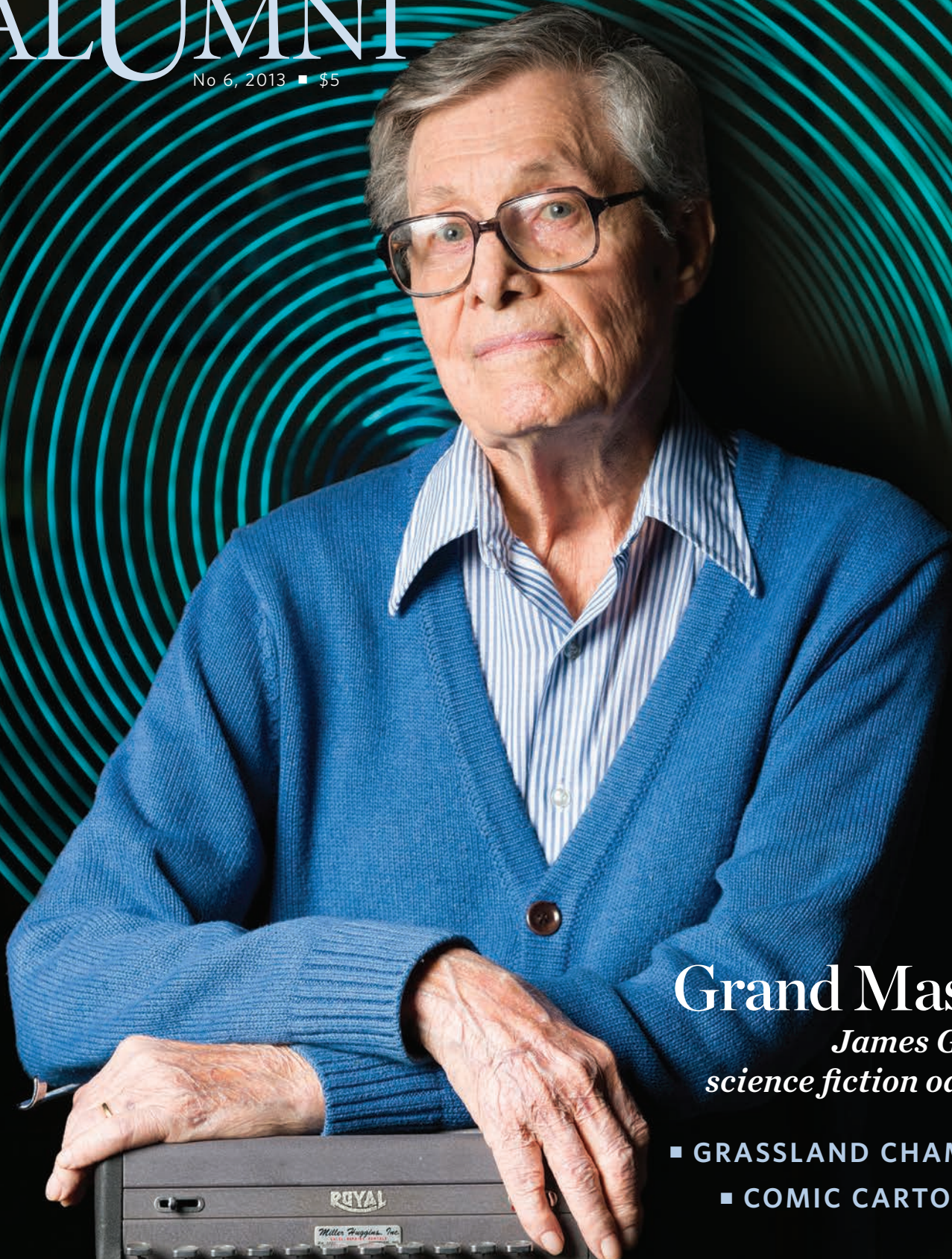


KANSAS ALUMNI

No 6, 2013 ■ \$5



Grand Master
*James Gunn's
science fiction odyssey*

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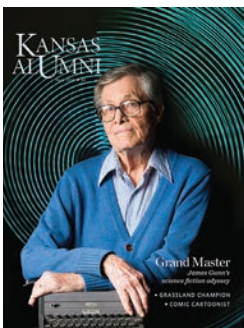
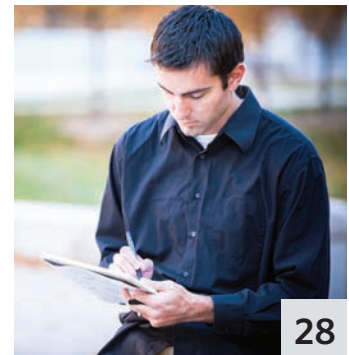
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COVER STORY

Masterwork

Science fiction Grand Master James Gunn's long exploration of alternate worlds continues with a novel some say is his best yet.

By Steven Hill

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The Green Grass of Home

Distinguished law professor John Head joins his natural-science colleagues at the forefront of an urgent effort to restore prairies and revolutionize agriculture.

By Chris Lazzarino

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The Incidental Comic

With a double-barreled focus on dentistry and drawing, celebrated cartoonist Grant Snider delivers smiles all around.

By Steven Hill

Cover image by Steve Puppe

Lift the Chorus



Hinman recalled

I WAS PLEASED TO SEE Robert Day’s imaginative piece about my teacher, mentor and friend, Charlton (Kadi) Hinman, one of the greatest Shakespeare scholars of the last century [“But Yet,” issue No. 5].

Kadi possessed a waggish sense of humor that belied his reserve and was always generous with his knowledge and time. Much was made of the Hinman collator, but his greatest contributions to Shakespeare studies were the Oxford Shakespeare Quarto Facsimiles, *The Norton Facsimile of the First Folio of Shakespeare*, and his magisterial two-volume *The Printing and Proof-Reading of the First Folio of Shakespeare*, and numerous articles.

Please allow me, however, to correct some confusion about the function and use of the Hinman collator. Rather than “determining which pages were true to Shakespeare’s text and which were bastardized versions caused by printers errors,” the collator allowed a textual scholar to superimpose two apparently identical printed pages to discover which ones were corrected (or, in some cases, miscorrected) during the printing process—what are called stop-press corrections.

The Norton Facsimile, based on 30 of the Folger’s approximately 80 Folios, is a “composite” reproduction in which every page represents the most fully corrected state of the text.

Alan Craven, c’58, g’63, PhD’65
San Antonio

THE RECENT ARTICLE by Robert Day about the famous KU Shakespeare scholar Charlton Hinman astounded me, and provided a nostalgic moment from happier times long ago. I met Hinman and discussed with him the collating machine he invented.

I knew him from 1961 to 1963, and I am pretty sure it was in grand old Fraser Hall. We both were assigned to the Research and Development Unit of the Navy maintained on campus. My research was graduate work in natural history at the KU Natural History Museum.

Professor Hinman was already famous. His seminar was about his work with the collator, which Mr. Day described well. It compared line-by-line two works at the same time showing only one picture, and when there was a blur a discrepancy was made evident.

Hinman said there were many printers and editors that took liberties to “improve” Shakespeare. He found in his first comparison, he told us, over 40 emendations. He could work out what was the original wording—what we called “horsing” a manuscript back in the Kansas Museum—and if two people could work together they were “reading to copy.” Hinman could work things out with his machine and do it fast.

The application was a revelation in classical literature. Perhaps it ranks right up there with Jayhawk basketball. Well who knows?

Charles Long, PhD’63
Stevens Point, Wis.



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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT, AND
CIRCULATION
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. **Publication Title** KANSAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE
2. **Publication No.** 0745-3345
3. **Filing Date** October 3, 2013
4. **Issue Frequency** Bimonthly (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov.)
5. **No. Issues Published Annually** 6
6. **Annual Subscription Price** \$55
7. **Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication**
The Kansas University Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
8. **Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher**
The Kansas University Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
9. **Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor**
Publisher
Kevin J. Corbett
The Kansas University Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
Editor
Jennifer Jackson Sanner
The Kansas University Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
10. **Owner**
The Kansas University Alumni Association, 1266 Oread Avenue,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
11. **Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities.**
If none, check box. None
12. **Tax Status. The Purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:**
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months
13. **Publication Title** KANSAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE
14. **Issue Date for Circulation Data Below** September 2013
15. **Extent and Nature of Circulation**

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Pub. Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	34,708	34,250
b. Paid Circulation		
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	33,385	33,095
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers & Carriers, Street Vendors Counter Sales, & Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	0	0
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution	33,385	33,095
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS	50	50
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	250	250
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	300	300
f. Total Distribution	33,685	33,395
g. Copies not Distributed	1,023	1,855
h. Total	34,708	34,250
i. Percent Paid	99	99
16. **Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November 2013 issue of this publication.**
17. **Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Jennifer Jackson Sanner, Editor October 3, 2013

November 2013

KANSAS ALUMNI

Publisher Kevin J. Corbett, c'88

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Kansas Alumni Magazine*, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169 © 2013 by *Kansas Alumni Magazine*. Non-member issue price: \$7

Letters to the Editor:

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Email responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org.



Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. For letters published, we'll send a free gift of KU Campus Playing Cards, a \$5 value.



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Scene on campus

What if you could **save two lives with one liver?**

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STEVE PUPPE



In a former life, when he had published only two of his 40 books, before he became a full-time faculty member at his alma mater, and long before he won international acclaim as Grand Master of science fiction, James Gunn was managing editor of the *University of Kansas Alumni Magazine*. Gunn, j'47, g'51, edited KU's precursor to *Kansas Alumni* from 1956 to 1958 while teaching KU English courses part time. He wrote most of the 32-page magazine himself, publishing nine issues during each academic year.

Now the editor is this issue's cover story. As I read Steve Hill's chronicle of Gunn, who at 90 has published perhaps his best novel and already envisions two more books that would complete a trilogy, I could not help but marvel—not only at the incredible productivity of a professor who supposedly retired in 1993, but also at the lofty literary heights achieved by a former alumni magazine editor.

In 1960, a decade before he joined the faculty full time, Gunn became administrative assistant for university relations to Chancellor Franklin Murphy, c'42, m'44. Gunn often welcomed freshmen to the Hill with a speech that described his first impressions of KU as a new student years earlier.

His speech also appeared in the September 1967 issue of the *Alumni Magazine*, and we published an excerpt as an essay in September 1999 as part of a *Kansas Alumni* special issue devoted to the majesty and lasting impact of Mount Oread. At first casting himself in third person, Gunn writes of a 19-year-old who glimpses the red tile roofs of the University while riding in a car on Highway 10, heading west toward Lawrence: "It's an image he will never forget. He'll never see it again without reliving that moment, when great experiences await, when the people who

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make up a university—the students and the faculty—are about to become his familiar companions, when the world is new and everything in it brilliant with hope."

Gunn recalls the new student's first meeting with an editor at the *University Daily Kansan*, who asks, "Can you write?" and hands the rookie an assignment before he can reply. Soon after, the newbie is one of the gang, sharing hamburgers and malts with fellow students and writing a column for the *Kansan*. Only a few short weeks after arriving on the Hill, the new Jayhawk has discovered another "basic truth about KU—that its spirit means friendliness and acceptance and the companionship of exciting people doing exciting things."

Gunn concludes by confessing that he was indeed the 19-year-old protagonist of his story: "Perhaps it was chance that

brought me to Mount Oread ... and that has kept me here to see the changes through the years. But my storyteller's heart says there was a theme, a fate that directed my steps and a vision that I have to share.

"And I have the feeling that a story cannot go far wrong that begins with the red roofs on the Hill."

Through the years, the science fiction community has often returned to Gunn's earlier works, publishing his books again for generations of readers who missed them the first time around. As I learned the details of Gunn's achievements and his indelible literary mark, I felt compelled to share again his story of a young man's arrival at the place that would change his life and launch a career that soared above and beyond our beloved red roofs.

Time and time again, James Gunn's exquisite words bear repeating. 

On the Boulevard



.....

Google Earth co-creator Brian McClendon was Grand Marshal for KU's 101st Homecoming, which celebrated "Jayhawks Around the World." The downtown parade Oct. 3 showcased student floats, Big Jay greetings and the KU women's track and field indoor and outdoor Big 12 championship trophies (carried by senior pole vaulter Natalia Bartnovskaya, left, and senior sprinter and Olympic gold medalist Diamond Dixon, right).

.....

Exhibitions

- "1 Kansas Farmer," Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 15
- "Conversation XV: Dust," inspired by the KU Common Book *The Worst Hard Time*, Spencer Museum of Art, through Dec. 15
- "Rockne Krebs: Drawings for Sculpture You Can Walk Through," Spencer Museum of Art, through Jan. 5
- "James Turrell: Gard Blue," through May 18
- "Diego Teo: International Artist-in-Residence," Spencer Museum of Art, Sept. 30 to Jan. 5

Lied Center events

NOVEMBER

- 14** "Memphis"
- 21-22** University Dance Company Fall Concerts
- 24** KU Symphony Orchestra

DECEMBER

- 8** KU Holiday Vespers
- 10** Symphonic Band and University Band
- 12** KU Jazz Vespers
- 12** Instrumental and Vocal Collegium Musicum, Bales Organ Recital Hall
- 13** Turtle Island Quartet With Tierney Sutton
- 14** School of Business Commencement
- 14** School of Education Commencement

15 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Commencement

17 KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute presents Ashley Davis and Friends

JANUARY

- 22** "Watchtower," film
- 26** "The Wonderful Wizard of Song: The Music of Harold Arlen"



University Theatre

NOVEMBER

15-17, 22-24 "Adding Machine: A Musical Original," based on the play by Elmer Rice, directed by Mechele Leon

DECEMBER

6-8, 10-12 "The Maderati," by Richard Greenberg, directed by Jeanne Tiehen

Murphy Hall events

NOVEMBER

- 17** Kansas Virtuosi
- 17** Percussion Group Concert
- 21** Saxophone Quartets

DECEMBER

- 3** Rock Chalk Singers
- 4** Helianthus Contemporary Ensemble

Performances

NOVEMBER

- 14** Women's Chorale and Concert Choir, First United Methodist Church
- 18** Jazz Singers and Jazz Combo I, Lawrence Arts Center

DECEMBER

- 3** KU Wind Ensemble, Blue Valley High School
- 6** Holiday Vespers-on-the-road, Johnson County Community College, Carlsen Center, Yardley Hall

Lectures

NOVEMBER

- 18** Junot Díaz, Humanities Lecture Series



Academic Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 27-Dec. 01** Thanksgiving break

DECEMBER

- 16-20** Finals week
- 21- Jan. 20** Winter break

JANUARY

- 21** First day of spring classes

Special events

NOVEMBER

- 19** Alvaro Vargas Llosa, "Global Crossing: Immigration, Civilization and America," Dole Institute of Politics

Alumni events

NOVEMBER

- 14** Denver Networking breakfast
- 18** London Jayhawks reception



- 20** Houston Networking breakfast
- 20** Paris Alumni reception
- 22** TGIF, Adams Alumni Center
- 25** KU Night with the Miami Heat

- 13** TGIF, Adams Alumni Center

JANUARY

- 13** Wichita Chapter Blood Drive, Wichita Downtown Blood Center
- 20** Lawrence Bus Trip from Wichita, Baylor at KU
- 24** TGIF, Adams Alumni Center

DECEMBER

- 2** An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, San Diego
- 2** Emporia Alumni Banquet, White Auditorium
- 3** An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, Los Angeles
- 4** An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, San Francisco
- 5** An Evening with Naismith: Artifacts of a KU Legend, Seattle
- 5** KU Night at Urban Chestnut Brewery, St. Louis
- 6** Atlanta Holiday reception
- 7** KU at CU Basketball pre-game
- 10** KU at Florida Basketball pre-game
- 13** KU Night with the Phoenix Suns



Events listed here are highlights from the Association's busy calendar. For complete listings of all events, watch for emails about programs in your area, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957

Jayhawk Walk

Hash, tagged

Turns out there is such a thing as a free lunch, and students can find out where by following the Twitter account @FreeFoodAtKU.



Started by Kris Velasco, c'13, and Alek Joyce, Free Food At KU blasts out notices of no-cost noshes all over campus and Lawrence. They got the idea while working for Student Senate and noticing there was always something going on—much of it catered—in the Kansas Union.



“People were always telling us about cookies and punch,” says Joyce, a Lawrence senior in, duh!, strategic communication.

“Until one day there was nothing, and we wondered what was going on.”

Deciding there needed to be a go-to spot for food freebies, they built it themselves. Now they share their knowledge of gratis grub and complimentary cuisine with 4,400 followers. Followers share their own free food finds—and their love for KU’s most appetizing Twitter feed.

“Broke college students get pretty happy about free pizza,” Joyce says. “It’s news people can use. And eat.”



[@FreeFoodAtKU](https://twitter.com/FreeFoodAtKU)



STEVE RUPPE

Jukebox hero's gotta keep on rockin'

It's tough to pinpoint the strangest part of Eric “Mean” Melin’s long strange trip to becoming the world champion of air guitarists: Was it selling T-shirts to help fund his last-chance-for-glory flight in late August to Oulu, Finland? Or perhaps it was wrapping up un-Finnished business by winning the “Dark Horse” round at a pub to qualify for the championship competition?

Surely it was toppling the world’s best a day later, then returning home with a custom “Flying Finn” guitar to a mob of his Lawrence and KC pals, who swarmed the KCI luggage carousel to cheer Melin, c’07, a film critic and real-life rock ‘n’ roll drummer who won a guitar for not playing one better than anyone in the world.

Come to think of it, the strangest bit had to be a live Skype interview on BBC World News, which topped the coverage on “Today,” “Good Morning America” and ESPN by adding a highbrow touch: The British broadcast included a Cambridge scholar whose research has shown air guitar helps actual musicians enhance their creativity. Melin explained to the inquisitive host that air guitarists “are not not playing the guitar, we’re playing the *air guitar*, which is a very different instrument from the guitar.”

Well ... it was all surreal, actually, and Melin, editor in chief of Scene-Stealers.com, film critic for KCTV5 and drummer for The Dead Girls and Ultimate Fakebook, is still savoring every weird morsel. He became enthralled with competitive air guitar when he saw a documentary about an American aerialist who made the exact journey Melin braved—the only difference being that guy finished second in Finland and Melin won the whole enchilada. After “five tireless years,” however, Melin had decided that unless he won the U.S. air guitar championships in Los Angeles, it was time to retire.

Then he placed second at nationals, and second thoughts wouldn’t let him pack up the amps. Now that he’s the world champion, his retirement is officially on hold for at least another year because he has a ticket to fly in 2014, paid in full.

“There’s a moment where the irony falls away and people really start cheering and rooting for you,” His Airness says. “That’s the moment when air guitar is working. ... That’s the moment you’re striving for all the time.”

To watch a video of Melin performing, visit www.kansasalumnimagazine.com.

The best nest

MIKE REID, DIRECTOR OF public affairs for KU Memorial Unions, was two-thirds of the way through the unhappy chore of packing up Bud Jennings' 75-year-old Jayhawk collection when he received a phone call he had waited three years to hear: A donor was stepping up to purchase the collection from Jennings and donate the birds for permanent display in the Kansas Union.

"I called Mr. Jennings," Reid recalls of the happy day in early August, "and said, 'Why don't we not pack tomorrow, just in case this really happens.'"

It really happened. James Ascher, retired chairman of the Lenexa pharmaceutical firm founded by his father in the 1940s, and his wife, Mary Ellen, assoc., read about the loss of Jennings' collection of more than 1,000 pieces of Jayhawk memorabilia in an online story posted Aug. 9 by the Lawrence Journal-World.

They moved quickly to catch the kitsch for Jennings' asking price of \$130,000.

"We think the Jayhawk is the most unique mascot of universities all across the country," says Ascher, '51, whose grandson, Carter, is a freshman at KU, "and we firmly believe the collection should stay at KU."

The hundreds of items that had been boxed and moved to a warehouse are now back at the Union, but only about 200 pieces are currently on display. Expecting to lose the collection, Union officials decided over the summer to renovate the second-floor exhibit area for other uses; now they are hustling to build secure and properly lighted permanent cases and decide where they should be displayed.

So fear not: Jennings' Jayhawks soon will return to the nest—never to fly away again.



STEVE PUPPE (2)



LARRY LEROY PEARSON

This seat's taken

Citing the fire hazards of overstuffed furniture, the Lawrence City Commission has banned the student neighborhood's most iconic furnishing. Yes, dear reader, the porch couch—once the stately (though admittedly swaybacked and probably dust-mite infested) lord of many a Mount Oread manor—has been officially, unceremoniously, dethroned.

No word yet on when enforcement begins on the ban, which passed on a 3-2 vote in August. City officials plan to spend several months on an education campaign, especially in student neighborhoods, to encourage voluntary compliance.

We get it. Couches aren't the most attractive porch accessory. Their highly combustible materials and tendency to double as outdoor smoking stations do seem to ask for trouble. And yet, anyone who ever enjoyed a beautiful fall afternoon or spring thunderstorm from the comfy confines of an overstuffed porch perch can't help but mourn the passing of a fine college tradition.



STEVE PUPPE

Not a shovel in sight

The School of Business broke new ground in the realm of groundbreakings Oct. 18, when leaders gathered to celebrate the start of construction on the school's new home. Cold temperatures forced a move from the Naismith Drive building site to the comfier confines of the Lied Center, but regardless of location, event planners had no use for ceremonial shovels.

Instead, celebrants stood on a replica of the New York Stock Exchange balcony and, as the names of donors scrolled on a mock stock ticker, they rang a ceremonial bell. A few days later, construction began on the six-story, 166,000-square-foot building, which is expected to cost \$65.7 million and be finished for the 2015-2016 academic year, KU's sesquicentennial.

STEVE PUPPE



“In the end, if our institutions function how everyone thinks they should, if they really treat everyone equally, then individual effort and ability would be the deciding factor in who succeeds and fails.”

—William Elliott III

The poverty puzzle

Social welfare series takes yearlong look at causes of high U.S. poverty rate

Most of us understand the American Dream to be a simple formula: Work hard and show ability and you will succeed. Even the working poor, notes William Elliott III, believe that those who get ahead in life are those who work hard.

But the fact is, argues Elliott, associate professor and director of the School of Social Welfare’s Assets and Education Initiative, “in the modern technological world we now live in, effort and ability are not quite enough, however much we want it to be.”

Delivering that sobering message—and reframing the basic idea of what it takes to succeed in America—is the goal of campus talks and research reports that are part of the yearlong series “Is There An American Dream for You? How Institutional Failure Perpetuates Poverty.”

Sponsored by the School of Social

Welfare, the Assets and Education Initiative and the Social Work Administration and Advocacy Program, the series strives to “reimagine the discussion, research and politics around poverty in America.”

The series started in September with a visit by Mark Rank, a poverty expert who argues that broad institutional factors, not just the efforts and abilities of individuals, have a big effect on moving people in and out of poverty. Rank’s research shows that nearly 60 percent of Americans between the ages of 20 and 75 experience poverty at some point in their lives, and argues that the high incidence of poverty is likely impacted by entrenched policies in the welfare system, the financial aid system

and other institutions that do little to encourage the poor to build assets.

Among the institutional factors that need to be re-examined, Elliott believes, is a financial aid system that does not adequately help low-income families. The shift from grants to student loans in the 1990s shuts many low-income students out of college, or contributes to lower rates of wealth for those who graduate with student loan debt.

A report he authored with Melinda Lewis, s’99, associate professor of social welfare, “Student Loans are Widening the Wealth Gap: Time to Focus on Equity,” was released in time for Elliott’s keynote address at the second event in the series Nov. 7. The report finds that the prospect of student debt can discourage low-income students from finishing college or even attending at all, and that those who do finish often get a far lower return on their investment than students who get through school without debt or who have higher family assets to draw on.

The bottom line, Elliott says, is the

“Education is supposed to be the great equalizer, but if you don’t start off with some level of assets, the current system doesn’t work.” —William Elliott III

current system that emphasizes loans instead of grants is hindering higher education's role as a pathway to the American Dream.

"Education is supposed to be the great equalizer, but if you don't start off with some level of assets, the current system doesn't work in a number of ways," Elliott says. "Students don't come to college as prepared as they should be, they don't have the funds to help them move through college properly, and they leave with a bunch of debt that hurts them for accumulating assets after college."

