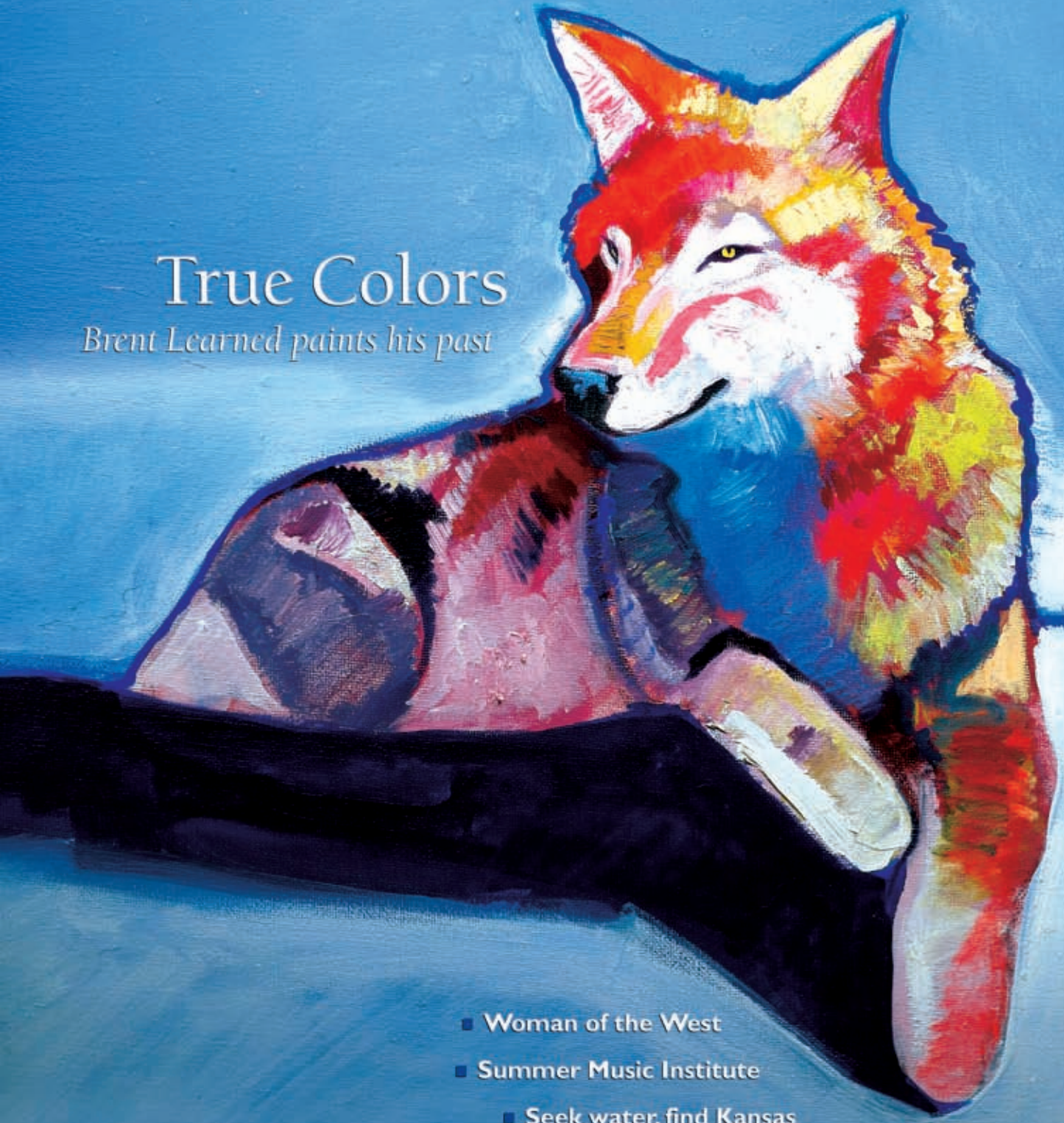


KANSAS ALUMNI

No. 3, 2006 ■ \$5


True Colors

Brent Learned paints his past



- Woman of the West
- Summer Music Institute
- Seek water, find Kansas

*Brent Learned
2006*



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Established in 1902 as *The Graduate Magazine*



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Bright, bold and beautiful, Brent Learned's paintings of his Plains Indian ancestors bring a new look to old ways.

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

Cover: "Wolf," by Brent Learned

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Sinking water levels in the Ogallala aquifer remind Kansans that divisions of east and west, urban and rural are all wet.

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An international music academy sustained by alumni and faculty draws talented young musicians to KU each summer for intensive study and head-to-head competition.

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Sue Anschutz-Rodgers' family foundation helps Coloradans protect their rural way of life. Meanwhile, back at her Crystal River Ranch, she's putting big ideas on sustainability and conservation into action.

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER



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Lift the Chorus

If we had it to do Oliver again

On page 50 of the last issue of *Kansas Alumni* ["Then Again," issue No. 2] you have a photo of two young men waiting for an elevator "circa 1963 ... in Oliver Hall." I believe Oliver Hall opened in 1966 and housed freshman women and for a few months the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. At that time men were not routinely allowed beyond the main floor of the women's dorms.



Linda Ryan Gibson, '70
Prairie Village

Editor's note: We've no idea how the men managed to make it all the way to the elevator, but you have to admit the ping-pong paddles are an inventive cover story. Actually, Oliver indeed opened in 1966 as a freshman women's dorm; the photo, which was taken in Templin and ran in the October 1963 issue of Kansas Alumni, was labeled incorrectly when we retrieved it from archived files. The proper authorities have been notified—though we're pretty sure the statute of limitations has expired.

Scientific response 'arrogant'

As a loyal KU grad and a retired CPA, I was pleased to see letters from other KU grads who found fault with the apparent official position of the University in support of the questionable theory of evolution ["Evolution of a Controversy," issue No. 1]. Thank you for printing responses presenting different reactions to the article.

Frankly, I've been troubled by so-called scientists who refuse to respond to challenges to their conclusion that the evolution theory is "fact." This not only is arrogant, but also seems unscientific

to a non-scientist. Aren't scientists supposed to arrive at conclusions based on solid evidence which is irrefutable? As one letter from a KU grad in science and medicine stated, "... no professor was able to demonstrate scientific proof that natural selection has ever had the power to change one organism into another."

If scientific proof is not available, who should be embarrassed?

I appreciate *Kansas Alumni* magazine.

Art Keller, b'49
Overland Park

%#@*!@%* glue!

In general, I admire and appreciate the high quality magazine you send me.

However, let me share with you one pet peeve I've held for decades:

Stiff paper inserts in magazines are an Invention of the Devil.

And they are most diabolical in forms such as the KU Bookstores card attached to page 7 of your most recent issue with an adhesive that could not be removed without defacing the lecture schedule underneath.

Please reconsider, in consultation with the bookstores, this obnoxious design for circulating advertising. I don't mind seeing reasonable attention-getting by the bookstores, but I'd rather not have to mangle my *Kansas Alumni* magazine to reduce it to just the magazine.

(Rant over.)

Jay Janzen, c'62
Golden, Colo.

Editor's note: We couldn't agree more about the glue, so we have just one word for you: plastics. After many failed attempts to find a more page-friendly adhesive, we'll avoid the sticky situation entirely by poly-bagging inserts in the future. Devilishly good solution, don't you think?



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May 2006

KANSAS ALUMNI

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KANSAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE (ISSN 0745-3345) is published by The Kansas University Alumni Association six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November. \$50 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 © 2006 by Kansas Alumni Magazine. Non-member issue price: \$7

THE KU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION was established in 1883 for the purpose of strengthening loyalty, friendship, commitment, and communication among all graduates, former and current students, parents, faculty, staff and all other friends of The University of Kansas. Its members hereby unite into an Association to achieve unity of purpose and action to serve the best interests of The University and its constituencies. The Association is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes.



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EARL RICHARDSON



CHRIS LAZZARINO



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“Cabinets of Curiosity,” June 17-Sept. 24, Spencer Museum of Art

“Transformations,” through June 18, Spencer Museum of Art

“History of Education: Teachers and Learners Across the Centuries,” through June, Kenneth Spencer Research Library

“Photography Between the Wars,” through July 30, Spencer Museum of Art

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12 Northwest Kansas

13 Southwest Kansas

22 Topeka

28 North Central Kansas

29 Wichita

JULY

2 Tri-State

8 Denver

9 Lincoln

9 Omaha

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15 Dallas

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18 Oklahoma City

22 Austin

22 St. Louis

23 Chicago

29 Philadelphia

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MAY

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25 Hutchinson: Wheat State Whirlwind Tour alumni picnic

27 New York Chapter: Yankees vs. Royals baseball outing

JUNE

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6 Liberal: Rock Chalk Southwest Jayhawk Classic

7 Palo Alto: School of Engineering Professional Society Reception

8 Anaheim: School of Engineering Professional Society Reception

15 Denver Chapter: Young alumni career networking social

22 Chicago: Alumni Reception

JULY

2 St. Louis Chapter: KU alumni night at the Cardinals

2 Dallas Chapter: Texas Rangers vs. K.C. Royals baseball outing

For more information about events, see the Association’s Web site at www.kualumni.org, or KU’s web site, at www.ku.edu.

■ Scenes from the March 12 windstorm included (from preceding page) salvaged Danforth roof tiles carefully stacked near the chapel, The Outlook’s chaotic yard, and extensive tree damage on Jayhawk Boulevard, in Marvin Grove and around the Campanile.



SUSAN YOUNGER



CHRIS LAZZARINO (2)



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First Word

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

Dave Shulenburger grins as he remembers how his dad, Hubert, used to spin tales on the family farm near Salisbury, N.C. Dad's impressive repertoire offered relief from the tough work of growing vegetables, raising chickens and stretching dollars. As a University administrator, Shulenburger has borrowed the technique, both to entertain and drive a point home. "There's telling the facts, and there's making people want to pay attention to the facts," he says.

His favorite KU story begins with the Oregon Trail travelers who decided to build a glorious enterprise on a desolate spot called Hogback Ridge. "I just love the notion of those folks, two days out on the trail, . . . crossing that Wakarusa valley through what must have been tremendous mud, wrestling their wagons across the river," he says. "And, as they came up this limestone ridge, the mud fell off the wheels, and they built their fires.

"What a great analogy for a university, that you drop off the mud and the cares of the world, and you climb up and light fires that signify learning. That's the history of this place."

After 32 years, Shulenburger is woven into the history of KU. He has served 16 years in Strong Hall, most recently as executive vice chancellor and provost. He leaves the day after Commencement for Washington, D.C., where he will have

his "feet under the desk June 1" as the vice president of academic affairs for the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), the nation's oldest higher education organization. His partner in the adventure will be his wife, Carol Prentice, d'69, g'79, a Strong Hall staff member who has served five vice chancellors for academic affairs, the post that became part of the provost's role. "She is the history of this office," he affirms. They will forsake small-town life for the city, immers-

ing themselves in the museums and, to his delight, the restaurants.

They leave behind a community that has become home. And Shulenburger leaves his mark on a campus that was to be merely a temporary stop in 1974, when, as a young economist, he arrived to teach in the School of Business.

As KU begins the final year of a five-year tuition-enhancement program, the results of his vision are evident, says longtime

colleague Lindy Eakin, b'78, g'80, g'88, PhD'97, vice provost for administration and finance.

"Twenty years from now, we're going to look back on this period—adding 100 new faculty and making so many improvements through \$50 million in tuition enhancements—as another golden age of KU," Eakin says. "People will say this was the tipping point. And


it was Dave. It was his idea, and he went out and sold it."

Shulenburger clearly takes pride in the program, a bold move that made more than a few in the KU family blanch. But, in typical fashion, he shifts credit to others, especially students. "My most memorable moments were in realizing just how mature students were, how much they understood what they wanted in the University and what it was going to take to get it," he says. "I have enormous respect for our students."

He chuckles as he recalls visiting accreditors' reaction to student attitudes. "They were skeptical, and they went out in the streets and could not either find or provoke outrage," he says. They found instead a solid attachment to KU, one that alumni and Jayhawk converts like Shulenburger share. Long ago, his work for KU became much more than a job.

His commitment to higher education will continue at NASULGC. In fact, with KU colleague Christine Keller, he already has written a paper on accountability in public higher education, in response to a proposal by some national critics to establish a single national test for college and university graduates. Shulenburger argues against the idea.

"We are accountable in 10,000 ways, but the problem with a single national test is that higher education is so extraordinarily diverse, and it needs to be diverse," he says. "We want to be accountable, but we don't want to do things that cause harm. It's not a fear of exposure to the public; it's a desire to protect something precious."

Back in Lawrence, Shulenburger has safeguarded 10 acres outside of town, where he used to camp with his three sons' Boy Scout troops. This year he planted his garden in clover. "It was hard to do," he says, "but I'll let it rest and get strong, so that when I come back home in three years or so, it will be ready." 



David Shulenburger

EARL RICHARDSON



Jayhawk Walk

BY HILL AND LAZZARINO

A tree grows in Marvin

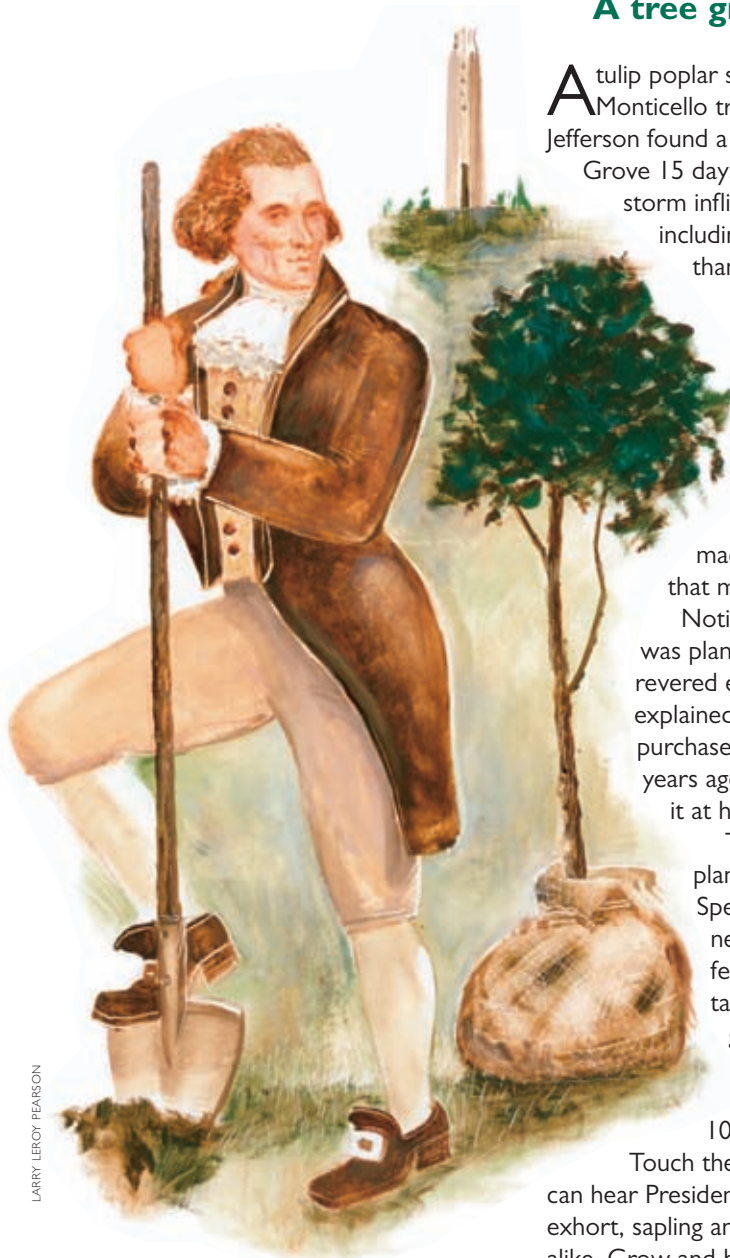
A tulip poplar sapling descended from a Monticello tree planted by Thomas Jefferson found a new home in Marvin Grove 15 days after a “microburst” storm inflicted macrodestruction, including fatal blows to more than 100 campus trees.

The donation, by Dennis Farney, j’63 g’65 a former Washington, D.C., reporter and editor for the Wall Street Journal, had been arranged long before the March storm, but the storm made Farney’s leafy gift all that much more welcome.

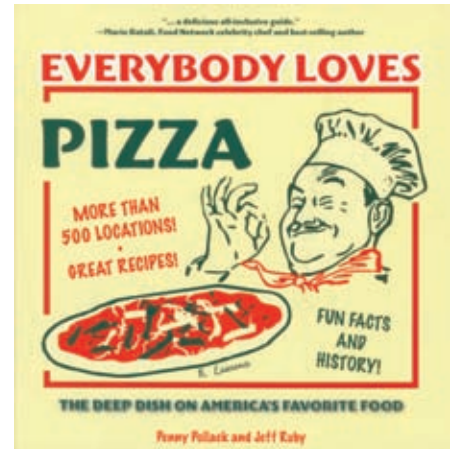
Noting that the tree’s ancestor was planted by a founder who so revered education, Farney also explained at the ceremony that he purchased the seedling about eight years ago, and has since nurtured it at his Kansas City home.

The tulip poplar was planted directly south of the Spencer Museum of Art, near Mississippi Street, a few paces from the amputated hulk of one of the grove’s beloved hardwoods, and might one day reach more than 100 feet high.

Touch the clouds, one can hear President Jefferson exhort, sapling and student alike. Grow and bring us beauty and shade.



LARRY LEROY PEARSON



Attention Pulitzer judges

The greatest book in the history of the English language was recently published by Emmis Books, of Cincinnati. The second greatest English language book also made its recent debut, from Kansas City’s Andrews McMeel Publishing.

Most astounding of all, both were written by Jayhawks.

Everybody Loves Pizza: The Deep Dish on America’s Favorite Food, by Penny Pollack and Jeff Ruby, g’98, dining editors at Chicago magazine, is quite simply (according to us and the blurbs) the best book about pizza ever written, which obviously makes it the best book ever written.

There’s history to goys in Naples sold pizza from copper drums lined with charcoal recipes (the “Rosemary Red Onion Pizza” by Oprah’s chef is first on our list); anecdotes (“Paris Hilton” was Domino’s most popular *nom-de-pie* for call-n orders in 2003 with “John Ashcroft” close behind); and rankings (the “#6 Great American Pizzerias” list includes Lawrence’s Papa Keno’s, Pyramid and Rudy’s).

