getting that kind of service at the Legends in K.C. or even on South Iowa Street!” the letter-writer crowed.

“That was a good day,” Ernst says, sharing a copy of the clipping that he keeps handy. “Made somebody happy.”

Frugality is a core part of Rod Ernst’s personality, Anderson says.

“He’s got probably the oldest working Lawn-Boy mower in the city. He’s got golf balls he’s probably had for 40 years. If he hits a golf ball into the woods, it’s like it’s gold-plated. He’ll look for a golf ball a loooooong time.”

He’s even got the original crate the cash register was shipped in, stashed away in the basement.

“He doesn’t believe in the current throwaway mentality of product,” Anderson says. “If somebody brings in a lamp or an ax with a broken handle, he’ll fix it, to give something that’s still viable new life. It’s old-school: If it still has usefulness, he’ll



Items old and new create a “half store, half museum” feel: Storage bins and a cash register from the early days share space with brewing supplies and an Atomic Age popcorn maker.



try to extend it. And, frankly, he doesn't charge much to do that."

Extending the life of a store that is one of Lawrence's downtown treasures has meant balancing tradition and change. Nostalgia alone won't keep the 125-year-old cash register ringing.

"If you don't change, you turn into a dinosaur," says Jon Amyx, who rents space from Ernst at the Downtown Barbershop next door. "He's been able to stay fresh. It always seems like they come up with new ideas. That's because Rod's very open-minded. He's willing to listen.

"You know, if five guys come in and ask for the same thing, maybe you should start carrying it. He's been open enough to do that."

Over the years Ernst has phased out the bikes, wagons and hunting supplies that Amyx remembers from his youth and added cast-iron pots and other kitchenware. At Anderson's urging, he started selling beer and winemaking supplies and equipment after the town's lone brewshop folded, and now homebrewing is one of the store's strongest areas. There's even a Facebook page, maintained mostly by the latest in a long string of KU students whom Rod has employed through college, and a brisk-selling line of T-shirts featuring Rod's trademark cowboy hat and the store's unofficial motto: "We've got it if we can find it!"

Like a lot of small businesses, Ernst & Son took a hit when Walmart came to town. The big box stores take a bite out of his business, too. Parking, long a bugaboo for downtown merchants, is another peeve.

"People who are going to buy hardware, seems to me, want to drive up to the front door," Ernst says. "They don't want to walk half a block. But they go out south and walk two or three blocks inside the building—if they need more than one item—and think nothing of it."

Ernst & Son is still a working hardware store, and this morning business is brisk. The chime that announces each new customer keeps interrupting the Westminster singers. One patron stops by to pick up some special-order flags, while another hunts for light bulbs. An out-of-town visitor finds herself buying an Atom Pop, a Kansas popcorn maker manufactured on a repurposed aluminum spin lathe, so the story goes, originally used to fashion propeller nose cones for World War II fighter planes. Another visitor comes in to soak up the "real hardware store" vibe. Lawrence artist and man-about-town Wayne Propst, c'71, stops by to inquire about heat tape, setting off a lively conversation about a different kind

of tape—the kind caused by government regulations, which have caused the price of this particular product to triple. Talk turns to the longevity of LED lightbulbs. Propst muses that for "people our age"—he's 71 and Ernst is 84—"it's good news if an LED quits, because that means you've hung in there a long time."

Ernst & Son has hung in—and thrived—because it offers something the big stores can't: a one-of-a-kind hometown flavor steeped in 150-plus years of hardware know-how. Three Gold Hammers' worth.

"It's almost like destiny," Anderson says. "His grandfather had a store that became his father's store that became his store. I think he enjoys the interaction and the fact that people come in now because it's a unique place, and he gets to share that story with them."

"When you walk in there, you know you're gonna run into Rod," Amyx says.

"You're coming for the know-how, the knowledge, and he treats people fair. That's the bottom line."

Ernst offers a different theory. "It's because I'm stupid," he says, laughing. "I didn't know anything else to do."

Then he's off to track down a fitting stashed somewhere Rod only knows.

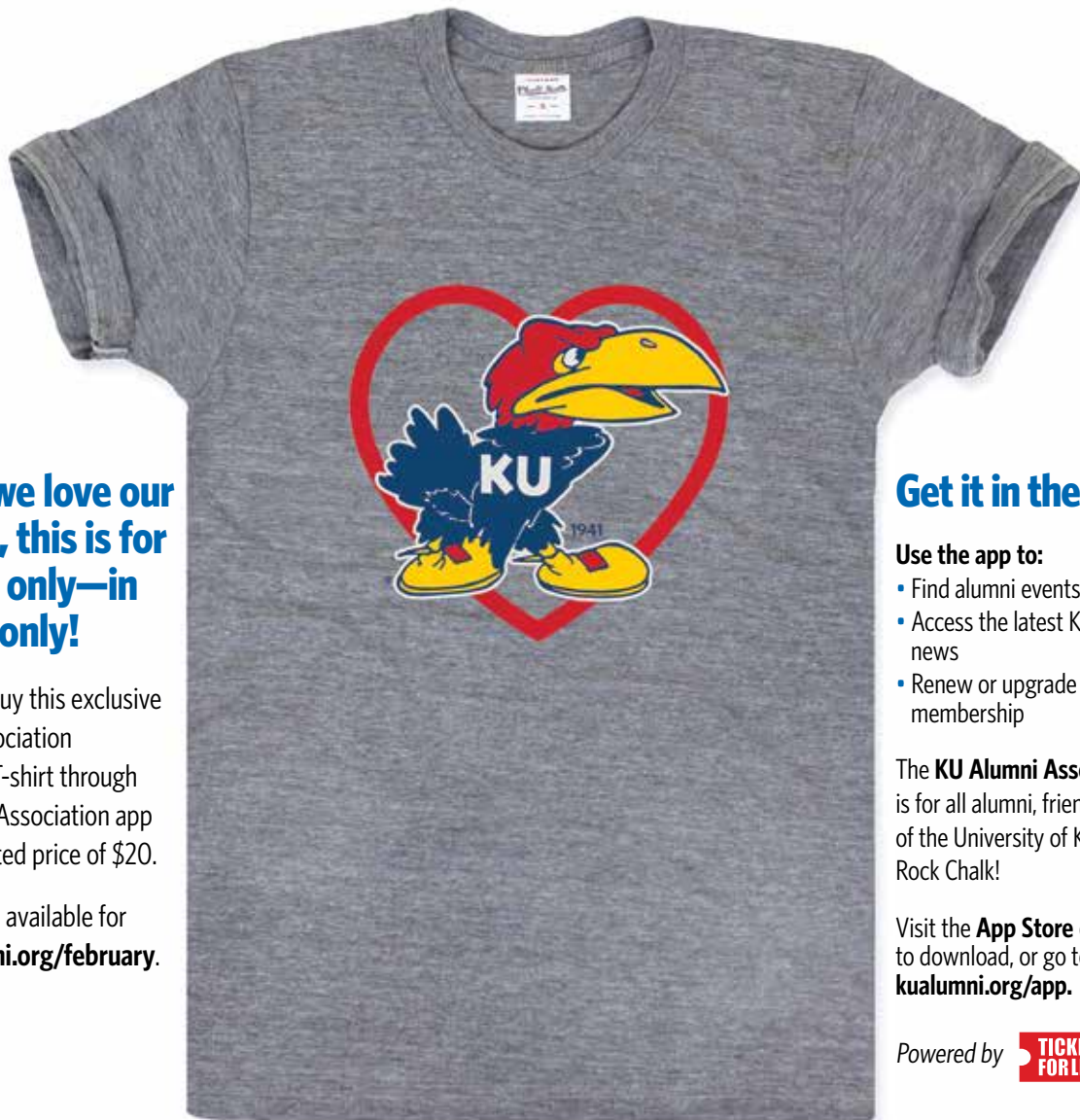
After all this time, he's still got it. If he can find it. 🛠️



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MONTH!



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- Access the latest KU and alumni news
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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
The University of Kansas

For more information visit kualumni.org/app
or call 800-584-2957

Association



KU Cares

Jayhawks donate time and treasure to communities in need

Last November, the KU Alumni Association launched a new campaign to encourage Jayhawks nationwide to give back to their communities during the month of November. Alumni from 16 networks responded to the call and more than 130 volunteers generously donated their time to:

- Organize blood drives
- Collect food and clothing donations
- Prepare and serve meals for families in need
- Plant trees in underserved neighborhoods
- Clean up beaches in seaside communities
- Raise money for national and local nonprofit organizations

Alumni Association staff pitched in and participated in the annual United Way campaign, raising more than \$3,500—16 percent more than last year. Several staff members also joined alumni from the Lawrence Network to help Just Food of Douglas County prepare for Thanksgiving, and KU faculty and staff who participated



Colorado Springs



San Diego



Kansas City

in November's TGIT reception at the Adams Alumni Center donated more than \$200 and non-perishable food.

In addition, the Association donated

\$5,500 in membership dues in November to the Wounded Warrior Scholarship Fund, which offers financial assistance to qualified military service members, veterans, primary caregivers and surviving spouses or children who want to attend KU.

"It was amazing to see so many alumni networks across the country come together and organize events for their communities," says Danny Woods, j'13, assistant director of legacy & alumni programs. "We all know being a Jayhawk is about bleeding Crimson and Blue, but it's more than that: It's also about helping others who may not have the means or ability to help themselves."

Crimson and Blue

Rock Chalk Ball to cap Chancellor Girod's inauguration

As the University ushers in a new era with the inauguration of Chancellor Doug Girod, Kansas City Jayhawks will celebrate their alma mater's past, present and future at the 23rd-annual Rock Chalk Ball April 28 at the Kansas City Convention Center. The ball will conclude a week of inauguration festivities. This year's theme is "Crimson and Blue: Forever KU."

"This is a great way to celebrate a new chapter in KU's history—and honor our treasured past," says Kelsey Hill, c'12, assistant director of Kansas City programs.

Hosted by the Alumni Association and the Greater Kansas City Network, the annual event unites Jayhawks in the nation's largest KU community and raises funds for Association programs to advocate for KU; communicate to alumni and friends in all media; recruit students and volunteers; serve current students, alumni and KU; and unite all Jayhawks.

Chancellor Girod and his wife, Susan, will serve as honorary event chairs. Curtis Marsh, j'92, director of KU Info and the DeBruce Center, will lend his voice—and his wealth of KU knowledge and traditions—as this year's emcee. The event will feature silent and live auctions and the

A NOTE FROM HEATH

Students have key role to play in keeping KU strong

Your support and dedication are helping us gain momentum in several vital areas as we work to build a more relevant, effective Alumni Association that increases the value of the KU degree.

I believe our long-term success depends on our ability to prepare current students to become the next generation of Jayhawk alumni leaders. Our investments in the Student Alumni Network, in partnership with KU Endowment, more than doubled student membership last fall. With

more than 3,000 members, we are well on our way to building the country's biggest student network—a large, captive audience!

More important, we are in the early stages of providing students meaningful ways to tap into the powerful Jayhawk network around the globe, with technology that connects them to mentors, internships and discussions with industry leaders. We are building a stronger network for all students who are willing to invest time in these

opportunities, and we are teaching them about the many ways in which alumni volunteer leadership and philanthropy helped create this world-class university.

Our goal is simple. When students walk down the Hill at Commencement and officially join the alumni network, we want them to feel the Alumni Association added real value to their lives through alumni and career connections. We also want them to deeply appreciate and understand their responsibility as Jayhawks to ensure that KU remains a premier university. Our message to them: Join the Alumni Association, be a mentor, hire a Jayhawk,



DAN STOREY

Peterson

volunteer, give back and help strengthen your alma mater.

Cheers to 2018, and Rock Chalk!

—Heath Peterson, d'04, g'09
 KU Alumni Association
 president

STEVE PUPPE



Doug and Susan Girod



and her husband, Al, c'98, l'02, g'02, co-chaired the 2005 ball, and last year she led the ball committee for the network board. Marshall is a Life Member and a Presidents Club donor. He also is a longtime ball participant.

Association brings a taste of the popular TV show to the Jayhawk Roundup, the Wichita Network's largest annual fundraising event.