Elliott and his colleagues at the Assets and Education Initiative favor rethinking the current loan system—which looks at college aid as a just-in-time solution that delivers money at college age—to see if it makes more sense to fund future students much earlier.

One proposal calls for establishing government-financed savings accounts at birth. Families could make contributions to be matched by the government. The accounts would be relatively small to start—\$500—but would have years to grow with compound interest before they could be used to finance college or a down payment on a home. Low-income families would gain financial knowledge, a chance to build assets and access to mainstream

banking that many now lack.

And it would cost no more, Elliott says, than the way we do things now.

"We spend about \$36 billion a year on student loans, and it's estimated that starting a national CSA program would cost roughly \$4 billion," he says. Funding could come from keeping student loan dollars level or reducing them slightly, or by rethinking the Pell Grant program to give grant money to students earlier. "It's a better way of using our current funds," Elliott says.

The series will continue with a Feb. 5 keynote talk by Thomas Shapiro that examines the demographics of poverty in America, and a March 28 panel led by Michael Sherraden that examines how asset building for the poor could be included as a strategy in national efforts to solve poverty. Visit reimaginingpoverty.com for more information.

"One of our overall goals is just to bring attention to the idea that there are institutional factors that really do matter to whether or not people succeed," Elliott says. "In the end, if our institutions function how everyone thinks they should, if they really treat everyone equally, then individual effort and ability would be the deciding factor in who succeeds and fails."

Greater honors

Program for top undergrads expands to draw more students

At a time when higher education budgets across campus and across the country are being cut, at least one KU program is bucking the downsizing trend and expanding.

Riding a \$200,000 boost in its budget, the University Honors Program increased



STEVE PUPPE

Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett



COURTESY, RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER ON INDEPENDENT LIVING

Amanda Thompson, a senior in speech-language-hearing and vice president of the student group AbleHawks and Allies, won the 2013 Michael Lechner Advocacy Award for her work on campus to raise awareness of accessibility needs and other disability issues.

Given annually by the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC), the award

recognizes a Kansan with a disability who effectively advocates in the community for changes to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Through AbleHawks and Allies, Thompson worked with Student Senate and other organizations to stage an event to raise awareness about the experience people in wheelchairs have entering through Strong

Hall's one accessible entrance, in the rear of the building. As Accessibility Ambassador for the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, she educates staff members on disability etiquette and the experience of invisible disabilities such as her own traumatic brain injury.

Thompson accepted the award Nov. 1 at KCDC's annual meeting.

CLASS CREDIT

Hilltopics



Elite company: With the addition of a new master's degree concentration in foreign affairs studies, KU becomes one of 20 U.S. universities to provide Army officers regionally focused master's level training in foreign affairs, and one of only three to offer training in more than one region. The program will be available through the Center for Global and International Studies starting in fall 2014.

the number of new students from 275 in 2012 to 385 this year. The eventual goal is to admit 400 freshmen to the program each fall, expanding its total reach from 1,250 to 1,600, with no loss in the quality of students or the academic experience they enjoy once they arrive.

Money for the expansion came from 2012 tuition increases.

"I thought a lot of high-ability students were not coming to KU because we didn't have capacity in the honors program," says Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett, g'73, PhD'77, director of the program and architect of the tuition proposal that resulted in the extra funding. "The students we are recruiting have a lot of options. So the rationale was, if we expanded the program we could probably attract a larger number of high-ability students to choose KU."

That seems to be the case with the first expanded class of University Honors Program students, and the impact on the broader University can already be seen in increases in some important benchmarks, McCluskey-Fawcett believes.

"We were able to attract a lot more students, and the high school GPA of the students we attracted did not drop at all. So it's not like we went deeper into the pool; I think we got students who wouldn't have come here otherwise."

The addition of more than 100 students with high ACT scores likely contributed to the slight increase in the average ACT

score for the 4,000-student freshmen class (see page 14), McCluskey-Fawcett says. Honors students also post about a 97 percent retention rate, substantially higher than the universitywide retention rate, and a higher-than-average graduation rate. "Those are all markers the University is looking at for national rankings," she says.

Other benefits may be harder to quantify, but meaningful nevertheless.

"Our main competitors are places like Stanford, Princeton, Vanderbilt, Duke," McCluskey-Fawcett says. "I think keeping those high-ability students at KU or attracting them from other states really increases the probability of them staying in the state or moving to the state. That's very helpful to the University and to Kansas."

The \$200,000 boost amounts to a 33 percent increase for the \$817,000-a-year program. The majority of the money went to hire two full-time staff and four additional faculty fellows to maintain the quality of student programs, which include individual advising, lecture and film series, workshops and an alumni mentoring network.

Support for the hike was strong among students involved in the committee that shapes KU's annual tuition requests to the Kansas Board of Regents, and from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Office of the Provost.

"The University calls the honors program the crown jewel of undergraduate

education here, which of course I like," she says. "The fact that the students and the administration were willing to invest in it speaks to their support for attracting very high-ability and talented students to KU."

Water for thought

Media blitz challenges students to design videos on theme of H₂O

Thirty eight architecture and design students who participated in a "48-hour blitz" led by innovative designer John Bielenberg in August had two days to produce a 48-second video that related to the theme of water. Their only injunction: "Make it legendary."

Actually, the blitz—an intensive workshop meant to teach participants rapid-cycle design techniques—led students through six distinct steps in conceiving and filming their videos: Be bold, get out, think wrong, make stuff, bet small and move fast. The overarching goal was to urge the future designers and architects to discard convention and learn by doing.

At 9 a.m. on the Friday before Labor Day weekend, students learned their topic was water and divided into five groups. An hour later they hit the streets of Lawrence, interviewing people and collecting stories about water. By 3 p.m., while most on campus were gearing down for the long holiday weekend, the interdepartmental teams were brainstorming ("thinking wrong," in blitz parlance, by rejecting conventional problem-solving approaches). By 5 p.m. groups had to present the "big idea" and "small bet" that



Infinite (Mine Ice from Space)

would form the concept for their 48-second videos. Then they worked into the night to have them ready for final presentations at 5 p.m. the next day.

The compressed time frame simplifies the design process, reducing overthinking that can sometimes paralyze a project, says Lance Rake, f'74, professor of industrial design.

"It really makes you roll up your sleeves and do the thing: Build something quickly. Prototype your ideas and test them. You can't think or talk about it too much."

Bielenberg won the American Institute of Graphic Arts Gold Medal recently for his innovative design work and leadership in the "design for good" movement. It's the latest of more than 250 design awards for Bielenberg, who has had his work collected and a solo exhibition staged by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He created a program called Project M to inspire young designers, filmmakers, photographers and writers to contribute to the greater good and give them "a platform to collaborate and generate ideas and projects bigger than themselves."

Bringing Bielenberg to KU is a way to stir things up, Rake says.

"John's whole thing is to get people to think wrong, and that's hard to do, even for design students. When you throw out ideas that are crazy, the people you work with laugh and it's fun. But John's the kind of guy who says, 'Hmm, let's think about that.' He's attracted to ideas like that, because he thinks there's something compelling behind it, and that may end up being the way the project goes."

The project was a hit with students, as much for the product as the process.

"The project was rewarding because we came up with a fun solution in an unorthodox manner," says industrial design student Taylor Stelter of Olathe, "and more importantly a solution we were proud of."

"I think everybody was proud of what they did," Rake says. "If anything, some might have wished they had done more—they could have thought wronger, if that's possible. 'Next time,' they think, 'I'm not gonna hold anything back. I'll go farther.'"

To watch the student videos online, visit kansasalumnimagazine.com.

Milestones, money and other matters



STEVE PUPPE

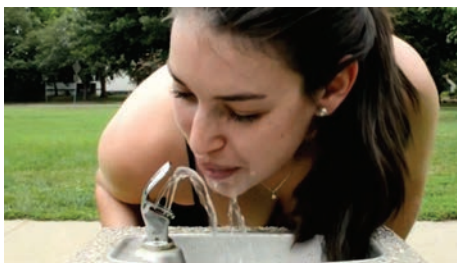
■ **A \$2.5 million grant** from the Children's Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families will help School of Social Welfare researchers develop a system to screen foster children for trauma. Principal investigators on the five-year grant are Becci Akin, s'91, s'92, PhD'10, assistant professor of social welfare, and Alice Lieberman, professor of social welfare. The goal is to help caregivers identify trauma in children entering foster care and develop treatment plans and systems to monitor their progress.

■ **KU Endowment** elected two new trustees during its October annual meeting: Scott Coons, e'91, of Lawrence, and Brad Korell, l'97, of Austin, Texas. Coons is president and CEO of Perceptive Software and Korell is managing partner of the law firm Korell and Frohlin.

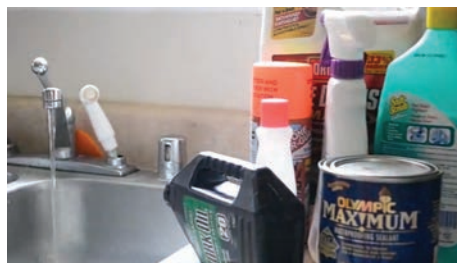
■ **KU Hospital set records** in fiscal 2013 for the number of patients treated. Inpatient admissions increased 4.5 percent from 2012, to 30,705. Out-patient visits rose 10 percent, to 20,774. The hospital also ranks in the top 25 percent of teaching hospitals caring for the sickest patients, as measured by the case mix index. In the fiscal year that ended in June, the hospital saw patients from all 105 Kansas counties, 86 percent of Missouri counties, 49 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.



Water Worth (Water as Currency)



It Is All the Same



Stop the Abuse

Hilltopics

DAN STOREY



ACADEMICS

Enrollment gains seen in record diversity, test scores

BIGGER, SMARTER AND MORE DIVERSE is the line on the Class of 2017, according to the annual enrollment numbers released in September by the University.

The freshman class grew for a second straight year, to an even 4,000 students, an increase of 6 percent. Undergraduate and doctoral enrollment grew slightly, but a decline in master's degree students contributed to total enrollment falling by 155 students from last year, to 27,784.

The average freshman ACT score was 25.3, an increase of two-tenths of a point from the 2012 average and an all-time high.

A record 21.8 percent of freshmen are minority students, up from 21.3 percent last year. International enrollment also hit a record, with 2,431 undergraduate and graduate students.

"Students are recognizing the advantages of studying at a flagship research university and all the opportunities that come with being a Jayhawk," said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. "That so many top scholars are choosing KU is a testa-

ment to the high quality of our academic programs, as well as to our revitalized recruitment efforts."

Added Gray-Little, "The goal now will be to help our new Jayhawks be successful in their first year, so that they can stay on track to graduate on time."

RESEARCH

Buried Greenland canyon owes discovery to KU radar

THE DISCOVERY THIS FALL of a massive canyon twice the size of the Grand Canyon that's buried under miles of ice in Greenland has a connection to KU's Center for the Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets.

The canyon, which is 470 miles long and has remained hidden beneath two-mile thick ice for millennia, was revealed in the Aug. 30 edition of the *Journal Science* by researcher Jonathan Bamber from the University of Bristol.

Prasad Gogineni, distinguished professor of electrical engineering and computer science and director of CReSIS, said that data collected by radars developed by CReSIS scientists were critical to the discovery, which was widely hailed as one *continued on page 17*

VISITOR

Plains perseverance

Timothy Egan, author of *The Worst Hard Time*, the Dust Bowl history chosen as the second installment of KU Common Book, a program of the Office of First-Year Experience, and Lawrence Public Library's Read Across Lawrence

WHEN: Sept. 26-27

WHERE: The Lied Center and The Commons

BACKGROUND: Egan was a member of The New York Times reporting team that won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting for the series "How Race is Lived in America." *The Worst Hard Time* won the 2006 National Book Award.

ANECDOTE: *The Worst Hard Time* began with Egan's reporting for a New York Times series about the collapse of small-town America on the Western Plains, during which

he repeatedly encountered Dust Bowl stories. "You sometimes don't know what you're going to find. You have to trust serendipity. If you're open to possibility, you'll sometimes stumble upon these things."

QUOTES: Asked whether viewing the remarkable stories of perseverance presented in *The Worst Hard Time* as a



CHRIS LAZZARINO

national mythology might detract from individual acts of courage and determination, Egan replied, "I'm OK with these being seen as a

part of our national mythology, our creation myth. There's a great saying by the Sioux: A people without history are like wind in the buffalo grass. If you don't understand your history you don't understand your mythology."



**FAR
ABOVE**

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Campaign
for
Kansas*

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To discuss a bequest that carries out your wishes for the future of KU, please contact Andy Morrison at (785) 832-7327 or amorrison@kuendowment.org, or Dan Almanza at (785) 832-7341 or dalmanza@kuendowment.org.

Bequests for the benefit of KU should be written to The Kansas University Endowment Association.

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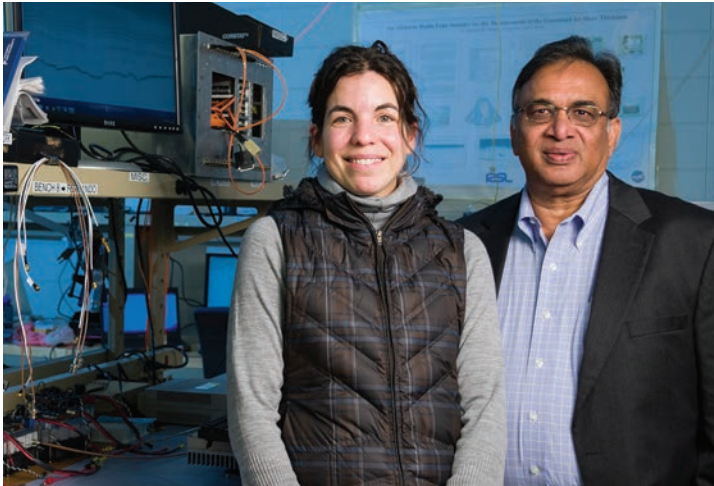
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Director Prasad Gogineni (right) and doctoral researcher Theresa Stumpf at CReSIS; the center's radar contributed to discovery of an ice-covered canyon in Greenland.

continued from page 14
of the most significant geological finds in decades.

The Multichannel Coherent Radar Depth Sounder (MCoRDS) designed at KU is a critical tool in NASA's Operation IceBridge research program as well as ongoing National Science Foundation projects that work to predict climate change and project the effect melting polar ice sheets may have on sea levels around the globe.

OUTREACH

For Kansas City schoolchildren, their garden grows green

GARDENS MUST BE NOURISHED to flourish, and the Organic Teaching Gardens program run by the School of Medicine will receive much-needed nourishment from a \$50,000 Unified Government-Hollywood Casino Grant Fund award.

The gardens were established in 1998 by the school's office of cultural diversity to serve schoolchildren in Kansas City, Kan. Since 2002, more than 13,000 young people have participated in the program, which now maintains 130 raised beds at three middle schools and four elementary schools.

"The Organic Teaching Gardens provide an educational experience through science, math, reading and the arts," says Marcia Pomeroy, director of the School of Medicine's K-12 initiative and founder of

the gardens program. "Learning how to develop a garden of nutritious vegetables is many students' first experience in a living laboratory."

Pomeroy says the program faces a number of challenges each year, including weather, time and funding. Similarly, the families of the students who participate typically face their own challenges, which can include hunger, lack of medical access and underemployment.

"The similarities in the lives of the children and young people we serve and our gardens are many," Pomeroy says. "Our gardens have the potential to yield a harvest full of richness and beauty. So do the children and young people we serve."

The Unified Government-Hollywood Casino Grant Fund awards grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 annually to promote healthy food and physical activity in Wyandotte County.



Children at seven Kansas City, Kan., schools benefit from a grant supporting the School of Medicine's Organic Gardens Program.

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **Donors set a record** for a sixth straight year, contributing \$174.2 million in support for KU during fiscal 2013—an 11 percent increase over 2012 and the highest annual amount ever raised by KU Endowment. The gifts count toward the University's \$1.2 billion capital fund drive, *Far Above: The Campaign for Kansas*.

■ **Charles Myers** is the new director of the University Press of Kansas. Myers, formerly executive director and group publisher of Princeton University Press, succeeds Fred Woodward, who retired as director after leading UPK for 32 years. Woodward remains at the press as senior editor.

■ **The Docking Young Faculty Scholar Award** went to 10 faculty members this fall. Funded by a \$1 million gift from the late Kansas first lady Meredith Docking, b'47, the award is designed to recognize and retain promising young faculty who have distinguished themselves early in the KU careers. This year's recipients are Shawn Alexander, African-American studies; Christopher Depcik, mechanical engineering; Dale Dorsey, philosophy; William Elliott, social welfare; Tamara Falicov, film and media studies; Trent Herda, health, sport & exercise science; Virginia Harper Ho, law; Wonpil Im, molecular biology; Ebenezer Odare, sociology; and Hyunjin Seo, journalism and mass communications.

■ **Randal Jelks**, associate professor of American studies and African-American studies, won the Lillian Smith Book Award for his biography of the man Martin Luther King called his "spiritual and intellectual father." Jelks accepted the prize for *Benjamin Elijah Mays: Schoolmaster of the Movement* Sept. 1 in Atlanta.

One and fun

Wiggins might stay only a year, but 'Hawks hope to make it memorable

You can have your Sports Illustrated cover, with its absurd invocations of Wilt Chamberlain and Danny Manning. The gratuitous spread in GQ was little more than an excuse to show an awesome athlete's excellent abs. That's where he was linked to the legacy of LeBron James. ESPN The Magazine's cover was cool. But you can have all that and more and still not match the defining evidence that the superstar recruit—check that, superstar *Jayhawk*—is No. 1 with a bullet, which came shortly before the Nov. 5 tipoff in Allen Field House.

As the pregame video thundered to life on scoreboard screens towering above Naismith Court, there suddenly appeared a clip from exhibition game No. 1, Oct. 29 against Pittsburg State: 6-8 freshman Andrew Wiggins going to the hoop, which instantly brought a roar from a field house crowd that would otherwise prove to be as listless as the seemingly disinterested Jayhawks for much of the rest of exhibition game No. 2, against Fort Hays State.

Yep, Wiggins had yet to play an official college game and already No. 22 was spliced into the Jayhawks' beloved pregame highlight video. That's not going to happen again anytime soon, folks.

Then again, neither will Andrew Wiggins.

"Getting Andrew is something that made people, maybe even nationally, look at us in a different light," says 11th-year coach Bill Self. "We've recruited a lot of good players but we haven't really had a ton of success recruiting the top three or four players in their respective classes in the country. He obviously has that distinction. I think from a standpoint of recruits, it brings instant attention



STEVE PUPPE (3)

Wiggins

to our program.

"But after he gets here, none of that matters anymore. He's very talented and has a ton of potential, but he's just a freshman. He's going to find his way like everyone else. The expectations that have been put on him by outside factors, or media members comparing him to this person or that person, are really not fair at all. He has a chance to become a great player. I would not say he's a great player yet, but a great prospect. And hopefully he will develop in a way where he can become a great player quickly."

Another clue to the unique stature of

"He can't live up to the hype. It's impossible. ... But could he be a great one? Absolutely."

—Bill Self, on Andrew Wiggins

Andrew Wiggins: On Oct. 28, a day before even the first exhibition game, Self, widely considered among the most media-friendly and accessible coaches in big-time athletics, suddenly shut down the Wiggins Express, halting media access, outside of the occasional postgame session, to his soft-spoken, long-armed, ultra-athletic and seemingly affable guard from Vaughan, Ontario, Canada.

"He can't live up to the hype. It's impossible," Self says. "Comparing him to Chamberlain? Chamberlain is the most dominant player that ever played the game. The kid's 18 years old and he's never made a college basket but we're going to compare him to Chamberlain? So ... that's impossible. But could he be a great one? Absolutely. And should we expect him to be a great one? Yes, we should.

"The kid is operating under some pressure right now and he's handled it beautifully, but I do feel for him. I've never felt for players in regards for things like that, but I do for him because he hasn't asked for one bit of it and still, the less he wants it the more he gets. And that's kind of because of the way he's handled everything. He's handled everything like a pro."

When Wiggins first arrived in town last summer, he promptly hooked up with another member of his recruiting class who, like Wiggins, was a late and surprising addition to an already talent-rich group. The difference between Wiggins and Tarik Black, though—besides about 60 pounds of muscle—is that Black already has a college degree and has played three years of college basketball, at Memphis.

Wiggins is surely the superstar, and even before his arrival there already was immense excitement about Self signing 6-5 guard Wayne Selden, 7-0 center Joel Embiid, 6-7 guard Brannen Greene, 6-0 Wichita shooting guard Conner Frankamp and 5-11 guard Frank Mason. But the key element could well prove to be Black, a 6-9 billboard with sneakers who was allowed to transfer from Memphis without sitting out a year because he earned his degree with a year of eligibility remaining.

"I look at myself as part of the recruiting class," Black says. "I had to take the phone calls, had to do the house visits, had to go on my official visit to come here and find out if this was the place I wanted to end up. So yeah, I feel like I'm a part; just a much older member."

So it was that when Wiggins needed a ride to the drugstore shortly after arriving



Wiggins

in Lawrence, Black grabbed his keys. He wanted some private time with Mr. Big.

"We were in the car and I asked him, 'How do you deal with having that hype, having some pressure behind you?' He's like, 'Man, I just go and do what I do. I come out and play basketball and go home and I'm Andrew Wiggins.' And so I was

"He's such a humble kid. You can just hear it in his voice, his demeanor, his persona. He's very humble, and he just wants to be great. That's all he wants to be." —senior newcomer Tarik Black, on freshman newcomer Andrew Wiggins



Black

grateful to hear that. It was a great answer. He's such a humble kid. You can just hear it in his voice, his demeanor, his persona.

"He's very humble and he just wants to be great. That's all he wants to be."

Well ... not quite.

There is one other thing Wiggins wants to be, in what will almost certainly be his only year of college basketball: a champion.

"We can be the best. The main goal for all of us, I know, is to win the national championship."

Even with The Andrew Wiggins Experience seemingly in danger of overwhelming the run to what the Jayhawks hope will be their 10th consecutive Big 12 title and a return to the NCAA Final Four, the season still promises to be an immensely entertaining spectacle.

Self lost all five starters from last season's 31-6 team, and this year he looks to be

favoring a starting lineup with two freshmen (Wiggins and Selden), a sophomore (6-8 forward Perry Ellis, of Wichita), a junior (5-11 guard Naadir Tharpe) and a senior newcomer (Black), with a rotation filled out by a freshman (Embiid) and two sophomores (6-6 guard Andrew White III and 6-8 forward Jamari Traylor). And, two more freshmen (Greene and Frankamp) seemingly played their way into Self's favor in the two exhibition games.

Watching Self, a master tactician and motivator, piece it all together should be a joy for basketball fans to follow from November through March. The players, though, aren't up for any speculation.

"We'll leave that all up to coach Self. We have complete faith in him," says 6-9 forward Justin Wesley, a redshirt senior who has the most tenure on the team. "He knows what he's doing. He's had so many different teams and he's taken them to the tournament every year, so I think we'll be good in his hands."

"Everybody gets along. That's one thing that's important going into the season. Even with so many new guys, we already feel like brothers."

Go low

Women's golf wins twice, takes aim on strong spring

In collegiate golf, the fall season is really just something of a warmup for spring, when conference play begins and teams scramble to land in an NCAA Regional. But even warmups are important, and when a team completes a season, any season, with all top-five finishes, as did KU

Sports

women's golf this fall, spirits soar.

"I am so proud of what we have accomplished this fall," ninth-year coach Erin O'Neil said after KU's three-stroke victory Oct. 28 at the Palmetto Intercollegiate in the golf mecca of Kiawah Island, S.C. "I am looking forward to taking it with us to the spring season."

Senior Thanuttra "Fhong" Boonraksasat, one of three Thai golfers on the Jayhawks' squad, says the team is motivated by its failure to improve on a strong performance in fall 2012, narrowly missing its first NCAA invitation last spring.

"We're trying to make that a lesson for this year," she says, "and it actually helps motivate us a lot. Everybody is so pumped that we have a shot at the NCAA Regional for the first time ever, so I can see everybody practicing more and putting more effort into every practice."