Perfect to wash down all this great reading is *I Love You More than Beer: And 99 Other*



Declarations of a Guy's Adoration, by Lawrence's Rex Hamilton, '78, with his wife, Cathy, '78.

It's shaped like a beer can, so it doesn't even have to be opened to earn its place in publishing history, but read on regardless: "I love you more than beer: When I've had more of you than the law should allow, I can still drive." Or, "I love you more than James Bond movies: At the end of our chase scenes, you don't explode."

So join us, won't you, in a celebration of literary achievement. Over a pizza and beer, of course.

Soy boy

Salina freshman Ricky House is one hot tomato.

The 19-year-old theatre and journalism major was a finalist this spring in a contest sponsored by PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) at Goveg.com. He joined nine other "Soy Boys" and 10 female "Tofutti Cuties" winnowed from hundreds of entrants and presented to online voters, who were asked to "pick the 'cream' of this crop of cruelty-free hotties and crown one guy and one gal the 'Sexiest Vegetarian Alive.'"

Though he entered the contest on a whim, House's vegetarianism is more care-



fully considered. After flirting once or twice with meatlessness, he got serious a year ago, taking a moral stand based on his devotion to peaceful leaders like Ghandi and the Dalai Lama.

"I was trying to apply nonviolence to my life in every way possible," House says, "and I decided that if I was supporting the slaughter of animals, then I wasn't really walking the walk."

His Soy Boy selection drew some guff (from his KU roommates and his old high school paper in Salina, where his dietary dishiness was front page news) but he also earned attention for his cause, and, "I've had a few ladies call me up and say congratulations."

All fine with Ricky—as long as no one calls him beefcake.

Oh for art's sake ...

Brooklyn artist Steve Keene claims to have sold more than 180,000 paintings since he created his assembly-line system in 1993 and the total climbed during his February sojourn in the Kansas Union.

Pacing within an arc of easels, the artist-arse raftsmen spent long days churning out



EARL RICHARDSON (2)

odd varieties of paintings, none of which cost more than \$5

The *New Times* of Los Angeles in 2001 said the paintings were "as close to being mass produced as a human being can make it, yet handcrafted too and emitting, for reasons you don't understand, a whiff of the power of art." Lawrence muralist Dave Loewenstein, '93 wrote approvingly on his Lawrence.com blog of Keene's entrepreneurial spirit: "In the art world, it's just called survival."

And in the art purchasing world, it's just call surreal, dropping a fiver into an honor-system box and toting home a paradox of your very own: a painting that's probably not art, an original that's one of many. All for five bucks.

Come to think of it, we'll take two.

Game face

Millions filled out NCAA tournament brackets in March, but only a select few practiced bracketology like Ashely Davidson.

The former Jayhawk golfer and KC club member represented KU in the human bracket, a stunt concocted by Coca-Cola to put together life-size pairings with real fans standing in for each team. She joined representatives of the 64 other schools in the tournament for a March 13 photo shoot at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, site of this year's Final Four.

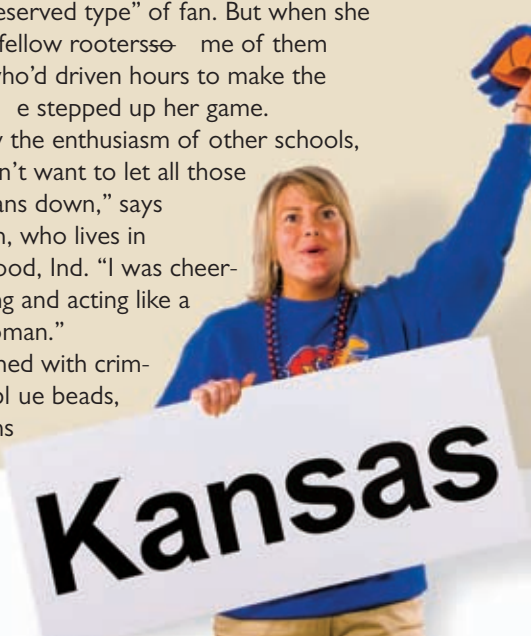
Davidson, b'01, considers herself a "quiet, reserved type" of fan. But when she met her fellow rooters—some of them alumni who'd driven hours to make the shoot—she stepped up her game.

"I saw the enthusiasm of other schools, and I didn't want to let all those Kansas fans down," says Davidson, who lives in Greenwood, Ind. "I was cheering, yelling and acting like a crazy woman."

Adorned with crimson and blue beads, pompoms

and wacky Jayhawk headwear, she put a spirited face on KU's tourney presence—and discovered the secret to maddening many Marches to come. "I think it was the hat," she says. "It really helps if nobody knows who you are."

We tip our crazy hats to you, Ashely, for doing Jayhawk Nation proud.



KEVIN FOSTER, 20/20 PHOTOGRAPHY



Hilltopics

BY STEVEN HILL

■ High winds shattered windows in the Adams Alumni Center (fig ht) stripped red roof tiles from Danforth Chapel and damaged cars across campus (opposite page) during a freak storm in March.



SUSAN YOUNGER

Modig, a'73, director of design and construction management. "To have so few people on campus when the storm came through, to have no injuries, no fires, no hazardous materials issues—we were extremely fortunate."

Weather sirens did not sound until after the winds had wreaked their destruction, and for the first few days after the frightening storm there was little agreement about what had delivered so much damage across Lawrence.

Tornadoes were ruled out, and the mysterious winds were eventually pegged as a "microburst," or a downward burst from intense storm clouds that zooms across the ground at high speeds. The 80 mph winds whipping across campus could have reached more than 100 mph at rooftop level.

Facilities and Operations employees on duty at the time of

the storm quickly began filing "spotty" reports of severe damage. Modig and his colleagues arrived on campus within an hour of the storm, and by 11 a.m. eight architects and engineers had begun surveying every structure on campus.

They continued touring buildings until 7 p.m., and by 10:30 that night they had compiled their first set of campuswide damage estimates. At the same time, Facilities and Operations crews had begun their back-breaking chores.

"We couldn't do anything without people," said Doug Riat, director of Facilities and Operations, and those people worked tirelessly in the days following the storm to restore order remarkably quickly to the chaotic campus scene.

The Monday following the storm should have been a bustling start to the hectic week before Spring Break, but instead classes were canceled—an extreme rarity outside of ice storms and heavy snow—and campus on that brilliantly clear, cool spring day was eerily quiet, except for street sweepers clearing shattered red tiles from

One wicked wind

March storm blitzes campus, canceling classes and racking up \$6 million in repairs

A "microburst" storm shattered Sunday morning calm with 80 mph winds March 12, wrecking Lawrence homes and downtown businesses and damaging 60 percent of the buildings on Mount Oread. But for Jim Modig, who was among the dozens of KU staff members scrambling to assess damage and begin the cleanup minutes after the weather passed, reminders of this storm's greater potential for tragedy were hard to miss:

They were embedded like daggers in the walls of Marvin Hall.

The sudden wind ripped a concrete roof from the Art and Design Building and flung the debris through the south windows of neighboring Marvin Hall, blasting glass shards into classrooms and architectural design studios, where they remained impaled in plaster.

"We couldn't have been more lucky," says



Jayhawk Boulevard and occasional roars from distant chainsaws and wood chippers.

The serene scene at first hinted that perhaps campus had escaped the worst of the winds. But a walk down Jayhawk Boulevard immediately proved some fears true.

Heavy roof tiles atop Danforth Chapel, a building already in need of extensive renovations, were ripped out or damaged in huge swaths, forcing couples to find new sites for summer weddings. Broken windows dotted exterior walls of buildings from the Adams Alumni Center to Marvin Hall; awnings, trees and green roof tiles at The Outlook were heavily damaged. Rooftop air-handling units were toppled and, at Templin Hall, chucked many stories to the ground below; yellow caution tape encircled entryways beneath ominously damaged roofs; and, perhaps most frightening of all, a car parked behind Blake Hall, likely belonging to a student residing in a nearby scholarship hall, was utterly flattened by a thick tree that had snapped in two.

“We are thankful,” Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway said in a campuswide e-mail, “for just how lucky we were, and we realize how much worse it could have been.”

By April, the federal government granted Gov. Kathleen Sebelius’ request for disaster funding, setting the stage for a campus visit by FEMA. As *Kansas Alumni* neared press time, temporary repairs were holding up “fairly well,” according to Modig—“It’s day by day and storm by storm,” he said—and University officials were estimating total storm costs at more than \$6 million. Late additions to the casualty list were four Memorial Stadium light towers found to be cracked by the wind. Replacement costs for the two most severely damaged poles could top \$50,000.

Federal funds and insurance payouts are

Preliminary damage estimates

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Robinson Gymnasium | \$500,000 |
| Dyche Hall | \$500,000 |
| Art & Design Building | \$400,000 |
| Fraser Hall | \$350,000 |
| GSP Hall | \$250,000 |
| Computer Center | \$225,000 |
| Templin Hall | \$110,000 |
| The Outlook | \$100,000 |
| Danforth Chapel | \$40,000 |

expected to cover all but about \$1 million to \$1.5 million, according to Modig. How the state and University cover that total remains, in Modig’s words, “the magic question.” A requested appropriation to cover storm costs found no traction in Topeka during the 2006 legislative session.

It may be months before all boarded windows and roof tarps disappear from Mount Oread. Administrators must meet the demands of three different types of insurance policies, negotiate FEMA rules and observe state purchasing guide-



CHRIS LAZZARINO

“We couldn’t have been more lucky. To have so few people on campus when the storm came through—we were extremely fortunate.”

— Jim Modig

lines. For National Historic Register buildings like Bailey and Dyche halls, the Kansas Historic Preservation Office also must sign off on all repairs. The University has received assurances from most of these groups that they’ll expedite the approval process, but clearly the road to full recovery will be long.

Not to be overlooked is the fact that KU, like other Board of Regents campuses, struggled with severe maintenance and repair shortfalls even before the storm.

“We already were living on the edge,” Modig says. “By the time we go through all of these reviews and approvals, by the time we get these projects designed and on the street, it would not surprise me if it’s a year to 18 months before we get back to 100 percent. But it’s my hope that we can do better than that.”

Until then, campus visitors may be seeing a lot of signs like the one that greeted members of the Class of 1956 when they arrived at a battered Adams Alumni Center April 21 to celebrate their 50-year reunion: “Pardon our duct tape. Microburst damage, March 12, 2006.”

—Chris Lazzarino and Steven Hill



CHRIS LAZZARINO



Visitor

Running mate

Jack Kemp, former congressman and the vice presidential candidate on Bob Dole's 1996 presidential campaign, gave the 38th annual J.A. Vickers Sr. and Robert F. Vickers Sr. Memorial Lecture.

WHEN: March 27

WHERE: The Lied Center

SPONSOR: The Vickers family and the School of Business.

BACKGROUND: Kemp, a former NFL quarterback who represented Buffalo, N.Y., in the House of Representatives from 1971 to 1989 and served as secretary of housing and urban development in the cabinet of George



H.W. Bush, is founder and chairman of Kemp Partners, a business consulting firm, and honorary co-chairman of the Free Enterprise Fund.

ANECDOTE: An evangelist for democratic entrepreneurial capitalism, Kemp learned his first economics lesson from his father, a truck driver who founded his own company: "Truck drivers' wages are higher when they have trucks to drive," Kemp said. "You can't have labor without capital."

QUOTE: "In the past 231 years, 167 democracies have burst forth. Why? Because it is the ultimate destiny of mankind. It's the only system that

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Book recognizes Pennington as a forerunner in field

Longtime faculty member Dorothy Pennington, PhD'74, is among 11 researchers lauded in *Black Pioneers in Communication Research*.

Written by Ronald L. Jackson and Sonja M. Brown Givens, the book profiles the life and work of scholars chosen by their peers for making a significant contribution to communication studies.

Pennington attended segregated schools while growing up in rural Mississippi and entered KU's graduate program in speech communication and human relations in 1968. She joined the faculty in 1974 and is now associate professor of African and African-American Studies. Much of her research focuses on interracial communication, and she will complete her fourth book, *Case Studies in Interracial Communication*, this spring.

Pennington won the Steeples Award for service to Kansas in 1999.

CLASS CREDIT

Four undergraduates win top national scholarships

One KU student earned a Harry S. Truman Scholarship and three won Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships in national competitions this spring.

Michelle Tran, Derby junior in journalism and East European Studies,

became the 16th Jayhawk to win a Truman scholarship. The Truman awards up to \$30,000 to students preparing for leadership roles in public service. Tran, who plans a career in the foreign service, last year received a Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship and was one of two students selected to attend the Oxfam International Youth Parliament-Youth Exchange for Trade Justice in Hong Kong.

The Goldwater, the pre-eminent undergraduate award for excellence in science, engineering and mathematics, went to Daniel Hogan, Leawood junior in mathematics and physics; Andrew Olive, Lincoln, Neb., junior in microbiology; and Luis Vargas, Wichita sophomore in physics. Each receives up to \$7,500 for tuition, fees and other school expenses. Forty-one Jayhawks have received Goldwater Scholarships since the program began in 1989.

DOLE INSTITUTE

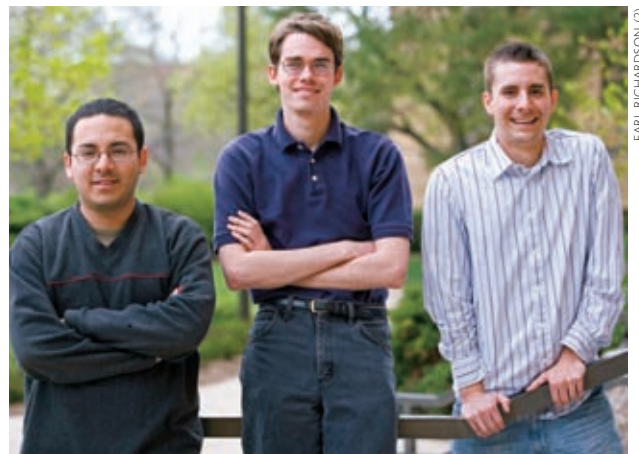
Former Senate leader gives annual Dole Lecture

Tom Daschle, the former South Dakota senator who served as minority and majority leader in the U.S. Senate from 1994 to 2005, delivered the third Dole Lecture April 10 at the Lied Center. The event was sponsored by the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics.

Thought to be testing the waters for a 2008 run for the White House, Daschle



Tran



Vargas, Hogan and Olive

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jokingly deflected a direct question about his presidential ambitions. But his speech questioned the nation's leadership, noting that a recent trip to Europe with former senator Dole, '45, illustrated the challenges America faces.

"People seemed wary and skeptical," Daschle said. "They wanted to know why America was behaving like it was."

The bungled response to Katrina in particular shocked Europeans, Daschle said, but "is accepted as the status quo by too many Americans." The U.S. ranks first in health-care costs, he noted, but 37th in the quality of its health system. "What would Americans say if in this day and age we came in 37th in the Olympics?"

Recalling his own experience as a first-generation college graduate, Daschle urged stronger support for education, saying the budget bill now in Congress dramatically slashes student loan programs but gives tax breaks to the wealthy. He told students to get involved, noting that more young people voted on TV's "American Idol" than in the 2004 presidential election. "I hope you never forget how much power you have right now," he said.

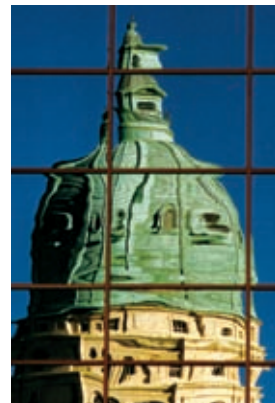
Daschle worked closely with Dole during the Kansan's last two years in the Senate and said his friend was among the first people who called him after his 2004 defeat. The two now work at the Washington lobbying and law firm of Alston & Bird.



Daschle

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **THE 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION** produced an important boost for KU when Gov. Kathleen Sebelius signed into law a proposal that allows Board of Regents universities to keep the interest earned on tuition payments. Previously that money went to the state. The change will produce an extra \$3.3 million next year for KU and \$337,000 for the Medical Center, with the funds earmarked for deferred maintenance projects. Lawmakers also set aside \$3.3 million to fund the final year of faculty salary increases promised in 1999, approved a 4 percent raise for classified state employees and a 2 percent raise for unclassified staff, boosted student financial assistance statewide by \$1.3 million, and approved \$5 million to support the KU Cancer Center. As legislators convened the wrap-up session in late April, it appeared that a Board of Regents plan to address the nearly \$600 million maintenance backlog at universities across the state will have to wait until next year.



EARL RICHARDSON

■ **SCOTT WEIR** joins the KU Cancer Center as the first director of the Office of Therapeutics, Discovery and Development. The move, designed to speed development and use of new drugs to fight cancer and other diseases, is the first of four appointments planned this year as the University prepares to seek National Cancer Institute designation for the Cancer Center.

■ **26 GRADUATE PROGRAMS** rank among the nation's top 25 for public schools according to the latest survey from U.S. News & World Report. The biggest gains were made by the School of Education, which jumped from 20th to 15th, and the School of Law, which rose from 51st to 35th. The latter marks a near recovery from 2005, when the law school dropped from 33rd to 51st. As in recent years, special education and city management and urban policy programs rank first.

■ **SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH EXPENDITURES** on the Lawrence and Medical Center campuses climbed last year to an all-time high of \$110 million. Funding in these key fields rose 8.7 percent over fiscal 2004. Research expenditures for all fields, including sponsored research, training and service grants, totaled \$281 million in fiscal 2005, a 3 percent hike.

■ **PAUL WILLHITE**, the Ross E. Forney Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, this spring achieved the highest distinction accorded his profession when he became the fourth KU professor elected to the National Academy of Engineering. The academy's 2,000-plus peer-elected members are considered among the world's most accomplished engineers.

■ **THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY** ranked third nationally in National Institutes of Health funding for fiscal 2005, drawing more than \$16 million in NIH research grants, up from \$13 million in 2004. This marks the fifth consecutive year the School of Pharmacy ranked among the top five pharmacy schools for NIH funding.

■ **THE KU WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME** inducted three members in April: two-term Kansas City mayor Kay Barnes, d'60; Seattle philanthropist Annette Shoemaker Rieger, s'67; and chair of KU's division of biological sciences Kathy Suprenant.

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Sports

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

■ When versatile thrower Sheldon Battle adds 16 inches to his current best throw, he'll be in the world-class 7-foot club.