A local KU tradition since 2002, the event moves from fall to April this year to take advantage of warmer weather. Dave, e'75, b'75, and Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75, will continue to host the Roundup at Murfin Stables, and alumni will enjoy live music, silent and live auctions, and a feast of food and drink fit for royalty.

"We'll have some great KU guests," promises Danielle Lafferty Hoover, c'07, assistant director of Wichita programs, "plus a lot of Wichita-area Jayhawks who love to come together for a good time."

enthusiastic sounds of the Patrick Lentz Band, one of Kansas City's premier cover bands.

Leading the network board's efforts are ball committee co-chairs Sasha Flores Boulware, c'98, g'00, and Billy Marshall, c'00. Boulware is a Presidents Club member and has served on the Greater Kansas City board for several years. She

Game of Hawks

Wichita's Jayhawk Roundup moves to spring in '18

Fans of the medieval fantasy epic "Game of Thrones" are in for a special treat Friday, April 13, when the Alumni



Association

DAN STOREY



Nyberg

Wintermote winner

Alumna honored for leadership on local and national level

Camille Bribiesca Nyberg is the third Jayhawk to be honored with the 2017 Dick Wintermote Volunteer of the Year Award.

Named for Dick Wintermote, c'51, who served as executive director of the Association from 1963 to 1983 and helped establish a dedicated network of Jayhawk volunteers, the annual award honors alumni who have demonstrated extraordinary leadership of their network and the Association.

Nyberg, c'96, g'98, a Life Member and Presidents Club donor, began her service on the Association's National Board of Directors in 2009 and led the organization as national chair from 2014 to '15.

She is a longtime volunteer for the Wichita Network, and she and her husband, Glenn Nyberg, '79, have participated in the Jayhawk Roundup for several years, including serving two years as event chairs. They also have participated in the Greater Kansas City's Network's Rock Chalk Ball.

She also advocates for KU and higher education as a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education.

Life Members

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

Nicholas T. Agnew
Sally Baldwin Anderson
Jeffrey A. Armstrong & Janet E. True
McKenzie W. Baker
Elizabeth A. Brittain
Lowrey Burnett
Matthew W. Butterworth
Wynnelena C. Canio
Laura D. Carey
Cathleen E. Carothers
Catherine Crice Carter
Richard J. Cipolla Jr.
Ronald W. Clement
Thornton Cooke II & Joan Spencer Cooke
Matthew D. Crawford
Matthew T. Crossland
Alexandra K. Dahlgren
Chelan David
Lisa Miguelino Duchman
Husain A. H. H. Ebrahim

Jean A. Edmonds
Harold D. Fevurly Jr. & Susan L. Fevurly
Rocky Fisher
Madison M. Flint
Brian N. & Jessica Krutty Frew
John B. Gallon
John Gamble III & Michelle L. Thornbrugh
Linda Morrison Garavalia
Sandra Plaskett Gifford
Phillip A. & Marlene K. Glenn
Jason L. Haden
J. Eric Hallman
Kristina J. Hartman
Charles E. Hartmann III
Edward A. & Wendy Ewing Hobart
Brian K. Johnson
Caleb W. Johnson & Jennifer D. Mendez-Fisher
Megan A. Ketchum

Melinda K. Lacy & Leslie A. Traylor
Grace Linn
Brent R. & Amy Poore Lovett
Margoth Bankhead Mackey
Sarah Hendrix Mahlik
Richard A. & Judith E. Manka
Patrick J. Martin
George B. Martinez Jr. & Jennifer R. Martinez
Irene E. Maxfield
Bryce J. & Elizabeth Buddig McMichael
Patrick Meacham
Graydon J. Melia
Freeman L. Miller
Sidney A. Miller
J. Brendan Mitchelson
J. Michael Mitchelson
Kelsey L. Mitchelson
Stuart R. Mitchelson
Michael J. & Lora Jennings Mizell
William R. Morton Jr. & Cheryl A. Morton
Aundrea C. Noffsinger
Constantine J. Ochs
Benjamin J. Orłowski
Javan P. Owens

Christopher J. Paradies & Mariah W. Whitmore
Steve Parke
Jordan M. Pfeiffer
Tamra M. Pierce
Andrew J. Pjesky
Alicia Strum Pohl
Carrie L. Pohl
Robert E. Pyatt
Megan R. Reed
Michael J. Riedl
Jason & Lindsey Price Roe
Derek L. & Jennifer Shaw Schmidt
Jay & Bal K. Sharma
Donald C. & Nancy L. Swartz
Nicholas M. Sweatt
Kori L. Talbott
Matthew G. & Paula N. Taylor
S. Lee Meigs Taylor
Zachary C. & Lindsey Leonard Thompson
Gerald R. Trebilcock
Karen M. Trifonoff
Hailey E. Trudo
Sarah K. Vanlandingham
Aubree J. Weekley
Nicolle S. Witt
Thomas K. Zampano

For information about national board members of the Association, visit kualumni.org/about/board-members.

Nominate



an Association member to serve on the board

We need your assistance in nominating future members of the KU Alumni Association's National Board of Directors.

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

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

For any additional questions, contact the Association at 800-584-2957 or visit kualumni.org.



**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**
The University of Kansas

Class Notes by Heather Biele

40 Lois Wisler, d'40, celebrated her 100th birthday in January. She's a retired teacher in Sun City, Arizona.

46 Emily Hollis Pfitsch, b'46, lives in Grinnell, Iowa. Her late husband, **John**, g'42, who coached for 50 years at Grinnell College, wrote *From Underdog to Winner: In Pursuit of 100% Performance*, which was published last year.

52 Vernon Smith, g'52, in November presented "On Learning from Proving Yourself Wrong: Two Cases from Experimental Economics with Implications and Insights for the Economy" at Rice University in Houston. He is the George L. Argyros Chair in Finance and Economics and a research scholar at Chapman University in Orange, California. In 2002 he was awarded a Nobel Prize in economics.

58 Donald Hopkins, c'58, is a retired attorney in Emeryville, California. His career includes posts as assistant dean of students and assistant executive vice chancellor at the University of California in Berkeley and as an attorney for the NAACP in New York City.

60 John McGrew, b'60, lives in Lawrence with his wife, Rita. He's a real estate broker and developer.

61 Stephen Little, c'61, g'63, and his wife, Irene, are enjoying retirement in Green Valley, Arizona.

65 Gregs Thomopoulos, e'65, chairman emeritus of Stanley Consultants, was inducted in the National Academy of Construction. He received the Distinguished Engineering Service Award from the School of Engineering in 2002.

66 Larry, b'66, and **Judith "Jaj" Jackson Geiger**, f'67, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Colorado Springs with their children,

Chris and Amanda, and three grandchildren, Cole, Amelia and Madeleine.

Jay Lagree, c'66, is a city commissioner in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, where he lives with **Enid Sailer Lagree**, d'67. He is retired after serving 30 years in the U.S. Air Force.

67 Marsha Joyce Driskill, d'67, retired as chair of the mathematics department at Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado.

Carolyn Weatherbie Edwards, d'67, retired as professor at the University of Northern Colorado. She makes her home with **Stanley**, c'66, m'70, in Greeley, Colorado.

Michael Farley, c'67, l'74, g'80, retired after 18 years as magistrate judge for the 10th Judicial District in Johnson County. He lives in Olathe.

69 Ronald Yates, j'69, wrote *The Lost Years of Billy Battles*, the third book in the award-winning *Finding Billy Battles* trilogy, which was published in December.

70 Ronald Borchardt, PhD'70, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at KU, joined the scientific advisory board of RiverVest Venture Partners. He lives in Lawrence.

72 Jim Poplinger, b'72, is president of Avlex Corporation and a councilmember for the City of Fairway.

73 Catherine McGuire, l'73, retired in September after 44 years at the Securities and Exchange Commission, where she last served as counsel in the division of trading and markets. She has been honored with several awards throughout her career, including the KU School of Law Distinguished Alumna Award, which she received in 2004.

Timothy Rake, c'73, makes his home in Forest Grove, Oregon, where he's a retired translator.

76 Steve Hattrup, g'76, is vice president of finance at Oceanic Time Warner Cable. He makes his home in Honolulu with his wife, **Cynthia**, assoc.

Sally Sedgwick, g'76, lives in Bigfork, Minnesota, where she's executive director of marketing at Bigfork Valley Hospital.

Ken Stone, j'76, contributing editor to the Times of San Diego, in October received 14 awards, including several first-place honors, at the San Diego Press Club's Excellence in Journalism Awards.

77 Mary Hughes Boll, h'77, lives in Las Vegas, where she supervises laboratory services at Valley Health Systems.

Galen Oelkers, b'77, g'78, president of the Zeist Company in Atlanta, was elected to the board of directors of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. He serves on the

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

a	School of Architecture, Design and Planning
b	School of Business
c	College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
d	School of Education
e	School of Engineering
f	School of Fine Arts
g	Master's Degree
h	School of Health Professions
j	School of Journalism
l	School of Law
m	School of Medicine
n	School of Nursing
p	School of Pharmacy
PharmD	School of Pharmacy
s	School of Social Welfare
u	School of Music
AUD	Doctor of Audiology
DE	Doctor of Engineering
DMA	Doctor of Musical Arts
DNP	Doctor of Nursing Practice
DPT	Doctor of Physical Therapy
EdD	Doctor of Education
OTD	Doctor of Occupational Therapy
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
SJD	Doctor of Juridical Science
(no letter)	Former student
assoc	Associate member of the Alumni Association



As a Presidents Club and Life Member, and in cooperation with the KU Alumni Association, I am excited to participate in the **Give Back Initiative.**

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finance committee and the music and artistic planning committee.

Robert Rowland, c'77, PhD'83, professor and director of graduate studies in the department of communication studies at KU, in October received the Senior Scholar Award at the American Literary Translators Association Conference in Minneapolis.

MARRIED

Lawrence Kampa, j'77, to Darcy Metzler, Aug. 26 in Santa Barbara, California. They live in San Francisco, where he's an independent agricultural commodities broker.

78 Bonnie Weaver Battey, PhD'78, is a researcher and nursing educator in Antioch, California.

Pat Peery, j'78, f'81, lives in Lawrence, where he's senior vice president and principal at Lane 4 Property Group/Klaff Realty.

Mabel Lyddon Rice, PhD'78, in October joined the education board of the Ameri-

can Health Council. She is the Fred and Virginia Merrill Distinguished Professor of Advanced Studies at KU.

79 Bob Ulin, g'79, a retired U.S. Army colonel, is chairman and CEO of the Center for Transitional Leadership in Leavenworth. His fifth book, *Transitions 2.0: A Field Guide for Mid-Career Professionals and Veterans Seeking New Challenges in the Business World*, was published in July.

Rabbi **Scott White**, j'79, is the spiritual leader of Congregation Ohev Sholom in Prairie Village.

Carol Yost Williams, d'79, d'80, is a paraprofessional and special-education teacher for the Avenue City School District in Missouri. She and **Dennis**, m'82, live in Savannah, Missouri, and have three sons.

80 Laura Ice, d'80, was recognized as an Outstanding Woman in Business by the Wichita Business Journal. She's deputy general counsel

at Textron Financial Corporation.

Rolfe Mandel, g'80, PhD'91, University Distinguished Professor of Archaeology at KU, in October was named director of the Kansas Geological Survey. He also serves as senior scientist and executive director of the Odyssey Geoarchaeology Research Program.

Miluse Saskova-Pierce, g'80, PhD'87, professor of Slavic languages at the University of Nebraska, serves as the Czech Republic's honorary consul in Lincoln.

81 Eric Atwood, c'81, is a psychiatrist at Watkins Student Health Center. He commutes from Topeka.

Jeffery Curtis, m'81, a cardiologist and internist at Hays Medical Center, received the Trailblazer Award from the Kansas chapter of the American College of Cardiology. He and his wife, Connie, live in Hays.

82 Kyle Eldred, b'82, is president of Frankston Packaging Company in Plano, Texas.

Class Notes

Goodbye, Retirement. Hello, Reinvention!