Along with the Palmetto, KU also won the Marilyn Smith Invitational at Kansas State's Colbert Hills, led by senior Meghan

Potee's first collegiate tournament victory. Boonraksasat, the team's only other senior, was three strokes back in second.

The Jayhawks also recorded two seconds and a fourth in their five-tournament fall season, and found their success up and down the roster.

Sophomore Yupaporn "Mook" Kawinpakorn led the team with runner-up finishes at two tournaments, freshman Pornvipa "Phi" Sakdee won at Kiawah, Potee won in Manhattan and Boonraksasat was the top Jayhawk in the Challenge at Onion Creek in Austin, Texas.

"Golf is an individual sport, but we've been trying to have people get along and support and help one another," Boonraksasat says. "It's not just you, it's everybody. You have to fight all the way through because your score might count, you don't know."

The spring season gets underway Feb. 14-16 at the Florida State Matchup in Tallahassee, Fla.



JEFF JACOBSEN

Potee

UPDATES

Volleyball was 19-5 overall and 9-2 and in second place in the Big 12 as of press time, and hoping to again host opening-weekend NCAA Tournament matches. Senior middle blocker **Caroline Jarmoc** became KU's all-time kills leader with 16 kills against Iowa State Oct. 23. ... Senior guard **CeCe Harper** scored 15 points with six rebounds and two assists in just 21 minutes, leading the women's basketball team to a 61-53 victory over Emporia State in the final exhibition game before regular season play got underway. Also in double figures were junior guard **Natalie Knight**, who scored 13; junior forward **Chelsea Gardner**, with 11, and senior guard **Markisha**



JEFF JACOBSEN

Jarmoc

Hawkins, who scored 10 of KU's 25 bench points. Knight was leading the country in assists-to-turnover ratio last season when she was lost to a knee injury Jan. 30, so 10th-year coach **Bonnie Henrickson** is counting on Knight to return strong and help anchor a team with five freshmen on the roster. "I've always enjoyed

coaching freshmen," Henrickson says, "and this year will be no different with these five kids. They bring a lot of personality and a lot of energy." ...

Soccer qualified for the Big 12 Championship with a 2-1 victory over Oklahoma in the final match of the regular season. Senior **Caroline Kastor** led the team in both goals and assists, and junior goalkeeper **Kaitlyn Stroud**, in goal for every minute of the season, had five shutouts and led the Big 12 in saves. ...

Nearly 2,000 fans turned out to cheer on the rowing team at its first Kansas River regatta, the inaugural Jayhawk Jamboree Oct. 20. KU won the Varsity Eight and collected seven other top-five finishes. ...

Among the usual slew of new basketball books this time of year, two of note: *At the Hang-Up*, by former coach **Ted Owens**, and *Make it Count*, a biography of guard **JoJo White**, '69. ... Football opens its 2014 season Sept. 6 in Memorial Stadium against Southeast Missouri State, followed by a road game at Duke. The Jayhawks will open conference play Sept. 27 at home against Texas, and close the season Nov. 29 at KSU. ... Little-known among KU sports fans: Legacy University of Washington football coach **Don James**, g'57, who died Oct. 20, began his coaching career as a KU assistant in 1956, working under his former high school coach, **Chuck Mather**.



Frank Mason



Wayne Selden Jr.



Brannen Greene



Joel Embiid



Andrew Wiggins



Conner Frankamp



Naadir Tharpe

As coach Bill Self met with reporters at men's basketball's Media Day, *Kansas Alumni* photographer Steve Puppe, j'98, was set up on Naismith Court, firing off portraits of Jayhawks—newcomers, a few veterans and a supernova superstar—who might make 2013-'14 a season to remember.



Jamari Traylor



Perry Ellis



Tarik Black



The Green Grass of Home

**The rush to save native prairie
and transform agriculture finds an
unlikely stalwart**

by Chris Lazzarino

Photographs by Steve Puppe



We got it all wrong, so horribly wrong. Then again, so did everyone else on God's green earth who marched confidently out of the 19th century with steel plows and motorized tractors and endless stretches of lush grassland there for the taking.

The transformation took hold, to be sure. But not as anticipated.

Within a mere whisper of geological time, and even a tiny snippet on the timeline of human interaction with the land, the world's native, unspoiled grasslands have, in essence, disappeared. Native grasslands once spread across 40 percent of North America; now, according to a grasslands primer distributed by the University of Victoria Faculty of Law, 98 percent of tallgrass prairie east of the Missouri River is gone and California has a mere 1 percent of its grasslands remaining intact. According to Ducks Unlimited, more than 2 percent of the 298,000 acres of native prairie remaining in the eastern Dakotas was lost to agriculture from 2002 to 2005 alone.

Grasslands status updates by scientists and governmental and non-governmental agencies from all corners of the world report the same bleak findings: Various combinations of overgrazing, monoculture agriculture, urban expansion, degraded soils, fire suppression, forest and non-native plant encroachment, reckless recreation and mismanagement of water resources have withered the grasslands of India, Tibet, Mongolia, China, Africa, Russia and South America. The European Commission reports that from 1990 to 2003, Europe lost 12.8 percent of its grasslands, which are now among Europe's most-threatened ecosystems.

A hunt for solutions that might reverse grasslands' dismal fortunes is underway, and researchers at KU have thrust themselves into the fray by recently joining forces with colleagues at Kansas State University, The Land Institute in Salina and Konza Prairie Biological Station. As desperate battles tend to encourage, a most unlikely champion has emerged: a quiet, careful, curious and

passionate professor of law, John Head.

In 2012, Head published the book *Global Legal Regimes to Protect the World's Grasslands* (Carolina Academic Press). The abruptly straightforward title reflects Head's insistence on projecting his work as a close examination of the minutia of how national and international laws, treaties and institutions might help slow the loss of the world's grasslands. But, as is true of the author, the book is more fiercely passionate than might be judged by its cover.

Before any fight can be won, Head argues, there must first be agreement on a fundamental question: Do we care whether the grasslands survive?

"Tropical rainforests, coral reefs, panda bears, baby seals, all of these have kind of instant widespread public attention given to them, but in fact, the kinds of contributions that grasslands can make to the overall health of the planet are really quite substantial," says Head, Robert W. Wagstaff Distinguished Professor of Law. "As a biome, as a portion of the world's land cover, they're generally regarded as the least protected, as the least noticed. And of course they've been so severely degraded and largely destroyed around the world that that also contributes to public ignorance about their value and the tragedy of their disappearance."

Agriculture has been with us for at least 5,000 years, and the earliest crops were grains cultivated from grasses, directly comparable to what we now know as wheat, barley and rye. And yet as agriculture progressed for the next five millennia, huge swaths of spectacularly fertile land resisted humanity's best effort at conquest.

Life = Sun + Soil

—John Head, *Global Legal Regimes to Protect the World's Grasslands*

In North America, these lands came to be known as "prairie," from the French word for "meadow." No English word could be adopted as a descriptor because no such vastness existed in what was then the English-speaking world. Like the Great Plains of North America, other temperate grasslands have similarly romantic names: the pampas of Argentina, the steppe of Russia, the veldt of South Africa. Tropical grasslands, too, have their own lovely descriptor: savanna.

These massive stretches of the earth's surface thrived for specific reasons. They did not need much rainfall, and in fact could flourish in semi-arid conditions. Whether sparked by lightning strikes or set by native hunters who knew tasty green sprouts soon to emerge from charred earth would attract their prey, fire destroyed only what could be seen above ground; below, the regeneration was as near to instantaneous and rigorous as can be found in wild flora. Soil churning by huge animals—in North America, the seemingly limitless bison herds—actually helped, rather than harmed.

Native grasslands' ultimate weapon of self-preservation, though, was their roots, which in certain soils can plunge to 15 feet below the surface, weaving into a subterranean web stronger than their mightiest foe, including human farmers. At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, the riches of the North American Great Plains could be exploited by bison hunts, but not the plow.

"Soil does form. It can renew itself. Doing so, however, takes the correct conditions. Grasslands offer those conditions—or, more precisely, grasslands can offer those conditions if the grasslands themselves are not degraded."

—Head, *The World's Grasslands*



“For thousands of years plows had been made of wood, and even when they were given cast-iron edges, they could not penetrate the grasslands,” wrote emeritus distinguished professor Don Worster in one of his classic books on environmental history, *The Grasslands in Time*. “They would break first. Their usable range was limited to exposed soils along the river bottoms or what had once been forest floor.”

And then came John Deere and the appearance, in 1837, of his first steel plow. Even pulled by a draft animal, Deere’s plow “could slice through the toughest sod and expose the deep, fertile soil to the air.”

If it had not ultimately become so thoroughly destructive, the headlong rush into the Great Plains might be seen in some respects as comically inept. Early boosters of agricultural expansion into western lands made the ludicrous claim, in the words of Josiah Gregg, that “extreme cultivation of the earth might contribute to the multiplication of showers.” Indeed, brief spans of unusually high precipitation

helped the notion that “rain follows the plow” take root. Railroad tracks and telegraph wires were also thought to induce rainfall in arid environments.

And then came harsh winters and dry summers—a perfectly natural state of affairs—which by the mid-1890s nearly emptied a 300-mile-wide stretch of the Great Plains from Canada to Texas. Of course the same cycles of boom and bust were soon to repeat themselves, ultimately collapsing into the catastrophic Dust Bowl of the 1930s. The destruction of middle America’s splendid grasslands, Head says, was “absolutely breathtaking in its pace,” a “very quick unzipping of the land.”

“For a while, at least,” Head says, “there was this mystique, an ideology, a goofiness that rain follows the plow. There was this idea that, well, it’s by plowing that we somehow create more precipitation; we can change the climate in a good way by settling and tearing things up as quickly as possible. Well, yeah, climate changed as a consequence, but not in the way that people in their ignorance thought.”

Lucia Orth, John Head and their dog, Loki, stroll through the prairie grasses planted around the pond near their home south of Lawrence. John grew up on a farm in northeastern Missouri, and Lucia spent much of her childhood visiting her grandmother’s farm near her hometown of Hannibal, Mo.

Loki the lucky rescue dog emerges from his new pond, shaking and shimmering and splash-splashing water and good spirits in broad arcs. Lucia Orth, a novelist, teacher, attorney and wife of John Head, grimaces, but the high-energy hound is having way too much fun for his people to do anything but smile at his antics. As Lucia and John stroll down a path through tall native grasses that surround their pond, one of the first restoration projects on the property they bought a decade ago south of Lawrence, two foresters emerge from the woodlands behind their home and, leaning against pickup trucks, compare notes after their afternoon inspection.

Dave Bruton, district forester for the Kansas Forest Service, and Ryan Neises, watershed forester for Ecotone Forestry in Ottawa, are charting plans for Head's next leap into returning his family's land to as natural a state as possible.

"A lot of times, people view our woodlands as wasteland and don't do the management that's important to keep our woodlands healthy and diverse," Bruton says. "It is good to have landowners who are interested and take the initiative. The thing that I get gratification from is that they're not doing it, in most cases, for themselves. They're doing it for future generations, for the overall good of the general population."

This little slice of country heaven, 2 miles south of the Clinton Lake dam, is nestled in a rural neighborhood known as Pleasant Valley. After purchasing the home and 38 acres of hillside woodland, Head and his wife convinced the owner of the flatter pasture land across North 900 Road to sell them her 52 acres.

Working closely with Jim Weaver, district manager for the Douglas County Conservation District Office, Head immediately set about returning the land to something resembling a native prairie. The land had not seen row crops for decades, so its terracing was crumbling, and brome grass, which was still being cut for hay, was competing with cedar, locust and hedge for dominance.

The terraces were removed, as were the invasive plant species, which were replaced with a five-species mixture of native prairie grasses that can still be hayed but are perennials that need no fertilizing, irrigation or seeding. Head also had engineers create a network of "micro-wetlands" that catch and hold rain and encourage amphibians and birds to restore natural cycles of life on the property.

"It's like anything else," Weaver says. "Every little bit helps. I think that when other people see that project out there, they may want to emulate something like that on their own place."

John Head grew up on a farm in rural northeastern Missouri, attended Mizzou

and in 1975 accepted a Marshall Scholarship to attend Oxford University, where he earned an English law degree and discovered an unexpected interest in pursuing international law and a career outside the United States. He first returned for law school at the University of Virginia, then spent three grueling years immersed in international law while working in Washington, D.C., for a New York City firm.

He and Lucia in 1983 made their first trip to Asia, and he accepted a job based in Manila for the Asian Development Bank.

"My wife and I were both eager for adventure," Head says. "We wanted more exposure to life overseas. It was partly appealing to us because it was so exotic and unknown."

Head spent five years in that assignment, traveling throughout southern and eastern Asia to work as a lawyer for development projects to build hospitals, schools, roads, power grids and irrigation works. He spent two years with the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C., and in 1990 he turned his career toward academia at KU Law, where he has established himself as a prolific writer, researcher and teacher of international economic and environmental law, international institutions and comparative law. He recently published a book in another area of interest, Chinese law and history, written in collaboration with former graduate student Xing Lijuan, SJD'12, now assistant professor at City University of Hong Kong School of Law.

"His passion and his belief in his work makes me feel it is really a thing worth our labor and worth our attention," Xing, who contributed research on Chinese laws and programs to Head's grasslands book, says from her office in Hong Kong. "I think he is very gentle, and he is always very generous and open-minded. He seeks every opportunity to incorporate some things different from traditional perspectives."

Xing notes that long before Head turned his attention to researching and writing about international grassland protections,

his fondness for the natural world was evident—namely in the potted plants that blossomed in his fourth-floor Green Hall office, where large windows offer a sunny view of the Hill.

"There was a long period of time whenever I went into his office, it was like he was working in a forest," she recalls with a soft laugh. "He really enjoyed that, and I thought, 'This is fantastic.'"

On a Friday morning in mid-October, a vanload of KU faculty trucked west to Salina. A consortium dedicated to a reinvention of human interaction with the prairie was about to be born.

Hosting the event was The Land Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to transforming agriculture from annual crops sowed in monoculture expanses of otherwise barren land into a system of perennial grains grown in polyculture mixtures, mimicking the best traits of natural grasslands. Founded in 1976 by MacArthur "Genius Grant" winner Wes Jackson, g'60, and encouraged over the years by many of the region's foremost thinkers, researchers and artists, including Worster, recently retired from a long career at KU, and photographer Terry Evans, f'68, Land Institute researchers had in 2012 decided to rein in some of their nationally distributed research collaborations and instead work more closely with natural and social scientists at KU and K-State, where the range of available expertise far surpassed that of the Land Institute's focus on plant genetics.

Also spurring the coalition was a recent donation to the Land Institute of rich farmland north of Lawrence by Jim Haines, retired CEO of Westar Energy, and his wife, Cindy. The initial 65-acre gift, including a home built in the 1880s, will by January include 240 acres, with 100 acres of cropland now under perennial brome pasture. Once the site has been outfitted with lab equipment and baseline data gathered on fields before any research commences, it is anticipated that the farm will offer KU faculty and graduate students



“We might usefully regard the Earth’s soil, then, as an extremely thin ‘skin of life’ stretched over a dead rock. ... If it remains healthy, that ‘skin of life’ can create adequate food, feed, and fiber—and indeed, it can do so in luxurious abundance—for the benefit of all the creatures that live on it, including humans. Grasslands, perhaps more than any other type of biome or land-cover, help nurture the health of that “skin of life” by conserving the soil and allowing its regenerative powers to operate.”

—Head, *The World’s Grasslands*

hands-on work within the consortium’s shared mission.

“We’re calling it the ‘living lab,’” says Chris Brown, KU professor of environmental studies. “If you can’t show your students how they can take what they learn and actually see changes in the landscape around them, how can you expect them to go out and change the world?”

KU faculty attending the October meeting in Salina were drawn from such diverse departments as environmental studies, geography, sociology, history, the Spencer Museum of Art, ecology and evolutionary biology, anthropology, and, of course, law.

John Head had collaborated with Wes Jackson for years, including arranging meetings with Land Institute researchers and representatives from the World Bank, and dedicated his grasslands book to Jackson, among others. Though he has, without doubt, earned his place at the table, Head still treads softly when surrounded by researchers who lead the scientific inquiries into refitting modern prairie ecosystems.

“He’s constantly commenting on how he’s just figuring this out and has the least to offer of anyone,” says ecologist Tim Crews, the Land Institute’s director of research, “and yet he obviously has a lot to offer. I credit John with seeing a gap in policy and legal analysis, and his attention

to it has been brilliant. I had not thought about a lot of the issues he’s raised in his book, and continues to raise. I’m just thrilled he’s a part of this group.”

The Land Institute recently debuted a perennial grain that is a close relative to wheat, dubbed Kernza. Its flour has been used by beer masters at Boulevard and Free State breweries and bread makers at Wheatfields Bakery, and it is being grown on 100 acres in Minnesota to test its commercial possibilities.

Ultimately, though, the work of creating a perennial grain crop that replicates natural prairie—grown in polyculture acreage, with minimal need for human intervention for pest control or fertilization—will likely require decades of intense research. Recent research has begun exploring, with modern genetic tools, microbial interaction in the rooting zones of prairie ecosystems, a complexity that Crews describes as “off the charts, an absolute Library of Congress of ecological information.”

The first steps, including Kernza, are now coming to fruition, though Crews labels this stage as “training wheels.” Ultimately, he says, “you can think of a gradual curve starting today and 100, 150 years from now, the full-on turnover of the next agricultural revolution has happen. And 30 or 40 years from now, we’re going to be somewhere in between.”

Why care about the next generation of

agriculture technology? Why care about the prairie?


“We’re becoming bankrupt,” Crews says. “We have a yield ceiling. We have degrading soils. We have genetically engineered crops that are no longer working because the herbicides have been overcome by the weeds. Now we’re looking at prairie and going, wow, it maintains about the same level of productivity as a wheat crop here in Kansas with no inputs whatsoever. It doesn’t need herbicides and it doesn’t need to be reseeded. Basically, it just grows itself.”

Jim Weaver, the county conservationist who helped Head restore his land to native grasses, says he holds in his imagination the scene from “Dances With Wolves” when Kevin Costner’s character roams the prairie, holding his arms out above the tallgrass, “just enjoying the countryside. To me, the opportunity to maintain some of that natural area, knowing that it can still be done and that we can preserve it for our kids and their kids to see, just feels good.”

Head cautions that a solution to prairie restoration and a reformation of agriculture must take both short- and long-term perspectives. The immediate needs of feeding a hungry and growing world can’t be “shouldered to one side by long-term perspectives. There has to be a juggling act. Had our immediate predecessors not been so successful at plowing up the prairies, there might not be this confluence of short-term and long-term, but right now we’ve got them both. And it is right now, in the next 20 years, 40 years, 60 years I guess at the outside, that there has to be this balanced solution.”

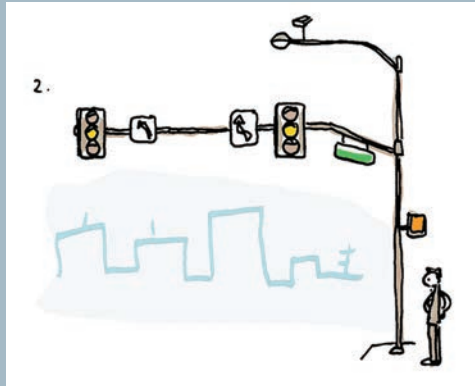
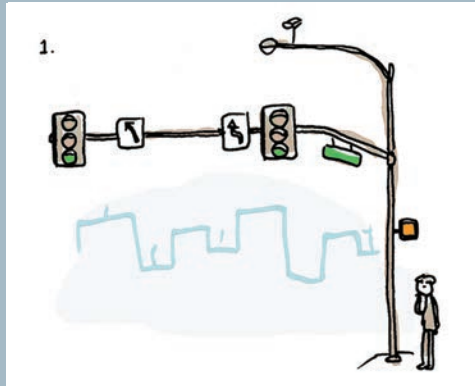
Success is far from certain.

“There might be some hope on the horizon,” Head says, in reference to younger generations who are showing themselves to be faithful to needs of the lands they’ll inherit. “That’s a silver lining in a dark cloud. Maybe we have a rising tide of appreciation and enthusiasm.”

And this time, perhaps we’ll get it right, wonderfully, eternally right. 



FALL IN THE CITY





The Incidental Comic



Grant Snider's vocational double take delivers smiles all around

Grant Snider must be getting his career counseling from Yogi Berra: When he came to a fork in the road, he took it.

Snider, '07, leads a double life as the “creator of Incidental Comics by night, mover of teeth by day,” as the motto that accompanies his whimsical, charmingly offbeat drawings attests.

A dental school graduate who is finishing the orthodontics program at the University of Colorado Denver, Snider also is enjoying increasing success as a cartoonist: Four of his pieces are included in *The Best American Comics 2013*, published this fall by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

The twofold professional focus is just the sort of surprising juxtaposition that peppers his cartoons, which have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Kansas City*

by Steven Hill

Portrait by Mark Wolcott

Star and other newspapers, and on his website, incidentalcomics.com.

Traffic lights turn from green to yellow to red and then tumble to the street to be raked into piles in “Fall in the City.” Pachyderms meet picas in “The Elephants of Typography.” “Shakespeare in the Park” finds fun in a literal, decidedly unliterary interpretation of the title.

“I went into college not really knowing what I wanted to do,” says Snider, who left the School of Engineering after his junior year to enter the University of Missouri Kansas City’s early enrollment program for dental school. “I knew I wanted some kind of science or analytical career, and dentistry seemed like a good

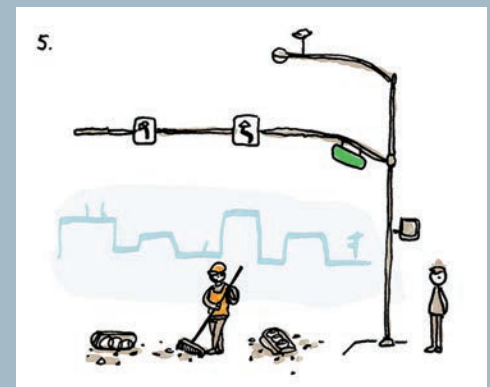
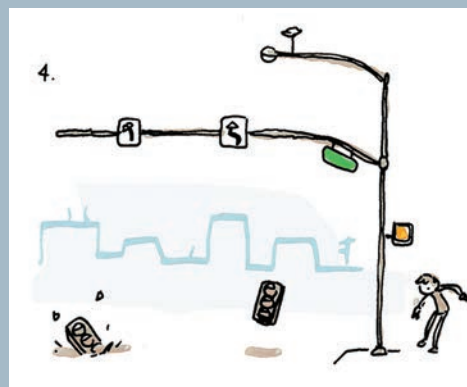
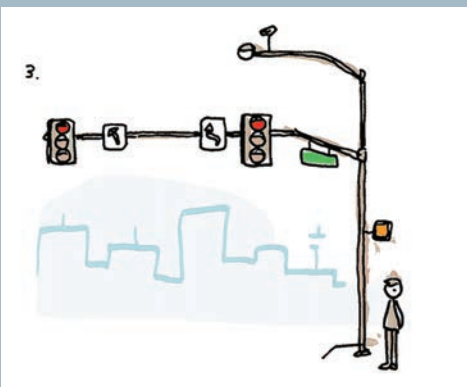
fit after I explored a little.

“I never saw myself doing art as a career; it just grew out of the chance I got with my initial strips.”

That chance came when he submitted work to *The University Daily Kansan* and landed a gig drawing a daily comic strip for the student paper’s opinion page throughout 2007. Though he’d been an enthusiastic artist as a kid growing up in Derby, the *Kansan* job was his first publishing experience. It proved to be a turning point.

“Part of creative vanity is seeing your work in print, and that’s one of the cool things about cartooning,” Snider says. “Knowing your little drawing is going to be seen by a bunch of different people was a big rush for me. Still is.”

While finishing his degree at UMKC, he published cartoons in *University News*,



PLAY EACH DAY LIKE Jazz.

BE COOL.