EARLE RICHARDSON

Outdoor Championships; he was second in the event at the NCAA Championships, and this year won the Big 12 Indoor with a throw of 65 feet, 3.75 inches. He threw 65 feet, 11.75 inches at the Drake Relays, establishing the best collegiate mark of the season.

Battle confirms that shot put will be his primary event. The discus will be secondary, and he might be done with the hammer and weight throws.

“You have to go 70 feet [in the shot put] to get respect on the international level,” says KU’s first-year throws coach, Andy Kokhanovsky. “Physically, Sheldon is ready to do that. When he gains the confidence that he can throw 70 feet, he’ll do it. He is trying to find some technique, and also the confidence, and then he has to be able to take those elements and put them all together on the same day.”

Battle grew up near Buffalo, in Jamestown, N.Y. He was nimble enough in junior high school to run the 200- and 400-yard dashes, but by high school he had grown to about 220 pounds. So he began focusing on throwing events, as well as football; he was an all-state defensive end his senior year, and his team won the state championship.

Though courted by a few schools for football, Battle had his heart set on track and field, and came to Kansas for a visit a month after his graduation. But by then the track team had depleted its scholarships, so Battle returned home and attended the University of Buffalo.

“It just wasn’t a good fit,” Battle says. “They had limited funding, we weren’t going to many meets, so I left after my freshman indoor season.”

Doug Reynolds, the KU throws coach at the time, helped Battle find his way to Reynolds’ alma mater, Mesa Community College, in Arizona. There Battle blossomed, winning the 2004 Junior College National Championship in

Ready for Battle

Defending Big 12 Performer of the Year decides it’s time to narrow his focus

As a senior who dreams of a professional career and Olympic glory in track and field, Sheldon Battle grudgingly admits his “tripling” days are probably over. Never again can he repeat his remarkable feats of a year ago, including winning the Big 12 discus and hammer throw and finishing second in the shot put.

“It’s so rare that an athlete can compete at such a high level in those three events, so yes, we get greedy sometimes,” says coach Stanley Redwine. “But to help Sheldon prepare for his life after graduation, it’s time that he starts concentrating on one or two. It’s difficult to say it, because we always want those points, but we also need to help Sheldon be the best he can be.”

Exactly how good that might be, nobody yet knows.

The Big 12’s 2005 Outdoor Performer of the Year has a personal best in the shot put of 68 feet, 8.5 inches, a school record, set at the USA

both the shot put and discus. He finally became a Jayhawk in 2005, and immediately established himself as an All Big 12 and All American thrower.

Battle was slowed in fall 2005 with a series of leg-muscle injuries, and Kokhanovsky says Battle was only able to resume his serious workouts in January. Despite the late start, Battle earned yet another accolade as the NCAA's Midwest Region Men's Indoor Field Athlete of the Year.

He was fourth in the NCAA shot put with a throw of 63 feet, 4 inches, and registered 69 feet in the weight throw, good for 10th. He was the only athlete to compete in both throwing events at the indoor championships.

"Timing in the throwing events is so different," Redwine says. "Technically, the shot put, the hammer and the discus are entirely different events, so you have to prepare differently for all three."

Though he now weighs 285 pounds and stands 6-foot-2, Battle still boasts the same competitive spirit he had as a junior-high sprinter. No, he doesn't need the same type of speed inside the shot put's 7-foot circle that he had as a sprinter, but it's no coincidence that his unusual combination of skills helped

"Physically, Sheldon is ready [to throw 70 feet in the shot put]. When he gains the confidence that he can throw 70 feet, he'll do it." —Travis Johnson, Kansas coach

him become a versatile thrower.

"Being able to manipulate and move things fast is a great advantage," Battle says. "I've been honing my strength and concentration, some of the specific techniques in each of the events, but I think that I'm more about overall athleticism."



Deja BU

Cinderella again sends KU home early from big dance

Just like last year, when midmajor Bucknell University shocked the Jayhawks in the first round of the NCAA tournament, a b-school with big ambitions brought KU's 2005-'06 season to a crashing halt.

Playing once again in the final game of a long basketball day, No. 4 seed Kansas started slowly and never fully recovered, falling to No. 13 seed Bradley University, 77-73, on St. Patrick's Day at The Palace of Auburn Hills, in Michigan.

KU trailed the Braves by as many as 14. The Jayhawks rallied to cut the lead to three points several times in the final three minutes, but a series of turnovers and missed shots doomed the comeback.

Afterward, Kansas players and coaches tried to come to terms with a second consecutive season-ending upset.

"I didn't know they'd come in and shoot like that," said Brandon Rush.

The Braves hit 11 of 21 three-point shots—more than they'd made in the previous three games combined. An early indication that this was Bradley's night came at the end of the first half, when Will Franklin banked in a long three-pointer at the buzzer, sending the

Jayhawks into the locker room 10 points down, their largest halftime deficit of the year.

Coach Bill Self noted that last year's team had been hobbled by injuries, but this year's squad had no such excuse—not even youth.

"We played young all year and won," Self said, noting that the team's lack of poise surprised him.

KU started freshmen Rush, Mario Chalmers and Julian Wright and sophomores Sasha Kaun and Russell Robinson in 15 games, winning 13. Despite being picked to finish third in the Big 12, the young Jayhawks played well enough down the stretch to tie Texas for the season title, then snatched the tournament trophy by whipping the Longhorns in Dallas, 80-68. They finished the year 25-8.

The strong late-season run, during which the youngest Kansas starting five ever won 15 of 16 heading into NCAA tournament play, perhaps set up high hopes for a team that had surpassed expectations for most of the season. The better-than-predicted showing also earned Big 12 coach of the year honors for Self.

Beating expectations will be tougher next year: Big 12 Freshman of the Year Rush, widely rumored all season long to be NBA bound, will return for his sophomore season. The Jayhawks will get back all five starters and about 85 percent of their scoring and rebounding. Pundits already are projecting KU as a top-five team, with a few touting the Jayhawks as the best in the nation. Newcomers Sherron Collins, a McDonald's All-American, and Brady Morningstar, the son of former Jayhawk standout Roger Morningstar, c'75, will add even more young talent. After the disappointment

continued on page 19

JEFF JACOBSEN



■ Brandon Rush drove KU to a Big 12 tournament championship win over Texas.

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continued from page 17

of two straight first-round losses, fans will be hungry for wins come March.

Seniors Jeff Hawkins, Christian Moody and Stephen Vinson finished their careers with a record of 102-32. —Steven Hill



Fans, track stars rally 'round Relays

Near-record crowds cheer Olympic-caliber fields

No need to look to traditional track and field havens such as Europe and the West Coast. On April 22, the third and final day of the Kansas Relays, the best track meet in the world was in Memorial Stadium, and 26,211 fans turned out to show their appreciation and enthusiasm.

The event was highlighted by a 4x100-meter men's relay that featured the past two Olympic gold medalists in the glamorous 100-meter dash, Maurice Greene and Justin Gatlin. Gatlin out-sprinted his older rival in the anchor leg, leading his team to a Relays-record victory in 38.16 seconds.

Former Missouri Tiger and reigning U.S. Outdoor champion Christian Cantwell won the shot put with a meet-record throw of 70 feet, 3.75 inches, the

Updates

Senior pitcher **Serena Settlemier** is in the midst of a huge season. Through the May 3 victory over Wichita State, she had 21 home runs and a school-record 115 RBI. She was hitting .340 and her ERA was a sterling .127. Among numerous dramatic victories, the Jayhawks on April 23 beat Texas, 1-0, earning a weekend split with the second-ranked Longhorns. ... Senior closer **Don Czyz** is having a similar big year: With 10 games remaining, he led the nation with 15 saves.

Sophomore **Egor Agafonov** arrived at KU from Russia in January and immediately established himself as one of the country's best throwers. He won the Big 12 Indoor weight throw and finished second at the NCAA Championships. On April 13, he flew 10 feet past the KU record in the hammer throw with a mark of 228-6; two

weeks later he improved his record to 233 feet. ... Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway and Athletics Director Lew Perkins will meet with the NCAA's Committee on Infractions Aug. 13 in Baltimore. In July 2005 KU self-reported numerous NCAA violations in various sports. The NCAA is expected to announce its final ruling in October.



Settlemier

JEFF JACOBSEN



Czyz

JEFF JACOBSEN



Agafonov

CHRIS LAZZARINO

world-best mark of the season to date. Electrifying hurdler Bershawn "Batman" Jackson won the 400-meter hurdles in 48.34 seconds, the third-best time in the world this year. World champion Allyson Felix also set a Relays record, winning

the 100-meter dash in 11.04 seconds.

Ageless pole vaulter Pat Manson, e'91, a Pan Am Games gold medalist and two-time Big Eight champion, cleared 18 feet for the 22nd-consecutive year.

The Saturday crowd was topped only by the 30,000 who turned out in 1972 to see legendary miler Jim Ryun, j'70, prepare for the Munich Olympics.

"It was a great atmosphere," Gatlin said, "a great start to the season."

■ Fans filled the west stands to watch 2004 Olympic champ Justin Gatlin (white shoes) out-sprint 2000 Olympic champ Maurice Greene (railing) in the featured event's anchor leg. Another 2000 Olympic gold medalist at the Relays was vaulter Nick Hysong, who cleared just over 18 feet to finish second.



JEFF JACOBSEN



CHRIS LAZZARINO



■ *At Peae*



Time Traveler

BRENT LEARNED'S PALETTE ELICITS
FRESH APPRECIATION FOR PLAINS INDIANS

Brent Learned confesses that he would be most content in the time and place of his forebears, Plains Indians who roamed in nomadic freedom. The dream is possible only in his imagination, but thanks to his vibrant, creative spirit, others can share his personal journey.

“I’m painting a certain time of history, and I wish I would have lived at that time because it would have been a beautiful thing,” says Learned, f93. “I think that being a contemporary painter and using colors in an abstract way, I can pull that past up to the present.

“It’s an old theme, but I can tell it in a way that hasn’t been told before, and that is through color.”

This 21st-century storyteller who dwells in the Great Plains of centuries past recently commanded the Kansas Union gallery with his solo exhibition, “Colors Through Indian Eyes.” Sponsored by Student Union Activities, Learned’s March show included 20 new paintings, each depicting an aspect of Indian life in what became known as Kansas. He also hosted a drawing workshop for the public.

Learned’s contemporary version of traditional Native American iconography

has earned him a good deal of attention within the usually conservative circles of Western art. His work has been collected by the Smithsonian Institution, and he participates in shows at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. He travels widely for exhibitions and lectures, he is a featured artist at the prominent Blue Deer Gallery in Dallas, and his paintings hang in the Oklahoma governor’s office.



BY CHRIS LAZZARINO



His work is included in the collection of one of the country's most respected Native American museums, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis, and Learned is a regular participant in the annual Southwestern Association for Indian Arts show in Santa Fe, N.M. He also worked with renowned glass sculptor Dale Chihuly for the Oklahoma City installation of Chihuly's 55-foot-tall Eleanor Blake Kirkpatrick Memorial Tower.

Learned considers "Colors Through Indian Eyes" the best show of his career, a "complete" historic and emotional passage in which "every piece responded to the next piece well. They seemed to fit as a great puzzle."

This metaphoric puzzle continued assembling itself even after the show had been completed and displayed. As part of his March 11 drawing workshop,

Learned led participants through his fourth-floor exhibition. During the tour, he shares many legends and customs of the Plains Indians, and explains that his close study of history authenticates the customs portrayed in his art.

"The Plains Indians represent a romantic period," Learned says. "They did things in season. If not, if they were out of sync with the natural order of the seasons and the ways of their people, then they would bring bad medicine, bad luck, to the tribe."

He points out that in "What Next," which depicts a family's funeral vigil, the dead man's possessions—including lance, shield and horse—are carefully assembled around the enshrouded body. Next to "What Next" hangs "Standing Man," in which a warrior displays lance and shield—the same red and yellow shield, in fact, as in the funeral scene.

A student remarks on the similarity

and asks whether "What Next" depicts the death of the armed warrior in "Standing Man."

Learned pauses, apparently startled by an insight into his paintings that even he had not intended.

"Honestly, I never realized they were the same," he says. "So yes, maybe they are the same shield, and maybe that is the same man. Just because that wasn't my intention doesn't mean that's not the story these paintings are telling."



Before he became a storyteller, Brent Learned was a story listener. He listened as his late mother, Juanita, for many years the Cheyenne-Arapaho chairwoman, told him about her own mother and grandmother and the stories they passed to her. His father,

John, c'60, d'60, f'60, is a sculptor and painter who grew up in Lawrence and went on to become a teacher and artist in Oklahoma City, where Brent was reared and still lives.

Brent's grandfather Robert was a member of the Class of 1921; his great-uncle Albert, e'10, g'30, was the first Learned at KU, and great-uncle Stanley, e'24, g'36, was president of Phillips Petroleum and namesake of the School of Engineering's Learned Hall. Learned's Lawrence heritage even reaches as far back as the first band of abolitionist settlers to arrive from Massachusetts, and another in the family tree was a Civil War veteran and rancher who sold his farm to make room for the institution we now know as Haskell Indian Nations University.

Learned says his father, a U.S. Marine and veteran of the Korean War, had predicted since he was a boy that he would marry a Native American woman. John Learned met Juanita Howling Buffalo, then a member of the Women's Army Corps and a Haskell alumna, during a tour with his Marine basketball team, and he immediately told a friend that he had just met his future wife.

During leaves and long weekends, the



■ "I'm Not Talking" (q bove) "Blue Buffalo" (e ft) "Buffalo Hunt" (p pposite page) and "At Peace" (p r eceding spread) depict many aspects of Learned's style, including raw action, the vitality of animals, human/animal interaction, vivid and unusual colors, and non-representational backgrounds. Also evident is the respect Learned feels for Native American lives on the Great Plains.

elder Learned hitchhiked across the country to carry on an interracial courtship that was rare for its era.

“I had the best of both worlds,” Brent Learned says. “I learned to appreciate both heritages.”

Learned notes that just as scores of World War II veterans are lost each day, so, too, are generations of older Native Americans. And with them goes another catalog of stories and traditions that can’t be replicated. “Once it’s dead,” Learned says, “it’s over.”

Learned says his paintings play multiple roles: His palette appeals to those who claim they don’t otherwise enjoy Western art; aficionados of conventional Western art tell him they appreciate the way he’s “doing something new” with the genre they already adore; and even those who are indifferent to Indian heritage might find a place to hang one of his bold paintings.

“From the art perspective, what it is beyond everything else is contemporary,” Learned says. “It’s something that can go into a modern home and the first thing you think is, ‘Wow, that’s really cool, abstract.’ The subject matter is secondary.”

But not for Learned. For him, his art will always be about handing down the

stories that cling to such uncertain destinies—a mission he never felt as strongly as he did a year and a half ago, when he began sketching his ideas for “Colors Through Indian Eyes” by contemplating the lives, families and ambitions that played out long ago on the Great Plains.

“A lot of people, especially younger generations, they don’t really appreciate the hardships their ancestors have gone through to get them to where they are now. They take it for granted.

“I’m a big believer in history. I was always taught that you have to learn where you came from in life to know where you are going in life. A big part of me is the past, because that is my future.”

Honoring the native flame his mother sparked with family tales handed down from generations past, Learned asked an aunt to bestow upon him an Arapaho name. Because Juanita Learned’s family name was Howling Buffalo, her son became Buffalo Bull Howling. He now signs his paintings with the Arapaho translation, Haa-Naa-Jaa-Ne-Doa.

“Mom was big into these stories, and we can see with his painting that Brent was listening,” says one of Learned’s nine siblings, older brother Johnny, c’76. “Brent is a true Plains Indian.”

It is impossible to avoid the immediacy of Learned’s work—colorful, contemporary versions of iconic Indian and Western visages.

“The tendency is to treat Western art in traditional Western style; give people what they want to see,” says artist Joel Cooper, f92, a classmate of Learned’s who works in Watson Library. “For Brent, the subject matter is taken for granted. It’s who he is. So for him it’s about the style, the bright colors, the visual tension.”

After Learned guided him through the exhibition with a private discussion of the concepts and techniques behind each of the paintings, Cooper said, “It’s still fundamentally Brent, but he’s gotten more sensitive in relationships of colors. And he’s loosened up a bit. He’s showing much more confidence.”

Learned’s trademark remains his use of color. He intends to “rework the wheel,” in reference to the standardized “color wheel” that traditionally defined harmonious hues: “I like to use colors that you wouldn’t normally associate with one another, such as blacks and pinks, red and browns ... two colors that are so opposite of one another but seem to gel just right.”

Longtime fans of Learned’s paintings might notice that while foreground subjects are in some ways more realistic and representational (except, of course, for the coloring), his backgrounds are now abstract acres where Learned manipulates spatial proportions and the viewer’s imagination. Even horizon lines have morphed into abstractions that still place the subject within a physical and

■ “What Next” (6 ft) shows a dead man’s possessions assembled for use in the next life. Learned hints at only slivers of emotive human faces, instead conveying the somber mood with composition and color. Note especially the paired black horizon lines that weigh so heavily on the earthly scene and, through the gloom, the shrouded form’s otherworldly luminance.





spatial context, yet do so without overtly influencing the viewer's eye.

Which is, in a way, Learned's ultimate intention: help an imaginative mind wander without explicit visual direction. The point of his artwork isn't the images, or even the colors; it's all about the visual and imaginative meanderings Learned hopes they inspire.

"We live in a time now," Learned says, "where we all carry with us the same question all day long: 'Can I get everything done on time?' To me, that's not really living."

During the show's reception, Learned's nephew Chase Jackson, a high school junior from Oklahoma City, says, "A more solid skin tone might not be as

interesting as the things Brent does with colors. This is more alive. He captures the action with his colors."

Jackson is particularly drawn to two pieces: "Buffalo Hunt," a whorl of motion and mass," and "At Peace," a serene scene of horse and rider that conveys its narrative less directly. To Jackson, the Indian gazing into the big, empty sky is a sad man.

"You want to figure out the story that can tell you why they are feeling that way," Jackson says. "Like when you read a good book, you can read more into it. You can find out what it means to you."