Nationally recognized as a top retirement destination, Lawrence has been named one of the best cities for successful aging with access to support services, activities, culture, and lifelong learning.

Live the second half of life the way you've always wanted.

Ready to learn more?

Visit us at YourSRC.org and join us on Facebook at @YourSRC



Forbes magazine rates Lawrence as one of the top 25 places for successful aging and retirement.

86 Jeffrey Wheat, c'86, directs cyber operations at Qualitest. He and his wife, Gabrielle, live in Shawnee with their children, Madison and Brandon, who both attend KU.

87 Lars Leon, b'87, is a resource-sharing librarian and head of organizational development for KU Libraries.

Dimitrios Papadopoulos, m'87, is a radiation oncology specialist at Health Quest Medical Practice in New York. He lives in LaGrangeville.

Alex Rappoport, c'87, lives in Saugerties, New York, where he's an independent cinematographer.

Cheryl Karczewski Rathbun, s'87, was promoted to chief clinical officer at Saint Francis Community Services in Salina, where she has worked for the past 39 years.

Jennifer Causey Schwendemann, c'87, j'87, is associate general counsel and senior director of risk management at Littler in St. Louis.

Kimberley Tyson, l'87, is a judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals 10th Circuit in Denver.

88 Elizabeth Schartz, l'88, was elected to KU Endowment's board of trustees. She lives in Dallas, where she's a partner at Thompson & Knight.

89 Trisha Gurs Betts, c'89, is registrar at Stormont Vail Health in Topeka.

Deborah Chasteen, PhD'89, is the A. Major and Dorothy Hull Chair of Communication in Business and Leadership and professor of communication at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri.

Joe Courtright, p'89, president and CEO of USA Drug Stores in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, will be honored this spring with the KU School of Pharmacy Distinguished Service Award. He also serves as principal with Dale Capital Partners and president of CapRocq Pharma real estate fund.

Steven Kaster, m'89, is chief medical officer at Medical City McKinney in Texas.

Paul Smith, c'89, is vice president and general counsel at FINCA, a nonprofit organization in Washington, D.C.

Bruce MacGregor, c'82, directs customer care at Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield. He makes his home in Elbert, Colorado.

Lee Ann Hunt Martin, j'82, lives in Lenexa, where she manages corporate communications at RailWorks.

Matilda "Tilly" Woodward, g'82, is curator of academic and community outreach at Grinnell College's Faulconer Gallery in Grinnell, Iowa.

83 David Barbe, m'83, in June was elected president of the American Medical Association. He is a physician and vice president of regional operations at Mercy Clinic Family Medicine in Mountain Grove, Missouri, where he makes his home with his wife, Debbie.

Andrea Warren, g'83, lives in Prairie Village, where she's a writer. Her book *Pioneer Girl: A True Story of Growing Up on the Prairie* was included on the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association's Nebraska 150 Book List in celebration



of the state's 2017 sesquicentennial.

84 Tracey Campbell, j'84, is CEO of BRIDGE Healthcare Partners in Denver, where she lives with her husband, Mark.

R. Todd Slawson, e'84, was elected to KU Endowment's board of trustees. He is president of Slawson Companies and oversees its oil and gas, real estate and hospitality operations.

85 Craig Cain-Borgman, g'85, manages technology incubation at BASF Corporation. He lives in Emmaus, Pennsylvania.

Stephen McAllister, c'85, l'88, was confirmed by the U. S. Senate to serve as the U.S. attorney for Kansas. He is Hampton Distinguished Professor at KU School of Law.

Joanna Rupp, b'85, assistant vice president and managing director of private equities at the University of Chicago, was elected to KU Endowment's board of trustees.

90 John Milburn, j'90, c'98, directs legislative and public affairs for the Kansas Department of Administration in Topeka. He commutes from Lawrence, where he lives with **Margaret Dunn Milburn**, b'98.

Tim Schantz, l'90, was promoted to president of Troon in Scottsdale, Arizona. He's been with the golf and club management company since 1998.

Derek Schmidt, j'90, SJD'16, in June was elected to a one-year term as president of the National Association of Attorneys General. He's currently serving his second

term as attorney general for the State of Kansas.

91 David Adams, l'91, a personal injury and bankruptcy attorney in Olathe, has been practicing law for 25 years.

Duminda DeSilva, c'91, is senior vice president of internet and direct operations at Dean & DeLuca.

John Hutton, c'91, l'94, was named to the Best Lawyers in America list in real estate law, commercial litigation and construction law. He's managing partner of Hensen, Hutton,

Mudrick & Gragson in Topeka.

Joe Mosko, j'91, executive producer at MK Films in Chicago, has been in the film production industry for the past 27 years. He lives in Northbrook, Illinois, with his wife and three children.

Ron Seeber, c'91, in November was named president and CEO of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association. He previously served KGFA as senior vice president of government affairs.

James Stanga, m'91, is a physician at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He specializes in primary care

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Exhibit shares vet's story from combat to tribunals

Assigned to guard a key Rhine River bridge for a night until reinforcements arrived the following morning, Pfc. John Meyer Jr. and his 1st Infantry Division platoonmates dug in to keep watch over the German town of Remagen's comings and goings. Their hoped-for quiet night did not last.

During a lethal exchange with a German tank—a Tommy-gun burst felled the tank's commander, followed by German grenades, an American bazooka blast, and a tank round that ripped through the house where they'd taken cover in a basement—Meyer, e'49, learned a lesson that has remained with him ever since:

"You can't die of fright. If you could, you would have been dead a long time before."

Meyer's artifacts from his World War II adventures are on exhibition until April 1 at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka, where he has lived since his KU graduation and worked as a civil engineer for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

He was wounded by a mortar at the 1944 Battle of Hürtgen Forest. After recuperating in England, he spent the closing stages of the war in Czechoslovakia and Bavaria.

While stationed in a town 35 miles

northwest of Nuremberg, Meyer and a few others in his unit were packing their bags when they learned the Army had rescinded their orders in favor of others who had accumulated more points for the coveted trip home.

Instead, Meyer, who had brief experience as a draftsman while working for 11 weeks in a California shipyard and 23 engineering credit hours earned during specialized training before being switched to the infantry, was summoned to Nuremberg, where he built courtroom models for two architects charged with designing the layout for Nazi tribunals.

He also was assigned the "dubious honor" of encasing macabre remains of Holocaust victims in a plastic-like material so they could be handled respectfully when presented as evidence during the war crimes trials.

"I did have the opportunity to sit in for an hour the first day, and then I got a ticket to go in on the 21st day for a couple of hours," Meyer recalls. "So I got to see all the defendants, which was interesting."

Asked to share a private memory from his time as an eyewitness to history, a moment unlikely to be learned in history books, Meyer offers a thin smile and says



STEVE PUPPE

While assisting with war crimes trials in Nuremberg, Purple Heart honoree John Meyer Jr. did not let the dramatic tribunals overwhelm him: "I was just doing my job, I guess."

of the Nazi defendants, "They seemed to be pretty happy."

When finally told he could remain on duty for the duration of the tribunals or ship home, Meyer didn't hesitate. He'd seen enough.

"In a sense," he says, "we felt like it was over with, unlike some of these other things we've gotten involved with that never end. So that was pretty good satisfaction, I think."

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and emergency medicine.

Matthew Weishaar, b'91, is vice president of finance at Diversicare in Brentwood, Tennessee.

93 Armen Kurdian, e'93, a U.S. Navy captain, directs engineering and product support at the Naval Supply Systems Command in Philadelphia, where he lives with his wife, Lindi, and their son, Gregory.

Brent Learned, f'93, lives in Oklahoma City, where he's a painter and sculptor whose art depicts Native American culture.

Michael Scott, c'93, is manager of the City of Waxahachie in Texas.

BORN TO:

Kenneth Rivera, c'93, and his wife, Nga Nguyen, son, Tiki, Aug. 27 in Evans, Colorado, where they make their home.

94 Richelle Ahlvers, '94, is principal architect at Broadcom Limited in

Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Dave Blomquist, c'94, g'00, l'00, is underwriting counsel at Chicago Title in Overland Park. He makes his home in Olathe.

Robert Gibbs, c'94, m'98, in September was elected president of the Kansas Medical Society. He has been a radiologist in Parsons since 2003.

Kimberly Hobbs, j'94, is vice president of corporate partnerships and premium sales for the Kansas City Chiefs.

John McEachern, m'94, is a surgeon and wound specialist at Newton Medical Center.

Ron Montgomery, g'94, works at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, where he's director of bands.

95 Brian Facklam, l'95, is a supervisory U.S. probation officer in Seattle.

97 Jenifer Naaf Ashford, l'97, has been named magistrate judge for the 10th Judicial District in Johnson County.

She's a former prosecutor who lives in Prairie Village.

Karen Cooper, g'97, '02, is associate executive director of Turfgrass Producers International. She lives in Seguin, Texas.

98 Melissa Hoag Sherman, c'98, l'01, is partner at Spencer Fane in Overland Park. She joined the firm's litigation group.

Amy Akers Smith, c'98, lives in Wichita, where she's executive assistant at the Independent School.

99 Jeff Chaltas, g'99, a cartoonist in Shawnee, published *Dogbone Boulevard*, a compilation of his one-panel cartoons.

Carrie Moore Cox, n'99, is a registered nurse at UCHealth in Colorado. She lives in Windsor with **Josh**, d'00, '01, who teaches at Windsor Middle School, and their three sons.

Julie Hamill, c'99, manages the business office at MD Labs in Reno, Nevada.

Class Notes

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Tara Fisher Moorman, f'99, is a water-color artist whose exhibition "Letters to My Ancestors" was featured last year at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art in Iowa.

Anthony Peters, c'99, is a physician assistant at Sioux Center Medical Clinic. He and his wife, Heather, and their two sons live in Primghar, Iowa.

Erica VanRoss, c'99, works at Schnuck Markets Inc. in St. Louis, where she's vice president and head of communications. She makes her home in Creve Coeur.

00 Brian Harper, c'00, is CEO of Rouse Properties, a real-estate investment company in New York City.

Lisa Barranco Logan, d'00, is a licensed massage therapist in Shawnee. She lives in Olathe with her son and daughter.

01 Matthew Breidenthal, e'01, is senior vice president and regional leader of engineering at HOK in Atlanta.

Amy Fellows Cline, f'01, an attorney at Triplett Woolf Garretson in Wichita, received the 2017 Louise Mattox Award

from the Wichita Women Attorney's Association.

David Cronin, e'01, g'06, lives in Lawrence, where he's the city engineer.

William McNulty, c'01, is a former Marine and founder emeritus of Team Rubicon, a global response organization that recruits military veterans to provide disaster relief. He received an honorary doctorate from KU in May 2017. He's currently working on a book.

Chris Stoppel, b'01, g'02, directs enrollment operations and strategy in academic services and enrollment management at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

MARRIED

Melissa Thomson, j'01, to Eric Evel, Oct. 14 in Overland Park, where they make their home. Melissa manages business development at TREKK Design Group in Kansas City.

02 Christopher Sook, f'02, is partner at Jeter Law Firm in Hays.

Jonathan Tallman, a'02, works at Dewberry in Elgin, Illinois, where he was recently promoted to senior project manager and regional public safety director for the Midwest.

Amity Zupancic Vacarella, c'02, resides in Portland, Oregon, where she's a physician at Nature Nurture Family Health.

MARRIED

John Smagner, g'02, PhD'04, to Mark Van Overbeke, Oct. 14 in Chicago, where John is studying interior design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

03 Jeremy Borchert, e'03, is a senior engineer at RTI Surgical in Austin, Texas. He lives in Cedar Park with his wife, Kimberly, and their six children.

Matthew Braaten, c'03, is an informa-



tion technology analyst at MEDITECH in Westwood, Massachusetts. He and his wife, Angela, live in Clinton with their two children.

Heather Nameth Bren, g'03, works at Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she's associate professor of art and design.

Mark Gencarelli, c'03, '04, owns KCMEX Tortilleria with his wife, Marissa. They make their home in Leawood.

Melissa Nguyen, c'03, is a systems analyst for student information at KU. She commutes from Shawnee.