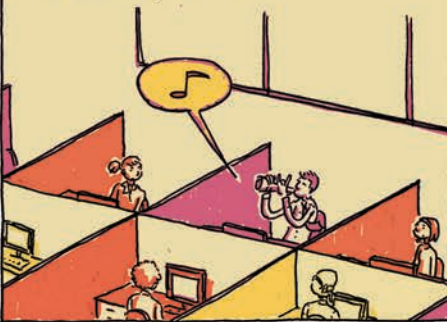
BUT DON'T BE TOO SMOOTH.



DEVELOP A SENSE OF STRUCTURE AND REPETITION.



DON'T HESITATE TO IMPROVISE.



LISTEN. LET OTHERS BOUNCE IDEAS OFF OF YOU.



RETURN TO A SATISFYING THEME.



END IN A FREE JAZZ FREAKOUT!



Cartoonist Grant Snider draws inspiration from other art forms such as music and literature in his drawings, which often bounce between whimsical visual poetry and wry commentary.

The Pitch and Lawrence.com. In 2008 he won the \$10,000 Charles M. Schulz Award for college cartoonists. That recognition led to a three-year run drawing a weekly comic for the Kansas City Star. The half-page, multi-panel cartoon “was the second step in developing my voice and really learning how to make a comic strip,” he says.

Snider’s drawings combine a writer’s love of wordplay with an illustrator’s affinity for visual puns. He usually starts with a script and relies on the words to suggest images. “If the words don’t bring images to mind,” he says, “they’re probably not the right words.”

Subjects range from the highly personal and autobiographical (the creative pressures of drawing a weekly cartoon is a recurring theme) to universal topics such as architecture, music, modern art and graphic design; and abstract concepts like the nature of ambition and self-doubt.

“Some of them are almost like self-help manuals for myself,” Snider says. “If I read about a concept that’s obscure or foreign to me, turning it into a drawing is my way of better understanding it. Cliff notes in comic form.”

Snider’s twin brother, Gavin, a’09, says the drawings are the best window into Grant’s personality, which can come across as reserved and serious in person.

“He’s not going to be the guy at the party telling jokes,” Gavin says. “He’s the guy in the corner who makes a comment under his breath that five people hear and laugh really hard.”

“On second thought,” Gavin says, “he’s not going to be at the party at all: He’s going to be home drawing.”

“The great thing about Grant is that he really does have a voice of his own,” says Nicholas Blechman, art director of the New York Times Sunday Book Review. “Not only with his illustration style but also with his humor, his whole personality really comes through, and it’s very clever and very witty. He has incredibly razor-sharp wit and he’s very funny and very ironic.”

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

I like this place, and willingly could waste my time in it!



A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.



Out, damned Spot!
Out, I say!



A dish fit for the gods...



My love's more richer than my tongue!



Can one desire too much of a good thing?



Something wicked this way comes.



Cry "Havoc!" and let slip the dogs of war!



Let us make an honorable retreat!



GRANT SNIDER

The Times first bought unsolicited self-standing drawings from Snider and then commissioned work to illustrate reviews, columns and Sunday magazine pieces.

"It's very rare to find someone who can think well and draw well, who has a very defined aesthetic and also can write," Blechman says. "He does both. He has a real design sense and his colors are beautiful. Often with cartoonists you love the humor and personality but don't like the drawings. With him, they both come together."

Mixing high art with low is often a way to puncture pretentiousness, and that's something Snider clearly delights in. "My Neighbor Magritte," one in a series of cartoons on modern art, has fun with the pros and cons of living next door to a surrealist icon. "Shakespeare in the Park" turns the phrase's usual connotation of open-air summer theatre on its head and instead portrays a roguish Bard spouting famous lines from his plays while stirring up trouble in a modern-day park. "The Story Coaster," which appeared in the Book Review in July, likens the writing and reading experience to a theme park ride.

"With a lot of arts, whether literature or architecture or graphic design, there's an element of pretentiousness in the way they are usually talked about that makes it inaccessible or not fun," Snider says. "I think at some level what I'm trying to do is bring it down to a more humorous level that's more appealing."

Blechman says there's a certain naive quality and a lack of self-consciousness to Snider's work that appeal to him, along with a minimalist drawing style that allows him to keep the focus on ideas. "That kind of goes along with this notion that he's trying to knock down pretension," Blechman says. "But it's the stories themselves, it's the wit above all that makes it so great."

"Grant Snider's work is smart, inventive, literary and very, very funny," says Pamela Paul, editor of the Sunday Book Review. "He really gets the world of books."

“It’s very rare to find someone who can think well and draw well, who has a very defined aesthetic and also can write. He does both. He has a real design sense and his colors are beautiful.”

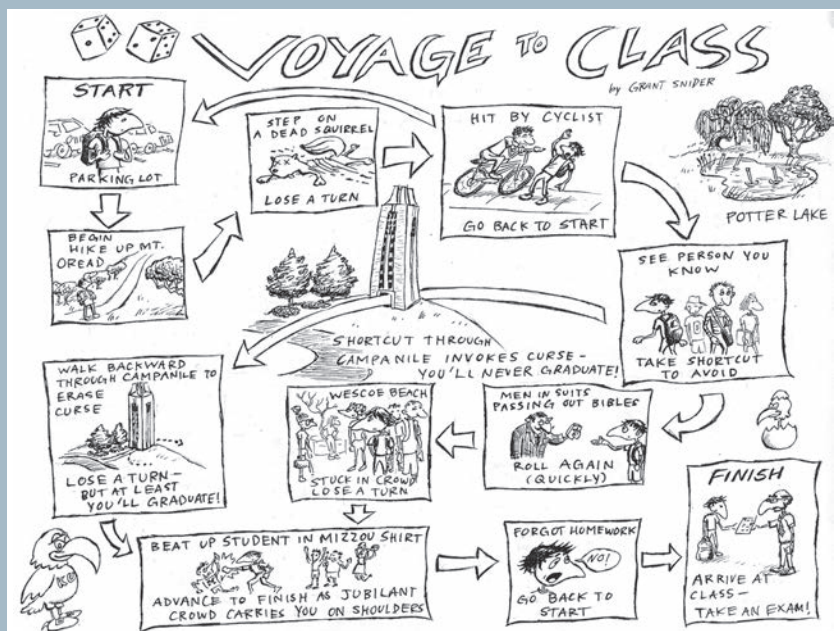
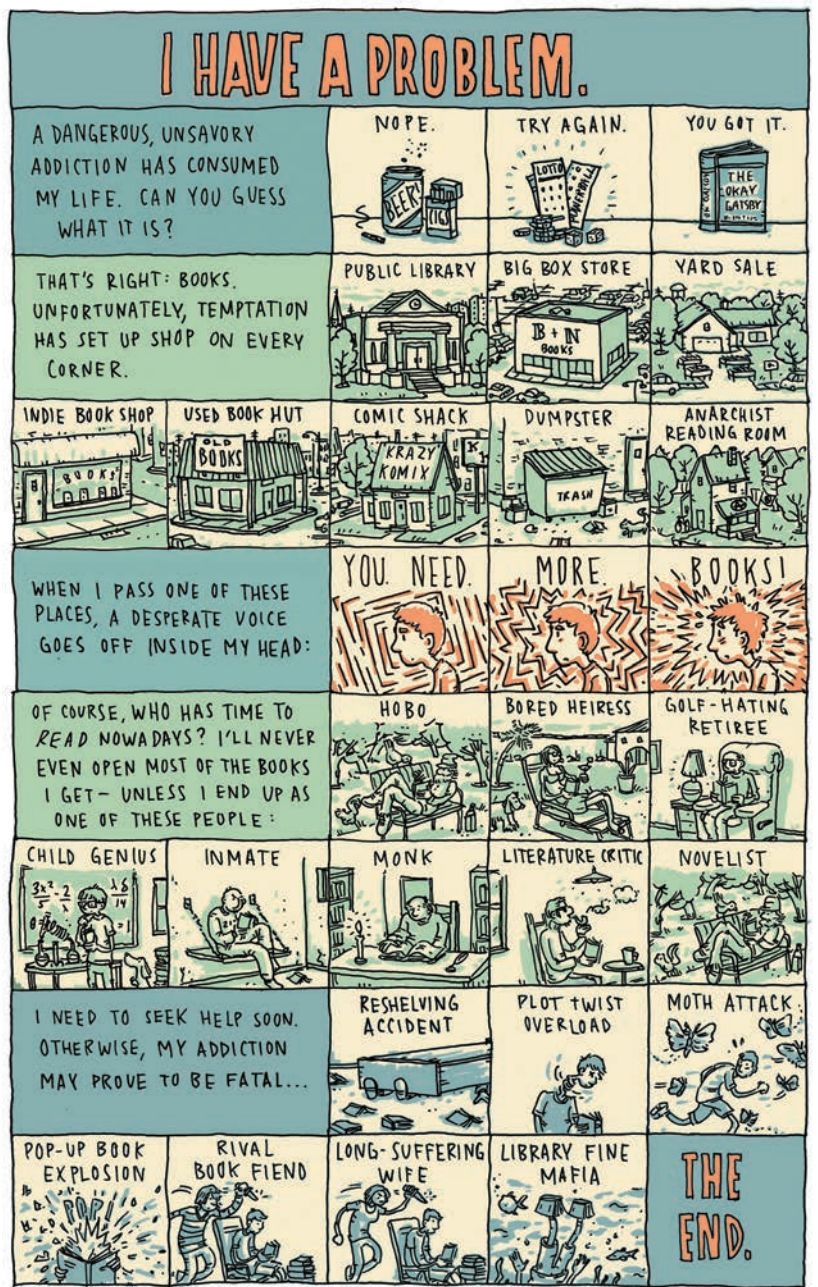
—Nicholas Blechman, art director of the New York Times Sunday Book Review

Snider is quick to turn his sharp humor on himself, too: One of his favorite targets is artistic angst, and many of his cartoons bemoan creative pressures—a very real concern for someone trying to balance a demanding professional program and a growing family. Snider and his wife, Kayla, are expecting their second child this spring, soon after he begins his career as an orthodontist.

He finds time to draw during breaks between classes, and he keeps notebooks to jot down ideas as they occur. He draws the text and images by hand and then uses a computer program for coloring and fine-tuning. Nights and weekends he gets his serious drawing work done, racing to fill a self-imposed deadline of one comic a week. He hopes a four-day work week will give him a little more time for cartooning once school ends and work begins.

“The fact that I’m not doing it full time I don’t see as a big issue,” Snider says. “I don’t think I’d be at this point in my art career if I didn’t have the other stuff going on simultaneously. Having something to push against, to escape from, gives me a kind of drive.”

Constraint, after all, is what drawing comics is all about: Telling a clear story



within the confines of a two-dimensional panel, using the fewest words and lines possible, is the essence of the cartoonist's form.

"When I have an unlimited amount of time to work on something it doesn't necessarily get done better or more effectively than when I have a limited deadline. I think constraints are pretty important to my drawings, but also to my drawing life."

As kids, Grant and Gavin sat on opposite sides of an easel and told each other stories about the pictures they were drawing.

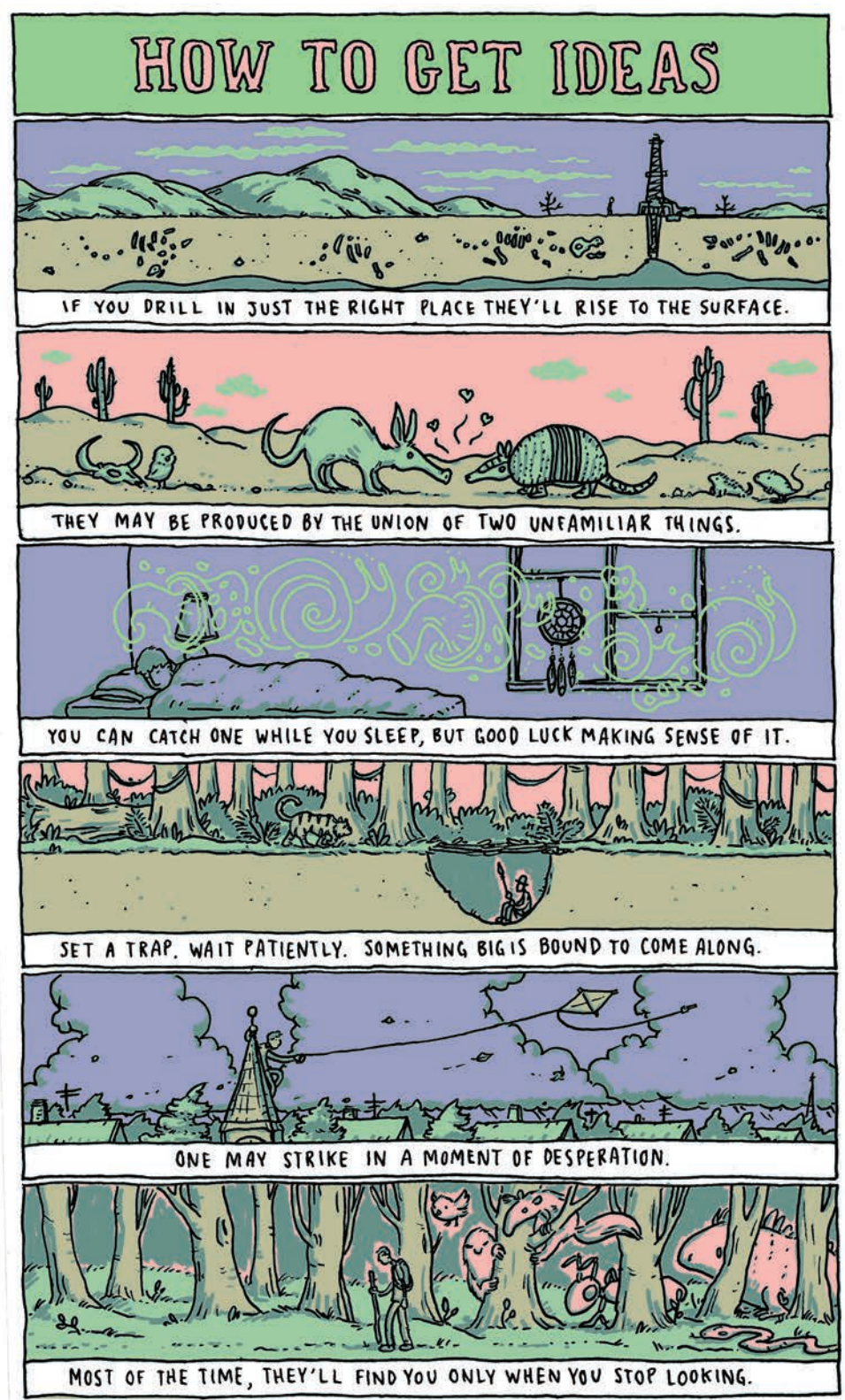
"Having him sitting across from me drove me on," says Gavin, who is an architect and illustrator. "Hopefully I did the same for him. He has continued that childhood storytelling, really.

"He's always looking for the next step to take with his drawings, the next thing to get excited about. That's what Grant's comics are based on: the different things in his life, in the world, that he's excited about. It's that fascination he's trying to mine in his cartoons."

Snider's comics may be "incidental," but there's nothing casual or subordinate about them. If anything, Snider says, he's more ambitious about his incidental career than his dental career. His highest hope is to someday publish a book of his work, whether a collection of cartoons, a graphic novel or a children's story. Meanwhile, he sees no need to choose one job over the other.

"I think doing [cartooning] full time is a recipe for going crazy, just sitting in a room with my pencil and paper and my thoughts, so it's good for me to have a job that gets me out among people," Snider says. "At the same time, I need the more introspective time drawing gives me. I'm definitely going to try to find a balance, but whether that's 50-50 or 60-40 is hard for me to tell now. I'm looking forward to finding that out."

Visit www.kansalumnimagazine.com to view more of Grant Snider's art.



"I always had a passion for drawing," says Snider, "but never had an outlet until college," when the University Daily Kansan published his work (left). Now cartoons are both source and subject of his creativity, providing playful counterpoint to the more analytical demands of a dental career.

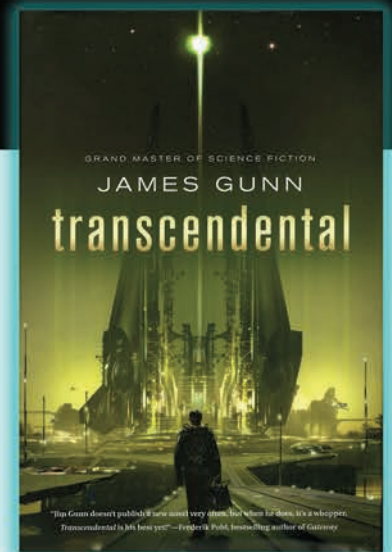
M Masterwork

With a new novel attracting rave reviews, a science fiction Grand Master caps a career as big as the genre itself

Over James Gunn's shoulder, Mount Oread glows in the liquid late-afternoon light of autumn. It's a beautiful October day, but Gunn, the esteemed author and editor of more than 40 books of fiction and nonfiction in a career that dates back to the 1950s, is indifferent to the glorious views framed by floor-to-ceiling windows in the Kansas Union. He is light years away, traversing the cold blackness of space with a dozen aliens on a pilgrimage to distant galaxies as he reads the opening chapter of his new novel, *Transcendental*, to fans and colleagues gathered at Oread Bookstore to hear from KU's own Grand Master of science fiction.

The release of Gunn's first new book since *Gift From the Stars* in 2005 caps a busy year for the professor emeritus of English, who retired in 1993 but has remained a steadfast presence in his Wescoe Hall office. In April, Scarecrow Press published *Paratexts: Introductions to Science*

Fiction and Fantasy, a collection of the many essays and prefaces Gunn, j'47, g'51, has written for his own books and others. His 1975 chronicle of the genre, *Alternate Worlds: The Illustrated History of Science Fiction*, will soon be published in China with new and updated material. This summer he was the guest of honor at WorldCon 2013, the annual convention that is the science fiction world's Final Four and Super Bowl rolled into one. And there's more to come: Tor Books, the publisher of *Transcendental*, will release his early novel *Star Bridge* as part of its classic reprint series, and Gunn has plans for two more novels that would expand *Transcendental* into his first trilogy.



by **Steven Hill**

Portrait by Steve Puppe





A space epic, *Transcendental* harks back to Gunn's earliest novels. The first, *This Fortress World*, was published in 1955 to indifferent notices but hailed as a classic upon its reissue in 2010. The second, *Star Bridge*, also from 1955, initially drew faint praise from *The New York Times*, which called the collaboration with Jack Williamson a "fast-moving blood-and-thunder novel." Upon its reissue in 1977, Gerald Jonas, the *Times*' longtime science fiction critic, expressed his astonishment that not only had he not read the book, he'd never

even heard of it. "This obscure collaboration between Williamson and Gunn reads more like a collaboration between Heinlein and Asimov," Jonas wrote. Praising both the book's ambitious vision and the physical immediacy of its vivid writing, he noted approvingly that (like the titans of science fiction their work brought to mind) "Williams and Gunn understand that the grander the concept, the more the reader craves specifics."

Recognition for *Transcendental* has been more immediate. *Locus*, a magazine in the

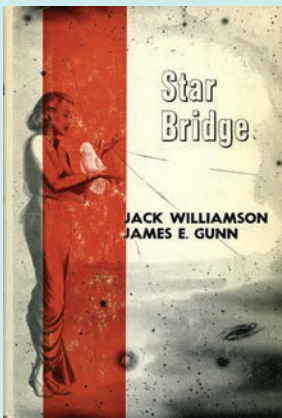
Nearly 60 years after his first novel was published, James Gunn still relishes the challenge of exploring new ideas and new worlds in fiction. "Writing was always my way of feeling that I was doing something worth doing. The last thing in the world I want to do is feel that what I'm engaged in doesn't matter."

science fiction and fantasy field, praised the novel as "wise, clever, surprising, hip and au courant," noting that it equals or tops Gunn's previous landmark works, earning "a permanent rank in the extended canon of our genre." *Kirkus Reviews* called it "Gunn's best in years—quite possibly his best ever."

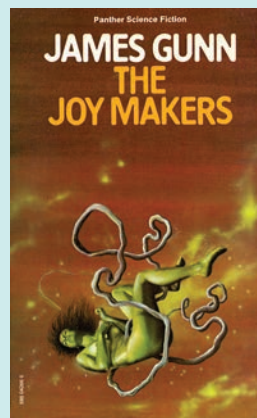
"For some reason, this novel has gotten more great reviews than any I've written before," Gunn says during the Q-and-A that follows his reading. "Mostly the history of my relationship with reviewers has been that when the books come out, they don't like it, but then 20 years later they get great reviews."

"I'm not sure whether it's because they figure it's unusual for someone 90 years old to write and publish a novel," he says with a wry smile, "or whether there are some intrinsic merits they are observing."

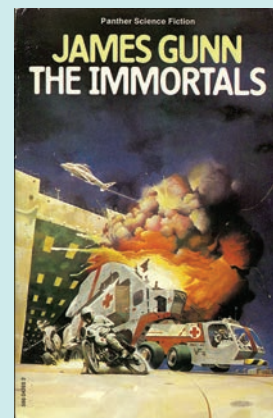
Along with *Gift From the Stars*, a novel in six parts about humankind's reaction to



Star Bridge, 1955



The Joy Makers, 1961



The Immortals, 1962

alien contact, *Transcendental* marks a completion of the grand arc of Gunn's writing life: beginning with traditional far-future "space operas," then shifting to books more concerned with the social impact of change on Earth, before finally bending back once again to intergalactic adventure on a grand scale. Yet Gunn's latest is not merely a throwback to the simple adventure tales he read as a kid and adopted in his earliest books. (The term "space opera," though eventually applied to such classics as the Star Wars saga, was coined to deride swashbuckling yarns of the Flash Gordon/Buck Rogers stripe.)

"He's not falling back on old themes; he's not somebody who's just returning in a nostalgic way to the fiction of his youth," says Kij Johnson, assistant professor of creative writing at KU and a writer of award-winning science fiction and fantasy. "He's writing newly thought-through stuff. *Transcendental* really is an excellent book, probably his best book, without exaggeration. And *Paratexts* is a great insight into an incredibly good analytical mind that's focused itself on science fiction. The fact that he produced those two in his 90th year, to me, is completely admirable."

Indeed, the new novel's embrace of big ideas and a layered, complex narrative structure that borrows from *The Canterbury Tales* reflect the sophistication and maturation that have transformed Gunn's work and the field he has been most closely associated with throughout his

"For some reason, this novel has gotten more great reviews than any I've written before. Mostly the history of my relationship with reviewers has been that when the books come out, they don't like it, but then 20 years later they get great reviews."

—James Gunn, on his novel *Transcendental*

long career. As has been the case so often in his writing life, James Gunn's newest contribution to the genre shows just how far science fiction has come.

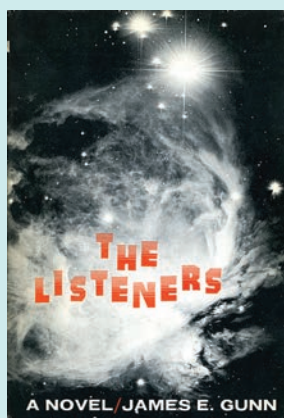
"There aren't many writers who in their lifetime can span the whole modern history of a genre," says John Kessel, g'74, g'78, PhD'81, a science fiction author, professor and former Gunn student. "Jim can. In some ways, his career represents the main thread of science fiction's development."

Gunn was 3 when the first science fiction magazine, *Amazing Stories*, was published in 1926. Issue No. 1 included stories by Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, whose American lecture tour Gunn attended as a child. He experienced the thrill of seeing his name in print early on when he wrote a poem in kindergarten and his father—a printer by trade—printed cards with the verse. "I got the idea I suspect very early that it was really great

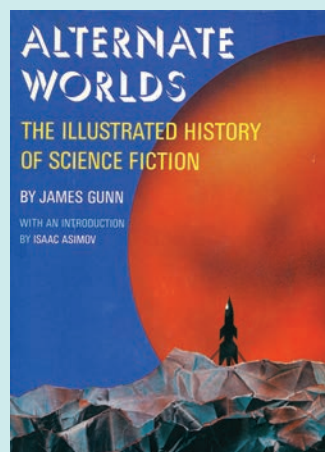
to get things written and see them published," he recalls with a chuckle.