Again the puzzle pieces, freed from their creator's restraint, reassemble themselves according to the viewer's



■ Learned and his nephew Chase Jackson (above) discuss the action portrayed in "Buffalo Hunt." Learned says he considers "Young Cheyenne" (left) his finest work in the show; of particular note is the warrior's feathered headdress, vividly portrayed in a confident flourish of color and form.

palette. Learned says he did not intend the horseman in "At Peace" to be sad; he is, to Learned's eye, blissfully at peace with his place and time in the world. The fleeting, bittersweet moment portrayed is, for the artist, sad only because it can never happen again.

"I hope to depict an aura of the person or the image or the object that I'm painting, and I want to express that through color," Learned says. "Depending on how well you use color, your eye wants to travel around. Something draws you in and wants to take you all over the canvas before it lets you go. Then if it really speaks to you, you want to go back into it."

"That's when the viewer discovers things that were not hidden, by any means, but nonetheless, they find hidden messages that speak only to them."

The old stories, alive again with the creative spirits of teller and listener, never to die or end. —

On the Web:

More of Learned's art, as well as art by his brother Matt, f88, can be seen at buffalobullhowling.com.



Every January, the Kansas Geological Survey, based here at KU, sends a crew out to central and western Kansas to measure groundwater levels, mainly to check on declines in the well-known Ogallala aquifer. Most years I try to go along and measure wells. I'm not sure why. If the weather is cold or wet, it can be pretty miserable work.

Some things have to be seen to be understood, and measuring water wells, most of them used for irrigation, helps me understand western Kansas.

Seeing all the cotton stacked in fields in southwestern Kansas shows me how farming has changed out there. Visiting with landowners helps me learn what they're up against. I talked to one northwestern Kansas farmer who could recite the dates and amounts of every rainfall on his place for the past two years.

But there's more to this trip than numbers and the weather. Nearly every day brings moments of austere beauty. Like watching the moon rise over the steep-sided, yucca-dotted canyons up by the Nebraska line north of Goodland. Like seeing a herd of antelope still bedded down in the morning in a field out by the Colorado border.

It isn't always pretty. At a well east of Colby I found a possum tail sticking out of a pipe. I pulled him out. He'd been dead a while. The smell was one of those you could taste. It didn't taste good.



BY REX BUCHANAN



Trouble on Tap

WATER WOES REMIND KANSANS WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

The results of this year's measurements show that groundwater levels declined an average of about half a foot in central and western Kansas, much more in some places. That's about the same as last year, and part of a decades-long trend of declines that can't go on forever.

Water is a big issue throughout Kansas, but especially out west, where it has allowed people to grow corn to feed cattle to butcher at packing plants, one of the state's biggest industries. Our dependence on groundwater, and these declines, is a serious and complex issue, one we've tried to address as a state, but haven't solved. As water grows scarcer, it will determine who lives out west and what they do for a living. That, in turn, will affect the economy, and the culture, for everybody in the state.

I don't know the solution to our water issues. And there probably isn't any one solution, but lots of smaller things, like growing cotton, which takes less water than corn, or more dryland farming and conservation measures. But one important step is understanding both ends of the state and realizing that what happens in one end of Kansas has a pretty big impact on the other.

This year, on a Saturday morning north of Ulysses, I was listening to Bob and Max call the KU-Kentucky basketball game on the radio. I pulled up to a well during a time-out, and Max read a sentence or two about KU serving Kansas by measuring water levels every year. And here I was, with seven other Survey staff members—David Laflen; Brett Bennett, e'82; Joe Anderson; Brett Engard, c'01; Brett Wedel; Nicolette Proudfoot; and Brownie Wilson—doing just that.

Now, I know that Max was reading some canned text. But for a minute, I felt like somebody back in eastern Kansas actually cared about what we were doing, that they understood how important it was. Like we were one state and not some random near-rectangular piece of land. Not eastern Kansas, not western Kansas. But Kansas.

It felt pretty good. 

—Buchanan is a science writer and associate director for public outreach at Kansas Geological Survey on KU's West Campus. He also is a commentator for Kansas Public Radio, which originally broadcast this essay in April.





ALUMNI AND FACULTY HOST A SUMMER INSTITUTE TO GIVE TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS A SOUND FOUNDATION

BY JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

Photographs by Earl Richardson

Scott McBride Smith's parents just knew he would grow up to be an attorney like his grandfather. So for several years they ignored their son's persistent pleas for piano lessons. His sisters had learned to play, but Mom and Dad had other plans for their only son.

"I had to do quite a bit of pushing and cajoling to get them convinced," he says. "It took until I was 13."

Despite the delay, Smith, g'76, quickly made up for lost time. After lessons in his native Seattle, he studied in New York City. There he met KU music professor Stan Shumway, who convinced him to choose KU for his master's study.

Master Classes

He later earned his doctorate from the University of Southern California, where he shared the Outstanding Graduate in Piano award.

After teaching at USC and as a private instructor in Los Angeles, Smith realized that the national music realm lacked an important rung of instruction.

“I saw a greater need for excellence in pre-college teaching,” he says. “In the United States, anyone can identify themselves as a music teacher, and many people who do it aren’t really qualified. You wouldn’t hire a psychologist or any kind of professional without inquiring into their training, but many people do that with music teachers.”

Smith tried sending his promising students to the renowned Aspen and Tanglewood festivals in Colorado and Massachusetts, but he found the festival formats lacked the structure teenagers needed—and their parents often wanted.

So in 1991, Smith created the International Institute for Young Musicians (IIYM). In 1997, he brought IIYM to Lawrence, where students 11 to 18 gather every July at his alma mater for instruction in piano, flute and cello at the Summer Music Academies. This summer, about 120 students from the United States, Canada, China and Australia will visit the Hill for study with faculty from KU and other schools, including the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and The Juilliard School of New York City. Fourteen students, chosen from their audition tapes as semifinalists, will perform July 2-3 at the Lied Center in the IIYM International Piano Competition, a favorite summer ritual for Lawrence’s loyal music patrons.

IIYM’s early years didn’t include the competition. Smith says he resisted the idea to protect the institute’s camaraderie. But he finally relented, adding the contest to increase public interest. “Let’s face it, this is a sports-dominated society,” he says. “People like to think in terms of winners and losers.”

Jack Winerock, KU professor of piano and IIYM artistic director, says the timing of the competition helps maintain the friendly, collaborative spirit among the students. “Our primary focus is education, and that’s why our competition is very early and very short,” he says. “After the competition, the students are interested in new music or reviewing their work to get new ideas. After the competition, everyone is the same.”



Charlie Albright first hoisted himself onto a piano bench when he was 3. To his mother’s amazement, he played a simple tune that he had only heard. By the time he was 7, the small boy had performed concerts in his hometown of Centralia, Wash., and Seattle and had gained media attention. His parents introduced him to local teacher Nancy Adsit, a former concert pianist who had studied at Juilliard.

“He was cute as a bug’s ear at the piano, but he couldn’t read music,” she recalls. “I told his parents, ‘I teach only

what’s written on the page.’”

If he could learn to read music, Adsit counseled, many doors could open for him, but she also warned his parents that some students who started playing by ear so young couldn’t make the transition to reading the notes.

Charlie had no trouble. He has thrived under the tutelage of Adsit, a jovial, grandmotherly woman who easily hugs strangers. After their 10 years of collaboration, his keen eyes and ears, flying fingers and musician’s heart, along with Adsit’s expertise and encouragement, have combined to create an astounding performer.

In summer 2005, when he was 16, Charlie traveled to KU for the IIYM institute. Two days into his stay, the shy high-school student already had made



■ Smith says Lawrence and KU offer an ideal environment for IIYM students such as Charlie Albright (e ft above) “When I was a student here, it was always a charming town, but it has gotten even better. People retire here because of the quality of life, and they’re interested in being involved. It has made a really nice arts oasis.”



■ Charlie (left) and Amir (above) added their autographs to the Hieberts' Steinway book. The inspiration for the ILYM board began after a concert in their home about four years ago, when Bernie Nordling, f'49, raised his hand and asked, "Is there a foundation for ILYM?" David replied, "No, Bernie, but I think you and I should start one."

friends. When the judges named him the competition winner, his fellow finalists celebrated with him on-stage, to the delight of the audience.

Lawrence fans applauded Charlie again last month, when he returned to perform April 30 at the Lawrence Arts Center. Each spring the ILYM board brings the previous year's winner back to Lawrence for a return engagement as prelude to the summer institute. Now a high-school junior, Charlie's manners are as impeccable as his talent. He smiles and offers polite one- or two-word answers in conversation and, if seated at the piano, he alternates his words with quick flourishes on the keys. A 4.0 student, he takes classes at his hometown community college and ponders an eventual double major in piano and medicine, perhaps at Yale. He loves Tabasco and is rarely without his digital camera. He took 1,600 photos on a school trip to the East Coast.

Charlie chose a Beethoven sonata and etudes by Chopin for his program, along

with a haunting lesser-known work, "In the Street," a lament from a sonata by Czech composer Leos Janacek. As Charlie dropped his hands and the music's spell released him, an audience member murmured in awe, "There is an old soul in a young body."



Charlie shared billing at his April concert with another ILYM alumnus and winner of a coveted national prize: Amir Khosrowpour, f'04. As a KU student, Amir won the 2002 Collegiate Artist Performance Competition sponsored by the Music Teachers National Association. With the honor came a Steinway grand piano. Like Charlie, Amir spent much of his childhood practicing. At age 7, his father brought him to Scott McBride Smith's front door, declaring that his son seemed to have some talent. "I can still remember him, standing there in his shorts and soccer shirt," Smith recalls.

Master patrons

Though ILYM's year-round address is in Los Angeles, home of founder Scott McBride Smith, the address of its foundation is in Lawrence, a few blocks from the KU campus, at the home of David, m'61, and Gunda Hiebert. The two are part of a 12-member board that helps support and organize ILYM activities each year.

Outside their home, a carved Buddha and Japanese garden greet visitors. Inside, elegant Asian decor and art from worldwide travels surround the home's centerpiece, a gorgeous Steinway grand piano that signifies the Hieberts' abiding hospitality and patronage of young artists, especially KU students.

During his Lawrence visit in April, Charlie Albright, like countless other musicians, stayed with the Hieberts and practiced on their piano. The Hieberts reg-

“In some ways he’s still that young boy,” he adds, describing his longtime student’s irrepressible humor. Amir’s gift for gab enlivens his performance, and he delights in sharing the story of each piece, even playing snippets to prepare listeners for what they will hear. “All performers have to be educators; it’s an

essential ingredient,” says Winerock, who met Amir years ago at the IIYM summer session and convinced him to choose KU.

At the Lawrence Arts Center, Amir sports a saucer-sized yellow Gerbera daisy as a boutonniere. He chats on-stage with Smith, explaining that he’ll finish his master’s degree in May at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. He has passed the auditions and other requirements to enroll in the school’s doctoral program: “I had to take a few tests, you know, sit-ups, push-ups, running, that sort of thing,” he teases.

Before leaving Amir to finish his performance, Smith warns him not to dally: “The hall closes at midnight.” Amir finishes two hours early, after mesmerizing the audience with his performance of pieces by Alvin Curran and César Franck, prefaced by engaging explanations of each work’s intricacies.

Winerock exults the next morning: “Charlie played just beautifully. I love to hear the

kids mature; I haven’t heard him play in a year. And it’s always wonderful to hear Amir after he was my student for five years.”

Fellow teacher Smith promises that the evening has been only a glimpse of what’s to come this summer, when IIYM returns to Lawrence. “Something magical happens when you gather 100 of the world’s finest young musicians in one spot,” he says. “I always chuckle when our kids are asked the question, ‘So, what do you do for fun?’

“This is what they do for fun.”

The International Institute for Young Musicians will present its competition semi-finalists July 2 and the finalists July 3 at the Lied Center. Throughout July, all students will perform daily recitals at the Lied Center and the Swarthout Recital Hall in Murphy Hall. The Hall Center for the Humanities and the Lawrence Arts Center also will host IIYM events. For a complete schedule, visit iiym.com.



ularly open their home to visiting artists, faculty members and other guests of the School of Fine Arts.

And, on 390 occasions and counting, they have transformed their home into a concert space, inviting several dozen friends and fellow music lovers to hear students perform. For the young pianists and other musicians, most of whom are graduate students, the concerts are a rare opportunity to “try out” their performance techniques for a small audience before they present their formal recitals Murphy Hall’s Swarthout Recital Hall. And for the lucky listeners, evenings at the Hieberts’ offer a hint of KU’s musical treasures. “No one understands the wealth of talent we have here, right under our noses,” says Gunda, an Oberlin and Yale graduate with a fervent passion for her adopted university.

The format from concert to concert remains much the same, adding to the warmth and comfort. During concert

number 333, for example, the Hieberts welcomed Maya Tuylieva, a senior from Turkmenistan, who came to KU with their encouragement. When Tuylieva finished her performance with Liszt’s “Hungarian Rhapsody #2,” Dave said, “Maya, you enchant our audience with your performance, and you honor Gunda and me with your presence.”

Then, in the Hiebert tradition, he handed the young pianist a copy of the 1953 Steinway 100th anniversary commemorative book, a cherished gift from his sister that includes printed autographs of the world-famous “Steinway artists.” When the Hieberts began their own concert series nearly 10 years ago, David explained, they began their own addendum of signatures, asking every musician who performed in their home



to autograph the annual. The ritual is precious to the hosts and to the performers, who by signing enter a KU musical family.

This spring, as the Hieberts passed their 390th concert, the columns of signatures have stretched into a second Steinway volume. Among them are the names of Charlie Albright and Amir Khosrow-pour, the performers in the “Two Winners” concert the Hieberts helped stage to promote IIYM.

Midway through the concert, Dave Hiebert beams proudly. He boasts of Charlie and Amir as he does so many artists he and Gunda have championed; all are part of his extended family:

“Isn’t it just amazing what young people can do?”

True West

A determined rancher strives to protect small-town life and the land she loves

Beneath a blazing sun and a brilliant blue sky, Sue Anschutz-Rodgers rides the range of her beloved Crystal River Ranch in western Colorado. On her horse, Snip, a red bandanna tucked beneath her cowboy hat, she urges a few of her

1,700 cattle to pick up the pace. Her piercing whistle alone would do the trick, but just to be sure, she gently orders: “Let’s go, let’s go, girls.”

The moment, typical of her days on the ranch, appears in “The West Living On,” a video tribute to Anschutz-Rodgers that first aired in January, when she was named Citizen of the West, a prestigious award of the National Western Stock Show that recognizes a leader who helps preserve the heritage and values of the American West. Anschutz-Rodgers, d’55, is the first solo female rancher selected for the honor.

“The video just captures Sue,” says her friend Gayle Prior. “She’s got a piece of straw in her mouth, she’s counting cattle, she’s paying attention to every detail. She’s grounded in reality and down to earth.

“And she looks beautiful on a horse.”

But Anschutz-Rodgers more than looks the part of a rancher. She is, in her own words, “one with the land.”

“The land” for her carries vast meaning, stretching from her territory—the Roaring Fork Valley outside Carbondale, Colo.—to the farthest corners of the state, and around the world to the wilds of Africa.

The phrase also encompasses her commitment to ranching, protecting animals and natural resources, studying archaeology—and pursuing her other full-time career as president and executive director of the Anschutz Family Foundation. Since its creation in 1982, the foundation has provided nearly 5,000 grants totaling more than \$25 million to educational, arts, health and social-service organizations; 50 percent of the annual grants go to agencies that help sustain small towns throughout rural Colorado. This woman of many passions says simply, “I have this insatiable quest to learn more.”

Her search began in Russell, Kan., where her parents, Fred, ’33, and Marian Pfister Anschutz, encouraged Sue and her brother, Philip, b’61, to take risks but always show respect and integrity. Her father, whose sense of adventure led to success in oil exploration, real estate and ranching, moved the family from Russell to Hays to Wichita as his business



PHOTO BY LARKIN

expanded through a four-state region. He purchased the Crystal River Ranch in 1966. In 1982, he and his wife, whom Anschutz-Rodgers describes as “a remarkable woman, soft-spoken and very much a lady,” created the foundation.

Anschutz-Rodgers began her career as a teacher, after her mother vetoed her first plan to study for a master’s in French history at the Sorbonne. “I announced my idea one weekend when I was home from KU,” she recalls. “At the time I didn’t speak one word of French, but that didn’t faze me. Mother asked, ‘What are you going to do with that degree?’ She was of the generation that felt young ladies shouldn’t be traveling around Europe on their own.”

The teacher soon became a mother to three daughters. When they left for KU in the early 1980s, Anschutz-Rodgers began phase two of her life, taking over the ranch and the foundation. Her decisions were neither nostalgic gestures nor midlife dalliances. She meant business.

First, she set out to learn all she could about ranching. In 20 years, she has doubled the acreage of the Crystal River spread, learned the science of cattle breeding, and championed water conservation and eco-irrigation, investing in a self-propelled water system that uses no electricity or hydrocarbon fuel. Her conservation efforts extend to her leadership on the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust, comprising 120 landowners who have protected 220,000 precious acres from development.

Anschutz-Rodgers is most proud of the fact that she has “kept the ranch as a

ranch.” She vows that it will continue, knowing that’s no easy enterprise. “You don’t just get on a horse and ride off into the sunset,” she says. “You’ve got to think about water issues, hay production and cattle breeding if you’re going to have a good herd.

You’ve got to clean the barns and do a lot of rather unglamorous things, plus you have to look beyond the daily needs of the cattle to run the ranch like a true business.”

As she mastered ranching, she also immersed herself in philanthropy, not merely by writing checks but by getting to know small

Colorado agencies that do good work. In the early 1990s, she helped create Rural Philanthropy Days, a semiannual sojourn by big-city funders to remote areas of the state, where they learn about the daily lives and needs of rural citizens and find ways to collaborate with local leaders. “I have learned that a \$5,000 grant in rural Colorado does as much good as \$50,000 in Denver,” she says. “A dollar goes a lot farther in these small towns, and by visiting them, you get a real feel for how things are. You can appreciate what these agencies are trying to do.” In 2005, the Anschutz Family Foundation distributed 375 grants totaling nearly \$2.1 million; most ranged from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

In the late 1990s, Anschutz-Rodgers connected with the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colo., in the southwestern “four corners” region. There she met Gayle Prior, chief operating and financial officer for the center, which sponsors research and educational programs to explore and preserve Pueblo and other ancient Indian cultures. Since 2000, Anschutz-


Rodgers has chaired the Crow Canyon board.

“One of the first things Sue did was bring some family members down here to stomp around and get a better feel for how vital the cultural resources are here,” Prior recalls. “She has this passion for archaeology, and she is so committed to conservation that Crow Canyon seemed a wonderful fit for her dreams. She just has this way of getting other people involved.”