Michael Stern, j'03, is senior vice president and global account director at Leo Burnett in Chicago. He lives in Northbrook, Illinois.

MARRIED

Benjamin Walker, c'03, l'05, to Hilary Huber, Oct. 13 in New York City, where he's partner at Sullivan & Cromwell.

BORN TO:

Sarah Coulter, f'03, and her husband, Nicholas Ehle, daughter, Calla, May 13 in New York City.

04 Jesse Atwell, c'04, has been promoted to associate partner at Triple 8 Management in Austin, Texas.

Ashley Peterson Boerner, f'04, lives in Los Angeles, where she's a professional organizer at Chaos Overruled.

Adam John, b'04, manages accounts at Octagon in Chicago.

Christina Warinner, c'04, is a molecular anthropologist at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Nathan White, l'04, is executive vice president of Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, North Dakota.

PROFILE by Heather Biele

Animal welfare advocate finds niche as attorney

Katie Bray Barnett has always been an animal lover. Growing up in Topeka, she had several pets: three dogs, a cat, a few birds—even a couple of cows on her grandparents' farm. Her passion took her to Tylertown, Mississippi, in 2005 to help with animal rescue efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. She returned from that trip with a Staffordshire bull terrier, whom she adopted and affectionately named Katrina.

A few weeks later, at her home in Kansas City, she got a knock on the door. It was an animal control officer, who told Barnett there had been a complaint about her having a pit bull, a breed forbidden by city ordinance in certain parts of the metro area. Barnett hadn't realized that dogs like Katrina were considered pit bulls, and she was shocked to learn she would need to either relinquish her or move to a different city. Unwilling to surrender Katrina to the authorities, she moved to a different part of Johnson County that didn't have breed-specific bans. But the experience left her shaken.

"It was very scary, and I didn't understand what was happening," says Barnett, l'11.

Determined to learn more about breed-specific legislation and pet owners'

rights, she started researching local laws. When she discovered that there were several municipalities in Kansas City—and across the nation—enforcing these types of bans, she dedicated herself to animal advocacy and decided to go to law school.

At KU, Barnett founded the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund chapter and started the law school's Animal Cruelty Prosecution Clinic, where she worked closely with the Lawrence Humane Society and law enforcement officers to ensure cruelty cases in Douglas County were prosecuted to the fullest extent. In 2011, she received the school's Walter Hiersteiner Outstanding Service Award for her contributions to the legal profession and society.

After graduating, Barnett traveled across the nation, working as a legislative attorney for Best Friends Animal Society, an animal rescue and advocacy organization based in Utah, before returning to her home state. "It really became obvious to me that there's a lot of stuff that needs to be done here in Kansas, and there are no animal law attorneys," she says.

In 2012, Barnett started her own law firm in Lawrence, where she specializes in animal law legislation and represents local municipalities and animal welfare organizations. She's currently collaborating with the Lawrence Humane Society to improve city ordinances and county animal codes



"Katie is an amazing asset for the animal welfare world," says Kate Meghji, executive director of the Lawrence Humane Society. "We're really lucky she's in Kansas."

.....
in Lawrence and Douglas County, some of which are outdated by nearly 20 years.

When she's not practicing animal law, Barnett and her husband, Anthony, focus on their new project, the Symbiotic Behavioral Treatment Center, which helps people and pets heal through the benefits of the human-animal bond.

"I've done so much across the country," Barnett says, "but I live in Lawrence and I want to make things better for people and their pets in Douglas County." 🐾

Class Notes



05 **Becky Atkinson Alley**, g'05, is an artist, lecturer and director of Bolivar Art Gallery at the University of Kentucky School of Art and Visual Studies. In May she received the inaugural South Arts State Fellowship for Kentucky.

Kimberly Bentrutt, m'05, who practices family medicine at Centura Health in Idaho Springs, Colorado, received the 2017 Physician of the Year Award from the Center for Health Progress.

Angela Harness Cline, c'05, g'07, is assistant city manager of Morgantown, West Virginia.

Stephanie Lovett-Bowman, c'05, j'05, l'10, is of counsel at Spencer Fane in Kansas City.

Heidi Mehl, c'05, g'10, is a researcher at the Nature Conservancy in Topeka.

Benjamin Simon, c'05, lives in Chicago, where he's senior counsel at Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Justin Steinert, h'05, m'12, is an orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist at Regional Health Medical Clinic in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Kevin Ward, d'05, a senior wealth manager at Mariner Wealth Advisors in Leawood, in October won the Topgolf Tour World Championship in Las Vegas.

Adrian Zink, c'05, published his first book, *Hidden History of Kansas*, in November. He works at the National Archives at Kansas City.

BORN TO:

Elaine Fukunaga, f'05, and her husband, Christopher Whiting, daughter, Aspen Coralie, Sept. 23 in Zurich.

06 **Andrew Coleman**, b'06, g'08, owns USA Expat CPA in Estonia.

Jennifer Donnally, c'06, is a visiting professor of history and gender and women's studies at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.

Lori Dougherty-Bichsel, l'06, is administrative judge of the Topeka Municipal

Court. She and her husband, Brandon, live in Topeka with their two sons.

Michael Heryford, g'06, was promoted to U.S. Navy captain. He is a supply corps officer and directs logistics training at Afloat Training Group in San Diego.

Jamie Melzer, '06, is founder of Watermelon Road, a fruit snack company in New York City.

Jaison Moras, e'06, was promoted to vice president of electrical engineering at Cuhaci & Peterson Architects in Orlando, Florida.

Nicole Eckert Stephenson, d'06, leads the field product specialist team at Cook MyoSite. She and her husband, Tom, live in Leawood with their two sons.

07 **Alison Gaines**, g'07, is conductor of the College of DuPage Orchestra in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, and assistant conductor of the Elmhurst Symphony.

Hilda Audardottir-Goulay Rock, c'07, m'14, is a primary care physician at Winchester Family Physicians.

Jaime Zazove, c'07, lives in Chicago, where she's a digital strategist at LotLinX.

08 **Ashley Benes**, f'08, g'14, manages corporate and partnership giving at Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

James Sumaya, b'08, is vice president of Tryperion Partners in Los Angeles. He and his wife, Stefanie, live in El Segundo, California.

09 **Allison Atwood**, b'09, is vice president of the Halifax Group in Washington, D.C.

Nathan Davis, b'09, lives in Houston, where he manages regional sales at Luceco.

Marti Funke, c'09, g'11, manages collections and coordinates exhibitions at the University of Mississippi Museum and Historic Houses. She and her husband, Wayne, make their home in Oxford.

Sierra Falter Poulson, c'09, lives in Omaha, where she's an attorney for Union Pacific Railroad.

10 **James Bornholdt**, e'10, a'10, works at CRB in St. Louis, where he's an architectural engineer.

Patrick Johnson, g'10, is a job captain at

LK Architecture in Wichita, where he makes his home with his wife, Lucinda, and their two children.

Dalena McGrew, g'10, manages finances at Blue Star Families, a nonprofit organization for military family support. She lives in Kansas City with her daughter, Madelyn, who recently turned 3.

James McIntosh, c'10, m'14, is a family medicine physician at Cotton O'Neil in Wamego.

Wesley Meixelsperger, c'10, is an account executive at DSI, a software company in Kansas City.

Chelsea Montgomery Powell, c'10, m'14, is a pediatrician at HaysMed.

11 **Drew Case**, c'11, j'11, is a communications specialist at AABB, a nonprofit organization in Bethesda, Maryland.

Bianna Barnes Charles, PharmD'11, lives in Jackson, Maine, where she's a clinical pharmacist for the Veterans Health Administration.

Megan Do, c'11, j'11, directs marketing at Live Nation Entertainment in Cleveland.

Dylan Feik, g'11, is city manager of Calistoga, California.

Timothy Hornik, s'11, a retired U.S. Army captain and CEO of Blind Not Alone, is one of eight KU students to receive a Wounded Warrior Scholarship for the 2017-'18 academic year. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in therapeutic science at KU Medical Center and lives in Lawrence with his wife, Cate, and their two daughters.

Gina Gerstner Meagher, j'11, is a public relations and content manager at Smith Group. She and her husband, Dan, live in Lenexa.

Carrie Pennewell O'Laughlin, j'11, manages marketing at Dimagi in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Carolyn Regimand, c'11, is a senior executive search coordinator at B.E. Smith in Lenexa.

Marsha Spicer Toler, g'11, is a retired administrative assistant for the Shawnee police department. She lives in Kansas City.

Hannah Barnes Weekley, c'11, works at BHC RHODES in Overland Park, where

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she's a geographic information systems analyst.

12 Tyler Brevik, c'12, is an account executive at IMA Financial Group in Wichita.

Taylor Calcara, f'12, is an attorney and partner at Watkins Calcara in Great Bend, where he lives with his wife, Kelly, and their daughter.

James Gentile, b'12, a U.S. Marine who served in Iraq, is one of eight KU students

to receive a Wounded Warrior Scholarship for the 2017-'18 academic year. Jimmy is currently pursuing a master's degree in information technology and lives in Lee's Summit, Missouri, with his wife, Megan, and their four children.

Joel Griffiths, f'12, is an associate attorney at Leverage Law Group in Leawood.

Katherine Krause Hill, c'12, h'13, g'15, is an occupational therapist at Ability KC. She and **Brian**, e'12, live in Leawood.

Michael Martinovich, c'12, works in government affairs at ONE Gas in Tulsa, where he makes his home.

Lucas Noll, d'12, teaches at Hayden High School in Topeka. He lives in Nortonville with his wife, Sara, and their daughter.

Maria Pirotte, n'12, is a traveling nurse at Aya Healthcare in New York City. She also is a nurse preceptor at KU Medical Center.

Heather Dietz Schrant, PharmD'12,

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Teacher of year award is first step for D.C. reformer

When he graduated from the School of Education, Paul Howard dutifully followed Dean Rick Ginsberg's request that seniors write their career goals on a card. During commencement ceremonies Ginsberg read aloud Howard's goal: "to reform urban education."

In November Howard emailed the dean with a status report on that lofty aim—news that he'd won the 2018 Washington, D.C., Teacher of the Year Award.

The \$7,500 prize, sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, is the second teacher of the year recognition Howard received in 2017. He was also named the D.C. winner of the "52 State History Teachers of the Year" award from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. That honor carries a \$3,000 prize.

"It's validation for sure," says Howard, d'13, now in his fifth year teaching seventh- and eighth-grade social studies at LaSalle-Backus Education Campus, which in 2012 was listed among the district's 40 lowest performing schools. His inquiry-based approach challenges students to think critically and use primary sources to conduct their own



Howard

investigations into compelling historical questions. For instance, should Alexander the Great be called great?

"I've taken certain stances about what I think is the right way to do things, so to get the award validates the choices I've made," Howard says. "But it's also about what we've done as a school. You can't get these kinds of teaching awards without good work being done by the kids."

Howard gravitated to teaching after aiding Lawrence teens with traumatic brain injuries. As a transitional living specialist, he was often in schools advocating for clients and helping them study.

"The work I did was important, but it felt like a Band-Aid on some pretty serious wounds," he says. "I decided what people really needed was someone to help them earlier on, and education was the route to go."

Named a Teacher of Promise as a senior, Howard felt "super prepared" to design lessons and credits KU for setting up his student teaching in urban Kansas City schools. Still, his first year at LaSalle-



COURTESY PAUL HOWARD (2)

"An urban school is not the stereotypes you see in movies or on the news," says teacher Paul Howard. "There's a lot of good work going on here and these are really great kids."

Backus was tough, especially classroom management.

"I'm a Kansas kid, and this school was like nothing I'd ever been a part of," he says. "It took me a while to figure out that instead of code-switching to teacher talk, I had to talk to kids like I'd talk to adults, not viewing them as kids or students but as people."

Reforming urban education isn't as simple as winning awards, Howard knows.

"It's a first step. I'm doing what I can in my classroom. I'm a course chair for the district, so I write curriculum and train other teachers on things I know have worked in my classroom. It starts to spread, little by little, classroom by classroom."

Class Notes

manages the pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics in Madison.

Chris Stamerjohn, b'12, is president of Whisha, a specialty coffee distributor in Greenbrae, California.