He discovered a trove of Tarzan books in his grandmother's closet, his first encounter with adventure narratives and fantastic plots. In 1933, when Gunn was 10, his father began bringing home copies of the first hero pulp magazines: *Doc Savage*, *The Shadow*, *Operator No. 5*. He would eventually take the dog-eared pulps to Andy's, a bookstore in hometown Kansas City, to trade for science fiction magazines. By 16 he had written his first story and sent it to *Astounding Science Fiction*; edited by John W. Campbell, *Astounding* was the Mount Olympus of the genre and Campbell, who is credited with helping shape the Golden Age of science fiction then underway, was its Zeus. He rejected that first submission, but by the 1950s Gunn was regularly selling stories to Campbell—at 2 cents a word—and to other pulp magazines such as *Galaxy* and *Dynamic Science Fiction*.

When Gunn was trading magazines



The Listeners, 1972



Alternate Worlds: The Illustrated History of Science Fiction, 1975



Kampus, 1977

at Andy's, modern science fiction was still in its infancy—though it felt much more venerable when he tried to break in a few years later.

“When I began writing, in 1948, I really thought of science fiction as being this historical, ancestral, traditional field that I was a newcomer in,” Gunn says. “But as I look back on it, John Campbell had been editor of *Astounding* only 10 years; Asimov and Heinlein and Sturgeon had only been writing for nine years, so it was not that established.”

After *This Fortress World* and *Star Bridge* netted him only a few hundred bucks, Gunn—then trying to make it as a full-time freelance writer—changed his approach. Instead of writing space epics, he decided to write stories focused on more contemporary issues, which he could sell to magazines and later package as novels. “That’s how I got my motto, which I passed on to my fiction writing students: Nothing is worth writing unless you can imagine selling it twice.”

The Joy Makers and *The Immortals*, which followed in the early 1960s, both addressed the social impacts of change; the books dealt with philosophical concepts rather than adventure.

“I had realized things were happening in the contemporary world,” Gunn says, “that were perhaps more important to deal with.” The McCarthy era, the Cold War and the student protest movement were among them. “I began focusing on today’s

world and how it might work out in the next 25, 50 or 100 years rather than 1,000 years in the future. My writing changed more toward the socially significant.”

Abetting that change was the rise of a new magazine, *Galaxy*. Edited by Horace Gold, *Galaxy* took a more expansive view of science fiction that welcomed a focus on psychology and sociology.

“The fact that *Galaxy* was one of his regular markets says a lot,” notes Chris McKitterick, director of the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction, which Gunn founded at KU in 1982 to promote scholarship on the genre. “*Astounding* was the center of science fiction, which everybody read and where everybody wanted to get published, but all the other magazines filled niches that would later rise to prominence.”

Galaxy’s niche, says McKitterick, g’96, was social science fiction.

“It was all about the human experience of change. And that really is the center of how Jim defined science fiction. He never focused on technology. Technology is a means for him to tell a story, but the story is about people. Science fiction is the literature of change affecting the human species.”

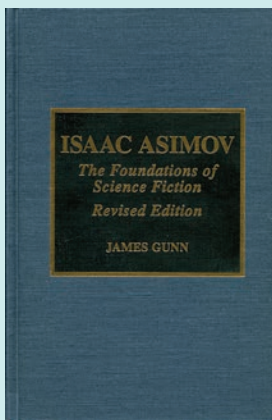
Gunn began to come into his own as a writer, McKitterick feels, when he broke free of the traditional restrictions of Golden Age science fiction. Like many of

the New Wave science fiction writers who would follow, Gunn was writing about the individual in conflict with society, and bringing the tools and techniques of literary fiction to bear on a genre viewed (as a KU professor once told him during his student days) as “chiefly sub-literary.” His 1972 novel, *The Listeners*, considered by many to be his best, is a good example.

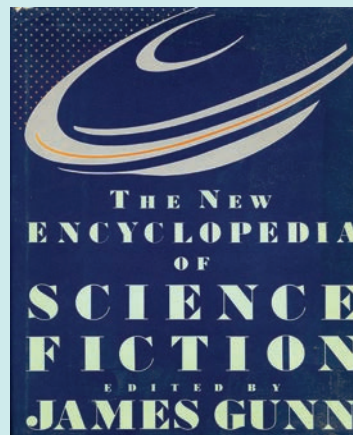
“*The Listeners* just astounded me, because here’s a man who, when you speak to him or read his scholarly work, he’s erudite and analytical and sees himself as a Golden Age author,” McKitterick says. “But in his fiction he was writing essentially what is really becoming popular today. What he does thematically is New Wave; it’s using mainstream literary qualities but bringing a science fiction sensibility to it. I think that’s really at the core of why his literature is important.”

The story of a search for extraterrestrial intelligence that receives a message from aliens, *The Listeners* inspired Carl Sagan’s novel *Contact* (which in turn inspired Gunn’s *Gift From the Stars*). It also inspired John Kessel, who came to KU in 1972 to study with Gunn, then one of the few college professors teaching science fiction.

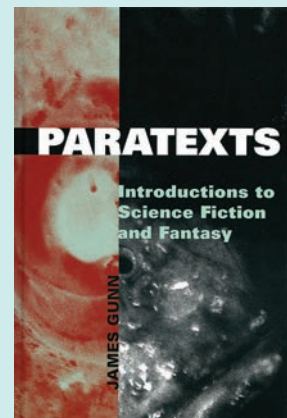
“He’s one of the guys who applied literary values to fiction that wasn’t considered literary,” Kessel says. “He wrote books that understood the way society works, and the personal cost for the people involved. *The Listeners* is about listening for extraterrestrial signals from outer



Isaac Asimov: *The Foundations of Science Fiction*, 1982



The New Encyclopedia of Science Fiction, 1988



Paratexts: Introduction to Science Fiction and Fantasy, 2013



space, and at the same time the man running the project, his marriage is not going so well because he's not really communicating with his wife, who's alienated from him.

"That's pretty smart; that's not something a pulp writer in the 1930s would do. That was very influential on me, and that became the kind of science fiction I wanted to write."

Gunn went on to write *Kampus* (1977), which portrays the world student rebels might have made had they been successful, and *The Millennium Blues* (2001), which Gunn calls "my attempt to write a mainstream novel with literary values and speculative potential about the end of the second millennium." Finding a publisher proved difficult, and the 20-year project suffered a Y2K jinx when the house that bought it closed before the novel could be published.

"Much of what I was writing then I would have been far more interested in having published as social commentary rather than science fiction," Gunn says. "But once you're labeled a science fiction writer, it's difficult to find an editor who's willing to see you in any other terms."

Take the reception of his short story "The Old Folks." He sent it to the slicks

still abundant at the time—*Colliers*, the *Saturday Evening Post*—and got polite rejections. "Most of them said, 'We don't publish science fiction,'" Gunn recalls. "So I sent it to the science fiction magazines, who said, 'This isn't science fiction.'"

Says McKitterick, "Here is a man who as a little boy saw H.G. Wells, who was getting published regularly by Campbell in *Astounding*, was a mainstay at *Galaxy* when it was the core of what science fiction later becomes. He was taking a very literary approach back when that wasn't what science fiction was about. He was one of the first people to do things that felt like Cyberpunk. He has always been a little ahead of the curve of what science fiction is doing."

T*ranscendental* follows Riley, a grizzled veteran of a recently ended intergalactic war, as he sets out on a new mission: He has been enlisted by a mysterious employer to join a pilgrimage headed for the far reaches of the universe to find a Transcendental Machine rumored to confer perfection on any creature that enters it. Joining him are pilgrims, some human, some alien. Unknown is which passengers are secret agents like Riley and



Gunn won a Hugo Award in 1983 for *Isaac Asimov: The Foundations of Science Fiction*, his definitive critical study of the prolific writer's contributions to the genre. The Grand Master award from the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America in 2007 recognized Gunn's own lifetime achievements as a writer, scholar and teacher.

.....

which is the Prophet who will lead the ship and its passengers to transcendence. Riley's orders are to secure the machine for humans; failing that, he is to kill the Prophet and destroy the machine.

During the long journey on the starship *Geoffrey*, passengers take turns telling their story (à la Chaucer), revealing, detail by detail, an intergalactic world full of alien races shaped in different ways by their environment and showing each creature's motives for attaining perfection.

Many elements of the tale—the long journey through space, the setting far in the future, the epic scale of a universe brimming with alien civilizations in violent conflict—are hallmarks of classic space opera. Gunn's take, characteristically, is to make the classic new.

“There aren’t many writers who in their lifetime can span the whole modern history of a genre. Jim can. In some ways, his career represents the main thread of science fiction’s development.”

—John Kessel

“I view it as going back to an old traditional form to bring it up to date and see how it’s been transformed by what has happened in the field,” Gunn says. “It’s a return 60 years later with what I hope are greater skills, greater accomplishment. I certainly hope I’ve learned something.”

The biggest difference now is the emphasis on ideas in addition to action.

The Transcendental Machine is a device that can realize the potential of any creature that passes through it, instantly achieving the goal toward which evolution is inexorably driving all living things at its own, much slower pace, “the one thing,” Gunn says, “that life is all about: final perfection.” By making it the object of his characters’ quest, Gunn addresses the notion (expressed in Cory and Alexei Panshin’s book about Golden Age science fiction, *The World Beyond the Hill*) that the genre itself is all about transcendence. Gunn himself has argued, in many of his essays over the years, that science fiction is strongly influenced by Darwin’s theory of evolution. It’s the one genre that deals with the idea that humanity is changing, he believes, the one genre which recognizes that by transforming our environment—especially our technologies—we are also transforming ourselves.

“I do think *Transcendental* represents a final summing up of what I’ve learned,”

Gunn says, “of what I think is the mission of science fiction: seeking answers to the basic questions of who we are, why are we here, how did we get here and where’s it all going to end?”

These questions, Gunn notes, are the same questions religions raise. “Science fiction is trying to do the same sorts of things that religions do,” he says, “but without presenting any definitive answers.”

In 2007, the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America named Gunn a Grand Master, an honor that recognizes his lifetime achievements as a writer, scholar and teacher of science fiction. Only 29

writers have earned the elite designation since the award was started in 1975, among them such giants as Robert Heinlein, Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke and Ursula Le Guin. In his acceptance speech, Gunn explained a phrase he signs to e-mails and letters: “Let’s save the world through science fiction.”

“It’s hyperbole, of course,” Gunn said. “I’m not sure the world is in danger of destruction, though it may be, and if it is I’m not sure anyone or anything can save it. But I think we need to try, not in any specific way but in the spreading of science fiction’s capabilities as far as we can. From my earliest contacts with SF, I recognized qualities that I did not find in other kinds of fiction: a realization of the continuity of existence from the remote past to the distant future, the relationship of present decisions and actions to the futures we and our descendants will inhabit, a recognition of mutual humanity that emphasizes species concerns above those of individuals or tribes or nations, a willingness to work together for a better world, and general good will.

“H. G. Wells said that the world was in a race between education and catastrophe, and called for an ‘open conspiracy’ of people of good will to create a better world. I think SF is a major part of that education, and we all can help by intro-

ducing more people into its charms and values, particularly young people.”

Gunn’s own impact on subsequent generations was on vivid display at WorldCon this summer. At the tribute banquet—attended by movers and shakers of the science fiction and fantasy field—someone asked those who’d studied with Gunn to stand.

“Something like 40 writers, editors and publishers stood up,” recalls Kij Johnson, who is also associate director of the Gunn Center. “The center, to my mind, is one of his greatest contributions to science fiction, because it was the first academic research center to address the study of science fiction literature as form—and that’s really impressive. But his impact on the field is not just that he organized its study to a large extent or that he wrote important fiction, it’s that he affected so many people who then became writers and editors and professors.”

Because of Gunn, McKitterick says, KU has been for years a magnet for people who want to study, teach and write science fiction. “And all these people have gone off and spread the gospel of Jim, to the point that it’s almost impossible to find a portion of North American science fiction—and parts of European science fiction as well—that were not influenced by Jim Gunn.”

Transcendental may be the last novel he writes, Gunn says. But it won’t be for lack of ideas. He already has scenarios in mind for the two sequels, and he is entertaining the idea of having McKitterick and Johnson write alternating chapters with him. “We would have a sort of trilogy of writers,” he says with delight. “I don’t think it’s ever been done that way, and I’m always interested in trying new things.”

What an apt result of Gunn’s long run of wonder years at play among the stars: That after writing his summing up, after tackling the big ideas of science fiction’s very purpose and bringing his own substantial contribution to this restless, questing form into focus, James Gunn arrives at a point where more books are required to tell the story, more lessons are left to learn, and more questions need to be asked.



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Association



Martin and Cynthia Blair



David and Gunda Hiebert

More than 2,000 volunteers help carry out the Association's programs to strengthen KU. The Mildred Clodfelter and Dick Wintermote awards recognize their work and honor the memory of Association leaders who recruited countless volunteers.

Millie's legacy

Local volunteers continue tradition of veteran staff member

Alumni from San Diego, Denver, Ellinwood and Lawrence are the winners of the 2013 Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award. They are Martin, g'76, and Cynthia Steineger Blair, a'74, a'75; David, m'61, and Gunda Hiebert, '76; Charles Rhoades, c'03; and Monty Strecker, b'80.

The "Millie" recognizes Jayhawks who have served as KU ambassadors in their local communities for 10 years or more,

and it honors the memory of Clodfelter, b'41, for her 47 years of service to the University—including 42 years working at the Association.

As Alumni Association Life Members and KU

Endowment Chancellors Club members, the Blairs have volunteered in the San Diego area, and their restaurant, Kansas City Barbeque, has been a haven for Jayhawks and a KU watch site for 30 years. Martin served on the board of the San Diego chapter for more than 10 years, including four years as president. They

have helped recruit prospective students at college fairs, and they have hosted congratulatory lunches for new students at their restaurant. Cindy, a third-generation Jayhawk, has served on the Chancellor's Advisory Board for three years. She continues to work as an architect, while Martin operates Kansas City Barbeque.

Hiebert and his wife, Gunda, have been devoted patrons of the arts of KU, opening their Lawrence home for more than 700 musical recitals featuring students, faculty and visiting artists. For each performance, the Hieberts welcome 20 to 25 guests to their home, which also has become a favorite bed-and-breakfast, offering free lodging for visiting faculty and guest artists of the School of Music. They have served on the dean's Camerata, with Gunda as chair, and they helped bring the annual International Institute for Young Musicians to Lawrence each summer. They also have volunteered for the Lied Center as members of the Friends of the Lied board, serving a combined five terms. They have served on the School of Fine Arts advisory board, and they are members of the Friends of the Spencer Museum of Art; Gunda led the board as president

and participated in the search for a new museum director. They are members of the Chancellors Club, and David is an Alumni Association Life Member and Endacott Society member. As a radiologist, he worked at several northeast Kansas hospitals, including the Watkins Memorial Hospital. He also served as the team physician for KU athletes from 1971 to 1988. Gunda was co-owner of The Bay Leaf in downtown Lawrence.

Rhoades, a third-generation Jayhawk and Association Life Member, has served the Denver Chapter in several leadership roles since 2004, currently as the social chairman. He was instrumental in crafting new alumni events for the chapter and continues to welcome new Jayhawks to the Denver area. Charlie is a senior financial adviser for US Bank.

Strecker, of Ellinwood, has volunteered in the Great Bend area for many years and served on the Association's national Board of Directors from 2003 to 2006. He helped develop the Golden Belt Chapter in 2006 and served as president. He has also volunteered as a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education since the 1990s, and has supported the local Kansas Honors Program. He is currently a Presidents Club member. Monty serves as president of INA Alert Inc., A/R Management and Cornerstone Healthcare. He also serves as managing partner for Country Place Senior Living.



Charles Rhoades



Monty Strecker

Chapter champs

Leaders chalk up banner years for alumni groups

Five energetic Association leaders are the 2013 winners of the Dick Wintermote Volunteer of the Year Award. They are Kent Colvin of the Southwest Kansas Chapter; Mike Denning, c'82, of the Veterans Alumni Chapter; Steve Dillard, c'75, of the Wichita Chapter; Rita Holmes-Bobo, b'82, g'84, of the Black Alumni Chapter; and Sean O'Grady, j'04, of the Denver Chapter.

The award annually recognizes alumni who have exhibited outstanding leadership of their local chapters. Dick Wintermote, c'51, served as executive director of the Association from 1963 to 1983, helping to build a strong volunteer network of Jayhawks through the years.

Colvin, assoc., who lives in Liberal, helped start the Southwest Kansas Chapter seven years ago and continues to assist with chapter events, including the annual Southwest Jayhawk Tumble. He is also a member of the Association's Presidents Club. He is chief operations officer for High Plains Pizza.

Denning helped found the Veterans Alumni Chapter in 2012, and he leads the group as president. To continue a tradition shared by all branches of military service, the chapter created its own Challenge Coin for chapter members. The group hosted the Veterans Day Run and, with Kansas Athletics, the chapter designated a KU football game as a Salute to Service

Day. Since 2011, Denning has directed the University's Office of Graduate Military Programs, leading KU's efforts to promote advanced academic and research initiatives in support of the U.S. Armed Forces. He oversees the Wounded Warrior Education and Scholarship programs. He retired in 2009 as a colonel from the U.S. Marine Corps following 27 years of service, including three tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. He is an Association Life Member.

Dillard currently leads the Wichita Chapter as president. As an Association Life Member, he has served on the chapter board for six years, and has been a host, sponsor and attendee of the Jayhawk Roundup, Wichita's annual fall event that includes hundreds of alumni and friends. He is also a member of the Association's Presidents Club. He is vice president of Pickrell Drilling Co.

Holmes-Bobo, of Ballwin, Mo., completed her second year as president of the Black Alumni Chapter in November. She has volunteered for many leadership roles in the chapter and has helped organize several reunions. During the past year, the chapter has hosted events in Kansas City, Houston, Chicago and Washington, D.C., and celebrated the 2013 graduates with its annual Congratulatory Graduation Banquet in May. The chapter also continued its African-American Leaders and Innovators Project, honoring nine alumni for their outstanding professional contributions. Holmes-Bobo is president and CEO of Niles Home for Children.

O'Grady, an annual member of the

Association, first became involved with the Association when he helped revitalize the Tampa Bay Chapter in Florida. After moving to Colorado he became president of the Denver Chapter in 2011. With his executive board, he has helped plan more than 25 events during the year, including networking breakfasts, happy hours, museum tours and watch parties. The chapter also attends Denver Nuggets and Rockies games. He is a brand manager for Paulaner HP USA.



Kent Colvin



Mike Denning



Steve Dillard



Rita Holmes-Bobo



Sean O'Grady

EARL RICHARDSON



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Association

DAN STOREY (3)



Black Alumni Chapter Reunion

Professor Bill Tuttle presented an African-American Leader and Innovator award to Lynette Woodard, c'81, one of nine recipients of the honor. "He has been my friend since 1977," she said, "before he even knew I could play basketball." More than 100 alumni celebrated KU friendships during the Nov. 1-2 reunion, including Charlie Thurston, e'62; Calvin Young, '75; and Duane Vann, '73, along with Muriel Carter, b'86, and Anita Moore Metoyer, h'89, g'10, who organized the weekend.



Life Members

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

- | | |
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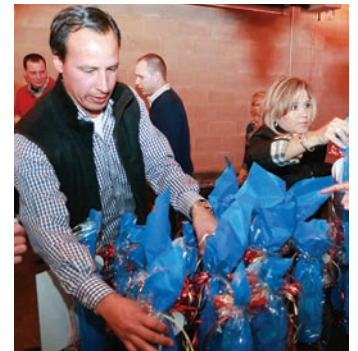
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 Stephen K. & Marta R.
 Williamson
 James L. Wordsworth
 Mark A. & Karen M. Zecy

Jayhawk Roundup

More than 450 Jayhawks attended the Jayhawk Roundup Nov. 2 in Wichita. "Jayhawk Roundup Up and Away," the theme for the 11th edition of the tradition, highlighted Wichita's aviation history. As in years past, David, b'75, e'75, and Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75, hosted the event at their stables. Jeff Kennedy, j'81, Alumni Association national chair, and his wife, Patti Gorham, chaired the festivities. The silent auction included a "wine pull," in which bidders had the chance to win premium selections. Monster Entertainment of Chicago coaxed participants to the dance floor with creative antics.



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51 John, c'51, l'56, and Millicent Hunt Wesley, d'53, make their home in Cave Creek, Ariz., where he's semi-retired and she keeps busy with volunteer work.

53 Dean Smith, d'53, was named by President Barack Obama to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Dean coached basketball at the University of North Carolina from 1961 to 1997 and retired as the winningest coach in college basketball history. He continues to live in Chapel Hill.

54 The Hon. Nancy Landon Kassebaum Baker, c'54, received the Gordon Parks Choice of Weapons Award in October at the Gordon Parks Celebration of Culture and Diversity in Fort Scott. She and her husband, Howard Baker, live in Burdick.

56 William Butler, EdD'56, received the Distinguished Lifetime Membership

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

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

Award from the Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society. He is vice president emeritus and professor of education at the University of Miami.

Donald Johnston, d'56, l'66, retired as senior commercial relationship manager at Intrust Bank in Lawrence, where he and his wife, **Alice Ann, assoc.,** live.

58 Robert Hartley, j'58, wrote *Battle-ground 1948: Truman, Stevenson, Douglas and the Most Surprising Election in Illinois History*. He and **Mary Carttar Hartley, d'58,** live in Westminster, Colo.

60 Stanley Vermillion, c'60, m'64, practices medicine with the East Tennessee Medical Association in Johnson City. He and his wife, Pam, live in Gray.

62 H.F. Cotton Smith, j'62, won the Western Writers of America's Spur Award for the best audiobook of 2013 for his novel *Ring of Fire*. Cotton and his wife, Sonya, live in Mission Hills.

64 Yale Dolginow, c'64, g'66, works as a consultant for ElanStrategic in Minneapolis, Minn. He and **Diane Wolf Dolginow, d'65,** live in Edina.

Michael McDowell, d'64, g'67, is chief executive officer for the Heartland Consumers Power District. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Olathe.

Franklin Shobe, c'64, g'77, makes his home in Muncie, Ind., where he's an assistant professor at Ball State University.

65 Larry Armel, b'65, l'68, works as an independent director for BMO Funds. He and his wife, JoAnne, live in Leawood.

Andrzej Bartke, PhD'65, was the 2013 recipient of the Robert W. Kleemeier Award from the Gerontological Society of America. He is a research professor and director of geriatric research in the internal medicine department at Southern Illinois University in Springfield.

Monti Belot III, c'65, l'68, was inducted into the Lawrence High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame. Monti, a

U.S. District Court judge, and **Karen Neeley Belot, '75,** live in Wichita.

67 Kay Orth Kendall, c'67, wrote *Desolation Row*, a historical mystery published by Stairway Press. She and her husband, Bruce, live in Houston.

Robert Mowry, c'67, g'74, g'75, became senior consultant to the Asian art department at Christie's in New York City. He had been senior curator and head of Asian art at the Harvard Art Museum.

Patricia Goering Smith, c'67, wrote *Revolution Revisited: Behind the Scenes in Communist East Germany*, which will be published soon. She's a freelance writer and photographer in Ocean Shores, Wash., where she and her husband, **Bill, d'60,** make their home.

68 David Barr, d'68, l'73, practices law in Lawrence. He and his wife, Shirley, live in Lake Quivira.

Stephanie Caple Doughty, c'68, is a broker with HomeQuest Realtors in Kailua, Hawaii. She and her husband, **John, c'68,** live in Kaneohe.

69 Gaylord Dold, c'69, g'76, wrote three e-books, *The Nickel Jolt*, *Same Old Sun, Same Old Moon* and *The Swarming Stage*, which were released by Premiere Digital Publishing of Los Angeles. He lives in Wichita.

Gary Turner, c'69, g'71, directs quality systems for Lanx Inc. in Broomfield, Colo. He and **Kathleen Redenbaugh Turner, d'70,** live in Fort Collins.

70 Ronald Fessenden, m'70, wrote *Feed Your Brain First: The Honey Revolution Series-Part 3*, published by Xulon Press. He and **Jennie Veith Fessenden, n'68,** live in Issaquah, Wash.