This summer, Anschutz-Rodgers will return on safari with one of her daughters and three of her nine grandchildren to another favorite stomping ground, Samburu and the Masai Mara in Kenya. In recent years she has explored Africa with primatologist Jane Goodall and paleoanthropologist Meave Leakey; she serves on the boards of the international Jane Goodall Institute and the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy of northern Kenya.

She can’t wait to return to the place where she feels “lost in time,” she says. “There is no doubt in my mind that Africa is the origin of mankind.” She made her most recent trip 18 months ago, and as she recalls a favorite moment, her excitement returns. “We were trying to excavate a skeleton from a river bank, and there I was among the crocodiles,” she says. “I looked at every log to make sure it didn’t have eyes and a lot of teeth.”

After roughing it in Africa and ranching in Colorado, this Citizen of the West might want to revisit her travel plans of long ago, when a proper young lady didn’t venture alone to Europe.

For Sue Anschutz-Rodgers, learning French would be a cinch. 



■ Sue Anschutz-Rodgers is the 2006 Citizen of the West, an honor given by the National Western Stock Show to a leader who helps preserve the American West. Previous winners have included Sen. Alan Simpson, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White and Vice President Dick Cheney.



Association

“I think the thing that I got most out of these, is that graduates of KU love this University.”

*Rick Ginsberg,
dean of education*



COURTESY NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

■ At the Jayhawks on Wall Street Professional Society event September 8, MBA students met with School of Business alumni and toured the hectic fray of the New York Stock Exchange floor.



COURTESY NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

who share academic and work-world interests. Over the past year, more than 1,200 alumni have gathered in 17 cities from coast to coast to mingle with deans and fellow graduates at 31 receptions.

The events may begin with similar stocks of hors d'oeuvres, but each takes on a character of its own, depending on the collection of graduates. Rick Ginsberg, in his first year as dean of education, says virtually all the contacts he has made are new faces for him and the school, and he's amazed by what graduates have done with

Networking nights

KU deans connect with alumni at Professional Society receptions

For many Jayhawks, enduring campus connections take hold in the places where they spent late nights studying or scrambling to finish a project—a studio in Marvin Hall, a lab in Learned, or the newsroom in Stauffer-Flint. Mindful of the fact that many KU grads remain close to academic schools that granted their degrees and shaped their careers, the Alumni Association collaborates with deans to host Professional Society receptions for alumni

their degrees. One education grad is now the CEO of a data analysis company. Another specializes in personal training for golfers and even picked up a few new clients at the event. At receptions, Ginsberg has watched a brand-new graduate make friends with a 40-year veteran teacher and swapped stories with a Dean Smith fanatic. “I think the thing that I got most out of these, is that graduates of KU love this University,” he says.

Stuart Bell, dean of engineering, also began hosting receptions when he started at KU. During his four-year tenure, he, too, has been encouraged by the results. Along with professional connections, Bell has witnessed dozens of impromptu reunions between classmates, old roommates and friends. He invites alumni to “come out and not only see the folks from KU, but also the folks from your city.”

The professional society program this year included six schools and one department. Leaders from the schools of journalism, education, engineering, business, and graduate and international studies as well as the department of geology traveled with Alumni Association staff members to visit alumni on their home turf, providing opportunities for Jayhawks to network professionally, make friends and learn about the latest research and developments within their schools.

Diana Carlin, d’72, g’74, dean of grad-

uate and international studies, says alumni contact has been important for her school. “Through sharing their experiences at KU, they help us provide a better experience for our current international students,” she says. Along with her receptions in the states, she also hosts alumni receptions abroad.

Danny Lewis, d’05, the Alumni Association’s coordinator for alumni programs, works with the deans to plan and host the events. Lewis, who is finishing his first year with the program, is pleased with the progress. “It’s a win-win situation for us,” he says. “Our contacts with the schools are strong, and it’s essential that we support the

University’s educational mission.”

Lewis hopes to involve more deans next year. Talks have begun with the schools of law and pharmacy and the department of geography. For the 2006-’07 academic year, he expects to host another 30 to 40 receptions.

Bell will be at many of those gatherings. He added two new stops this year and will add more locations next year. To all alumni, he adds, “Hope to see you soon in a town near you.”

—Rachel Nyp

Professional Society events are free of charge. To find an event near you or for more information, visit www.kualumni.org.

Judy Ruedlinger Scholarship



Recipients of the Student Alumni Association’s annual Judy Ruedlinger Scholarship Rare Derek Klaus, Wichita senior in journalism; Mark Filipi, Lyons sophomore in computer engineering; and Erin Vernon, Wichita senior in psychology and journalism. The \$250 scholarship rewards students for their University and SAA leadership. It honors Ruedlinger, the former Alumni Association staff member who helped found the student organization in 1987 and served as its first adviser.



■ School of Engineering graduates (top) mingled in a Seattle restaurant in April and School of Education graduates (above) gathered in the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., for a March reception.

KU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STAFF

COURTESY WASHINGTON D.C. CHAPTER

COURTESY MARK FILIPI



■ Ted Ice, c'56, l'61, (above) received his Gold Medal pin from Chancellor Hemenway at the Saturday afternoon pinning luncheon. During a campus bus tour, classmates got a private peek inside Allen Field House, which opened during their junior year.

Birds of a feather

Alumni flock to reunions on Gold Medal Weekend

Betty Lou Watson Swift and Pat Pierson Dowers remember well their first look at Allen Field House. They won't soon forget their most recent.

Returning to the Hill April 21 and 22 for festivities honoring the 50-year anniversary class and Gold Medal Club, Swift, '56, and Dowers, d'56, recalled their excitement in 1955, when, as KU cheerleaders, they helped dedicate the house that Phog built.

"We led actual cheers that the crowd joined in," Dowers recalled. "We didn't do all the acrobatics back then."

Added Swift with a laugh, "You know, I'm still not doing them."

Spirits were high as the Class of 1956 toured campus on a dazzling spring Friday. Stopping at the new Booth Family Hall of Athletics, they marveled at the Field House's sparkling new look while sharing a private moment on the court. Back on the bus they joked that

Mount Oread's hills are as big as they remembered and the trees—those still standing after a ferocious March wind-storm—are even bigger. As they rolled past Strong Hall a cheer went up for Elden Tefft's Jayhawk, the class's senior gift to KU. Before the weekend was over, each received a miniature replica of the sculpture by Tefft, f'49, g'50, commissioned by class president Al Frame, c'56, l'62, and reunion committee chair Don Johnston, b'56, l'66.

Saturday's events provided more opportunities for renewing friendships and rekindling memories.

At the Gold Medal Brunch, alumni who received their pins at reunions past enjoyed a bracing musical welcome from pianist Polly Roth Bales, '42, and the KU Pep Band. They heard from campus leaders such as Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway and Association President Kevin Corbett, c'88.


"KU is an elite university because of alumni like you," Corbett told them. "It is important for us to say thank you

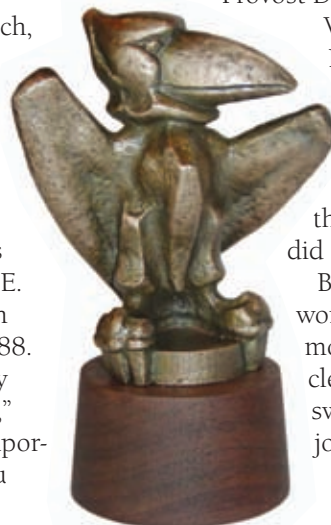
and that we will not fail to ensure your hard work is preserved for future generations of Jayhawks. We will not fail you."

At the pinning luncheon, the Jayhawk Network's Bob Newton, j'70, read citations for more than 100 alumni as Hemenway and his wife, Leah, and Corbett handed out pins initiating into the Gold Medal Club a class that includes three Fred Ellsworth Medallion recipients and four DSC winners.

"I don't know what happened in '56, but this is an extraordinary class," Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost David Shulenburg said.

When the Gold Medal Brunch participants rose and joined in once more to sing the Alma Mater, led by Bales and the band, these Jayhawks of more than a half-century's standing did not sing alone.

Behind them, the student workers who'd hustled all morning to deliver food and clear tables could be seen swaying arm in arm as they joined in, too. 





■ Returning alumni gathered at the Adams Alumni Center and were joined by Big Jay at the Gold Medal Brunch. Association President Kevin Corbett and Jill Bolamperti Corbett visited with Bob Creighton at the Friday night reception. Class members received a replica of the Jayhawk sculpture that stands in front of Strong Hall the year it was their gift to KU 50 years ago.



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Sr VP for Alumni Programs

Heath Peterson, d'04
Director of Kansas Chapter
Development

Jill Simpson, d'01
Director of National Chapter
Development

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Associate Editor,
Kansas Alumni magazine

Jennifer Sanner, j'81
Sr VP for Communications
and Corporate Secretary

Susan Younger, f'91
Creative Director

FINANCE

Dwight Parman
Sr VP for Finance and Human
Resources and Treasurer

INTERNET SERVICES

Mike Wellman, c'86
Director of Internet Services
and Special Projects

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Bryan Greve
Sr VP for Membership

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Services

Stefanie Shackelford
Vice President for Records

SPECIAL EVENTS

Janice Cordry
Director of Reunion
Programs

Lora Stoppel
Vice President for
Special Events



Class Notes

BY KAREN GOODELL

1932

Ward Cole, g'32, m'36, will celebrate his 98th birthday in August. He lives in Wellington.

1941

Elias Burstein, g'41, co-edited *Contemporary Concepts in Condensed Matter Sciences*, which was published recently. He lives in Narbeth, Pa.

Howard Engleman, b'41, l'48, former KU basketball player, recently was named to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame. He and **Mary Dodge Engleman**, '42, make their home in Salina.

1942

Esther Cassity Chase, n'42, and **Daniel**, e'45, b'48, will celebrate their first anniversary in June. They live in Bella Vista, Ark.

Keith Martin, c'42, senior member of the Overland Park law firm of Payne & Jones, recently received the Justinian Award from the Johnson County Bar Association. He lives in Leawood.

1949

George Weber, g'49, PhD'54, wrote *Boxcar*, a novel that was published recently. He lives in Tucson, Ariz., and is a professor emeritus at Catholic University of America.

1950

Todd, j'50, and **Jeannot Barnes Seymour**, f'53, continue to make their home in Lawrence. Todd is retired president of the KU Endowment Association, and Jeannot is retired from a career with University Relations.

1952

William Hougland, b'52, former KU basketball player, was named recently to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Carolie, make their home in Lawrence.

1957

William Dixon Jr., e'57, lives in Wilmington, Del. He is former director of rotorcraft computing for Boeing.

1958

John Gardenhire, d'58, wrote *Life Lessons from My Father*, which recently was published by Xlibris Books. He lives in Maplewood, N.J.

Robert Guthrie, e'58, recently was elected to the board of Builders Mutual Insurance. He lives in Raleigh, N.C.

Larry Welch, c'58, l'61, was honored this spring by the Kansas House of Representatives for his role in the capture and conviction of serial killer Dennis Rader. He is director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and he lives in Lawrence.

1962

George Ashworth, e'62, retired earlier this year as an aeronautical engineer with Lockheed Martin. He lives in Wrightwood, Calif.

1963

Gretchen Lee Andeel, d'63, is co-founder of the Fundamental Learning Center in Topeka, and her husband, **Stanley**, c'63, is a partner in Foulston Siefkin.

Stanley Thurber, e'63, recently joined Knowledge Reservoir in Houston, where he manages and performs studies of petroleum reservoirs. He and **Alice Rector Thurber**, '65, live in Spring.

1965

Delbert Gerstenberger, c'65, g'67, directs compliance, internal audit and privacy for the Swedish Medical Center in Seattle.

1967

Connie McLain Johnson, d'67, works for Keller Williams Realty in

Albuquerque, N.M.

Roderick McCallum, c'67, PhD'70, is vice president for academic affairs at the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center in College Station.

1968

George Baldwin, c'68, is chairman and CEO of Balford Farms in Burlington, N.J. He lives in Rydal, Pa., and recently was honored with the Globe and Anchor Award for leadership and service by the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.

John Rising, d'68, is retired in Kansas City after a career with the Social Security Administration.

1969

Bobby Douglass, '69, former KU and Chicago Bears quarterback, recently was named to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame. He lives in Lake Forest, Ill.

1970

Tom Bradley Jr., c'70, is an auditor for the state of Kansas. He and **Mary Jane Logan Bradley**, d'71, live in Kansas City, where she's president of Daily Check Services.

Thomas Murray, PhD'70, recently received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. He's a professor of structural steel design at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Va.

1971

Thomas Vrabac, j'71, directs Collateral Mortgage Capital. He and **Heather Joyce Vrabac**, c'70, live in Shawnee. She's a bookkeeper with EDP Enterprises in Overland Park.

1972

Susan Jordan, j'72, g'86, practices law with the Jordan Law Firm in Los Angeles.

Madeline Victor McMenamin, f'72, is

KU Endowment Honors Watkins Society Members



KU Endowment would like to thank the following individuals for joining the Elizabeth M. Watkins Society or for adding to their existing Watkins Society gift between **July 2004 and December 2005**. The Watkins Society recognizes KU alumni and friends who have made deferred gift commitments to benefit KU. These gifts can be made through bequests, trusts or annuities, or by naming KU Endowment as the beneficiary of an IRA.

P. J. Adam, e'56, &
Barbara Mills Adam, '57

Dana K. Anderson, b'59, &
Sue Anderson

James M. Armstrong,
c'70, l'76

Merle M. Beech, c'40

Daniel B. Bentley, d'70, &
Katherine Greene, c'89

Babette A. Bernhardt

Gary P. Bond, PhD'89

Diane K. Boyle, PhD'90, &
K. A. Boyle

Irma McCollough Buchele,
c'26, & Dr. Robert Buchele

Kirby D. Clark, d'61

Dr. Elisabeth Collins

Dr. Dennis R. Dahl, c'56,
m'61, PhD'63

Terrence A. Davis, e'60

Andrew P. Debicki &
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Myrl L. Duncan, c'70

Archie R. Dykes &
Nancy Haun Dykes

Sam Evans, b'65, &
Terry H. Evans, f'68

Dorothy Feir

Jack H. Fellman, c'48, g'52,
PhD'54, & Dr. Susan F. Katz

Joe Flannery, j'72

Clinton R. Foulk, c'51

Diana Seely Frederick, c'82

Stephen Glass, '70, &
Terese A. Gorman, e'78, g'84

Anthony J. Gogel, g'69, &
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Dorothy Bolter Hall, j'61

Bill Hansen, c'68, l'71

Philip B. Hartley, e'47, b'50

Charles E. Heath, c'64, g'66, &
Kathleen M. Heath

Carol A. Hill, n'59

Christina M. Hixson

Lawrence V. Houchins

Donald A. Hunter, j'67

Shirley J. Hyde, n'48

Dr. Arnold H. Janzen, c'35, m'38, &
Ann S. Janzen

Dr. William R. Jewell &
Sheila A. Jewell

Charles W. Keller, e'45, &
Marie T. Keller

Charles E. Kimbell, b'54, &
Sharon Lynch Kimbell, d'58

Howard L. Kisling, b'52, &
Jacquelyn E. Kisling

Jo Ann Klemmer, g'63

Joseph J. Kuhlmann Jr, b'50, &
Mary McBee Kuhlmann, c'45

Dr. Robert L. Kulp, m'52, &
Arlene R. Kulp

J. Bert Ladd, e'49

Dr. Lawrence E. Lamb, m'49

Merl J. Lindburg, c'50, &
Billie J. Lindburg

Robert S. Lukenbill, e'55

Dr. Connie M. Marsh, g'72, m'75

Kenneth L. Marsi, PhD'55, &
Gertrude Irene Marsi

James W. McCalla, c'68, f'68

Dr. Pamela McCroskey, f'74, m'83

W. F. McGinnis III, c'58

Ronald L. McGregor, c'41, g'47,
PhD'54, & Dorothy Nuffer
McGregor, g'53

Charles B. McIlwaine, b'61

Kenneth H. Meidinger, b'38, &
Ethel Meidinger

Daniel F. Merriam, c'49, g'53,
PhD'61, & Annie Merriam, '62

Fred L. Morrison, c'61, &
Charlotte F. Morrison

William D. Nelligan, j'49, &
Dorothy M. Nelligan

Patricia E. Nolan, c'73, &
Richard B. Nolan Jr.

M. Lindsay Olsen, b'83, &
Kathleen Taylor Olsen, l'86

Richard S. Paegelow, c'69, g'72

Vivian J. Paegelow

Dr. Laird G. Patterson, c'63

William B. Pendleton, c'47, l'57

Dr. C. Rex Phipps, m'57, &
Nancy N. Phipps

Michael M. Pierce, c'67

Dr. Robert D. Reinecke, c'55, m'59,
& Mary J. Reinecke

Marilyn Maloney Riggs, c'46, &
Robert J. Riggs Jr.

Russell T. Rosenquist, e'39

Karl M. Ruppenthal, c'39, l'41

Shirley J. Salmon

Dr. Paul R. Schloerb &
Louise M. Schloerb

Rev. Eugene E. Schmidt, '75,
& Carol Stutz Schmidt,
d'55, g'69

Debbie Schwartz, n'80, &
Jack W. Schwartz

The Hon. Fred N. Six, c'51,
l'56, & Lilian Six, g'75, g'77

Harold L. Smith,
c'56, g'61, PhD'64

Robert L. Speer, c'64, g'69

Charles L. Stansifer

Richard R. Starr, a'50, &
Ruth L. Starr, c'48

Craig A. Stoppel, j'91, &
Lora F. Stoppel

The Hon. Deanell Reece
Tacha, c'68, & John A. Tacha

Caryl Anderson Toedter, c'36

Harvey J. Wertz, e'57, g'59, &
Joan O. Wertz

Frank J. Wewers, e'65, &
Helen Wewers, '91

E. Eugene Young, e'47

Dr. Robert B. Young Jr, c'51,
m'53, & Clarissa C. Young

Clara McGrath Youngberg,
d'37

Lynne Hodgin Zagortz, f'73

Frank S. Zilm, a'71, c'71, &
Margaret Miller Zilm

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To join your classmates in the Watkins Society or learn more about how to benefit KU through a deferred gift to KU Endowment, contact Jack Schwartz at jschwartz@kuendowment.org, or (785) 832-7327.