BORN TO:

Daniel, c'12, and **Kelsey Shaw Petrosky**, f'13, son, Peter, Aug. 25 in Kansas City, where he joins a sister, Caroline, 2. Daniel is a captain in the Marine Corps.

13 Danyelle Damme Buschbom, g'13, is a media buyer at Retirement HQ.

Sameh Elghzali, g'13, directs business applications and architecture at Interface Inc. He and his wife, **Rihab**, assoc., make their home in Overland Park.

Lauren Brittain Merrill, '13, is co-owner and business manager at Great Plains Digital Media in Andover. She and her husband, Jeffrey, have a daughter and live in Colwich.

Nicole Mosley, m'13, is a physician at the Franciscan Physician Network. She lives in Merrillville, Indiana.

Donald "DJ" Schepker, PhD'13, is an assistant professor of strategic management in the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. He resides in Columbia with his wife, Kristen, and their daughter.

Erin Schultz, c'13, is a component engineer at Crane Aerospace & Electronics in Lynnwood, Washington.

Jonathon Schweer, c'13, teaches math for Wichita public schools.

Darcy Yunker, b'13, lives in Wichita, where she's a human resource information systems analyst at HNTB Companies.

MARRIED

Holden Beier-Green, c'13, to Louise Haven Ashley, Sept. 23 in Leadville, Colorado. Holden is a post-production system specialist at Team People in Falls Church, Virginia. They make their home in Silver Spring, Maryland.

14 Dillon Davis, c'14, directs communications at Kansas Independent Pharmacy Service Corporation. He lives in Topeka.

Philip Harms, b'14, is a financial analyst at Bell Helicopter in Dallas.

Caleb Hays, g'14, is associate counsel for the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Mason Lent, b'14, f'17, lives in Wichita, where he's an associate at Hite, Fanning & Honeyman.

Tamim Mahayni, m'14, is a physician at the McFarland Clinic in Ames, Iowa.

Chelsea Weeks Meiller, j'14, coordinates meetings and events at ORS Nasco in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She and **Stephen**, u'14, live in Norman.

Ryan Terry, d'14, is a corporate account executive for the Dallas Mavericks.

15 Amanda Angell, f'15, makes her home in Alamogordo, New Mexico, where she's an associate attorney at John D. Wheeler & Associates.

Alexander Fortunato, c'15, works at PeopleAdmin in Shawnee, where he's team lead for product support.

William Hammers, c'15, specializes in quality assurance and control at Great Plains Laboratory in Lenexa. He commutes from Lawrence.

Bret Koch, d'15, g'17, coordinates programs at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina.

Benjamin Leinwetter, c'15, works at Toshiba in Denver, where he's a solutions consultant.

StaNisha Lott, c'15, is a social media specialist and client adviser at Louis Vuitton in Dallas.

Kevin McCarthy, m'15, is an orthopedic surgeon at HSHS Medical Group Orthopedic & Sports Medicine in O'Fallon, Illinois.

Emily Meisenheimer, c'15, is a customer service representative at the Lawrence Journal-World.

Stephen Opskar, d'15, coordinates fitness and wellness services at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina.

Joseph Stephens, b'15, is CEO of Motor



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City Industrial in Hazel Park, Michigan. He makes his home in Birmingham with his wife, Toni.

Dylan Windom, c'15, was inducted in the Tift County Athletic Hall of Fame in her hometown of Tifton, Georgia. She played tennis for KU from 2010 to '12.

16 Matthew Armstrong, b'16, g'17, is a sustainability consultant at K-Coe Isom in Lenexa. He lives in Lawrence with **Chavis Lickvar-Armstrong**, c'08, a researcher at KU, and their son.

Billy Barnes, d'16, coordinates game presentation and live events for the San Francisco 49ers. He lives in Sunnyvale, California.

Hannah Boyd, c'16, teaches at Marshall County schools. She lives in Olive Branch, Mississippi.

Casey Craig, b'16, lives in Portland, Oregon, where he's an associate sourcer at Adidas.

Kelsey Dick, b'16, works at Koch Industries in Wichita, where she's a

logistics coordinator.

Julie Ferrell, c'16, is a freelance dancer and choreographer and a performing apprentice with Noumenon Dance Ensemble in Chicago. She also teaches dance at several Chicago-area studios.

Sara Griffith, d'16, teaches second grade at Linda Herrington Elementary School in Austin, Texas.

Allison Kite, j'16, is a statehouse reporter for the Topeka Capital-Journal.

Landen Lucas, c'16, plays professional basketball for the Tokyo Toyota Alvark.

Ashley Puenner, g'16, is a mezzo-soprano singer and studio artist for the Florentine Opera Company in Milwaukee.

Shelby Rowley, c'16, lives in Phoenix, where she's a surgical neurophysiologist at SpecialtyCare.

17 Sam Brodsky, b'17, manages projects and leads small-business development at Brodsky Productions Video Services in Chanhassen, Minnesota.

Mackenzie Daniels, e'17, lives in

Wichita, where she's a cabin electrical engineer at Textron Aviation.

John Davison, b'17, works at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, where he's an assistant manager of accounts payable.

Dallas Deery, b'17, makes her home in Chicago, where she manages accounts at ESPN.

Corrine Dorrian, j'17, is a news producer at KSNT-TV in Topeka.

Dana El-Shoubaki, j'17, works in public relations at Benefit Cosmetics in San Francisco.

Alyssa Ferguson, d'17, teaches at West Oxford Elementary School in Oxford, North Carolina.

Ryan Fischer, m'17, was honored last year with the Holmes High School Outstanding Alumnus Award in Covington, Kentucky. He lives in Lexington, where he's a dermatologist.

Laura Furney, j'17, lives in Berkeley, California, where she produces videos for intercollegiate athletics at the University of California.

Alden German, '17, is a meteorologist at KLKN-TV in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Trae Green, j'17, directs communications and marketing at the Kansas Grain and Feed Association in Topeka.

Chase Hanna, b'17, is a professional golfer.

Stephen Hawkins, g'17, is a student-conduct administrator at the University of Alaska in Anchorage.

Molly Horan, c'17, j'17, is a multimedia journalist at KSNT-TV in Topeka.

James Hoyt, j'17, works for the Park Record Newspaper in Park City, Utah, where he's a copy editor.

Brett Husted, e'17, is an interior structures engineer at Textron Aviation in Wichita.

Bianna Johnson, j'17, works at KSNT-TV in Topeka, where she's a news producer.

Hunter Kennon, b'17, lives in San



Francisco, where he's a business and analytics associate at BDO USA.

Bobbie Laincz, g'17, directs financial and operational analytics at the Children's Hospital Association in Lenexa.

Brian Moore, f'17, is an associate attorney at Hanson, Jorns & Beverlin in Pratt.

Jennifer Mosely, PharmD'17, lives in San Francisco, where she's a pharmacist at CVS.

Timeka O'Neal, c'17, is an assistant women's basketball coach at Kansas City

Kansas Community College. She played basketball for KU from 2015 to '17.

Raechel Puglisi, c'17, works at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Topeka, where she's a lab technician.

Megan Pruett, j'17, is a field marketing coordinator at MMGY Global in Kansas City.

Sydney Shepherd, c'17, j'17, is a content and social media specialist at Keystone Automotive in Kansas City.

Kailey Smith, g'17, makes her home in

Chicago, where she's a project designer at DLR Group.

Meg Talbott, j'17, is a team account manager at Quest Diagnostics in Lenexa.

Sophia Templin, j'17, lives in New York City, where she's an account executive at Finsbury Strategic Communications.

ASSOCIATES

Kent Williams, assoc., is a retired administrative supervisor at Georgia State University. He makes his home in Brookhaven, Georgia.

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

'Eagle Vets' officer relishes Veterinary Corps' diversity

When Lt. Col. Michael Hansen in June assumed command of the 72nd Medical Detachment, a veterinary services unit known as the "Eagle Vets," it marked his first hands-on involvement with veterinary medicine in nearly a decade—which might seem unlikely for an Army Veterinary Corps officer.

Turns out, though, that Veterinary Corps responsibilities extend far beyond treating dogs, horses and other animals deployed in all branches of the armed services. Dating to the corps' 1916 creation, in the wake of food poisoning and preservation scandals that plagued American troops during the Spanish-American War, Congress designated veterinarians as the military's overseers of food safety and public health.

"At the time, veterinary schools were focused on food animals and diseases transmissible from animal to man," says Hansen, g'13. "The Army adopted that and never really let it go. We still run that."

While spending time on his grandfather's cattle ranch in Ohio, Hansen first explored veterinary medicine by shadowing area vets. He joined the Army Reserves out of high school, and, after graduating from Iowa State University's prestigious

College of Veterinary Medicine, he became a veterinary corps officer yet chose to remain in the Army Reserves.

A year in private practice convinced Hansen to become a full-time, active duty soldier, and his first deployment was tending to animals at Fort Riley and Wichita's McConnell Air Force Base, during which time he completed the KU School of Medicine's master of public health program.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, he was deployed with the Eagle Vets to treat combat dogs. After his return, he moved into food safety operations, including production plant and supply chain inspections and rapid response to salmonella and other food-safety outbreaks. Army veterinary officers are stationed on Navy supply ships and in small teams with military units deployed worldwide.

"There's a lot of single or dual soldier assignments in strange places you wouldn't even think of," Hansen says, "and all they do is inspect food."

With the Eagle Vets, based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Hansen now commands a field unit that reflects the corps' diverse missions of animal health and food safety for all military personnel. Shortly after his arrival, Hansen directed his officers and other leaders to develop creative training ideas that would help



Lt. Col. Michael Hansen says handlers are devoted to their athletic dogs. "They are very good about giving them their medications and following treatment and therapy protocols."

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their teams operate autonomously.

"My own personal satisfaction is knowing I'm part of this organization and everybody looks to me for direction and guidance," he says. "I do have quite a bit of experience to go on, so when I can help them find solutions to issues they're facing, and you see that light bulb go on, that's tremendously rewarding."

DAVID E. GILLESPIE/BLANCHFIELD ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In Memory

30s Elva Douglass Glancy, c'35, 104, Oct. 24 in Dallas, where she was a substitute teacher and secretary and bookkeeper at her husband's business. A daughter, a son and a grandson survive.

Margaret Broeker Sanders, c'36, 102, Nov. 16 in Lawrence, where she managed operations for U.S. Geological Survey's water resources division. Surviving are a stepdaughter, Kathryn Sanders Wilson, j'69, and a step-granddaughter.

40s Willard Frame Barber, b'43, l'48, 96, Sept. 25 in Naples, Florida. He had a 25-year career at Brown Shoe Company. Survivors include his wife, Janet; a daughter, Nancy Barber Waugh, c'74; a stepdaughter; and a grandson.

Mildred Stoenner Carlson, c'43, 95, Oct. 16 in Independence, Missouri, where she was a teacher. She is survived by two daughters, Sonja, c'70, g'74, and Karen Carlson Cook, d'84; a son, Rick, '73; a brother; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Frances Lawrence Carpenter, f'47, 92, Sept. 30 in Kansas City, where she was a commercial illustrator and dollmaker. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Mary Carpenter Nagorney, '72; four sons, two of whom are Michael, l'84, and David, '87; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth McCune Frakes, c'47, 95, Oct. 19 in Kansas City. She had a 37-year career at KU Medical Center, where she retired as head of the department of dietetics and nutrition. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by three daughters, Blossom Frakes Laing, '60, Becky Frakes Herrman, d'65, and Deborah Frakes, '73; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Helen Martin Gilles, c'43, m'45, 95, Sept. 27 in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she was a retired pediatrician. In 1971 she was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include two

daughters, one of whom is Rebecca Gilles Richardson, s'75; a son; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Carole Ruhlen Gray, d'49, 89, Aug. 11 in Lenexa, where she was president of the MSPE Auxiliary and an officer for the Kansas Historical Society. Surviving are three sons, Jeff, e'75, Jon, e'77, g'82, and David, e'79, g'85; two daughters, Julia Gray Saller, e'80, and Laura, g'07; a sister; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Charles Kopke, b'47, 95, Sept. 29 in Kansas City, where he retired as senior vice president and manager at Commerce Bank. A brother, Earl, b'51, survives.