Robert Jensen, b'70, is an accountant at Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City. He lives in Overland Park.

Nancy Knox Todd, d'70, was inducted into the Lawrence High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame. She's a Democratic state senator from Aurora, Colo., where she and her husband,

Class Notes

Terry, '84, make their home.

71 Russell Daniels Jr., b'71, appeared in the Discovery Channel documentary *The Secrets of Money*. He's executive vice president of administration and risk management at Dunbar Armored in Hunt Valley, Md. He and his wife, Marcy, live in Timonium.

Frank Wright IV, c'71, was named executive vice president of Capitol Federal Savings Bank. He and his wife, **Cynthia**, '10, live in Lawrence.

73 Linda Greenberg, j'73, recently became a principal of Lee & Associates, a commercial real-estate provider in San Diego. She lives in La Jolla.

Merle Nunemaker, c'73, was elected president of the Missouri Dental Association. He and his wife, Vicki, live in Lee's Summit, and he practices dentistry in Kansas City.

74 James Doepke, d'74, directs educational outreach for Conn-Selmer. He is currently working on a quest

to play "The Star-Spangled Banner" at every Major League Baseball stadium. He and his wife, Elizabeth, live in Estero, Fla.

Sarah Harrison Jackson, f'74, a technical editor for Handwoven magazine, won an award for weaving from the Handweavers Guild of America. Sarah and her husband, **William**, f'73, live in Santa Ana, Calif.

Robert Simison, j'74, is editor at large of Bloomberg News. He lives in Novato, Calif., with his wife, Susan.

75 Thane Hodson, c'75, joined the public finance and incentives group at Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada in Denver.

Forrest Pommerenke, m'75, leads the occupational medicine team at Doctors Care in Greenville, S.C. He and his wife, Janette, live in Simpsonville.

76 Michael Goff, j'76, was promoted to president of Premier Sports Management in Overland Park. He and **Bobbi Toolson Goff**, c'79, make their home in Leawood.

Kent Snyder, p'76, is chairman of Senomyx in San Diego. He and **Cynthia Heaston Snyder**, '76, make their home in Rancho Santa Fe.

77 Toni Dixon, j'77, directs corporate communication at Aldersgate Village in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Charles Hunter, c'77, f'80, g'83, manages commercial banking for Bank of Kansas City. He and his wife, DeAnn, live in Overland Park.

Mark Winter, '77, is golf-course superintendent at the Columbus Country Club. He and his wife, **Donna**, assoc., make their home in Columbus.

78 Mark Hamilton, b'78, received the senior-level healthcare Executive Regent's Award from the American College of Healthcare Executives. He is vice president of ambulatory services for the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics in Madison.

Kevin Hawley, e'78, g'80, recently became principal engineer at Blackhawk Modifications. He lives in Salina.

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James Muehlberger, c'78, l'82, wrote *The Lost Cause: The Trials of Frank and Jesse James*, which recently was reviewed by the New York Times. He's a partner in the Kansas City law firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon. Jim and **Jayme Klein Muehlberger**, j'92, live in Overland Park.

79 Nancy Dressler Borst, j'79, coordinates communications for Kingman County in Kingman.

Janet Walters King, n'79, is clinical director for Hospice Advantage in Overland Park. She and her husband, Terry, live in Leawood.

Brian Shepard, f'79, teaches composition and electro-acoustic music at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

80 Richard Konzem, b'80, is president of Championship Consulting, where **Debra Vignatelli-Konzem**, c'77, d'78, is managing director. Their home is in Lawrence.

Steven Sloan, c'80, is a partner in the Dallas firm of Thompson & Knight.

Mark Steiner, c'80, is a partner in the

Austin, Texas, law firm of Jackson Walker.

81 Patricia Weems Gaston, j'81, co-chairs the diversity and inclusion task force of the American Association of University Women and is a Leadership Institute Fellow with the Center for American Progress. She lives in Herndon, Va.

Thomas Johnson, c'81, l'88, is a partner in the Lawrence law firm of Petefish, Immel, Heeb & Hird.

Joseph Vyhanek, e'81, g'92, has been promoted to principal in Thornton Tomasetti in Kansas City. He and **Martha Ruhl Vyhanek**, d'81, g'97, make their home in Overland Park.

82 Mark Downey, b'82, is national director of business development at Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care. He and his wife, Michele, live in Lawrence.

Farrokh Moshiri, c'82, g'83, lectures about management at the University of California and wrote a book, *Management Communication: An Anthology*. He lives in Mira Loma.

Gabrielle Thompson, l'82, is a partner in the law firm of Thompson & Bailey in Manhattan, where she and her husband, Oliver Weaver, make their home.

Louis Wetzel, m'82, was elected chief of staff at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. He and his wife, Jane, live in Westwood.

83 James Nadler, c'83, joined the advisory board of DealVector. He's also president and CEO of Kroll Bond Ratings in New York City. His home is in West Hartford, Conn.

84 Steven Hood, b'84, is senior director of software tools and services development at Hitachi Data Systems in Overland Park.

Karen Kelly, m'84, is associate director for clinical research at the University of California-Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center. She lives in Sacramento.

David Sullivan, b'84, is a principal in DMS Consulting. He and his wife, Laurie, make their home in Minneapolis, Minn.

Kenneth Williams, e'84, g'86, was

named president and CEO of the Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas and the Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas. He and **Diane Eatwell Williams**, b'82, live in Olathe.

85 John Bower, j'85, is a STEM teacher for District 41 in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Steven Combs, g'85, has been named dean of arts at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Patrick Lewis, j'85, c'85, l'88, is a criminal defense lawyer in Olathe.

Edgar Thornton III, g'85, serves with the U.S. Agency for International Develop-

ment at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia.

86 Curt Skoog, b'86, is vice president of business development at Orion in Overland Park. He and **Amy Tebbutt Skoog**, h'86, live in Shawnee Mission.

87 Paul Barter, e'87, is vice president and group leader of commercial consulting at Environmental Systems Design in Chicago. He and **Shereen Khani Barter**, c'92, live in Deerfield.

James Berglund, b'87, l'92, practices law with Thompson & Knight in Dallas.

Maja Mataric, c'87, serves on the biomedical computing and health informatics study section of the National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review. She is a professor of computer science at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, where her husband, **Richard Roberts**, c'87, is a professor of chemistry.

88 Christopher Bailey, c'88, l'93, is a partner in the law firm of Thompson & Bailey in Manhattan, where he and his wife, Sandy, make their home.

Katie Barmettler, d'88, has been named

PROFILE by Margie Carr

Advocate finds food is the focus of big questions

For Kathy Lawrence of School Food FOCUS, success can be measured in chicken legs: 1 million chicken legs, free of antibiotics and additives, that replaced thousands of pounds of processed chicken patties in Chicago's public schools.

FOCUS (Food Options for Children in Urban Schools) trains lunchroom workers to prepare meals with fresh, healthy ingredients. Part of the challenge is getting the ingredients to schools in the first place.

"Agricultural supply chains are very consolidated and aren't set up to offer healthy options for schools," Lawrence says. FOCUS leverages the purchasing power of districts to obtain fresh produce, grains and milk. In Chicago, she helped connect schools with nearby Amish farms.

The seeds of this idea (and the roots of her career as a food advocate) she traces to her study abroad experience at KU.

Lawrence, c'85, spent her junior year in China, where she expected to improve her language skills; what she didn't anticipate was the impact the experience would have on her views of economics, industry, the environment and social justice—areas that became the focus of her life's work.

"It was '83-'84, the first time farmers

were able to sell goods outside the commune or collective," she says. "There was incredible excitement as you'd see these farmers on the street corners with their wheelbarrows full of seedlings."

She wondered how China would feed the masses of people leaving the countryside for cities. Who would have access to these markets and what would the impact be?

After graduation, she moved to New York City to join a firm that exported machinery to China. She studied economic and political development at Columbia University, worked at an organic farm in Maine and volunteered at the United Nations, helping nongovernmental agencies navigate the "incredibly opaque" U.N. system.

"I left Columbia and the U.N. with a healthy dose of skepticism," she says. "With all of the disease, racism and other intractable problems facing our world it's easy to get discouraged."

Instead, she founded Just Food, a nonprofit agency that organizes CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture) to connect communities to local farms. Today it guides more than 100 CSAs in the New York area, organizes community farms and offers nutrition and cooking classes in low-income neighborhoods.



COURTESY KATHY LAWRENCE

To protect the environment, combat hunger and fight for social justice, Kathy Lawrence focuses on food. "Food brings all these different things together in a real way," she says.

Joining School Food FOCUS in 2008 allowed Lawrence to continue her advocacy on a much larger scale.

"It's hard for individual food directors to have any real power to move the dial toward more positive changes," she says, "but I am working with wonderfully progressive people who want to make those changes, and it's very rewarding to bring them together to do that."

—Carr, d'84, g'89, PhD'03, is a Lawrence freelance writer.



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an educator of the year by the Archdiocese of Omaha. She is principal of Sacred Heart School in Omaha.

Molly Mitchell Danciger, l'88, practices law with Corporate Counsel Group. She and her husband, Gary, make their home in Prairie Village.

89 Michael Bedell, b'89, g'91, is acting dean and professor of management at Northeastern Illinois University in Mundelein, where he and his wife, Susan, make their home.

Eric Larson, p'89, p'04, directs the pharmacy at Avera Queen of Peace Hospital in Mitchell, S.D., where he and his wife, Becky, make their home.

Milton Newton, d'89, g'93, recently became general manager of the Minnesota Timberwolves. His wife is **Shalaun Hogan Newton**, b'91.

90 Kristin Bergquist, j'90, directs education for the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, N.D.

Kaushik Dave, g'90, PhD'91, was appointed president, chief executive officer and director of Actinium Pharmaceuticals

in New York. He and his wife, Lina, live in Edison, N.J.

Andrew DeMarea, e'90, l'93, practices law with Kenner Schmitt Nygaard in Kansas City.

Kirsten Wertzberger Krug, c'90, is vice president of administration for the Kansas City Chiefs football team. She and her husband, **Robin**, '89, live in Lawrence.

Stephen Wade, j'90, recently became publisher of the Morning News in Florence, S.C.

Ruth Watkins, PhD'90, recently became senior vice president for academic affairs at the University of Utah. She lives in Salt Lake City.

91 Joan Archer, PhD'91, l'92, recently became senior counsel of Husch Blackwell in Kansas City.

Troy Hawk, f'91, is a district court clerk for the Lancaster County District Court in Lincoln, Neb., where he and **Bobbi Chambers Hawk**, c'91, make their home.

Anita Meyer, j'91, has joined the staff of the Aurora News-Register in Aurora, Neb., where she and her husband, Jarrod Olson, make their home.

Susana Namnum, l'91, was promoted to counsel at Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosie in New York City, where she makes her home.

Darin Newbold, b'91, is a partner channel manager for Bottle Rocket Apps. He and his wife, Ani, assoc., make their home in Plano, Texas.

92 Ming Li, EdD'92, has been appointed dean of education and human development at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

Mark Milstead, g'92, is a senior patent attorney with Novartis. He lives in Richmond, Calif.

Clay Pearson, g'92, received the Edwin O. Stene Award for Managerial Excellence from the KU Managers and Trainees Alumni Organization. He's city manager of Novi, Mich., where he and his wife, Jennifer, make their home.

Jill Peltzer, n'92, g'00, PhD'12, is a clinical assistant professor of nursing at KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

Matthew Tarr, c'92, is a senior digital designer for Chico's FAS in Fort Myers, Fla. He and **Jeanette Watson Tarr**, c'89,



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j'94, live in Lehigh Acres.

93 Gregory Gertz, '93, a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual's McTigue Financial Group, recently received the firm's Emerald Award for his work with clients. He lives in Highland Park, Ill.

Patrick Henderson, l'93, has become a shareholder in Poisinelli PC in Kansas City. He makes his home in Olathe.

Edward Hottman, l'93, practices law in Hottman & Associates in Olathe. He and his wife, Stacey, live in Overland Park.

William McLaughlin Jr., d'93, is principal of Shepton High School in Plano, Texas. He and **Sherry Darnell McLaughlin**, '93, live in Frisco.

Margaret Hellner Miller, g'93, is the art and design librarian at Louisiana State University. She and her husband, **David**, g'78, g'81, PhD'84, live in Baton Rouge.

Kristin Shocklee, n'93, g'96, recently joined the Naples, Fla., office of Downing-Frye Realty.

Julie Regehr Sizemore, g'93, is vice president of client relations at ZeOmega in Frisco, Texas. She and her husband, Scott, live in Keller. He's vice president of operations at Preferred Pump and Equipment in Fort Worth.

Andrea Grimes Woods, c'93, is executive vice president and corporate counsel for Nabholz Construction in Conway, Ark., where she and her husband, **Jeffrey**, c'92, make their home. He heads the department of history and politics at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

94 Angela Cervantes Antequera, c'94, wrote *Gaby, Lost and Found*, a middle-grade novel published by Scholastic. She is information officer of Children International in Kansas City, and she lives in Shawnee with her husband, **Juan**, g'03.

Ed Dunn, e'94, is principal mechanical engineer with Raytheon Missile Systems. He and his wife, Robin, live in Vail, Ariz.

Brad Garlinghouse, c'94, was appointed to the operating committee of Ancestry.com. He and his wife, Kristen, live in

Atherton, Calif.

Paul Simons, c'94, manages business technology for Walt Disney Park & Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

95 Matthew Cobb, c'95, l'98, is vice president of Dimensional Fund Advisors in Santa Monica, Calif. He makes his home in Los Angeles.

Scott Davis, g'95, works as a sales professional at Rusty Eck Ford in Wichita.

Desiree Fish, j'95, is vice president of global communications with TripAdvisor in New York City, where she and her husband, Lawrence Wilson, live.

Andrew Ford, d'95, is an athletic trainer at Miami Valley Hospital. He lives in Beavercreek, Ohio.

Jennifer Crow Pratt, c'95, manages customer support for Enghouse Transportation. She lives in St. Louis.

96 Eric Moore, s'96, manages the HIV program for Maricopa Integrated Health System in Phoenix, where he lives with his spouse, Ronald Passarelli.

Ariane Siegenthaler Tattersall, a'96, works as an architect with the SGA Design Group in Tulsa, Okla. She and her husband, Richard, live in Broken Arrow.

Jacqueline Strnad Nugent, c'96, g'01, was appointed assistant vice president at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, where she heads the bank's payments system research department.

97 Kristopher Henkhaus, b'97, is a controller for ProPharma Group in Overland Park. He and **Jennifer Smith Henkhaus**, '99, make their home in Lenexa.

Amy Byers Krenzin, c'97, manages technical projects for Cerner in Kansas City. She and her husband, **Brent**, b'97, live in Lawrence. He's an employee benefits representative for Sun Life Financial.

Jennifer Meents, c'97, owns AAA Screening Service in Lee's Summit, Mo., where she and her husband, Scott Miles, make their home.

Zachary Schmidt, e'97, serves as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps. He and **Nicole Mehring Schmidt**, e'98, live in San Clemente, Calif. Nicole works for Lucity Inc.

BORN TO:

Heather Bunker, c'97, and her husband, Ken Filsinger, son, Lucas Filsinger, Sept. 9 in Lawrence, where Heather is a staffing specialist at Manpower. Ken is a physician assistant at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

98 Angela Halbleib Murphy, d'98, g'04, was inducted into the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. She played basketball at Middleton High School, where she now teaches math and coaches basketball. While in high school, she scored 2,378 points, making

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Jay's stock image agency is big but still boutique

When Kelly Jay and her partner in GL Stock Images launched their business in 2008, they named it Graphic Leftovers, in reference to what they saw as an unfilled niche: a site where artists and photographers could market unsold images created in the course of most freelance assignments. But as the agency's reach spanned the globe, a problem emerged with the translation.

"The Russians complained and said, 'Who would upload their images to a place that sells trash?'" Jay, f'85, recalls with a laugh from her new office in Lenexa, where she recently moved from St. Louis to be closer to her son, Taylor, a KU freshman in industrial design. "It started out as a good idea, and it grew to the point where people didn't understand."

Stock photography and design is a business long dominated by a few huge agencies that can offer clients selections of up to 10 million images. While GL Stock Images now boasts 2 million images, Jay and her partner, web developer Daniel Errante, still see GL as a boutique agency that charges fair prices for premium images: If a client goes to glstockimages.com to search for tomatoes, Jay explains,

"you don't get 70,000 pages of tomatoes. You get 10 pages of really good tomatoes. We don't accept everything that comes through the door. We're kind of picky. We're more on the artistic side."

Jay discovered a passion for design when she was a freshman architecture student and wandered through the gallery in the Art and Design Building; she promptly changed majors and never wavered after her quick decision.

With further inspiration provided by visiting professionals brought to campus by the Hallmark Design Symposium Series, Jay spent the first few years of her career at design agencies in Dallas, then returned home to St. Louis, where she spent 15 years working as a designer for the St. Louis Rams before launching a freelance career.

Painfully aware that designers and photographers typically get just 10 to 15 percent of sales generated on stock sites, Jay and Errante chose to pay 52 percent; they now have more than 4,000 contributors and 5,000 daily image uploads.



STEVE PUPPE

Kelly Jay now helps run GL Stock Images from her new home in Lenexa, where she is also returning to a half-time career as a freelance graphic designer.

"My absolute favorite thing about GL is the fair royalty that they pay out to artists," says St. Louis commercial stock photographer Sean Locke. "That's a very uncommon thing in this business."

Thrilled to pay artists fair wages, Jay is equally stressed by those who steal from both the agency and its contributors. Some are kids who naively ignore copyright protections; others are outright thieves who use stolen credit card numbers to haul in huge loads of images for resale.

"It's just like the music industry. Anything digital that can be downloaded can technically be shared. You can't regulate it as much as you'd like."

Class Notes

her one of the top-ranked players in the state.

Samuel Wendt, c'98, practices law with Wendt Goss in Kansas City. He and **Tanya Rodecker Wendt**, l'05, live in Leawood, and she's an associate attorney with Deacy & Deacy in Kansas City. Sam recently was accepted into the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

Jeffrey Zoss, j'98, recently became vice president of national sales for the Grocery Shopping Network in Minneapolis, Minn.

99 Tara Lightle Barnes, f'99, was named 2013-14 Outstanding Elementary Art Educator by the Kansas Art Education Association. She teaches at Cedar Hills Elementary School in Stilwell and lives in Prairie Village with her husband, Michael.

Mark Presnell, PhD'99, recently was appointed executive director of University Career Services at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

00 Amy Fowler, l'00, is a partner in HROI, a Kansas City law firm.

Chad Iske, d'00, lives in Philadelphia, where he's assistant coach of the Philadelphia 76ers.

Timothy Langan, b'00, recently became chief operating officer of Investors Realty in Omaha, Neb., where he and his wife, Elizabeth, make their home.

Jeffrey Nachbor, g'00, is chief financial officer of ConvergeOne in St. Paul, Minn.

01 Eric Barber, g'01, is president and chief executive officer of Mary Lanning Healthcare in Hastings, Neb.

Julie Crain, PhD'01, recently became principal of Shawnee Mission West High School in Overland Park. She and her husband, Efthimios Zaharopoulos, live in Shawnee.

Matthew Fohlmeister, c'01, is EHS manager for Sprint Nextel in Overland Park. He and **Holly Widler Fohlmeister**, c'01, live in Olathe, where she is a pre-school director.

Yamil Garcia, d'01, g'03, works as an astronaut health integration scientist for Wyle. He lives in Pasadena, Calif.

Ryan Heape, c'01, is a senior analyst at

Verizon in Tulsa, Okla. He lives in Owasso.

Corey Snyder, d'01, works as a physical therapist at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Monica Tsethlikai, g'01, PhD'05, teaches statistics and child development at Arizona State University in Phoenix.

Christi Hilker Vaglio, l'01, is a partner in the Kansas City law firm of Husch Blackwell.

Gregory Woolen, c'01, is director of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. He and his wife, **Alicia**, '02, make their home in Fort Worth, Texas.

James Wordsworth, c'01, manages global operations support for Fort Motor in Dearborn, Mich. He lives in Ecorse.

02 Nick Bradford, c'02, was named assistant basketball coach at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin.

Carolyn Coulson, b'02, l'05, is a principal at Park Madison Partners in New York City, where she makes her home.

Marie Dispenza, j'02, is director of charities for the Kansas City Royals baseball team.

Jason Glasrud, c'02, manages development for CarrBaierCrandall CBC Real-Estate Group in Kansas City.

Michael Lary, f'02, recently joined the board of the Vancouver Downtown Association. He's a partner in Source Climbing Center in Vancouver, Wash.

Brice McIver, e'02, works as a software consultant at Keyhole Software in Leawood. He and **Suzanne Martinez McIver**, c'04, h'05, g'09, live in Lenexa.

Sarah Miley, c'02, is a senior implementation specialist at DCI. She lives in Overland Park.

Eric Snider, c'02, practices law with Smith Moore Leatherwood in Raleigh, N.C., where he and **Alison Snider**, g'11, make their home. He also was selected to join the 2013-'14 Leadership Raleigh class, which is sponsored by the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

Elizabeth Boldridge Tovar, c'02, g'10, PhD'12, is associate athletics director for student-athlete academic services at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, where she and her husband, Steve, live.

03 Tyler Epp, l'03, is vice president of business development for the Kansas City Chiefs football team.

Barbie Katz, s'03, is a unit secretary with the United States Penitentiary in Leavenworth.

Brianna Lentell, s'03, s'06, is assistant women's soccer coach at Washington College in Chestertown, Md.

Patrick Lytle, b'03, manages financial reporting for SM Energy Company in Denver. He and his wife, **Sarah**, '03, live in Littleton.

John Matsko Jr., g'03, is associate executive director of the Razorback Foundation in Fayetteville, Ark.

BORN TO:

Leslie Putnam Hansen, c'03, and Brent, son, Brady David, July 26 in Omaha, Neb., where Leslie is an ER nurse at Children's Hospital and Medical Center. Their family includes a daughter, Korie, who's 2.

Joy Larson Maxwell, c'03, j'03, and **Kevin**, e'05, daughter, Reece Coleen, June 25 in Prairie Villiage, where she joins a brother, Luke. Joy directs legacy relations for the KU Alumni Association.

04 Bryce Canfield, b'04, directs national sales for UnitedHealthcare in San Francisco. He and his wife, Stacy, live in La Canada Flintridge.

Gentry Davis, d'04, is a customer-relations representative for the Kansas City Chiefs football team. He makes his home in Overland Park.

Aaron Hirst, p'04, owns Northgate Pharmacy and Hutchinson Drug Store in Hutchinson.

Nicholas Kallail, d'04, l'07, supervises accounts for The Marketing Arm in Dallas.

BORN TO:

Jason Sanders, c'04, and Belinda, daughter, Violet, July 27 in Roanoke, Texas. Jason teaches high-school science for the Lewisville Independent School District.

Joshua Williamson, j'04, and Sarah, son, Jack Thomas, June 28 in Lawrence, where Joshua is assistant meet director for the Kansas Relays.

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Class Notes

05 Thomas Degenhardt, g'05, is a public-works services team leader for BHC Rhodes, a civil engineering and surveying firm in Leawood. He lives in Kansas City.

Eric Gold, c'05, e'05, is a senior technology architect for Cerner in Kansas City. He lives in Leawood.

The Rev. **Whitney Rice**, c'05, serves as a priest at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Shelbyville and at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Franklin. She lives in Indianapolis.

Michelle Ferguson Speer, s'05, g'07, is a public-service administrator with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Topeka. She and her husband, **Matthew**, '94, live in Lawrence.

06 Jason Arribas, c'06, practices medicine at Truman Medical Center-Lakewood in Kansas City. He and **Stephanie Kroemer Arribas**, b'05, live in Lee's Summit, Mo.

Jack Henry-Rhoads, c'06, works as a marketing analyst for United Parcel Service. He and his wife, Nicole,

live in Atlanta.

Allison Reeve, c'06, is a cataloging technical services librarian at the KU Law Library. She lives in Lawrence.

Marisol Romero Romo, c'06, is a senior analyst for media relations, marketing and communications with Payless ShoeSource in Topeka, where she and her husband, Jesse, make their home.