Class Notes

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a managing consultant with Watson Wyatt Worldwide in Santa Clara, Calif. She and her husband, **Patrick**, f'72, live in Livermore. He's principal at San Joaquin County High School.

David Weidensaul, c'72, m'75, practices rheumatology at the Arthritis and Rheumatology Clinics of Kansas in Wichita. He and **Carol McCone Weidensaul**, d'71, live in Hutchinson, where she's a medical technologist at the Hutchinson Clinic.

1973

Gregory Cott, b'73, is president and CEO of United Way of McLean County in Bloomington, Ill.

David Meredith, f'73, works as senior graphic designer at Gill Studios. He lives in Lenexa.

Mark Shockey, c'73, m'76, practices medicine at Pulmonary Internal Medicine in Salt Lake City.

Donald Zimmer, b'73, g'02, is presi-

dent of Kanza Properties in Lawrence.

1974

Efraim Shek, g'74, PhD'75, is senior vice president of NeuroMolecular Pharmaceuticals in Emeryville, Calif.

Lynn Smiley, c'74, recently became chief medical officer for Inspire Pharmaceuticals. She lives in Chapel Hill, N.C.

1975

Clark Case, j'75, g'78, is city treasurer for Winston-Salem, N.C.

Eric Meyer, j'75, directs academic affairs at the University of Illinois. He lives in Champaign.

Clay Roberts, b'75, is a partner in the Coral Gables, Fla., firm of Roberts & Durkee.

1976

Susan Calbeck, j'76, works as a communications specialist for Spirit

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Rex Niswander, c'76, practices law with Morrison & Foerster in New York City. He lives in Cos Cob, Conn.

Marsha Williams, j'76, works for Ritchie-Hallanan Real Estate in San Francisco.

1977

Todd Limbocker, c'77, works for Century 21 Judge Fite Co. in Weatherford, Texas.

Jess Plummer, c'77, practices dentistry

in El Dorado, where he and his wife, Dorothy, live with their children, Jillian, Steven, Thomas and Aaron.

1978

John Anderson, e'78, directs Technology and Management Services in Washington, D.C. He lives in Centreville, Va.

Scott Jarus, c'78, g'82, is CEO of Quester in Santa Monica, Calif.

Robert Kraft, b'78, works as an integration solutions executive for AT&T. He lives in Fresno, Calif.

Stephen Lauer, c'78, is vice chairman of pediatrics at the KU Medical Center. He lives in Prairie Village.

Albert Peoples, d'78, directs information technology at BTEC Turbines in Houston.

Margaret Scheirman, c'78, g'84, is a legal marketing copywriter with FindLaw in St. Paul, Minn. She lives in Richfield.

Michael Seck, b'78, l'82, g'82, a partner in the Overland Park firm of Fisher Patterson Saylor & Smith, lives

Profile

BY STEVEN HILL

Golf has been good to Miss Personality'

At a Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament in April, 19-year-old Paula Creamer, the tour's 2005 rookie of the year, delivered a message to Marilynn Smith.

"She said, 'I want to thank you and all the ladies who started the LPGA and made it what it is today,'" Smith recounts. "I thought that was classy."

Indeed, Creamer and the other young golfers who now earn \$1 million a year or more on the tour owe much to Smith, who in 1950 co-founded the LPGA with 12 other women and went on to win 21 LPGA titles.

At KU, Smith, '51, played in amateur tournaments because there was no women's golf team. She captured three consecutive amateur titles and won the Women's National Intercollegiate Championship in 1949.

When her father asked Phog Allen, then athletics director, if money might be available to help his daughter represent KU in the nationals, Allen reportedly answered, "It's too bad she's not a boy."

"It was just a man's sport

back then," says Smith, who left KU in 1949 to turn pro. "It was tough to make a go in the early days."

To help launch the LPGA, Smith and her fellow golfers handled many of the administrative duties themselves. They caravanned to tournaments in their own cars, once driving 1,600 miles from Spokane, Wash., to Waterloo, Iowa. When they reached a new town, she recalls, golfers would help set up the course, draw up pairings, search for a laundromat and "look for a place to get your hair done."

To generate fan interest, the women spoke to civic clubs, modeled in fashion shows and even drove golf balls from home plate to center field in major league ball parks—a particular thrill for Smith, who as a girl growing up in Wichita dreamed of some day pitching for the St. Louis Cardinals. She showed a flair for the PR work, and her media charm earned her the nickname "Miss Personality."

At 77, the nickname still fits; her enthusiasm remains high for the sport that allowed her to meet five presidents and visit every state and 36 countries. Though she no longer plays, she gives les-



■ "I've been really blessed to meet some great people," says LPGA co-founder Marilynn Smith, considered the greatest goodwill ambassador of the women's game. "That's been the joy of it, the people I've met along the way."

sons at Pebble Creek, a resort community in Goodyear, Ariz., where she lives. Her charity golf tournament, the Marilynn Smith Dallas Executive Women's Golf Association Golf Classic, raises money for college scholarships and the LPGA. She still enjoys attending tournaments, though she marvels at the changes a half-century has wrought.

"It's fun to be at the beginning of something and see it grow like it has," Smith says. "They're playing for \$50 million this year. In 1950 we played 13 tournaments for \$50,000 in total prize money. In 56 years it's just amazing what has happened."



Class Notes

in Lenexa.

Marian Washington, g'78, former KU women's basketball coach, was named recently to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame. She lives in Lawrence.

1979

Bernard McCoy, j'79, lives in Lincoln, where he's an associate professor of broadcasting at the University of Nebraska.

Bion Ostrander, b'79, is president of Ostrander Consulting in Topeka.

MARRIED

Linda Ellis, e'79, to Russ Sims, Feb. 4. They live in Houston.

1980

Michael Stucky, b'80, is vice president of manufacturing at Foxworth Galbraith in Dallas.

1981

Marvin Early, c'81, g'85, works as program manager at Cyber. He lives in Leawood.

Douglas May, c'81, is a KU professor of business. He makes his home in Lawrence.

Mario Rodriguez-Gaxiola, g'81, manages chemical processes for Kyocera. He lives in Chula Vista, Calif.

1982

Suzanne Ryse Collins, '82, photographed the Dusky Gopher frog for the December 2005 issue of *BirdConservation* magazine. Suzanne and her husband, **Joseph**, '72, make

Profile

BY CHRIS LAZZARINO

FBI agent warns students not to lose sight of ethics

Special Agent Robert Herndon admits to closely studying a news photograph of former Enron executive Andrew Fastow being escorted into a Houston jail. Herndon, one of the FBI's most decorated investigators of white-collar crime, constantly searches for insight into brilliant minds that scheme their way into handcuffs.

"Fastow's expression in that photograph was part defiance, but also, I think, an understanding of what was happening," Herndon says. "It's a lesson we see repeated over and over again: Always take the high road."

Herndon, b'85, majored in accounting at KU in hopes of joining the FBI, which he did in 1986. Trained and experienced in all aspects of FBI investigations—including bank robbery, kidnapping and foreign counterintelligence—Herndon in 1993 began focusing on nefarious business practices.

While stationed at the FBI field office in Springfield, Ill., Herndon and a fellow special agent began investigating worldwide price-fixing schemes for huge volumes of livestock feed additive. The dogged pursuit and subsequent prosecutions led to more than \$400 million in criminal and civil fines, prison sen-

tences, the book *The Informant* by Kurt Eichenwald, and, for Herndon, the Attorney General's 1997 Distinguished Service Award. Then-director Louis Freeh later wrote that Herndon's investigation was "one of the greatest examples of individual initiative and persistence I was to witness during my eight years as director."

After he was assigned to the FBI's Kansas City Division—where he was named Agent of the Year in 2004—Herndon helped investigate pharmacist Robert Courtney, who was eventually convicted of diluting chemotherapy drugs prescribed for cancer patients.

"The Courtney case took an emotional toll," Herndon says. "We had 3,500 calls to the hotline, all with a different story. Agents were in tears."

Professor Joe Reitz asked Herndon to deliver the Walter S. Sutton Ethics Lecture April 17 in the Kansas Union.

"I'm afraid students are getting the wrong picture, that everybody in business cheats," Reitz says. "We need to get the word out that not everybody cheats. Some do, and they have to wind up suffering the consequences."

Herndon told the business and pharmacy students who filled Woodruff Auditorium that honorable conduct is not difficult to achieve, but does require constant vigilance.



■ Special Agent Robert Herndon is turning from white-collar investigations to recruiting the next generation of FBI agents: "Most of the candidates have master's degrees, and some even have PhD's. They are well versed in all aspects of the financial world."

"These white-collar criminals tell me they lost their focus in life," Herndon says. "They had a single focus: money. We all need to be emphatic about what's important, and every day remind ourselves that we are going to be positive and compassionate and do everything with integrity." 🍃



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Timothy Collins, b'82, is CEO of OrganicPharmacy.org in Asheville, N.C.

1983

Deepak Ahuja, c'83, m'87, is vice president of medical management for United Healthcare in Moline, Ill. He and his wife, **Cheryl Faidley**, c'81, m'85, live in Rock Island.

Michael O'Connell, '83, works as a technical writer for Triple-I Corp. in Mission.

1984

Ben Spencer, c'84, is a management analyst at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He recently completed a deployment with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve to the Persian Gulf. Ben lives in Alexandria, Va.

1985

John Bradford Jr., c'85, is a senior district manager with Johnson & Johnson. He lives in Kenner, La., with his wife, Karen, and their children, John, James, Katherine and Elizabeth.

Scott Stewart, c'85, lives in Overland

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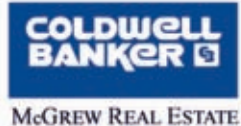
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Park. He's a partner in the printing supply Web site PrintersCloset.com.

1986

Brian Gaschen, c'86, is a staff member at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, N.M.

Jay Wieland, g'86, makes his home in Sterling, Ill., where he's city manager.

BORN TO:

Joyce Leiker Dryden, b'86, and Mark, daughter, Audrey Nicole, Jan. 18 in Overland Park, where she joins a sister, Madeline, who's nearly 2.

1987

Mary Rhodes Repine, c'87, works as an auditor for the IRS. She lives in Lenexa.

1988

Jody Dickson Becker, j'88, is associate editor at ARMA International in Lenexa. She lives in Independence, Mo.

Robery Pyatt, b'88, g'92, works as a financial analyst with MGP Ingredients in Atchison. His home is in Faucett, Mo.

K.L. Roberts, j'88, lives in Prairie Village and is a graduate teaching assistant at KU.

BORN TO:

Jane Bare, m'88, daughter, Megan Elizabeth, Feb. 2 in Tulsa, Okla., where Jane is a cardiologist.

1989

Laura Hedges Gay, c'89, g'92, directs finance for the city of Mission. She lives in Prairie Village.

Kelly Milligan, j'89, is a loan officer at CTX Mortgage Co. in Plano, Texas.

Paula Dechant Robison, j'89, manages client relations for American Express in Pasadena, Calif.

Susan Rose, j'89, is president of Two Sisters Creative in Reston, Va. Her novel, *Confessions of a Frog Kisser*, was published earlier this year.

1990

Christine Cavataio, e'90, is vice president of Leo A Daly in Washington, D.C.

Class Notes

She lives in Alexandria, Va.

Richard Drake, b'90, manages operational efficiency for Hartford Insurance in Aurora, Ill. He lives in Shorewood.

Jennifer Grace, c'90, recently became an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of South Alabama. She lives in Mobile.

David Riddle, c'90, is a sales representative for GE Healthcare Technologies in Denver. He lives in Parker.

Elaine Sung, '90, is news editor at ESPN. She lives in West Hartford, Conn.

1991

Brandon Becicka, c'91, is national account director for Fiber Tower. He lives in Southlake, Texas.

Kimberly O'Neal Hertach, b'91, works as a management information analyst at the Douglas County Sheriff's Office in Lawrence.

Thomas Osowski, s'91, is an assistant professor at South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Elizabeth Welch, j'91, is regional sales manager for Hearthstone Assisted Living in Spring, Texas.

BORN TO:

Andrew Flower, c'91, g'94, and Victoria, son, Alexander Scott, Dec. 30 in Leawood. Andrew is vice president of field operations for Dataspace.

Trisa Leibig Koberowski, j'91, and Craig, son, Cole Lee, Dec. 7 in Pottsboro, Texas, where he joins two sisters, Kayle, 10, and Chloe, 2.

1992

Christopher Evans, c'92, j'92, is college media adviser at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Fla.

Scott, j'92, g'00, and **Mendi Stauffer Hanna**, j'94, make their home in Lenexa with their sons, Cole, 5, and Carson, 1.

Martin VanDerSchouw, c'92, lives in Castle Rock, Colo. He's president and CEO of Looking Glass Development in Littleton.

Sarah Zelhart, b'92, g'94, recently became CFO of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Scottsdale, Ariz.

MARRIED

Kent Bradley, m'92, to Patricia Holmes, Oct. 15 in Grove, Okla. They live in Valley Center.

BORN TO:

Wendy Merrick Grant, j'92, and **Donald**, '98, son, Gavin Ashton, Aug. 1 in Overland Park.

DJ, e'92, and **Stacey Warner Hatton**, c'94, daughter, Hannah Leigh, Oct. 12

in Overland Park.

James Landry, b'92, and Jamie, son, Wyatt Anthony, Jan. 10 in Antioch, Tenn.

1993

Christine Brocker Bina, p'93, is a senior regulatory management officer for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She lives in Rockville, Md.

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Traci Moore Clay, j'93, teaches art at Washington University in St. Louis, where she and her husband, Stacy, make their home.

Matthew Comeau, d'93, g'95, PhD'00, is an associate professor at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark.

James Holt, c'93, c'93, is an attorney with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in New York City.

BORN TO:

Katy Regan Jennings, j'93, and **Matthew**, c'97, son, Grant, Sept. 13 in Leawood, where he joins a sister, Allyson, 3.

Aimee Brainard Schoaf, j'93, and Tom, son, Thomas William "Trey," Nov. 4 in Phoenix, where Aimee is worldwide public relations manager for Hewlett-Packard's storage works division.

1994

Mark Brown, c'94, is president of the Lodge of the Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Mo.

Lora Cohn, g'94, PhD'05, lives in Parkville, Mo., where she's an assistant professor of communication at Park University.

BORN TO:

Donald, c'94, and **Brynn Edmonds Burns**, d'95, c'95, son, Samuel Allen, Dec. 14 in Leawood.

Joseph Guerrein, c'94, and Darci, daughter, Kaci Nicole, Nov. 13 in Hanford, Calif., where she joins a sister, Kylie, 3.

Thomas, c'94, and **Amy Sutherland Volini**, c'94, son, Thomas Frederick, Jan. 19 in Mission Hills.

1995

Timothy Frenzel, c'95, directs the professional educational program at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park.

Stephen Long, PhD'95, wrote *Level Six Performance*, which was published last year by Champion Press. He lives in Colorado Springs.

Timothy Reardon, '95, is a partner in Digital Current in Kansas City.

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Class Notes

BORN TO:

John, c'95, g'04, and **Carrie Hoffmann Pepperdine**, e'96, daughter, Leah Mary, Oct. 29 in Lawrence, where she joins a brother, William, 4, and a sister, Josephine, 2.

1996

Jason Fauss, d'96, practices law in Bridgeton, Mo.

Kendra Hopkins, c'96, is a proof-reader and copyeditor for the American Hospital Association Health Forum in

Chicago.

Stephanie Rawe, b'96, is a senior financial analyst for Sprint Nextel.

Timothy Roesner, b'96, is assistant vice president at Merrill Lynch Japan Securities in Tokyo.

1997

Jennifer Finnegan, c'97, is associate veterinarian at Holt Road Pet Hospital in Indianapolis.

Eduardus Metz, g'97, works as a staff engineer for ATI Technologies. He lives

in Toronto.

Jason Sims, c'97, works as a mortgage broker account executive for American Brokers Conduit in Lisle, Ill.

BORN TO:

David Breitenstein, j'97, and Raquel, son, Justin Charles, Jan. 26 in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Matthew Copeland, d'97, g'00, g'01, and Lara, daughter, Kenli Paige, Sept. 2 in Topeka, where Matthew is dean of the English department at Washburn

Profile

BY CURT FLOWERS

Clowns and bouffon' are New York sensations

Out of costume and minus his stage character's industrial-strength facial features and enormous prosthetic backside, Eric Davis is utterly inconspicuous. Under the lights, though, and by turns slinking, prowling and stalking across the stage as his increasingly acclaimed and menacingly charming creation, "Red Bastard," Davis' eyes are the size of saucers while he spins strange stories and delivers caustic asides and assessments to any audience member who happens to spark his interest.

His attire is as absurd as his presence is imposing, and the closest modern frame of reference, in both spirit and appearance, might be a comedic villain from Dr. Seuss' dark side.

"Charm is his deception and laughter is his weapon," Davis, '98, says of the character, a "bouffon," or misshapen misfit and King of Fools that has been a theatre staple since the Middle Ages.

Although there is plenty of clowning around, there's also a distinction to be made between the buffoonery of Red Bastard and the unnamed clown Davis portrays in other well-received shows, including *The Absence of Magic* and *Homeland*.

"A bouffon is an outcast," Davis explains, "a grotesque who is very charming. He has no vulnerability, or if he does, it is faked in order to manipulate others." By contrast, the clown is vulnerable—though, as Davis is quick to point out, "that doesn't mean he's tame or nice, just that his heart and emotions are both on his sleeve."

Still, regarding his career choice, there seems to be leeway for summing it up: "I don't call myself an actor anymore," he says with a smile. "I just tell people I'm a clown."

Now in his sixth year living and performing in New York City, Davis has garnered raves from *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *Time Out NY* and *Backstage Magazine* for his shows, which also include *Red Bastard is a Star! Are You?* He's taken his act on the road a number of times, most recently to Toronto, where he performed in March. He teaches improvisation, technique and performance to students in Belgium, England and Ireland, as well as in New York, where his next course has sold out.

Eschewing steady employment for



■ Eric Davis, seen here as his unnamed clown character, also renews a medieval court staple, the "bouffon," as Red Bastard. To see Red Bastard and check Davis' performance schedule, visit www.redbastard.com.

the chance to work on his own terms, Davis recently turned down one of his profession's cooler gigs when he passed on joining the renowned troupe *Cirque du Soleil*.

"It's been a strange struggle," he says, though somehow there's a sense that it will likely soon be paying off. "But I decided this is what I wanted to do when I realized no one could make me stop."