Basil Marhofer, c'49, l'51, 92, Sept. 6 in Ness City, where he served as city and county attorney and mayor. He also was vice president of Rotary International. His wife, Cecilia, two stepsons, a stepdaughter and a sister survive.

Betty Jean Miller Maurer, c'41, 97, Nov. 7 in Prairie Village, where she was a homemaker. She is survived by two sons, John, c'73, g'75, and William, '76; three daughters, two of whom are Susan Maurer Randolph, n'65, and Sally Jo Maurer Heuer, '85; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

Phyllis Riggs McCormick, f'45, 93, Nov. 2 in Floresville, Texas. She worked with special-needs children for 34 years at the R.J. Delano School in Kansas City. In retirement she managed several gift shops. A daughter, a son, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Gene McLaughlin, c'49, 93, Sept. 29 in Prairie Village, where he retired as president of Carl Berry Oil Company. A daughter and two granddaughters survive.

Joe Moddrell, b'49, 89, Nov. 1 in Wichita, where he had a long career in the insurance industry and co-founded the IMA Financial Group. Surviving are his wife, Jean, two daughters, a son and three grandchildren.

Mary Noll Moorhead, '44, 95, Sept. 29 in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

She was a homemaker and member of P.E.O. Sisterhood. Survivors include two daughters, Sandra Moorhead Marshall, d'67, and Amanda Moorhead Ross, d'68; a brother, Robert Noll, c'49; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Robert Mowry, c'47, 91, Oct. 18 in Lansdowne, Virginia. He retired as senior vice president at Montgomery Ward, where he worked for 32 years. Surviving are his wife, Avalee, two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren.

Patricia Bentley Myers, j'49, 90, Oct. 13 in Roseville, California. She served on several boards and committees. Two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren survive.

Lorita Higginbottom Pendleton, d'48, 91, Sept. 10 in Lawrence. She and her husband, Albert, owned Pendleton Farm & Livestock Company. Surviving are three sons, one of whom is James, '77; a sister, Dorothy Higginbottom Flottman, b'46; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Marguerite Demint Riedy, d'42, 98, Oct. 10 in Hope, where she was a high school teacher. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is James, l'77; three daughters, two of whom are Marian, c'77, and Karen, c'81, m'85; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Robert Rudkin, b'48, 94, Oct. 6 in Wichita, where he was a U.S. Army veteran. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Thomas, c'73; and a daughter, Terry Rudkin Martin, '75.

Harold "Hal" Sandy, j'47, 93, Dec. 9 in Prairie Village, where he was a retired advertising executive. In 1946, as a student at KU, he drew the smiling Jayhawk that has endured as the University's mascot. Surviving are his wife, Wilda, assoc., and a nephew.

Charles Schuler, e'48, 91, Oct. 29 in Olathe. He was an engineer at Boeing and retired as program director of the KC-135 Stratotanker. Survivors include two daughters, one of whom is Kim Schuler Wright, '84; a son; two sisters; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

50s Merry Mitchell Belden, c'54, 85, March 11, 2017, in Wichita, where she was a real estate agent. Surviving are her husband, Donald, c'54; a son, Greg, c'88; a daughter; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Katherine Russell Cramm, c'53, 85, Aug. 18 in Newport Beach, California. She was a member of Junior League and Daughters of the American Revolution. Two sons and seven grandchildren survive.

Glen Davis, e'54, 86, Aug. 15 in Leawood, where he was chief of construction for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two sons, James, e'88, and John, b'90; two daughters, Ann Davis Harmes, b'89, and Kate Davis Ellmaker, j'93; and nine grandchildren.

Elaine Gilchrist Drake, c'52, 86, Sept. 30 in Jackson, Mississippi, where she was an office manager. She is survived by two sons; two daughters; a sister, Nancy Gilchrist Alexander, d'54; 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Jerry Hess, c'57, 85, June 23 in Sarasota, Florida. He was an oral historian at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and helped establish several presidential libraries. Three nieces survive.

Dudley Hudgins, c'59, 79, Oct. 3 in Kansas City, where he directed sales for more than 30 years at Marion Laboratories. He is survived by his wife, Pegge; three sons, one of whom is Brian, '88; a daughter; 12 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Frank Hursh, c'51, l'53, 91, Oct. 14 in Kansas City. He was an attorney and served as municipal judge for the City of Mission. Survivors include his wife, Mary Walker Hursh, '51; two sons, Lynn, c'75, l'79, and Kenneth, c'84, l'88; a daughter, Janie Hursh Wright, j'77, c'83; a brother, Don, c'56; and five grandchildren.

J. Roger Lembke, e'57, g'69, 82, Oct. 16 in Overland Park, where he had a 32-year career at Honeywell. He is survived by his wife, Janet Crouch Lembke, '61; a son, David, b'84; a daughter; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Nancy Hindman Maddox, f'53, 85, Sept. 25 in Shawnee. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Springer DiMauro, '86; two sons, one of whom is Scott Springer, g'98; two stepdaughters; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Dale Nevius, e'50, 91, Sept. 8 in Lawrence, where he was retired vice president of Lynn Elliot Company. Surviving are a son, Gary, a'74, e'74, g'81; a daughter, Karen Nevius Van Blaricum, h'77; three grandsons; and a great-grandson.

Paul Penny, f'52, 92, Oct. 28 in Lawrence, where he was an artist. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Alburty Penny, d'51, '93; four sons, Alan, a'77, Gary, '78, Michael, f'83, and Christopher, c'83; a daughter, Melissa Penny Swanson, f'83; two sisters, Margaret Penny Bruce, b'43, and Lois Penny Cowan, f'54; a brother, Charles, e'50; and three great-grandchildren.

Charles Rex Phipps, m'57, 86, Oct. 20 in Lander, Wyoming, where he was a physician. Survivors include his wife, Nancy; two sons, one of whom is Doug, m'84; three daughters; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

James Rowland, f'56, g'68, 83, Oct. 4 in Topeka. He chaired KU's department of design in the early 1970s and later worked at an art gallery in San Francisco. A brother survives.

William Schaake, d'52, 87, Sept. 8 in Ellensburg, Washington, where he was a retired teacher and coach. He played football and basketball as a student at KU and returned to the University in the 1960s as an assistant football coach. Surviving are his wife, Darlene Schindler Schaake, '52; two sons; two daughters; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Clifton Schopf, m'57, 88, Sept. 25 in Wichita, where he practiced family medicine and served as chief of staff at St. Francis Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Iyral Jean; two sons, Richard, j'72, and David, d'75; a daughter; nine grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Helen Graves Silvia, d'58, 82, Oct. 17 in San Antonio. She was an organist and music director and served as president of the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra. She is

survived by her husband, James, a son, a daughter, a sister, four grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Eileen Churchill Spears, s'53, 89, Oct. 27 in Osawatomie, where she was a psychiatric social worker at the state hospital. Survivors include a daughter, Suzanne Frolik Wilcox, g'92; a son; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

James Stirling, c'54, 89, Oct. 5 in Kansas City, where he managed Stirling Auto Supply. Surviving are his wife, Ann; a daughter, Pamela Stirling Bachman, g'83; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Lenore Matthews Strong, '55, 84, Nov. 10 in Wichita. She owned LAC Investments. Survivors include a son, Scott, c'84; two daughters, one of whom is Susan, b'85; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joseph Terrill, a'56, 84, Sept. 24 in Topeka, where he was founder and president of Horst, Terrill & Karst Architects. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Francis Unrein, p'51, 90, Oct. 10 in Overland Park. He lived in Plainville for nearly 60 years, where he owned Unrein Pharmacy. Surviving are his wife, Bernice; two sons, Keith, p'72, and Kevin, '80; two daughters, one of whom is Robin Unrein Hagedorn, b'83; three brothers, one of whom is George, f'62; a sister, Marguerite Unrein Houchins, f'54; three grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Clayton "Bud" Walker, b'56, 85, Nov. 17 in Pittsburg. He owned several businesses and started a foundation called Caring for Kids. He also was an avid supporter of KU baseball. Survivors include his wife, Margaret Wille Walker, d'57; a son, Michael, '84; and three granddaughters.

Edward Weber, e'51, 87, Oct. 14 in La Porte, Indiana, where he was a retired patent attorney. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, a daughter, a son, a stepdaughter, two stepsons, five grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Mary Jean Oliver Wells, f'50, 89, Oct. 10 in Wichita, where she was a home-

In Memory

maker. She is survived by two daughters, Anne Wells Wright, b'83, and Susan Wells Aniello, '87; a son; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Parke Woodard, e'51, 88, Nov. 6 in Olathe. He was a senior control-systems specialist at Black & Veatch. Surviving are his wife, Rosemary; a daughter, Susan Woodard Lautz, d'79; two sons, one of whom is Timothy, e'90; a stepson, Greg Stoskopf, g'90; a stepdaughter; a brother, Donald, c'56, g'61; three grandchildren; a step-granddaughter; and six great-grandchildren.

George Wurster, c'57, m'61, 82, Oct. 7 in Leawood, where he was a retired physician. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Mary; a daughter, Wynne Wurster Winter, '83; two sons, Erich, b'85, l'88, and Thomas, '94; two brothers, Joel, m'56, and Jerry, m'64; two sisters; and seven grandchildren.

60s Merlin Askren, j'60, 78, Aug. 15 in Pebble Beach, California, where he was deputy attorney general. Surviving are his wife, Deanna, a daughter, a stepson, a stepdaughter, a sister and a half-brother.

Robert Bowles, f'62, 79, Sept. 26 in Hutchinson. He had a 30-year career with Lowen Corporation, where he retired as vice president of sales and marketing. Survivors include his wife, Donna; a son, Jeffrey, f'89; a daughter, Amanda Bowles Goetz, f'97; a brother; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Marvin Crocker, c'64, g'68, 83, Sept. 20 in Lakeview, Oregon, where he was a public affairs officer for Fremont National Forest. He is survived by his wife, Lauri Noell Crocker, d'58; two daughters; and a grandson.

Thelma Latter Dailey, d'61, 78, Oct. 17 in Broomfield, Colorado, where she was a juvenile probation officer. Two sons and two grandchildren survive.

Kenneth Fry, j'67, 72, Oct. 29 in Sunrise Beach, Missouri. He owned the family business, Fry's Car Care, in Overland Park. Surviving are his wife, Karen; a son, Blake, '94; a daughter, Donika Fry Kaplan, c'98; two sisters, Claudia Fry Paul, d'69, and

Peggy Fry Harrington, d'71, '99; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Marion Thomas Hall, a'67, 73, Oct. 14 in Chesterfield, Missouri. He was an architect. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Sandra; a son, Timothy, '89; a daughter, Paige, f'93; two brothers; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Robert Hyde, '67, 72, Aug. 21 in Olathe, where he was a physical therapist. Survivors include four daughters, one of whom is Laura Hyde Ismert, g'03; a son, Eric, DPT'15; and 17 grandchildren.

Michael Johnson, c'63, 79, Oct. 6 in Edmond, Oklahoma, where he was a retired U.S. Army major and a logistics assistance officer. His wife, Lucy, a son, a sister and four granddaughters survive.

Nancy Cline Lessig, d'65, g'68, '92, 74, Nov. 10 in Lawrence, where she was an elementary school teacher. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include her husband, V. Parker, c'64, g'66, PhD'70; two sons, one of whom is Aaron, c'97; two sisters; and five grandchildren.

Barbara Larson Marden, s'68, s'73, '02, 71, Oct. 30 in Lawrence, where she was a social worker and counselor at St. John Catholic School. She is survived by her husband, Dave, d'68, PhD'75; a daughter; a son; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Barbara "Bobby" Swanton Backus McCorkle, '63, 97, Nov. 1 in Lawrence. She led the reference department and curated maps at the Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University. She also was a cartobibliographer. Survivors include a daughter, Frances Backus Clymer, c'75; four sons, Oswald, f'79, g'89, Anthony, c'82, g'87, Richard, c'83, j'86, g'95, and Robert, l'85; and several stepchildren and grandchildren.