MARRIED

Zachary Powell, d'06, to Kelli Kuhlman, May 25 in Bonner Springs. He works at Shawnee Mission North High School, and she works at Hilltop Child Development Center in Lawrence, where they live.

BORN TO:

Levi Bowles, g'06, and **Kristin Whitehair**, g'12, daughter, Stella Whitehair Bowles, Aug. 25 in Lawrence, where they live. Levi is an analyst for QC in Overland Park, and Kristin is an e-resources selector for the Johnson County Library in Overland Park.

HyeRan Park, g'06, and **Jae Lee**, PhD'09, daughter, Lena, July 29 in Lawrence, where

Jae is a research associate for KU's Center for Research Methods-Data Analysis. Their family includes a son, Louie, 2.

07 Lindsay Barnett, j'07, manages accounts for Intouch Solutions in Overland Park.

Natalie McAllister Jackson, c'07, g'10, works in corporate communications with NetStandard Inc. She makes her home in Overland Park.

Christopher Roberts, c'07, practices law with Butsch Roberts and Associates in Clayton, Mo. He lives in St. Louis.

Amber Seba, m'07, recently joined Affiliated Oncologists. She is a hematologist and oncologist in Chicago.

Erick Vaughn, s'07, is executive director of the Kansas Head Start Association in Lawrence. He lives in Baldwin City.

BORN TO:

Lauren Visecek Anderson, d'07, and **James**, d'10, son, Blakely, Aug. 16 in Prairie Village.

Edward, b'07, l'10, and **Tiffany Prehn Tully**, c'07, daughter, Juliette Noelle, July

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11 in Lawrence, where Edward practices law with Barber Emerson.

08 Brett Ackerman, f'08, practices law with Latham Watkins in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Arlington, Va.

Ozzy Bravo, e'08, works as a geotechnical engineer with Terracon Consultants in Lenexa, where he and **Erika Meza-Zerlin**, e'09, make their home.

David Kitchens, b'08, g'09, is an associate with the Tulsa, Okla., firm of Stinnett & Associates.

Emily Matteson, c'08, works as financial manager for Pennington & Company in Lawrence, where she lives.

Tisha Crosland Panter, f'08, is a senate attorney and director of research for the Hawaii State Senate Minority. She and her husband, Brett, live in Haleiwa.

Elizabeth Piper, c'08, is a human-resource total reward intern with Newmont Mining. She lives in Denver.

Bethany Stanbrough Tegtmeier, j'08, is associate director of annual giving for the Colorado School of Mines Foundation in Golden. She and her husband, Caleb,

make their home in Lakewood.

BORN TO:

James, c'08, and **Molly McDuffie-Dipman**, d'08, g'12, son, Lincoln Allister, Aug. 22 in Lawrence. James is a work-experience coordinator for USD 497.

Kahlil Saad, c'08, c'09, m'13, and Miriam, son, Jaejun Daniel, March 11 in Troy, Mich., where he joins a sister, Joelle Yaena, 2.

09 Sam Funk, c'09, works as an optometrist in Colby, where he and

PROFILE by Steven Hill

What happens in Vegas focus of geographer's book

Told his family was moving from small-town Utah to Las Vegas, 10-year-old Rex Rowley's first emotion was fear.

"I pictured my future elementary school as a mini-Strip, full of third graders betting and smoking cigarettes on the playground," Rowley says. "But when I got there, it didn't feel all that different."

The schools didn't have slot machines, and his fellow students didn't live in hotels. As he puts it, "Not every child's mother is a stripper, nor their father a casino pit boss."

At KU for graduate work in geography, Rowley, g'05, PhD'09, began thinking of all the ways living in Las Vegas was both unique and universal. The idea became the subject of his first book, published in April by the University of Nevada Press, *Everyday Las Vegas: Local Life in a Tourist Town*. It profiles the daily lives of Las Vegans, but also more broadly builds a case study of how people experience place in their own hometowns, wherever they may be.

"One insight I hope the book gives is that the experience of locals in Las Vegas

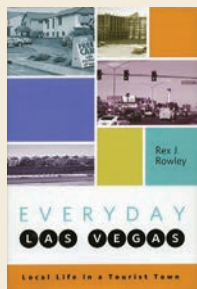
represents the experience of locals in really any town, but sometimes it's super-charged," Rowley says. Every town has divisions between insiders and outsiders, he notes, but rarely is the divide so stark as in a tourist town. "I would argue that because that experience is exaggerated in Las Vegas, it lets us really see it and relate it to our own place."

Rowley started his research after his professor, James Shortridge, noted that Las Vegas was overlooked by geographers and ripe for study. "My eyes lit up," Rowley recalls, "and I thought, 'Hey, this is something I could do.'"

He moved back to his hometown, where his parents still live, and threw himself into local culture and daily life, interviewing more than 100 residents. Many contacts were made as he played in local parks with his kids. "It was kind of like *Travels With Charley*," he says. "Stein-

beck used his dog Charley to meet people; I had my kids."

A pivotal moment came when he spied a shoulder patch on a uniformed Boy Scout leader. When he was a scout, Rowley wore a patch with the iconic Boulder Dam—a frequent site of canoeing, camping and hiking excursions. The new patch depicted



COURTESY REX ROWLEY

"Living in Las Vegas is like living anywhere else except for one thing," says geographer Rex Rowley. "You live in Las Vegas."

.....
the famous Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas sign, for decades a symbol of pursuits decidedly not on the merit badge list.

"That's when I realized this wasn't just a story about the locals' Las Vegas, but a story about how locals relate to that broader Vegas image," Rowley says. "It flipped a switch and I realized the line between insider and outsider was blurred."

So, is Rowley, now an assistant professor of geography in (of all places) Normal, Ill., arguing that Las Vegas is, well, normal?

"I would say yes," he says with a laugh. "But it's normal-on-steroids." 🍷

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his wife, Chelsea, make their home.

Ryan Haggerty, d'09, teaches third grade at Bonner Springs Elementary School. He lives in Lenexa.

Emily Muskin, c'09, is associate program director for the Anti-Defamation League in Cleveland. She is a resident of Oxford.

Jennifer Young Sprague, c'09, works as an agent for American Family Insurance in Lawrence, where she and her husband, Brandon, make their home.

Tricia Sweany, c'09, works as an electronic services and reference librarian for Oklahoma City Community College.

10 Emily Baird, b'10, works for VCW Holding. She lives in Prairie Village.

Lauren Cunningham, j'10, is a communications specialist at the Washburn University Foundation in Topeka.

Anne Frizzell, c'10, is Southern California regional representative for the KU Office of Admissions. She makes her home in San Diego.

Harrison Hems, c'10, serves as legislative director for the Kansas Legislature Senate President in Topeka. His home is in

Lawrence.

Nikki Sleypen Mann, n'10, is a clinical nurse at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She and her husband, Phillip, live in Prairie Village.

Elizabeth Weingart Olson, c'10, is an associate attorney with Finley Millery Cashman Schmitt & Boye in Hiawatha, where she and her husband, **Ryan**, '11, make their home.

Jeffrey Wheeler, e'10, g'14, works as a structural engineer at Kiewit Power Engineers in Lenexa. He lives in Overland Park.

BORN TO:

Neal Julian, c'10, and Christine, son, Jude Austin, July 12 in Lawrence, where Neal is a freelance artist and Christine is an interior designer for Winfield House.

11 Sattam Alnomay, f'11, is head of litigation for Al Rajhi Bank in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Brian Blackwell, e'11, works as a drilling engineer for Occidental Petroleum. He lives in Houston.

Michael Chalfant, b'11, g'11, directs accounting for MyFreightWorld Carrier Management in Overland Park. He lives in Prairie Village.

Bradley Thorson, g'11, is vice president of customer development at Kato.im. He lives in Oakland, Calif.

Justin Winner, g'11, is a senior associate at ISNetworld. He lives in Dallas.

MARRIED

Kristina Pollard, j'11, c'11, to Jerod Post, July 20 in Lawrence. They live in Omaha, where she works for KMTV-Journal Broadcasting Group and he's studying physical therapy at the University of Nebraska.

Benjamin Tatum, e'11, to Rushita Shah, Aug. 10 in Springfield, Ill. They live in Oklahoma City, where Benjamin is an applications engineer for Baker Hughes.

12 Hannah Baker, b'12, is an agent's assistant at Paradigm Talent Agency in New York City, where she lives.

Heather Baker, b'12, coordinates financial aid for ITT Technical Institute in

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Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*



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Class Notes

Overland Park. She lives in Lenexa.

Kaley Kane, '12, is an account administrator with Intouch Solution. She lives in Overland Park.

Thomas Kennedy, b'12, works as an audit associate at KPMG. He makes his home in Prairie Village.

Samantha Kuhlmann, h'12, is director of health-information management at Melissa Memorial Hospital in Holyoke, Colo.

Shannon Rigney Miller, b'12, g'13, is a staff accountant at Mize Houser & Company. She lives in Lawrence.

Adam Stodola, g'12, works as a highway engineer with George Butler Associates in Kansas City.

Bradley Wine, c'12, is a professional research assistant at the University of Colorado at Aurora. He lives in Denver.

MARRIED

Amanda Bari, c'12, to Steven Crum, Jan. 5 in Lawrence, where they live. She's studying for a master's in speech-language pathology at KU, and he's a utility locator for Wide Open West.

Camden Burton, c'12, and **Margaret Hanzlick**, c'13, May 25 in Mission, where they live. He teaches biology at Olathe Northwest High School, and she's a teaching artist at the Coterie Children's Theatre.

Steven Griffith, b'12, and **Nicolette Arnold**, c'13, July 20 in Bucyrus. He's studying for an MBA at KU, where she studies for a master's in speech, language and hearing. They live in Olathe.

Jacob Wasinger, c'12, and **Chantel Augustin**, d'12, June 1 in Stilwell. He works for Farmers Insurance in Olathe, and she studies dental hygiene at Johnson County Community College. Their home is in Lawrence.

13 Jacob Allen, c'13, coordinates distributor logistics for Boulevard Brewing Co. in Kansas City. He lives in Olathe.

Gregory Anderson, b'13, works as a tax associate at KMPG. He makes his home in Roseville, Minn.

Alyssa Bastien, a'13, is a graphic designer at Blacktop Creative in Kansas

City, where she lives.

Daniel Bjornson, b'13, works as a business analyst at Deloitte & Touche in Kansas City.

Abigail Bolin, c'13, works as an online marketing consultant for HomeAdvisor. She lives in Springfield, Mo.

Christine Bono, g'13, is an associate architect at Bates & Associates Architects in St. Louis. She lives in Florissant.

Erin Borry, PhD'13, recently became an assistant professor of government at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She lives in Vestavia.

Ronda Brin, s'13, manages cases and is a clinician at the Elizabeth Layton Center. She lives in Gardner.

Daniel Brocato, c'13, manages property at Block & Company. He makes his home in Overland Park.

Cody Clifton, g'13, '14, was named a Joan Kirkham Travel Scholar and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Assistant Summer Scholar. Cody studies for a master's in math at KU, and he lives in Lawrence.

April Coleman, h'13, works for ViraCor-IBT in Lee's Summit, Mo. She makes her home in Independence.

Ashley Dillon, l'13, practices law at Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City, where she is an associate.

Bryan Erickson, c'13, is a GIS coordinator for Nobles County, Minn.

Elaine Harber, g'13, is an assistant account executive at SPM Communications in Dallas.

Anna Holland, c'13, j'13, works as a transfer admissions representative in KU's Office of Admissions. Her home is in Hutchinson.

Joseph Ingolia, c'13, is a sales representative for Frank Cooney Company in Wood Dale, Ill. He makes his home in Arlington Heights.

Cory Janzen, c'13, works as a senior adviser for Allied Innovation in Leawood. He lives in Kansas City.

Chantelle Johnson, c'13, is an executive team leader at Target in Lawrence. She lives in Olathe.

Brandon Kemplin, b'13, is an assistant



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portfolio manager and analyst for Bukaty Wealth Management in Leawood.

Joseph Knoll, c'13, b'13, works as a financial analyst at Stepp & Rothwell in Overland Park.

Heather Bieker Lambing, h'13, is a rehab technician at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She and her husband, Adam, live in Olathe.

Alison Lee, b'13, works as an entry-level management trainee for Superior Management Group. She makes her home in Overland Park.

Amanda Lewman, b'13, co-owns Lewman LLC. She lives in Lawrence.

Zachary Logan, c'13, is a sales representative and account manager for Multivista. He lives in Overland Park.

Marlon Marshall, c'13, is deputy director for public engagement at the White House. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Brian Mathias, g'13, performed an organ recital at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. He lives in Lawrence.

Ryan Petty, d'13, teaches sixth grade and is an assistant high-school basketball

coach for USD 480 in Liberal.

Haley McKee, e'13, and **Aaron Porter**, e'13, are co-creators of the Bagging Buddy used by workers at Lawrence's Cottonwood Inc. who have limited or no use of one hand. The device helps workers hold bags open, insert items and close the bags. Haley and Aaron are both residents of Overland Park.

Victoria Schaulis, c'13, manages special events for Vital Leadership. Her home is in Lawrence.

Kirsten Schick, u'13, works as a music therapist at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. She lives in Ballwin.

Isaac Severance, b'13, is a buyer for the University of Kansas. He makes his home in Lawrence.

John Shoup, e'13, works as an assistant civil engineer for Burns & McDonnell in Houston.

Katia Sittmann, u'13, is music director for the Webster Groves School District. She lives in St. Louis.

Katherine Sommerfeld, j'13, coordinates research for TradeMark Properties in Raleigh, N.C.

Bryan Stockton, g'13, is an associate

architect with Bates & Associates in Springfield, Mo., where he lives.

Joseph Stuever, u'13, is an assistant band director for Blue Valley USD 229 in Stilwell.

Andrew Tate, p'13, works as a U.S. Air Force pharmacist at Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas.

Maggie Hull-Tietz, c'13, j'13, is a professional softball player with the Chicago Bandits. She and her husband, **Kevin**, d'11, live in Lawrence.

Davis Woodward, e'13, is a structural analysis engineer for Boeing. He lives in Oklahoma City.

BORN TO:

Anna Paradis, '13, and **Nathan**, '14, son, Lucien Byrne, Aug. 22 in Lawrence. Anna is director of graduate student services at KU's School of Engineering, and Nate is a real-estate agent for Chief Properties.

ASSOCIATES

BORN TO:

Jason, assoc., and **Kelsey Smith Perry**, assoc., son, Chase, June 27 in Great Bend.

In Memory

30s Ruth Boisseau Bird, d'38, 96, April 26 in Coldwater, where she was a retired teacher, librarian and principal. She is survived by three daughters, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

40s Verdine Mulkins Bettis, n'42, 92, May 7 in Green Valley, Ariz. She is survived by two sons, a daughter, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Jayne Williamson Bremyer, '46, 88, Dec. 22 in McPherson, where she was an author and pain therapist. She is survived by two sons, Jay, l'74, and Jeff, '73; a daughter, Jill Bremyer-Archer, '75; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Joseph Butler III, '45, 89, July 30 in Mission Springs, where he was president of Joseph A. Butler & Son Funeral Home. He is survived by his son, Joseph IV, '80, and a daughter.

Victory Hawkey Dickason, d'40, 94, Sept. 21 in Prairie Village. She is survived by three sons, Richard, g'71, Brian, '81, and William, assoc.; a daughter; nine grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Betty Hilts Duffy, c'48, 86, June 29 in Oklahoma City, where she had been an executive secretary for the Oklahoma State Legislature. She is survived by her husband, Jack, c'49; two daughters; a brother; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Scott Harvey, b'47, 89, May 14 in Arden, N.C., where he was active in state politics. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, a daughter, a son and four grandchildren.

Mary Louise Hollabaugh, c'45, 90, Aug. 22 in Orange, Texas. She was retired from a 35-year career with E.I. DuPont, where she worked in the medical division.

Craig Jones, m'44, 94, Jan. 23 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor; two sons, one of whom is Kerry, c'71, g'73; a daughter; seven grandchild-

dren; and four great-grandchildren.

Jean Boswell Jones, c'41, 93, Aug. 24 in Kansas City, where she had been a volunteer and was active in politics. She is survived by a son, Bradley, j'76; a daughter; six grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Donald Kresie, b'41, 94, Aug. 31 in Topeka, where he had a 34-year career in the personnel division of the Kansas Department of Administration. He is survived by his wife, Annette; a son, Randall, m'84; a daughter; and five grandchildren.

Richard Learmonth, b'42, 92, April 10 in Overland Park, where he was retired vice president of administration for Yellow Freight Systems. He earlier had managed the service division at Great Lakes Pipe Line. A nephew and three nieces survive.

William Linscott, e'49, 87, Aug. 15 in Mission Hills, where he co-founded the architectural firm of Linscott, Kiene and Haylett. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Bernadine; three daughters, one of whom is Leslie Linscott Hes-Knowles, '76; two sons, Mason, b'86, and William, c'86; a stepson; 17 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Vivian Johnson MacRae, c'45, 88, Feb. 22 in San Jose, Calif. A daughter, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

Lavern Mausolf, b'49, 89, Sept. 9 in Overland Park, where he was a retired insurance agent with Lutheran Brotherhood. He is survived by three daughters; three stepsons, Brian Lewis, '97, Brent Lewis, '96, and Brad Lewis, '99; a sister; 12 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Laurence McAneny, e'46, PhD'57, 86, Jan. 30 in Silver City, Md. He taught at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville from 1957 to 1988 and also had been dean of science and technology. He is survived by a son, Laurence II, c'69; two daughters; a stepson; a stepdaughter; a sister; four grandchildren; and two

stepgrandchildren.

Emma Bachus McBride, d'48, 86, Aug. 27 in Salina. She is survived by her husband, Frank; three sons, Steven, c'74, Scott, f'77, and Mark, c'81, g'85; a daughter; Susan McBride Pike, f'76; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Dorothy Berry Newman, d'48, g'49, PhD'87, 85, Aug. 31 in Kansas City, where she was a reading consultant. She also directed student-support services for Donnelly College. Surviving are her husband, Frank, g'58; a daughter; a son; and three grandchildren.

The Rev. **Alan Pickering, b'49**, 85, June 29 in Sun City Center, Fla., where he was a retired Presbyterian minister. He had been an adjunct professor of religion at KU and a visiting lecturer in Middle Eastern languages and linguistics. He later was a national training director for the YMCA in Chicago. Surviving are his wife, Kay; a daughter, Nancy, '75; two sons, one of whom is Keith, '77; a stepdaughter; and five grandchildren.

Austin Pickering, b'49, 84, Jan. 5 in Bradenton, Fla. He was the retired manager of manufacturing with Quaker Oats in Chicago and later was administrator of Asbury Towers in Bradenton, Fla. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen; a son; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

George Stone, f'48, 91, July 25 in Boca Raton, Fla. He had been longtime advertising art director for the Kansas City Star. Survivors include a son; a daughter, Melanie Stone Nolker, '89; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Carl von Waaden, e'49, g'51, 87, June 23 in Coconut Grove, Fla., where he co-owned HMS Esquire, a gift boutique. A brother, Dennis, survives.

50s Elbert Bayne, e'54, 85, Aug. 27 in Independence, Mo., where he was retired from careers in engineering, optics and hardwood flooring. He is survived by his wife, JoAnne, a son, three daughters and three grandchildren.

Jane Lea Gagelman Bender, f'56, 80, Aug. 24 in La Mesa, Calif. She had been a legal secretary. Surviving are her husband, Clarence, b'57, l'64; two sons, one of whom

is William, '84; a daughter; and three granddaughters.

Robert Beguelin, d'51, 84, Aug. 28 in Hastings, Neb., where he was retired from a 45-year career with Our Own Hardware. He is survived by a daughter; a son; three stepdaughters, Ellen Hornberger Bartz, '81, Ann Hornberger Rogers, j'84, and Gayle Hornberger Daniels, '79; five grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Leo Bird, b'54, 81, Aug. 25 in Stockton, where he had careers in banking, real estate, auctioneering and tree farming. He is survived by his wife, Carol Hill Bird, d'57; a son, Eric, b'80; a daughter, Andrea, d'81; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Kenneth Clohecy, d'55, 83, Aug. 10 in Roeland Park. He taught math and coached wrestling, football and track at Bishop Miege High School for many years. Surviving are his wife, Mary Catherine; two sons; a daughter, Cynthia, '95; and a grandson.

Solomon Cohen, m'56, 87, Jan. 8 in Kennebunkport, Maine, where he was a retired pediatrician. He is survived by his wife, Dorcas, a son, a daughter, a stepson, a stepdaughter, a brother, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Grant Cookson, c'57, 78, Aug. 27 in Parkville, Mo., where was a retired oral and maxillofacial surgeon. He is survived by his wife, Linda, assoc.; two sons; two daughters; a brother; and two grandchildren.

John Faul, m'58, 82, Aug. 10 in Hillsboro, where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Eloise, two daughters, four sisters, two brothers and five grandchildren.

Patty Allison Gehrt, '55, 82, May 27 in Lawrence. She is survived by her husband, Floyd, two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Colvin Gish, c'50, 88, July 12 in Kansas City, where he was a retired claims authorizer for the Social Security Administration. He is survived by his wife, Doris, four sons, a brother and five grandchildren.

James Griswold, e'53, 81, Aug. 18 in Greensboro, N.C., where he had co-

founded Questair, a kit plane manufacturer. He later worked for the FAA in Kansas City and at Cirrus Aircraft in Duluth, Minn. He is a recipient of the KU department of aerospace engineering's Distinguished Alumni Award. Survivors include his wife, Helga; two sons, Doug, e'77, g'80, and Tom, '86; a daughter, Lynette, '81; three stepsons; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

William Hartell, e'53, 82, June 22 in Sterling, Va. He had been a U.S. Navy commander and also had worked for CSC. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; a son; two daughters; a stepson; three stepdaughters; two sisters, Margaret Hartell Carver, n'55, and Janis Hartell Click, c'57; and nine grandchildren.

Stephen Hinds, e'59, 76, Aug. 27 in St. Louis, where he was retired director of planning for Monsanto. He is survived by his wife, Jean Marie, a son and two brothers.

Duane Howard, c'59, 79, Dec. 23 in Sanford, N.C., where he was retired director of research and development in the quality-control department of Abbott Laboratories. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Becraft Howard, '59; three sons; a daughter; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Marilynn Morgan Israel, d'50, 84, July 23 in Edmond, Okla., where she was a retired teacher and librarian. A daughter and two grandsons survive.

Barbara McGee Lappin, '59, 75, May 28 in Fort Collins, Colo. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Arthur McLoughlin, c'54, 90, Aug. 17 in Leawood, where he was a retired engineering geologist. His wife, Virginia Patch McLoughlin, c'48; and a son survive.

Thomas Milne, c'50, PhD'55, 85, Aug. 30 in Wheat Ridge, Colo., where he was retired from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Zora Elliott Milne, g'73; a son, Charles, assoc.; two daughters, Janie Hamm Snider, b'77, and Julie Milne Esstman, s'79; a grandson; three step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and eight stepgreat-grandchildren.

Max Murray, b'54, 81, Aug. 24 in Hutchinson, where he was a partner and president of Winchester Packing. He also had been a commercial pilot for Wells Aircraft and Dillons. He is survived by his wife, Carol Stockham Murray, c'57; two sons, John, b'83, e'83, and Dan, b'80, g'81; a sister, Lou Ann Murray Hansen, '60; and three grandchildren.

Robert O'Farrell, d'59, 82, Aug. 26 in Lenexa, where he was a retired teacher. He is survived by a sister and a brother, Thomas, c'56, m'60.

Glenn Opie, l'54, 87, Aug. 11 in Olathe. He lived in Great Bend, where he practiced law for many years. Surviving are his wife, Sandra, assoc.; two sons, one of whom is Harlan, m'92; and four grandchildren.

Dale Owings, b'51, 86, Aug. 21 in Leawood, where he owned Professional Data Control and had been a salesman. He is survived by his wife, Carol, assoc.; a son, Greg, b'77; a daughter, Lori Owings Mulhern, b'85; and four grandchildren.