—Flowers, j'88, is a writer and editor in New York City.



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Rural High School.

Patrick Koehler, h'97, and Bethany, daughter, Mira Bethany, June 8 in Kasson, Minn., where she joins a sister, Carlee, 3. Patrick is a respiratory therapist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Nicholas, c'97, and **Bridget Collyer Pivonka**, j'98, son, Colin Michael, Nov. 9 in Dublin, Calif. Nicholas does product development for Clorox.

1998

Amy Akers, c'98, works as a human-resources executive for Target. She lives in Garden City.

Elizabeth Brewer, e'98, works as a structural engineer for Sargent & Lundy in Chicago.

Patrick Raftery, c'98, is senior broker at Giles US Insurance Brokers in Northbrook, Ill.

1999

Tisha Armatys, d'99, coordinates student programs for the University of Southern California. She lives in Los Angeles.

Amy Gaal, b'99, is product manager



Class Notes

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for Guidant. She lives in Minneapolis, Minn.

Justin Law, b'99, works as a financial analyst for Sprint. He lives in Manhattan.

Jason Novotny, c'99, is market manager for Peoples Bank in Lawrence.

MARRIED

Amy Schmidt, c'99, to Paul Lewis, March 11. They live in Three Bridges, N.J.

2000

Jamie Tillett Easum, n'00, works as a registered nurse client service and sales representative for ATI Assessment Technologies Institute in Overland Park.

Bryce Gahagan, j'00, manages construction for Gahagan and Eddy Building in Kansas City. He recently was a candidate on NBC's "The Apprentice."

Ranae Johannsen Hampton, p'00,

and her husband, Jeremy, will celebrate their first anniversary June 11. They live in Kansas City, and she's a pharmacist at St. Luke's Hospital.

Frederick Patton, l'00, practices law at the Patton Law Office in Topeka.

John Wilson, c'00, is president of Vantage Investment Group in Irvine, Calif.

2001

Pamela Alkire, s'01, is a social worker for ReDiscover Mental Health Services in Lee's Summit, Mo.

Christine Drew, c'01, studies public administration and metropolitan planning and urban affairs at DePaul University in Chicago.

Jason Hrabe, c'01, is a mapping technician for General Electric in Kansas City.

John Kitchen, c'01, directs marketing for Willis Insurance. He lives in Walnut Creek, Calif.

Emily Liggett, d'01, lives in Chicago, where she's a philanthropy associate for the Northwestern Memorial Foundation.

Molly Motley, j'01, works as Web coordinator for Doctors Hospital. She lives in Augusta, Ga.

Kathleen Showalter, c'01, is a legislative assistant for Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

Bryan Simpson, p'01, directs corporate operations for BBC Electric in Joplin, Mo.

Khemarat Suthiwan, c'01, is a financial adviser with Prudential Financial in Englewood, Colo.

Keith, c'01, and **Sherien Yuen**, c'01, live in St. Peters, Mo., with their daughter, Layla, 1.

MARRIED

Scott Bideau, e'01, g'03, and **Shelley Prier**, n'01, Oct. 15. They live in Denver, where Scott owns a consulting firm and Shelley works at Children's Hospital.

2002

Robert Chamberlain, c'02, recently received a master's of science in forced migration from the international development department at Oxford

University. He is a Rhodes Scholar and captain in the U.S. Army and lives in England with his wife, **Kristen Brock Chamberlain**, b'04.

Emily Flatt, g'02, works as associate director of development at Penn State University in University Park, Pa.

Jerry Hammann, c'02, owns Oread Fine Finishes in Lawrence.

Robert Kelly, c'02, is a law clerk for the Mississippi Supreme Court in Jackson.

Todd Louis, g'02, does marketing with

Nortel in Overland Park.

Shanmuga Purushothaman, e'02, g'02, is a marketing manager for Microsoft in Redmond, Wash.

MARRIED

Shannon Doyle, g'02, and **Bowen Pope**, e'02, Oct. 1 in Lawrence. They live in Columbia, Md.

Ryan Edwards, b'02, g'03, and **Tai Gerhart**, b'03, Oct. 22 in Hutchinson. They live in Falls Church, Va.

Leah Kraft, b'02, l'05, and **Jeffrey**

Geurts, b'03, Oct. 22. Their home is in Olathe.

Kelsey Osbourn, b'02, to Matthew Cabrera, Oct. 8 in Tulsa, Okla. They live in Chicago.

BORN TO:

Jennifer Fuller Eaton, d'02, and **Brian**, c'03, son, Samuel Robert, Dec. 31 in Fuquay-Varina, N.C.

Ann Black Rappaport, c'02, and **Matthew**, b'04, daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, Nov. 5 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Profile

BY TOM KING

Digital artist inspires with dazzling movie magic

In the line of duty, Donny Rausch has been called upon to transplant goat legs onto a human, animate sock monkeys and weave Kansas lightning into a movie scene's skyscape.

Rausch, '00, is a digital artist—a senior compositor, in movie jargon—and his work appears, and amazes, throughout the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy, “Spider-Man 2,” “The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,” and the forthcoming “Superman Returns,” a project that held special meaning for Rausch.

“I’ve always been a Superman guy,” he laughs.

For a son of Hoyt, population 500, not yet in his 30s, to have four Academy Awards to his credit is a near-super achievement. The youngest of 12 children, all of whom are artists, Rausch early on evinced a talent for drawing. But it was the movies, specifically special effects, that captured his attention.

“Star Wars,” of course, made a big impression, but the “Superman” movies opened Rausch’s eyes: “It was the first time I truly understood what the digital-effects people were doing. After that, my course was set.”

While majoring in illustration,

Rausch worked at Sunflower Broadband, designing sets and video graphics for local commercials and 6News Lawrence. “It was a case of learning by doing with a lot of these things,” he says.

His knack for troubleshooting and a willingness to experiment—usually resulting in solutions that increased efficiency and reduced production costs—earned Rausch the respect of his manager, who recommended Rausch to a friend at Weta Digital, a special-effects house based in New Zealand and co-founded by director Peter Jackson. Jackson was then at work on “The Fellowship of the Ring,” the first in his “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. Besting 3,000 applicants, Rausch was hired as a digital artist. In 2000, he and his wife moved to Wellington, New Zealand, where they lived for nearly three years, with Rausch regularly logging 100-hour weeks.

The hard work paid off: the Weta team won the special-effects Oscar for each of the three “Ring” movies, and the trilogy rewrote box-office history.

Three weeks after returning stateside, Rausch was hired by Sony Imageworks to work on “Spider-Man 2,” for which his team picked up Rausch’s fourth special-effects Oscar.

Rausch’s advice to students, delivered in a recent campus speech, stresses diligence and persistence in



COURTESY DONNY RAUSCH

■ Special-effects artist Donny Rausch in March was a featured speaker in the department of design’s Hallmark Design Symposium, for which more than 200 students filled the Spencer Museum of Art auditorium.

both art and life.

“Keep your creative juices flowing. Try things you haven’t tried before; look at things in different ways. Seeing something in a new way is a step toward inspiration, and inspiration is magic.”

—King is a Lawrence free-lance writer.

Class Notes

2003

Chad Barnett, p'03, is a clinical pharmacist at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Jana Chester, e'03, works as a reservoir engineer with XTO Energy in Fort Worth, Texas.

Aaron Dawson, j'03, is a personal banker with Town & Country Bank in Leawood.

Brian Edwards, b'03, manages production for Hormel Foods in Wichita.

Kimberly Ilhardt, e'03, is a lighting designer for Grenald Waldron Associates in Narberth, Pa.

Lisa Kenney, f'03, works as senior graphic designer for the Golf Course Superintendents Association in Lawrence.

Amber Sharp Kissack, c'03, and her husband, **Michael**, b'03, own American Adventure Expeditions in Buena Vista, Calif.

Lauren Greer Mosimann, j'03, is an account executive with Zimmerly & Co. in Dallas.

Lesa Polzer, c'03, is a program and communications agent for BRP US. She lives in Racine, Wis.

Jared Spletstoser, g'03, PhD'05, is a postdoctoral researcher in KU's medicinal chemistry department.

BORN TO:

Nathan, b'03, and **Jennifer Kiesel Gronberg**, '03, son, Riley Nathan, Jan. 18 in Shawnee.

2004

Rosann Blackmore, h'04, is a senior program manager at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She commutes from Lawrence.

Marriah Brown, d'04, teaches in the Granite School District in West Valley City, Utah.

Corey Fenwick, e'04, works as an engineer with Boeing in Wichita.

Darren Field, b'04, is lab supervisor at Essilor Labs of America in Denver.

Evan Flett, b'04, is a senior accountant at State Street. He lives in Mission.

Kathryn Gaudreau, c'04, is an alumni services representative at Pennington & Co. in Lawrence.

Brian Kennalley, b'04, manages accounts for Xerox in Wichita.

Vonna Keomanyvong, j'04, is online evening editor for the Naples Daily News in Naples, Fla.

Kristen Klein, s'04, works as associate director of education and outreach for the national office of the Alzheimer's Association in Chicago.

Justin Mauslein, j'04, works as a senior software engineer for Netopia in Lawrence.

Brent Newcomb, b'04, is a senior analyst with ABN-AMRO. He lives in Chicago.

John Sears, p'04, manages a Walgreen's pharmacy in Mesa, Ariz.

Lauren Taylor, c'04, is a GC/MS operator for LabOne in Lenexa. She commutes from Lawrence.

2005

Kevin Augspurger, c'05, is assistant



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manager at Gamestop in Olathe.

Marion Blackburn, e'05, works as an engineer associate for the Kansas Department of Transportation in Pittsburg.

Paul Bossert, f'05, is a graphic designer for Neiman Marcus in Dallas.

Andrew Brady, g'05, manages the Mid-America Coca-Cola Bottling Water Treatment Plant in Olathe.

Megan Claus, c'05, j'05, designs catalogs for Oriental Trading Co. She lives in Omaha, Neb.

Shannon Goodwin, s'05, works as a behavioral health therapist for TFI Family Services in Wichita.

Alison Jackson, c'05, is an inside site relationship manager for Grainger in Niles, Ill.

Joel Kammeyer, b'05, works for

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

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| a | School of Architecture and Urban Design |
| 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 Allied Health |
| 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 |
| DE | Doctor of Engineering |
| DMA | Doctor of Musical Arts |
| EdD | Doctor of Education |
| PhD | Doctor of Philosophy |
| (no letter) | Former student |
| assoc. | Associate member of the Alumni Association |

Baseball Info Solutions in Bethlehem, Pa. **Michael Marion**, j'05, coordinates events for Relay Worldwide. He lives in Lake Zurich, Ill.

Melinda Mathews, a'05, is an intern architect for Klipp in Denver.

Heather McAnerney, g'05, teaches at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Shawnee.

Kelechi Nwabuisi, '05, manages Resource Home Health in Houston.

Lisa Torrez, c'05, manages children's cases for COMCARE in Wichita.

Amy Waldron, b'05, g'05, is a staff associate with KPMG in Chicago.

Amanda Williams, d'05, works as a recruiter for Med Career Advisors. She lives in Plano, Texas.

Ann Ziegelmeier, b'05, is an accountant for Ernst & Young in Charlotte, N.C.



In Memory

1920s

Irma McCollough Buchele, c'26, 100, Feb. 24 in Howard, where she was a retired teacher. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association.

1930s

James "Hap" Beymer, '36, 92, March 26 in Lakin. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Judith Beymer Rohlf, n'62; a sister; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Vera Kanode Johnson, g'30, 98, Feb. 4 in Topeka. A grandson and several nieces and nephews survive.

Lila Anderson Reifel, c'34, 95, Jan. 31 in Tallahassee, Fla. She had lived in Overland Park and taught school for 25 years. Survivors include three daughters, Norma Reifel Plumley, c'64, Nancy Reifel Swords, d'62, and Dolores Reifel Slyter, c'58; a sister; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Lawson Roberts, d'39, g'42, 88, Dec. 19 in Kansas City, where he was an educator for 34 years. He is survived by his wife, Betty Thomas Lawson, d'67; a daughter; and a granddaughter.

Alice Meyn Smart, f'39, 87, Dec. 10 in Claremont, Calif. She had lived in Lawrence for many years and is survived by her husband, Paul, '39; a daughter, MaryLynne Smart Mullins, d'69; and a granddaughter.

Nida "Mon" Maddern Steele, n'38, 88, Feb. 7 in Tucson, Ariz. She had lived in Kansas City for many years. Survivors include a son, Clarence Jr., a'67; a daughter, Lynne Steele Reynolds, '67; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Truman Williamson Jr., e'37, 92, Dec. 14 in Tulsa, Okla., where he owned T.D. Williamson Inc. and had been recognized by the Sertoma Club with its Service to Mankind award honoring his

philanthropic work. A daughter, two sons, 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren survive.

1940s

J.O. Biggs, c'48, l'50, 81, Feb. 26 in Overland Park. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Sweeney Biggs, f'46; a daughter; a son; and four grandchildren.

Charles Byers, d'48, 83, Jan. 15 in Boulder, where he was associate dean emeritus of the college of music at the University of Colorado. He is survived by his wife, Jane Zollinger Byers, f'48; two sons; two daughters; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Alma Franklin Christensen, c'40, 86, Feb. 21, 2005, in St. Francis, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by a son, David, c'69; a daughter, Andersine, c'70, g'74; and two grandchildren.

Patricia Hamilton Delano, '48, 79, March 22 in Topeka. She is survived by her husband, Jay, e'46; two sons, one of whom is Douglas, j'71; a daughter; a sister; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Jerry Ewers, c'42, b'47, 84, May 31, 2005, in Aurora, Colo. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Dinsmore Ewers, c'47; three sons; and a daughter.

Virginia Porter Fiser, '44, 83, Feb. 24 in Wichita. She is survived by her husband, Van, b'47; two sons; three sisters; two brothers, one of whom is Thomas Porter, p'51; and 11 grandchildren.

Wayne Johnson, e'48, 84, Feb. 12 in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. He was retired assistant to the president and chief environmental engineer at Kansas City Power and Light. Survivors include his wife, Marguerite; two sons, Steven, b'67, and Jerry, e'78; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

H.E. "Gene" Jones, l'49, 82, Feb. 19 in Wichita, where he was principal attorney with Hershberger, Patterson, Jones and

Roth and former assistant city attorney. He is survived by his wife, Anne Ashley Jones, c'49; four daughters, three of whom are Sarah Jones Jervis, d'74, Emily Jones Jones, c'77, and Melissa Jones Smith, h'87; a son, Cahill, j'83; a brother, Jerome, c'50, l'52; and 14 grandchildren.

Clinton Kanaga Jr., c'42, 85, Dec. 11 in Kansas City, where he was former vice president of Haas & Wilkerson. He is survived by his wife, Nina Green Kanaga, c'48; a daughter, Carolyn, f'77; two sons, one of whom is William, b'80; a brother, William, e'47; a sister, Mary Kanaga Warren, c'39; and four grandchildren.

Donald Lysaught, c'48, l'49, 82, Feb. 9 in Kansas City, where he practiced law with Higgins, Lysaught, Tomasic & Lynch. He is survived by his wife, Jeen; two sons, Donald Jr., c'73, l'76, and Jeffrey, c'77; four daughters, three of whom are Debby Lysaught Schloegel, j'75, Vicki Lysaught Marshall, j'80, and Wendy Lysaught Paradise, '80; a brother, Jerome, c'54, g'54; 18 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Billy McDonald, b'48, e'50, 79, Feb. 14 in Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Mary Hoffman McDonald, c'47; a daughter; and two sons, one of whom is John, f'76.

William Mitchell, c'48, 81, March 18 in Hutchinson, where he practiced law. He also served in the Kansas House of Representatives and had chaired the Kansas Corporation Commission. Surviving are his wife, Norma; two daughters, Mollie, j'83, d'85, and Derenda Mitchell Valerius, c'80; and four grandchildren.

Dallas Pittenger, d'48, 80, March 17 in Topeka, where he was retired first vice president with Capitol Federal Savings. He is survived by his wife, Mary Scidmore Pittenger, '45; two sons, one of whom is Dallas II, '79; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Constance Hensley Nolte, j'77; and a brother;

and eight grandchildren.

Norton Ritter, m'42, 87, March 4 in Loma Linda, Calif., where he was a physician. He is survived by his wife, Lois, two sons, a daughter, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

1950s

Charles Dorsch, c'57, 74, Jan. 1 in Newberg, Ore. Two daughters and three granddaughters survive.

Patricia Grady Embree, '54, 72, Oct. 13 in Colby. Her husband, Max, c'53, survives.

Richard Erickson, c'54, l'57, 72, March 4 in Leewood, where he practiced law. He is survived by his wife, Georgia Gibson Erickson, c'59; four sons, three of whom are Neal, c'88, m'92, Marc, l'94, and Kent, l'90; a daughter; a sister, Marilyn Erickson Williams, d'59; and 13 grandchildren.

Elsie Coppock Heinrich, b'58, s'68, 94, March 18 in LaCrosse. She is survived by a daughter, Laura Willan Johnson, c'58; two brothers; seven grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Sally Miller Heinz, n'57, 71, Oct. 11 in Houston. She is survived by her husband, Lowell, '58; a daughter; two sons; a sister, Verda Miller Shields, n'43; and seven grandchildren.

Donald Menchetti, c'53, m'57, 73, March 2, 2005, in Springfield, Mo., where he practiced medicine. He is survived by his wife, Joan Greef Menchetti, f'53; two daughters, Leslie, m'94, and Melinda, f'81; a son; and four grandchildren.

Gary Owen, c'59, m'63, 69, March 14 in Lawrence, where he practiced obstetrics and gynecology. He is survived by his wife, Carol Freeman Owen, c'61; a son, Daniel, c'87, l'90; two daughters, one of whom is Cisley Owen Thummel, c'95; and six grandchildren.

Charles Schleicher, l'55, March 13 in Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Jane; three daughters, one of whom is Anne, s'94; four sons; and 17 grandchildren.

Gretchen Guinn Smith, j5 6, 71, Jan. 20 in Lemon Grove, Calif. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Mark,

c'81; and four grandchildren.

Paul Strand, b'51, 78, March 2 in Leavenworth. He was former vice president of Universal Underwriters in Kansas City. Surviving are his wife, Betty Boling Strand, c'50; three daughters; and a grandson.