Albert Moore Jr., '61, 78, Oct. 6 in Topeka. He was senior vice president of the investment management group at Commerce Bank & Trust. Surviving are his wife, Connie; a son, Albert III, c'86; a daughter; six grandchildren; and a step-granddaughter.

Douglas Petty, j'66, 74, Sept. 9 in Leawood, where he retired from American

Century Investments. He is survived by his wife, Deana; his mother, Dee Naylor Petty, c'42; two sons, one of whom is Bryce, c'91; four daughters, three of whom are Candace Minor Kelly, '91, Ashley Minor Lyerly, c'95, and Brooke Petty Degnan, j'00; two sisters, one of whom is Cheryl Petty Evilsizer, d'68; and 14 grandchildren.

Donald Popejoy, e'62, 78, Feb. 8, 2017, in Naples, Florida. He was president of Popejoy Construction and executive vice president at Ritchie Paving in Wichita. Survivors include his wife, Susan Berkebile Popejoy, d'62; a daughter; a brother; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Herbert Proudfit, c'64, PhD'71, 77, Oct. 27 in Iowa City, Iowa, where he was retired professor of pharmacology at the University of Iowa. His wife, Donna, a daughter and three grandsons survive.

George "Blaine" Shaffer, d'62, 77, Aug. 30 in Topeka, where he was a retired math teacher and guidance counselor. He also was an ordained minister. Surviving are his wife, Jeanette Weinbrenner Shaffer, '76; a daughter; a son; two sisters, Carol, d'57, and Diane Shaffer Weatherwax, d'73; and four grandchildren.

Randall Shaffer, e'65, 75, Oct. 26 in Grove, Oklahoma, where he was a manager at Atlas Roofing. His wife, Rusty, two daughters, a brother and a granddaughter survive.

Janet Fraser Spomer, d'68, 72, Oct. 14 in Hermiston, Oregon. She was a teacher and homemaker. Survivors include her husband, John, c'67; a daughter; and a sister, Judith Fraser-Flamer, d'65.

Duane Steinshouer, p'61, 79, Nov. 6 in Hoxie, where he was a pharmacist and volunteered as an addictions counselor. A son survives, as does a brother, Darrel, p'65, l'68.

Ernest Yarnevich, c'66, l'69, 73, Oct. 5 in Kansas City, where he practiced law for nearly 50 years. He is survived by his wife, Anne Beeson Yarnevich, d'68, s'98; a daughter, Caroline Yarnevich Mackey, c'00; a son, David, '09; a brother, George, c'68, l'72, g'72; a sister, Carol Yarnevich Fields, j'76; and three grandchildren.

70s Vicki Asbury, c'73, g'76, g'81, g'87, 66, Oct. 15 in Weatherby

Lake, Missouri. She was an engineer and operations research analyst for the U.S. Army. Surviving are her husband, J.D., e'72; a son; and a granddaughter.

Margaret Jane Stites Leo, c'77, 95, Nov. 2 in Prairie Village, where she was a homemaker. She is survived by three daughters, Kathy Leo Lord, d'68, Jan, c'74, m'77, and Nancy, c'95, '96; a son, Bill, c'93; a brother, John Stites, b'50, l'56; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Zwiers Miller, g'72, g'76, 69, Sept. 14 in Kansas City. She worked at the Miller Agency, an insurance firm that she and her husband formed in Eudora. She is survived by her husband, David, c'80; three sisters; and a brother.

James Peterson, c'70, 71, Sept. 13 in Chandler, Arizona, where he was a principal planner for the City of Tempe. Survivors include his wife, Lola, two daughters, a son, two brothers, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Keith Pickering, c'77, 62, Nov. 5 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was a retired systems analyst and software engineer. He also was a published author and recently wrote *The Lost Island of Columbus: Solving the Mystery of Guanahani*. Surviving are a sister, Nancy, c'75, and a brother, Scott, '79.

Thomas Poppe, b'72, 67, Oct. 7 in Leawood, where he was an accountant. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Carol Engel Poppe, c'77; two sons, Kevin, c'07, and David, c'08; his mother; a brother, Wayne, '75; two sisters; and three grandchildren.

Kenneth Reeves, c'71, l'74, 72, Oct. 4 in Phoenix, where he was senior vice president and regional counsel at Northern Trust. Surviving are his wife, Linda, a daughter, a son, a sister, four brothers and two granddaughters.

Lance Williams, c'71, 67, Aug. 20 in Toluca Lake, California, where he worked in computer graphics at the Walt Disney Company and Apple. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife,

Amber Denker; two sons; and two brothers, one of whom is Sean, j'78.

80s Antonia Casagrande, c'87, 54, Oct. 11 in Eudora, where she was a writer and a graduate teaching assistant at KU. She is survived by her parents, Peter, assoc., and Pamela Mills Casagrande, '79; two sisters, one of whom is Teresa, s'85, s'87; and two brothers, Peter, '88, and Vincent, '91.

James Rupp, m'89, 54, Sept. 3 in Colorado. He lived in Casper, Wyoming, where he was a nephrologist. Surviving are his wife, Sandy Taggart Rupp, n'91; two sons; his mother; and a sister, Jody Rupp Boeding, c'76, l'79.

Jay Schmitendorf, e'80, 60, July 30 in Lawrence, where he was an engineer. He is survived by his father, James, e'56; his mother, Allison Lockard, '57; his step-mother; a son, a daughter; a brother, Eric, '97; and a sister.

90s Elaine Farrow Nelson, g'96, 70, July 30 in Tennessee. She lived in Overland Park for several years, where she was a teacher in the Blue Valley School District. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include her husband, Joseph; two daughters, one of whom is Jill Nelson O'Grady, c'99, g'03; a brother; and five grandchildren.

00s Lawrence Henderson, c'07, l'11, Sept. 15 in Leavenworth, where he was an attorney. He is survived by his wife, Brittan Young-Henderson, c'10; two daughters; his parents; and his maternal grandparents.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Walter "Hob" Crockett, c'47, 96, Oct. 31 in Lawrence, where he was retired professor of communication studies and social psychology. He was the first director of the Life Span Institute. His wife, Helen, two sons, a daughter, a sister, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren survive.

Lance Rombough, e'80, g'03, 63, Oct. 11 in Keystone, South Dakota, where he was a retired U.S. Navy lieutenant com-

mander and director of information systems at KU. He is survived by his wife, Julia Green Rombough, c'80; two sons, one of whom is Ian, '11; his parents; a sister; and a brother.

Stephen Schroeder, 80, Oct. 15. He lived in Lawrence, where he served as director of the Life Span Institute from 1990 to 2002. He later directed the Prince Salman Research Center for Disabilities in Saudi Arabia. Surviving are his wife, Carolyn; two sons, one of whom is Matthew, '92; two sisters; five grandchildren; and a step-grandson.

ASSOCIATES

Patricia Allcorn, assoc., 90, June 7 in Canton, Massachusetts. She is survived by a son, Rex Culp, c'69, g'71, PhD'73, l'85; a daughter, Roxy Culp Gray, f'73; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Bob Crane, assoc., 73, Oct. 4 in Kansas City. He lived in Hugoton, where he was a technician in the gas industry. Survivors include his wife, Marilyn; a daughter, Meridith, j'93; a son, Rob, d'96, g'00; and a sister.

John Dugan, assoc., 86, June 21 in Hays. He owned Dugan Oil Company in Plainville. Surviving are his wife, Nadine, assoc.; a son, Dyrk, j'89; a daughter; a brother; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Roger Herman, assoc., 81, Sept. 10 in Kansas City, where he worked for the U.S. Department of the Treasury. He is survived by a son, John, e'87; a daughter, Susan Herman Kief, j'91; two brothers and three grandsons.

Billy Joe McAfee, assoc., 88, March 14, 2017, in Easton, where he was a U.S. Army veteran and vice president of First National Bank in Leavenworth. Surviving are his wife, Maryann Stucker McAfee, n'58, g'85; two daughters; a son; three brothers; three granddaughters; and three great-granddaughters.

Lula "Becky" Ainsworth Stukesbary, assoc., 92, March 14, 2017, in Ness City, where she and her husband owned B & G Healthmart Pharmacy. She is survived by a son, Duane, d'73; two daughters; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Rock Chalk Review



MEG KUMJIN

Moriarty

Broken heart

Moriarty says withering attacks firm her resolve for new novel

Laura Moriarty was riding a bus to campus the morning of Oct. 5 when she heard the big news from her publisher: Kirkus Reviews, a trend-setting voice in American publishing, would within days post a rave review of *American Heart*, Moriarty’s soon-to-be-published dystopian novel of a near-future America that vilifies and sequesters its Muslim citizens within desolate isolation camps.

“It was a glowing review, just the most wonderful review I could have ever asked for,” recalls Moriarty, 39, 39. “And it gave it a star, which only, I think, 10 percent of books get.”

The hopeful interlude lasted nine days.

From the outset of her work on *American Heart*, Moriarty knew her novel would draw “pushback from both sides. If you set out to write a book about Islamophobia in today’s climate, of course some people are going to get angry.”

By October she’d already lived through

months of that anger, starting with an email she’d received, in April 2017, alerting her to “a Twitter conversation” that had already begun, based entirely on a two-line description of the novel that appeared in Publisher’s Marketplace. Her so-called critics, Moriarty was told, were disturbed by what they viewed as the book’s “problematic white-savior narrative.”

Moriarty, associate professor of English, embraces modern sensitivities to problematic white-savior narratives, in which white characters drop into a culture not their own and swiftly solve the cultural and personal plot elements driving a novel’s storyline.

To avoid any such insensitivity with her latest novel—an important career moment following the success of 2012’s *The Chaperone*, soon to be released as a motion picture written by “Downton Abbey” creator Julian Fellowes—Moriarty shared drafts of her manuscript with two Iranian Americans she had befriended during her student days at KU; a woman in Iran, whom Moriarty asked to critique her depiction of the persecuted Iranian American character; and colleague Giselle Anatol, professor of English, who had

previously told Moriarty she hates the white-savior narrative device.

“Giselle read it and we talked about it, and she felt it went against the trope in ways that she found encouraging and important,” Moriarty says. “So I had done all this, and then after I sold it to the publisher, they brought in their own sensitivity readers and they combed through it super carefully.”

Kirkus published its starred review Oct. 10, and the backlash from an online community of self-appointed literary arbiters was immediate and vitriolic. Four days later, Kirkus, in an unprecedented editorial decision, pulled the review, and its star, then published a revised criticism that found faults not previously cited, including a “problematic” structure that portrays a Muslim woman only through the voice of the 15-year-old white girl who is helping her find sanctuary in Canada.

“While we believe our reviewer’s opinion is worthy and valid,” wrote Kirkus editor in chief Claiborne Smith, “some of the wording fell short of meeting our standards for clarity and sensitivity, and we failed to make the thoughtful edits our readers deserve.”

Whatever its reasoning, Kirkus’ decision to buckle under pressure—generated at a time when almost none of *American Heart’s* critics had read the book—became its own scandal, eliciting passionate commentary from, among others, The New Yorker, NPR and Vulture.com.

Relaxing in the Lawrence Public Library lobby before finding an empty table to grade final papers, Moriarty says she was comforted that her publisher, Harper Teen, an imprint of HarperCollins, stood by her and the book. She also hopes that



American Heart
By Laura Moriarty
Harper Teen,
\$17.99

the attention, unwanted though it may have been, will generate interest when the book is released early this year.

Yet she concedes those positive aspects are thin consolation, at best.

“My publisher was brave this time, but you can only imagine that a publisher would have to be very noble to continually take this on, especially with the Kirkus decision,” she says. “This group, they also go after publishers. They antagonize publishers. They’re very mad at my publisher right now, *really* mad, and they’re pushing back. So a publisher has to sort of take this and be braver than Kirkus, and I don’t think every publisher is.”

The true heartbreak for Moriarty is that the controversy has so far overshadowed the book itself.

American Heart tells the story of a self-reliant Missouri teen named Sarah-Mary—it is worth noting that Kirkus omitted the hyphen Moriarty uses in the lead character’s name—who is a product of a broken family and endemic Islamophobia that Sarah-Mary is not yet mature or worldly enough to see through.

As Sarah-Mary and her 11-year-old brother, Caleb, cope with a roadside abandonment by their scheming mother, Sarah-Mary promises Caleb that she will help Sadaf, a distraught stranger Caleb finds hiding behind the truck stop from which he flees after their mother’s betrayal.

Until she encounters Sadaf, an accomplished engineering professor, Sarah-Mary has never known a Muslim American, but she distrusts Muslims to her core and believes with certainty that dire police bulletins for Sadaf’s arrest must be heeded. Fugitives, by definition and decree, are dangerous and must be rounded up and herded out.

Yet Sarah-Mary’s hard young heart is defenseless against her brother’s generous spirit, which she treasures as the lone ray of hope in her difficult existence. Once she pledges to help Sadaf—primarily to convince Caleb that he must return to the safety of their overbearing aunt’s home—Sarah-Mary overrides her prejudices not for personal growth, but to honor her promise to her brother.

The ensuing journey forces Sarah-Mary

to confront an ugliness of national character through the frightened eyes of its victims. When a seemingly kind-hearted country woman offers to give Sarah-Mary and “Chloe” a lift, Sarah-Mary notes the car’s bumper stickers:

Quilters love you to pieces

If life gives you scraps, make a quilt!

*GET ’EM OUTTA HERE! No Refuge for
Illegals and Islamic Terrorists!*

*It’s not Islamophobia when they’re really
trying to kill you!*

Not so many miles earlier, Sarah-Mary wouldn’t have even noticed such sentiments; now, she is scared. And angry.

My chest went hot under my coat. ... And then I had to come around to the passenger side, smiling again, pretending to both of them that everything was fine.

Sarah-Mary will soon be done with pretending that everything is fine, a sentiment shared by an author plunged into a culture war dominated by its loudest extremists.

“Even though it hasn’t been banned outright,” Moriarty says of *American Heart*, “I can imagine schools and libraries that might have otherwise taught it will be very hesitant. And so there are different levels of censorship and fear over what gets past the gatekeepers.”

Yes, American literature again has gatekeepers, and that is what pains Moriarty, far beyond her own challenges in delivering *American Heart* to readers.

“To me, this is not a time to be fearful. I think it is a time to stand up for American values. Even if you make people on the extremes angry, that’s OK. This is our country and we have to stand up for people. We have to stand up for what’s right.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Sound solution

New hearing loop amplifies the Osher experience

Jim Peters is no fan of negative comments. But couple a complaint with a practical solution? Well, that’s a different story.

A year ago, Peters, director of the KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, a continuing education program for adults 50 years and older, visited the classroom on St. Andrews Drive in West Lawrence. Marianne Wilkinson, c’57, g’64, a long-time Osher participant who was sitting in



“He knew the technology and he knew how it helped people,” says KU Osher Institute Director Jim Peters (right) of Lawrence audiologist Matt Brown, who contributed the lead gift in the purchase of the institute’s new hearing loop.

STEVE PUPPE

Rock Chalk Review

the front row, immediately complained to him that she couldn't hear the instructor through the room's antiquated sound system—a single speaker embedded in the podium.

Her solution: Install a hearing loop.

When Peters explained to her that the institute likely couldn't afford the expensive equipment, Wilkinson suggested that the program's participants foot the bill.

"Just like that, the light bulb came on," says Peters, assoc. A few weeks earlier, he had attended a workshop about Launch KU, a crowdfunding initiative by KU Endowment that helps students, faculty and staff raise funds for projects that benefit the KU community. Financing a new sound system through the University platform aligned with the initiative's goals.

Peters launched the institute's online campaign in February 2017 and reached its goal of \$9,700 in just seven days, thanks in large part to a lead gift from Lawrence audiologist Matt Brown, owner of Kaw Valley Hearing.

Brown, AUD'10, a former police officer with 12 years of service in Branson, Missouri, and Leawood, understood the benefits a hearing loop would provide the Osher community and didn't hesitate to help fund the project.

"If a patient has a loop-system compatible hearing aid, they can activate it and the sound, instead of going through the air, goes straight to the hearing aid through magnetic induction," he explains.

"They're able to hear and understand what's going on a lot easier."

Peters says the new system has enhanced the experience for at least 75 percent of the institute's participants. "These people are engaged," he says. "They want to be here, they're bringing 60 or 70 years' worth of life experiences into these classes. They're either here to learn more and ask a lot of questions or contribute or both. It's very interactive."

The Osher Institute, which was founded in 2000 by San Francisco billionaire Bernard Osher, has 120 locations across the nation, including KU, which got its charter in 2004 and conducted its first class a year later. Nearly 3,000 people sign up annually for no-credit continuing education courses—without the pressure of homework or exams—in history, literature, art, music and religion, which are taught by current and former University faculty and other instructors with a passion for a specific topic. The three-week, six-hour classes are offered in 11 cities in Kansas and the greater Kansas City area, including 19 residential communities for seniors. More than one-third of the courses are offered at the St. Andrews facility.

At the end of the institute's six-week Launch KU campaign, nearly 90 donors had contributed \$14,400, which funded the new sound system and transmitter, a new computer and additional headphones for participants without hearing aids.

These improvements, Peters says, have benefited both participants and instructors.

"People aren't scrambling for seats," he says. "You can sit anywhere in the room. The instructors feel more engaged. It really has made a big difference in the whole experience for everybody."

The Osher Institute unveiled the classroom upgrades in October at a dedication ceremony, and several donors and supporters, including Brown, participated. Brown recognized one of his instructors at the event, retired KU professor of speech-language-hearing John Brandt, assoc., whose class inspired him to pursue a career in audiology.

"If it wasn't for the education I received at KU, I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing now," Brown says. "I'm glad I am in the position where I could help the University. It was neat to be able to do that."

—Heather Biele

Big, bold, beautiful

'Zen Temple of Techno' towers as riveting new Spencer artwork

The Spencer Museum of Art has a new rock star. *Techno* star, actually, and considering her enormous presence at nearly 7 feet tall, it's probably advisable to get it right.

"Zen Temple of Techno," an "architectonic portrait," depicts Russian-born techno DJ Julia Govor, aka Julia Planetdisco, currently a rising star in the Seattle, New York and Asian techno music scenes. Although music fans unfamiliar with techno or Julia Planetdisco might be pleasantly surprised by sampling her music online, no techno familiarity is required to be knocked over by the massive oil-on-canvas portrait by Chinese artist Du Kun.

Du Kun, *Zen Temple of Techno*, 2017
Museum purchase: Gift of Hope and Marshall Talbot, in memory of their daughter, Tracy Lynn Mopper



RYAN WAGGONER/SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

To the Stars

Gunn's long journey to science fiction greatness rooted at KU

The title of science fiction Grand Master James Gunn's long-awaited memoir, *Star-Begotten*, is taken from an H.G. Wells novel about a man obsessed with the idea that human minds are being taken over by aliens.

Gunn's own life story, he writes in the introduction, is a tale of happily being "taken over at a young age by the alien influence of words on a page ... magical stories about people's lives being transformed, as mine would be, by science and technology and inspired speculations about change."

In a career that spanned science fiction's Golden Age to the present (his latest novel, *Transformation*, was published in June), Gunn, j'47, g'51,

emerged not only as an award-winning writer and editor of 45 books and more than a hundred short stories, but also as a leading scholar and teacher of the genre. Starting in 1969 until his retirement, he taught science fiction writing and other classes in the English department, and in 1982 founded the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction at KU.

Sci-fi fans will cherish his memories of the genre's stars—Isaac Asimov, Arthur Clarke, Robert Heinlein and even, in a brief cameo, the master H.G. Wells himself—as well as editors like John Campbell who worked behind the scenes to bring visionary work into print.

They were Gunn's peers, mentors and friends.

While *Star-Begotten* details a life of travel and brushes with fame (encounters with John Wayne and Paul Newman on a Hollywood film set come to mind), it is also something of an institutional history of KU. From his student days before and after World War II, and later as an administrator and faculty member, Gunn at one time or another seemingly held about every writing job on the Hill: He edited the University Daily Kansan, was hired by Fred Ellsworth, c'22, as managing editor of *Kansas Alumni*, and was later appointed director of University Relations by Chancellor Franklin Murphy—a remarkable series of roles that,

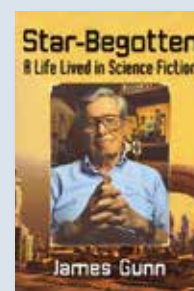


STEVE PUPPE

Gunn

in addition to his time in the classroom, made Gunn a firsthand witness to a period of transformational growth at KU. As *Star-Begotten* makes clear, Gunn's journey to the stars had deep roots on Mount Oread.

—Steven Hill



Star-Begotten
A Life Lived in
Science Fiction
by James Gunn
McFarland, \$25

The painting is part of Du Kun's "Head" series, which monumentalizes contemporary musicians as architectural embodiments of religious temples and grottoes. The series melds imagery of iconic Chinese rockers—Govor, a Russian, is the only non-Chinese musician featured by Du Kun—with Chinese temple architecture, highlighting the artist's passion for both music and spirituality.

Kris Ercums, the Spencer's curator for global and contemporary Asian art, first encountered Du Kun's series while on a curatorial research trip to Beijing. After meeting with the artist, he arranged for another work in the series, "Jia Yuan Mountain," to be loaned to the Spencer for its 2016-'17 exhibition "Temporal Turn: Art & Speculation in Contemporary Asia."

Ercums recalls that "Jia Yuan Mountain" was one of the exhibition's most popular pieces with younger visitors, and it

resonated as well with longtime benefactors Hope and Marshall Talbot, who suggested Ercums acquire another Du Kun for the museum's permanent collection.

He promptly reached out to his contacts at Du Kun's Beijing gallery, which reserved "Zen Temple of Techno" as soon as they learned of the KU museum's interest.

"It was a real coup for us to get it because he maybe makes one or two paintings a year," Ercums says. "We just immediately jumped on it."

Ercums says that to his knowledge, Du Kun's artwork is held entirely by Chinese and Japanese collectors and galleries, and the Spencer piece is his only painting on view outside of Asia. It is a rare and remarkable experience to view in person, rewarding multiple visits with layers of brilliance, from overpowering scope and depth to delightfully precise details.

The architectural elements that form the

figure's ears, for instance, are headphones, and tiny Buddhas within the rock cliffs are holding microphones. Her hair bun is a Chinese temple, and the eroded passage at the island's lower right indicates an arm and shoulder. The glowing background sky offers a simmering Impressionist treatment of light.

According to Ercums, Du Kun studied at China's pre-eminent arts school, the Central Academy of Fine Arts, long a proponent of "socialist realism," which demands training in realistic technique.

"From that standpoint, from a quality valuation, it's extremely, highly skilled," Ercums says. "But then the other thing I like is that it's not just a beautiful tour de force; it has a deep conceptual content as well. After that first attraction, it will then take you into the depths of Chinese history and culture."

—Chris Lazzarino

Glorious to View

Photograph by Steven Hill



Moses contemplates the burning bush amid a dusting of snow. The Smith Hall tableau was part of the architect's concept for the religious studies building, and the stained-glass window, designed by Jacoby Studios of St. Louis, was installed during the 1967 construction. The statue by Elden Tefft, f'49, g'50, completed the scene in 1982.

A TIMELESS TRADITION

After more than 50 years, Watson Library's beloved study carrels are undergoing an incredible redesign and renovation, thanks to KU students in the School of Architecture & Design's Studio 509. Now, with upgrades including stable power, improved lighting, and modern furniture, KU Libraries are meeting student needs in new ways.

Limited naming opportunities remain available, allowing you to secure your place in history on the KU campus. Special, engraved plaques will be placed in each named space to recognize your gift. We invite you to visit the freshly updated third floor carrels that will live on as a library legacy for generations of Jayhawks to come!

Contribute to the legacy:

To learn more, visit lib.ku.edu/carrels or contact Debbie McCord, senior director of development at the KU Endowment Association at 785-832-7372 or dmccord@kuendowment.org.

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