Gerald Stutz, p'50, 77, Feb. 9 in Aurora, Colo., where he was a retired pharmacist. He is survived by his wife, Beulah Ward Stutz, c'50; two sons; a daughter; and six grandchildren.

Ralph Warren, c'51, m'55, 76, Feb. 13 in Denver, where he was a psychiatrist and a lawyer. He is survived by his wife, Hanna McDowell Warren, c'53; a son; three daughters; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

Jean Stoneman Wonder, f'53, 74, Dec. 25 in Greenbrae, Calif., where she was an artist. Survivors include her husband, Roy, b'50; two sons; two daughters; three stepdaughters; a stepson; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

1960s

Hans Brisch, g'67, PhD'70, 66, March 6 in Edmond, where he was retired Oklahoma chancellor for higher education. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Gatton Brisch, g'68; a son, Matthew, j'90; two daughters, one of whom is Ellen, PhD'96; a sister, Gisela Brisch Bridge, assoc.; and a grandson.

William Carter, c'67, 61, Nov. 6 in Broken Arrow, Okla. He is survived by his wife, Linda, two daughters and four grandchildren.

Louis Geiler, e'61, g'63, 66, Jan. 27 in Omaha. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Jeanine Tiemeier Geiler, c'60; two daughters; two sons; and two grandchildren.

Carol Lathrop Knupp, j6 4, 63, Feb. 15 in DeSoto, where she was a retired reporter and editor. She is survived by her husband, Larry, j'75; a son, Justin, j'99; a brother; and two grandchildren.

1970s

Paul Sandburg, e'77, 51, Feb. 8 in Olathe. He lived in Paola, where he taught math at Paola High School after a

career in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife, Carol Wright Sandburg, '78; a son, Paul Jr., c'05; a daughter, Christine, '05; his parents; and a brother, Mark, '80.

1980s

Karen Hearn Suman, d'85, 44, March 6 in Windsor, Colo. She is survived by her husband, Paul; a son; a daughter; and two sisters, Stephanie, j'85, and Daphne, b'87.

The University Community

James "Steve" Ashe, 58, Dec. 27 in Kansas City. He lived in Lawrence, where he was chief curator of entomology at the KU Museum of Natural History and Biodiversity Research Center. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Aagje; a son; and his mother and stepfather, Gene Puckett, '55.

Bill Barr, g'61, 82, March 20 in Lawrence, where he directed the KU Space Technology Center and was a professor of mechanical engineering. He is survived by his wife, Martha Bell Barr, '63; a son, William, c'73, l'76; two daughters, one of whom is Deborah, f'73; five brothers; a sister; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Leo Cooper, c'51, m'53, 90, Feb. 28 in Prairie Village. He was an associate professor of family practice at KU Medical Center and had a practice in obstetrics and internal medicine. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Haughawout Cooper, '52; two sons, Michael, c'66, m'70, and David, c'68; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Betty Lemert Sheafor, n'58, 70, Feb. 3 in Topeka. She taught public health nursing at KU Medical Center and is survived by her husband, Douglas, c'56, m'60; two sons, Bram, c'83, and Nathan, '85; and a daughter, Alison Sheafor-Joy, f'91.

John Willingham, 86, Feb. 1 in Lawrence, where he was a retired professor of English. He is survived by a son, John, c'70; a daughter, Amy Willingham Schultz, h'82; and six grandchildren.



Rock Chalk Review

■ Professor Barbara Timmermann assumes leadership of the latest \$10 million NIH grant to help cancer researchers across the state join forces.



EARL RICHARDSON

Second helpings

Renewed COBRE grant enlists young faculty and unites Kansas universities in cancer fight

When KU put together an interdisciplinary team of biologists, chemists, biochemists, pharmacologists and other scientists to tackle cancer research in 2001, Gunda Georg, University Distinguished Professor of medicinal chemistry, noted the approach was “not all that common” at the time. The project was funded by a five-year, \$10 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence grant from the National Institutes of Health, and it united researchers from universities across the state by adopting a familiar premise: The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Earlier this year, the NIH awarded KU a second \$10 million COBRE grant to extend the project another five years. The idea is still “very unique,” says new project leader Barbara Timmermann, who took over the grant after Georg announced that she will take a job this fall at the University of Minnesota.

And the premise is still the same. “When you put people together from different disciplines and from different universities across the state, you get a synergy that you cannot get otherwise,” says Timmermann, University Distinguished Professor of medicinal chemistry and department chair. “Everybody feeds off everybody else.”

Timmermann guides a team of researchers from KU, the KU Medical Center, Kansas State University, Wichita State University and Emporia State University in a search for cancer-fighting drugs. The project not only encourages cooperation between schools, but also matches young faculty members with senior faculty mentors.

“It’s extremely important to pair a new faculty member with senior faculty because we are not taught in graduate school about what we have to go through” in academe, Timmermann says. Young faculty members usually must learn on their own how to manage time, become better teachers and write successful grant proposals.

“It’s a lot of trial and error; it’s not easy,” Timmermann says. “But if you have a faculty member who can guide you, who can critique your proposal, that’s very important.”

Grant writing workshops are built into the COBRE project, and the results have been impressive, according to Timmermann. She’s seen two or three faculty members land NIH funding with proposals honed in the workshop.

“These are people one or two years into a career, which is remarkable. I have not seen this any other place.”

In this way, one NIH grant is used to produce more NIH grants, the kind of leveraging that creates more chances for KU researchers to explore new ways to fight cancer. That “bench to bed” connection, after all, is what cancer research is all about.

“The core of the research is geared toward drug discovery,” Timmermann says, noting that

the ultimate goal is to transform laboratory findings into new drugs that help cancer patients. “You have to have that connection between the lab and the clinic through the development of new drugs.” In that regard, the COBRE project is seen as a key part of KU’s drive to establish a National Cancer Institute Designated Center at KUMC.

“The center, once it is established, will have a mission of developing new drugs,” Timmermann says. “It will have that capability of translating research from bench to bed. The COBRE project is one of the main components that the cancer center can count on.”

—Steven Hill



Power of ponds

A first-ever tally points to ponds as hidden soil trap

Farm ponds might seem unlikely culprits for continental-scale alterations in soil erosion, but taken together—as a team of scientists recently did, for the first time—the ponds dramatically influence drainage patterns.

Robert Buddemeier, senior scientist at KU’s Kansas Geological Survey, and Jeremy Bartley, c’00, a KGS geographic information systems specialist, teamed with colleagues William Renwick, of Ohio University, and Stephen Smith, of Mexico’s Center for Scientific Investigation, to estimate that at least 2.6 million small ponds (and perhaps as many as 8 or 9 million) dot the continental United States. About 20 percent of continental runoff passes through small ponds, and the ponds capture and retain 25 percent of all eroded soil.

Colleagues who honored the paper’s authors with an award for research excellence described those numbers as “a shocking new observation.”

Among other possible far-reaching implications for the findings, formulas used to predict the amount of carbon

released into the atmosphere might finally be trusted.

Before this study, which was published in the journal *Geomorphology*, a chasm had formed between carbon estimates and actual measurements. Research that accounts for huge amounts of eroded soil trapped in previously unconsidered impoundments helps balance the books for global atmospheric predictions, because soil stored under water can’t release carbon into the atmosphere at the same rate as when exposed to air.

“This may not be the whole story,” Buddemeier says, “but we think this is a good-sized chunk.”

Bartley used satellite data more than a decade old to estimate the total number of American farm ponds, and he hopes to run the numbers again with more sophisticated imagery. Closer inspection would reveal many more ponds (hence the huge estimated range), yet the KU researchers are confident that estimates of the ponds’ total surface area would not change dramatically.

“Before these ponds were built, much of that sediment was deposited in river valleys,” Bartley says. “Now it goes into

these small impoundments, changing the nature of sedimentation and drainage in this country.”

The paper won the 2006 Gilbert Award for Excellence in Geomorphic Research. In their citation, judges wrote, “[They] asked a simple and profoundly geographic question—‘Where do sediments go?’—and came up with an unexpected answer.”

—Chris Lazzarino



OREAD READER

Friday night fight

Gritty novel traces fallout of teen violence, adult inertia

Casey Fielder negotiates life’s troubled waters with an employee manual instead of a moral compass.

The manager of a chain restaurant in a fading small town in Pennsylvania, Fielder thrives in a highly regimented world where the petty crises and small dramas of his teenage underlings are eas-



■ Bartley and Buddemeier

EARL RICHARDSON

Rock Chalk Review



■ *Aftermath*

By Brian Shawver

Nan A. Talese/
Doubleday,

\$23.95

ily managed by strict adherence to the corporate handbook.

Aftermath, the second novel from Brian Shawver, c'96, explores what happens after several boys from rival high schools (one rich and one poor) fight outside the restaurant, leaving one boy severely brain damaged and Fielder's moral shortcomings harshly exposed.

When word gets out that he did nothing to stop the fight, Fielder is blamed for the boy's injury. There are mitigating factors—a dead phone line, an explicit forewarning from the owners of the already troubled franchise that police involvement should be avoided—and he focuses on these while trying to uncover a conspiracy that he mistakenly feels would absolve him of responsibility.

The injured boy's mother, Lea Chase, launches her own investigation to learn why her son, Colin, attracted violence. While Fielder is a familiar literary type (dissatisfied with his life but too paralyzed to change it, overwhelmed by a harsh world but too self-deluded to see his own flaws), Lea is more fully drawn. Rather than portray a grieving mother, Shawver creates a complex woman whose reaction to losing a son she gave up on long ago is more like guilt than grief. She chases down Colin's secrets to understand his cruelty, not absolve it. It's no great shock when she discovers that "the more she looked into his life, the more she would begin to understand that Colin most likely received exactly

what he had coming to him."

Among the big questions Shawver raises—Are we obligated to act? Is the sin of omission sometimes worse than the sin of commission?—there lurks one more modest: Can a book populated entirely by unlikable characters be a pleasure to read?

The rudderless Fielder, his cruel girlfriend, the greedy restaurateurs, the deceitful teenagers both rich and poor—even the frozen, rust-belt community of Breed's Township, which Shawver brings credibly if unspectacularly to life—are hard to love.

Surprisingly, it's Colin—the callous, narcissistic, drug-dealing rich kid who broke the hearts of high school girls from both sides of town—who proves most sympathetic in the end. Left with the cognitive ability of a 4-year-old, Colin loves Lea like a child, reawakening a pro-

tective mothering instinct she thought long dead.

Lea's investigation uncovers signs that before the fight her son had at last found love, but in the gritty world of *Aftermath*, with its dark look at teenage disaffection and class warfare, even this revelation is a downer.

"She had learned his secrets and put him to rest," she thinks, having accepted the idea that her son is a lost cause. "But she hadn't expected to learn anything about Colin that would give new dimensions to the tragedy of his brain damage. She hadn't expected to discover that there had been hope for him."

This realization causes a deeper grief: Lea understands that she has lost not only "the son she had been unable to love," but also "the one that might have become better."

The question of likability is ultimately

'C.S.A.' rises again

Eight years after he began writing the screenplay, Kevin Willmott, assistant professor of theatre and film, has brought "The C.S.A." to the big screen.

The satirical film that poses as a British TV documentary on the Confederate States of America supposes that the South won the Civil War and that slavery thrives in the 21st century. The movie had its national premiere Feb. 15 in New York City and opened nationwide on 80 screens through February and March.

"The C.S.A." is also finding an audience in other countries. It enjoyed a five-month run in Spain last year and will open later this year in Canada, the United Kingdom and Portugal.

"This was a complicated film to make," says Willmott, who also directed. "I needed time to think about it, and I'm glad I took the time. But I'm hoping things move a little faster for me now."

He plans to begin shooting this summer on a movie tentatively called "The Battle of Bunker Hill."

"It's about what happens when a small town thinks there has been a terrorist attack," Willmott says. He's also raising money for a film about Wilt Chamberlain's KU days and his role in desegregating Lawrence.

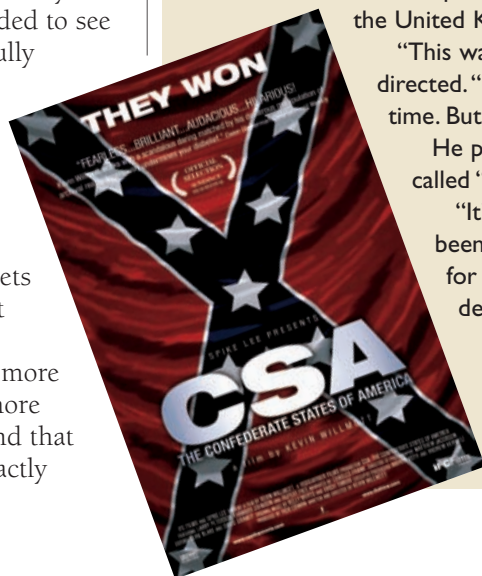
Look for "The C.S.A." to be released on video and DVD later this year. 🍀

—Steven Hill



Willmott

COURTESY KEVIN WILLMOTT



a question of taste. Readers who find topics of casual teen sex, substance abuse, upper-class elitism and blue-collar futility unseemly won't like *Aftermath*. Others may see value in the unsavory characters Shawver creates and the unflinching way he looks them squarely in the eye. "Like us or not," these flawed creatures say, "here we are."

—Steven Hill



Maya revelations

Archaeologist reveals rituals at famous San Bartolo site

San Bartolo, an ancient Maya ritual site in northeastern Guatemala, made news recently for the breathtaking mural uncovered there by the site's discoverer, William Saturno. Among his many assistants at the site is KU Fulbright Scholar Jessica Craig, g'05, who is in the final stages of her doctoral research on religion and ritual behavior at San Bartolo.

At the dense jungle site now famous for its incomparable murals, Craig opted to focus her research on the unlikeliest of details: heaps of "midden," or various forms of refuse, which she found clustered around a stone monument. Craig's reconstruction of the site and the events it hosted suggests that the "trash"—including pottery shards and ash—was actually the remnants of offerings left by ordinary Maya citizens, who probably did not have access to the more sacred areas within the nearby pyramid.

"It's a shrine in the way we think of a shrine, probably being visited on a daily and weekly basis, a sacred space for an everyday person," Craig says. "This is a new concept."

Craig, a native New Yorker, studied Iroquois sites while an undergraduate at New York's Binghamton University. While later living in Austin, Texas, and mingling with graduate students and faculty at the UT archaeology program, Craig discovered her passion for Maya



COURTESY JESSICA CRAIG

■ Jessica Craig at the San Bartolo site, where her discoveries have led her to form new theories about everyday ritual for ordinary Maya of 2,000 years ago.

civilization. That led her to KU, where her graduate adviser is Associate Professor John Hoopes, an authority on Central American anthropology.

Just months after she arrived on the Hill, in November 2001, Hoopes told Craig about a call being put out for graduate assistants by Saturno, a Harvard and University of New Hampshire professor and researcher whom Hoopes had once taught. Saturno had stumbled upon a most remarkable Maya site in a little-traveled section of Guatemalan jungle, called San Bartolo, and needed help immediately.

Craig made her first trip to the site in May 2002, spending five weeks digging in the jungle followed by two months of lab work in Antigua, a haven for tourists and students in the mountains outside Guatemala City.

"The first season was a boot camp," she says. "It also was a bonding experience, because there were 15 of us. Last year, there were more than 100."

Craig's fourth excursion to Guatemala, in 2005, lasted 10 months, thanks to the Fulbright grant. She also was able to make the trip with her husband, singer/songwriter Adam Stokes. Among other adventures, Craig and Stokes helped rescue Guatemalans

trapped by mudslides caused by Hurricane Stan. About 400 people were killed by the mud.

"We formed assembly lines," she recalls of mud that was thigh-high inside homes, "and used garden hoses to move the mud."

Because no artifacts can leave Guatemala, Craig hopes to return early this summer to conduct chemical tests in her Antigua laboratory. She will be looking for conclusive evidence that will tell her whether the pottery shards she unearthed at the stone monument might have been made near San Bartolo or whether the site was also visited by distant travelers, perhaps even after San Bartolo had been abandoned.

"Six million Maya still live in Guatemala," she says. "It is still very much a thriving culture, although so much of their history is lost. They had hundreds of books, and Spanish priests burned all but three."

"The Maya tended to celebrate the beginnings and ends of things. By studying religion and rituals, we hope to connect what is happening now with what might have been happening in the ancient past."

—Chris Lazzarino



Oread Encore

BY STEVEN HILL

EARL RICHARDSON (2)



■ “It’s my life’s work; it’s a passion,” says Harry Shaffer, who has taught economics at KU since 1956.

Wild about Harry

After 50 years, econ professor is still teaching and still earning his students’ admiration

Harry Shaffer talks for a living. He is a professor of economics, the so-called “dismal science,” but more accurately he is a teller of stories.

A delightful sprite of a man with lively green eyes and a whisper of white beard, Shaffer, at 86, talks in a faltering rasp that still carries the strong, cosmopolitan accent of his boyhood home, Vienna, Austria. It was there, when people asked what he wanted to do with his life, that Harry Shaffer answered, “Talk.”

So he talks: of deflationary gaps and multiplier effects and the limitations of a barter econ-

omy. In a big lecture hall with 500 students potentially distracted by cell phones and crossword puzzles and gorgeous spring weather, he talks—as he has done for 58 years, 50 at KU—of fish hooks and quarts of milk and human nature.

The students listen, and learn. Judging by the class evaluations Shaffer eagerly shares, they laugh not a little along the way.

“Harry should be chancellor,” opines one student. “I want to be like Harry when I grow up,” raves another. They’ve even formed an online fan club at Facebook.com, “Harry Shaffer Is the Man,” at last count 594 Jayhawks strong. It is KU’s only faculty fan club, its namesake notes with pride.

His students think he’s cute—they want to hug him and kiss him and introduce him to grandma—but that doesn’t fully explain their regard. They say Econ 104, a survey course for nonmajors, has made them better people and they never want it to end. Ten, 20, even 40 years after it *has* ended, they walk up to this self-described “peacenik”—in restaurants and on airplanes—and tell him that he inspired a career, that he changed a life.

And so Harry will keep telling his stories, “as long as my voice holds out.” In 1990, at 70, he faced down mandatory retirement by offering to teach for free. Instead, he hired on as an adjunct, at a fraction of his former pay.

Economists would call that a dismal deal. Harry Shaffer calls it a life, and a sweet one at that.



■ Shaffer confers with sophomore Lindsey Cable before class, which meets in Budig Hall’s Bricker Auditorium.



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