Robert Sears Sr., c'55, l'57, 80, Sept. 3 in Belton, Mo., where he practiced law for many years. He is survived by two daughters; four sons, one of whom is Robert Jr., '88; two sisters; two brothers; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Elaine Orlowski Solter, d'56, 81, May 29 in New Bern, N.C., where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, Harry, d'57; two sons; and six grandchildren.

60s Ann Patterson Bear, d'65, 70, Aug. 25 in Indianapolis. She taught at Harcourt Elementary School in Washington Township and is survived by her husband, Mark, assoc.; a daughter; and a granddaughter.

Miles Coiner, d'60, g'63, PhD'72, 75, Sept. 7 in Boston, where he was a retired professor of theater at Emerson College. He is survived by his wife, Mary, a daughter, two sisters and three grandchildren.

David Craft, g'69, 87, April 8 in Garden City, where he was a teacher, coach and farmer. He is survived by his wife, Pauline, assoc.; two sons, one of whom is Rege, '90;

In Memory

a daughter; a brother; three sisters; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Robert Davis III, f'61, 75, May 22 in Herndon, Va., where he was a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife, Frances, and two nephews.

Elizabeth Daldy Dyson, l'64, 73, July 29 in Washington, D.C., where she was an attorney for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. A son, a daughter, a sister and three grandchildren survive.

Richard Green, d'62, 74, Sept. 6 in Lawrence. He had taught biology and coached football, basketball and track at Hays High School and had worked as a pharmaceutical representative. While at KU, he had been a tight end for the Jayhawks and played in the Bluebonnet Bowl in 1961. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, Sarah "Katie" Green, c'00, and Elizabeth Green Coons, c'94; a sister; and two grandsons.

Takeo "Blackie" Kasahara, e'60, 91, July 8 in Honolulu, where he was a retired electrical engineer with the U.S. Department of Defense. He is survived by his wife, Fumie, a son and a sister.

Larry Kneller, p'69, 66, Feb. 3 in Pratt, where he owned Pratt Medical Arts Pharmacy. He is survived by his wife, Carol; a son, Michael, n'97, g'05; two sisters; and two granddaughters.

Larry Kompus, c'60, m'64, 75, June 20 in Thornton, Colo. He had a private psychiatry practice and is survived by his wife, Berniece, assoc.; a daughter; a son; a sister; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Nancy Longenecker Lamb, g'64, 85, Sept. 17 in Overland Park. She had a 29-year career as a speech-language pathologist for the Shawnee Mission School District. Surviving are two sons, Harold, e'79, and Charles, '97; three grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Robert Lynn, e'60, 75, Aug. 17 in Kansas City, where he was president of Colt Technology Corporation. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; three sons, Jeffrey, b'85, Michael, e'85, g'96, and John, c'93; a daughter, Kathleen Lynn McGrew, c'87; a sister; a brother; and nine grandchildren.

Ronald Marsh, d'65, g'74, 70, Sept. 8 in

Overland Park. He had a professional boxing career before retiring in 1970 and later taught school in Minneapolis, Minn., and De Soto. He is survived by his wife, Jackie, and two sisters.

Marilyn Cromb McElhany, d'63, 72, Aug. 4 in Manitou Springs, Colo., where she was active in social, civic and youth-sports circles. She had been a house-mother at KU's Alpha Tau Omega and Pi Gamma Delta fraternities. Surviving are three daughters, two of whom are Katherine McElhany Kahl, c'91, and Virginia McElhany Morgan, l'96, s'96; a son; a sister, Carolyn "Kay" Cromb Brada, c'61; and eight grandchildren.

Karla Kay Hoelzel Russell, d'66, 69, Aug. 10 in Fairway, where she was a retired elementary-school teacher. She is survived by three sisters, two of whom are Mary Hoelzel McBride, c'82, and Pamela Hoelzel, '85.

June Stubbings Sheldon, g'68, 96, Aug. 16 in Topeka, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by a daughter; a son; and a brother, Harris Stubbings, assoc.

Steven Soper, m'67, 71, Sept. 8 in Blue Springs, Mo., where he was a retired psychiatrist. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons, two daughters, a sister and a brother.

Doris Meredith Sparke, g'66, 80, Sept. 16 in Mission, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, John, '71; two daughters; two grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Betty "Johnnie" Hamilton Thornburg, d'66, 85, Sept. 3 in Broomfield, Colo. She taught fourth and fifth grades at Hillcrest Elementary School in Lawrence for 27 years before retiring. Survivors include her husband, Roland, assoc.; a daughter; two grandsons; and four great-grandchildren.

70s Douglas Ballentine, h'74, c'90, 64, Sept. 6 in Overland Park. He had been a respiratory therapist at Research Medical Center and is survived by his wife, Michel, two daughters, a stepson, a stepdaughter, his mother, a sister and two grandchildren.

James Brothers, '79, 72, Aug. 20 in Lawrence, where he was a sculptor and

co-owner of Jim Brothers Sculpture Studio. He created the statue of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower that stands in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol, contributed to the Korean War Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and designed pieces for the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Va. His sculpture "From the Ashes" is the centerpiece of the Douglas County Memorial of Honor at the Lawrence Visitors Center. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Correll, c'86; a son; and his mother.

Daniel Cates, c'70, 65, Sept. 20 in Olathe. He was retired president and CEO at Cates Sheet Metal Industries in Lenexa. Survivors include his wife, Libby; a daughter; a son, Carson, b'00; his mother; a sister, Nancy Cates, assoc.; and four grandchildren.

Ralph Chatham, e'70, 64, May 18 in Falls Church, Va., where he was a retired commander in the U.S. Navy and former program manager at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. He later worked for Global Associates and Dynamics Technology. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Laidig Chatham, c'70; a daughter; a son; a brother; a sister; and a granddaughter.

Mary Anderson Coral, f'75, s'97, 81, Aug. 9 in Lawrence. She had been an artist, a teacher and a social worker. She is survived by her partner, Jim Cooley; two sons, one of whom is Angus, '95; three granddaughters; and a great-granddaughter.

Helen Ro Haren, g'76, 73, Aug. 29 in Overland Park. She taught school for many years.

Dean Johnson, EdD'70, 83, Aug. 7 in Leawood, where he was former principal of Shawnee Mission West High School. He is survived by two sons, two daughters and four grandchildren.

William Kellman, b'75, 60, July 31 in Shawnee Mission. Two brothers and a sister survive.

Glenda Mapes Maiden, f'72, 62, Sept. 20, 2012, in Winnetka, Calif., where she was a musician. She is survived by her husband, Tom, e'72; a son; a daughter; a sister, Jody Mapes Shelton, EdD'91; and a grandson.

Richard Marshall, d'73, g'76, 62, Aug. 19 in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., where he was an associate professor in the Strategies for College Success department at Palm Beach Community College. He earlier had been a counselor and social worker in Kansas City. He is survived by a brother, Jerry, '77; and three sisters.

Martha Thomson Nance, c'78, 81, Aug. 11 in Chesterfield, Mo. She was an ordained Presbyterian elder. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a daughter, Patricia Nance Slentz, d'75; three sons, two of whom are Charles, e'78, and Paul, b'80, g'82; a sister, Shirley Thomson Burbank, d'53; and four grandchildren.

Mary "Cathy" Witt Russell, d'75, 60, Aug. 13 in Shawnee Mission, where she had been a teacher. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Shelbi, c'09; two sisters, Susan Witt Santaularia, j'78, and Marjorie Witt Stevens-Werly, f'85, g'94; and two brothers, one of whom is Phil, '77.

Edward Sherraden, EdD'71, 93, Aug. 29 in Kansas City. He was a teacher and a principal and had been associate superintendent of schools in Salina, where he lived for many years. He was a 1989 inductee into the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame. Surviving are three sons, two of whom are Tom, m'77, and Mark, l'85, g'85; a daughter, Sandra Sherraden Jaggard, '84; two sisters; a brother; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Ellen Spector Silverglat, s'79, 71, Aug. 24 in Missoula, Mont. She was a social worker and a member of the Missoula Critical Incident Stress Debriefing team. She is survived by her husband, Michael, c'68, m'72; a daughter; and a sister.

Nancy Barrows Slattery, c'76, 59, July 24 in Fayetteville, Ga., where she had worked in business travel marketing. Her husband, Thomas, her mother and a brother, Richard Barrows, p'73, survive.

80s Andrew Drummond, c'89, g'92, 46, July 12 in Lawrence, where he was a stay-at-home father. He earlier had been an accountant and office manager. Surviving are his wife, Deanna, a son and a daughter.

Matthew Grier, f'89, 48, Aug. 9 in Monroe, Wash. He was a jewelry maker and metalsmith and had worked for the Washington Department of Corrections. Among survivors are his wife, Sonya, a daughter, a stepson and two sisters.

Elizabeth "Betty" Hawley-Robertson, g'81, 69, Sept. 15 in Spring Hill. She had been a counselor for the Blue Valley School District and also had a private practice. Surviving are her husband, Christopher, a son, a sister and a brother.

Daniel Hinkin, m'80, 58, Aug. 5 in Manhattan, where he was a physician with the Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center. He earlier had been an orthopedic surgeon with the U.S. Air Force. Surviving are his wife, Eileen; two sons; one of whom is Stephen, m'11; a daughter, Erin Hinkin Boidock, g'12; his mother; three brothers, two of whom are Doug, m'78, and Matthew, c'89; two sisters and a grandson.

Susan Pierce Means, c'82, 53, Aug. 22 in St. Joseph, Mo. She is survived by her father, William Means, b'54; and two sisters, Katherine Means, c'81, j'81, and Rebecca Means Schneidewind, j'89.

Dale Newton, e'82, 53, May 10 in Humble, Texas, where he had worked for Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. He is survived by his wife, Linda; three sons, two of whom are Brett, '14, and Chad, '13; his father; a brother; and two sisters, one of whom is Marsha Newton Hale, '75.

Norma Loch Stephens, g'81, 84, Aug. 30 in Osawatomie, where she had been superintendent at Osawatomie State Hospital. In 1989 she was named Kansas Outstanding Public Administrator by the American Society of Public Administration. Three sisters survive.

Stan Stewart, g'84, 59, July 25 in El Dorado, where he had been city manager for 19 years. He was former chairman of the Kansas League of Municipalities and president of the Kansas Association of City Managers. Surviving are his wife, Wanda, a son, a daughter, his mother, two brothers, two sisters and three grandchildren.

Douglas Wahl, j'80, 56, July 30 in Lawrence, where he owned Lawrence Pawn and Jewelry. He earlier had been a marketer for KPL Gas Service and Utilicorp United and an executive with

Commonwealth Edison in Chicago. He is survived by two brothers, Phillip, c'77, l'80, and Don, c'88, b'88.

90s Patricia Partridge, g'90, 55, Aug. 9 in Olathe, where she taught for 30 years. She is survived by two sons, Michael, '10, and James, '13; two daughters; and her mother.

Jill Peterson, s'94, 43, Aug. 10 in Wamego, where she had been a social worker. She is survived by her parents; two sisters; one of whom is Dana Peterson Pieschl, c'93, g'95; a brother; and her grandparents.

Kevin Steele, g'99, 61, Oct. 13, 2012, in Emporia. He had a 25-year career with the state of Kansas, working in social services, employment preparation and public administration. Surviving are his wife, Deedra, a son, a daughter, his father and two sisters.

Monica Matyak Steiner, j'92, 43, Aug. 10 in Colorado. She lived in Olathe and had been divisional sales manager for MarketShare Publications in Overland Park. Among survivors are her husband, Jay, j'92; a daughter; a son; two brothers; and two sisters.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Robert Manning, m'54, 85, Sept. 10 in Katy, Texas. He was a professor emeritus at the KU School of Medicine in Wichita and earlier had been founding dean of the Eastern Virginia Medical School, where he also was chairman of internal medicine. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Mary Kay Manning Fausch, n'77; a son; five grandsons; and a great-grandson.

James Surface, c'42, g'48, 92, Aug. 1 in Nashville, Tenn., where he was a professor emeritus of management at Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management. He also had been executive vice chancellor, executive vice president and provost at Vanderbilt. Earlier he had been dean of business and vice chancellor at KU. Surviving are a daughter, Mary Lu Surface Galladet, c'68; four sons, one of whom is Richard, c'70; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Rock Chalk Review

COURTESY DIANA ZLATANOVSKI (3)



Object lessons

Photographer's group portraits tell the life story of things

If photographer Diana Zlatanovski had an artistic credo it might sound something like this: Little things matter. A lot.

As *The Typologist*, Zlatanovski—whose full-time job is curatorial research associate at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston—is essentially a collector of collections. In her free time she runs a website and blog at typology.com devoted to groups of similar objects beautifully photographed. Her fine art still-lives feature assemblages of everyday items such as keys and campaign buttons, or things from nature like habanero peppers and abalone shells.

A typology is an assemblage of similar items; hers usually focus on objects small enough to be held in hand and common enough to say something about the culture or environment that produced them.

"The more you see something the more it makes you realize it's important," says

Zlatanovski, g'04, who earned a master's degree in museum studies while helping inventory the ethnographic collection then located at the KU Museum of Anthropology in Spooner Hall. "We learn so much more from studying trash heaps in archeology sites than from big monuments. A big monument is an anomaly, but the trash heap is everyday life."

Of course, Zlatanovski's subjects are by no means trash: Some are held by serious collectors or by the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, and creative insights often occur during workday duties at the Museum of Fine Arts. "It's a real inspiration to be able to pull out a drawer and see 30 beaded purses at once," she says. "That really resonates with me."

By presenting objects in groups, Zlatanovski hopes to encourage viewers to see details that escape notice when we look at things individually. Consider the *Haliotidae Haliotis* typology, a series of photographs of 16 abalone shells collected in Korea in 1939.

"If I brought each abalone shell out and then put it away and brought out another,

you'd likely think it was the same shell," she says. "It's only once you see them all next to each other that you start to look carefully. You see the similarities and differences you can't see unless you have a group."

"It's the same idea behind encyclopedic museum collections: You don't know what you have until you put it into context."

Zlatanovski began the project a couple of years ago after finding a collection of wrenches at an antique mall. She was intrigued by the tools' varied forms and hand-worn patina. Every bend and angle hinted at design decisions that went into their construction; every ding spoke of daily use. The same was true of colorings and barnacles on the abalone shells she found at Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology, still bearing the handwritten label from the collector who plucked them from the sea more than 70 years ago.

"Each barnacle that attached was an event, and the coloring was formed by the different foods they ate," she says. "I kind of see these as biographies: Each object, their lives have been imprinted on them."

Rather than laying all the objects out and photographing the arrangement as one image, she photographs each object separately, then compiles the single images into typologies. She uses a plain white background to allow the viewer to focus only on the objects.

Zlatanovski wants to encourage us all to see more, literally and figuratively.

"Looking carefully makes you wonder,





‘Well, why are these things different?’ It sparks a curiosity that makes you look further into them, to find out the story behind the objects.”

Viewers sometimes provide their own stories. At an exhibition that included her typology of old skeleton keys, Zlatanovski heard from several people for whom the photos brought to mind people and places from their own lives.

“There is a value in these objects, and keeping them around is important to a lot of people, as I’m learning,” she says. “Museums exist to preserve collections, so it’s really heartening for someone like me to learn how much people do appreciate these things and see their importance.”

—Steven Hill

As he lay dying

Haruf’s *Benediction* returns to a place on the Plains where pain and love are equally real

Dad Lewis is dying. This we learn in the opening paragraphs of *Benediction*, the fifth of Kent Haruf’s novels about the fictional farming town of Holt, Colo.

As he did with four earlier installments of the Holt books—most notably *Plain-song*, a finalist for the 1999 National Book Award, and *Eventide*—Haruf, ’68, winner of the 2006 Dos Passos Prize for Literature, nudges onto the stage a parade of souls who try to be gentle with one another but slowly reveal their private struggles with difficult lives. Being kind and forgiving to a neighbor, *Benediction* reminds us, is often far easier than being kind and forgiving to one’s self.

The orbits set in motion by Dad’s cancer diagnosis expand to include an orphaned girl and her lonely, loving grandmother; an elderly widow and her 60-something daughter, both seemingly a bit pathetic early in the story but who show themselves as stalwarts of truth and trust; Dad and Mary’s adult daughter, Lorraine, still struggling to get her life back on track years after the death of her only child; her troubled brother, Frank, who fled Holt never to return, at least in the flesh; and a sincere new preacher whose notions about Christian ideals of love and forgiveness cost him nearly everything but his faith.

As has also come to be expected of the Holt novels, *Benediction* is a timeless story set firmly in a place that matters to the telling:

Lorraine held her hand out to the rain and patted her face and then cupped both hands and caught the overflow from the gutters and held her hands up to Dad’s face. He stood leaning on his cane, his face dripping. They watched him, he looked straight out across the lawn past the wrought iron fence, past the wet street to the lot beyond, thinking about something.

Doesn’t it smell good, Mary said.

Yeah, he said softly. His eyes were wet, but they couldn’t say if that was from tears or rainwater.

Haruf’s iconic, laconic tempo is not to be misjudged as a nostalgic paean to a lost era of life on the Plains. He is the minimalist craftsman who rubs the hard mahogany to a smooth luster, yes, but also the truth-seeking artist who laces into his sculpture of story remorseless, jagged strips that tear into flesh and memory to expose lifetimes of regret and longing.

Benediction offers not one easy page; even the joy of a stock-tank skinny dip by three women and the girl is slowed by

precise, uncomfortable descriptions of what the years have done to the women’s bodies. Nothing here happens as a matter of convenience. Adult longings and teenage explorations are empty, sad and tawdry; piety and patriotism harm rather than heal; gossip kills.

At the center of this turn through Holt is the plainspoken, proud owner of the town’s hardware store. As Dad Lewis faces his final days in the summer of his 77th year, he takes comfort in a life led well and true. In his private moments, though, the dying old man drifts back to his un-erasable errors, brief, shocking episodes of cold-hearted sternness that altered and even ended lives. None of it is Dad’s fault, and all of it is Dad’s fault, and this much he knows in his heart to be true. His dying dreams will not let him forget or forgive.

And yet, *Benediction*’s difficult journey proves worthy of the effort. It is a masterful summit of both fiction writing and fiction reading. The stories within its pages force readers to confront our own shortcomings, our failings, our missed opportunities. The pain rippling through *Benediction* is, in a deep way, our pain.



Benediction

by Kent Haruf

\$25.95, Knopf

Equally, its triumphs, small and brief, bold and enduring, are ours, too, and a needed reminder of why fiction matters.

What’s the weather doing out there today? he said. Too hot again?

They say it’s going to rain, Lyle said.

It might. It’s turning off dark right now.

The farmers won’t like that, will they, Daddy? Lorraine said.

Not if they’re trying to cut wheat. The guys with corn won’t mind it.

Sounds like a mixed blessing, Lyle said.

Dad looked at him. Yes sir. Lots of things turn out to be blessings that got mixed up.

Rock Chalk Review

The rain that falls on Holt comes fast and hard and leaves quickly. These, too, are the thunderstorms that *Benediction* rains down, sudden drenchings of sorrow and love that ultimately point toward the bookends of life, where young reminds old that hope must prevail, where dark clouds must give way to a soft summer sun. —Chris Lazzarino

—Chris Lazzarino

Feathered finds

Doctoral student takes lead on pair of bird discoveries, while KU tallies 4 new species in 2013

Scientists and researchers can spend entire careers hoping to one day find and identify a previously unknown species. Ecology and evolutionary biology doctoral student Pete Hosner already has accomplished the rare feat—not once, but twice. This year. With birds from different hemispheres.

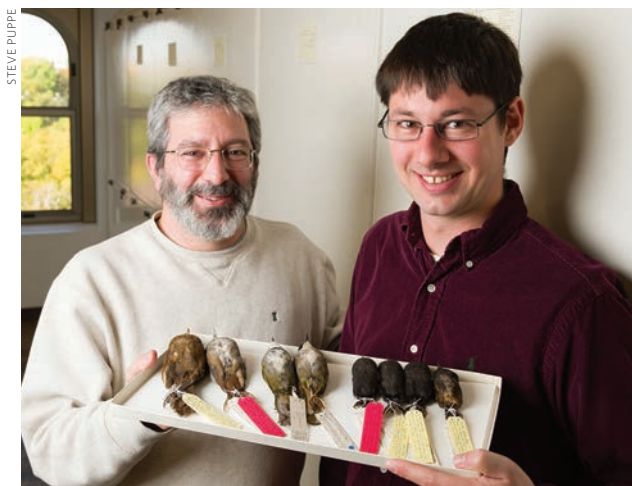
Even more remarkable, KU researchers this year published findings of four new bird discoveries out of about 24 announced worldwide in 2013.

“This type of work, where we go off to foreign countries and we’re basically out there exploring,” Hosner says, “is not the type of research that’s done in a lot of other universities.”

Hosner, ’14, earned his undergraduate degree at Cornell University’s prestigious ornithology department in 2003, then spent four years as a freelance research assistant on bird studies from the Wyoming Rockies to the lower Colorado River in Yuma, Ariz. Between gigs, he traveled on shoestring budgets to Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru and Malaysia.

He began his doctoral studies at KU in 2007, and the following year was with the KU group that located what appeared to be an unknown variation of a ground-dwelling bird called the Tapaculo. Because the tiny, wren-like bird darts about briskly and often forages under the cover of loose ground foliage, they are best located by their songs.

Carrying digital equipment loaded with



recordings of Tapaculo calls, the KU researchers were able to lure from the brush a variant they’ve since named the Junin Tapaculo. After returning to Kansas, Hosner spent years hunting through online bird-call archives around the country, visited museums in Chicago and Louisiana to examine their Tapaculo specimens, and doggedly dug into previously published Tapaculo papers to see whether this species might already have been identified and, essentially, forgotten.

And once the KU specimens cleared Peru’s inspection system, a year after being collected, Hosner and his colleagues were able to sequence DNA samples.

They finally concluded that the small, blackish bird was indeed a new species. Hosner, the lead author, was joined by Professor Town Peterson, curator at the KU Biodiversity Institute, and collection manager Mark Robbins in announcing the discovery in the *Wilson Journal of Ornithology*.

“You always sort of hope you’ll find something like this, but you can never really be sure,” Hosner says. “You can do all the right things, go to poorly known areas and learn the poorly known groups really well and get the skills you need to actually find it when you get out there, but a lot of it is just luck.”

“But on the other hand, if you’re out in the right places again and again, then these things are going to turn up.”

And, not by accident, another one turned up for Hosner, while on a research

Town Peterson (l) and Pete Hosner, in ornithology’s seventh-floor collection area atop Dyche Hall, with newly identified bird species.

Extensive paperwork and home-country approval—which can take a year or more—are required before any collected specimen can be shipped to the U.S.

trip to the dense Luzon Island forests in the northern Philippines. This time Hosner and a team of scientists from the Biodiversity Institute and the department of ecology and evolutionary biology collected a new species of ground warbler.

After confirming their findings with a DNA sequence collected at the Biodiversity Institute’s Molecular Phylogenetics Laboratory—recently renovated with investments from the National Science Foundation and the state of Kansas—the KU team gave the Sierra Madre Ground Warbler a scientific name in honor of Max Thompson, g’64, biology professor emeritus at Southwestern College in Winfield, who donated his extensive collection to KU after his retirement.

Hosner was again lead author on the study—published in *The Condor*, the journal of the Cooper Ornithological Society—along with the Biodiversity Institute’s Carl Oliveros, g’09, Robert G. Moyle and Nikki Boggess, c’13.

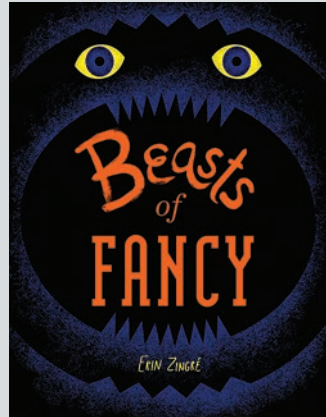
Also this year, Oliveros and Moyle announced their identification of a species called the Cambodian Tailorbird and Peterson published his discovery of the Guerrero Brush-finch.

“Since I began my doctorate in 2007,” Hosner says, “KU ornithology has had active field research in Central and South America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Oceania. Even though undescribed bird species are a rare find, with such a broad search radius, new things are bound to turn up.”

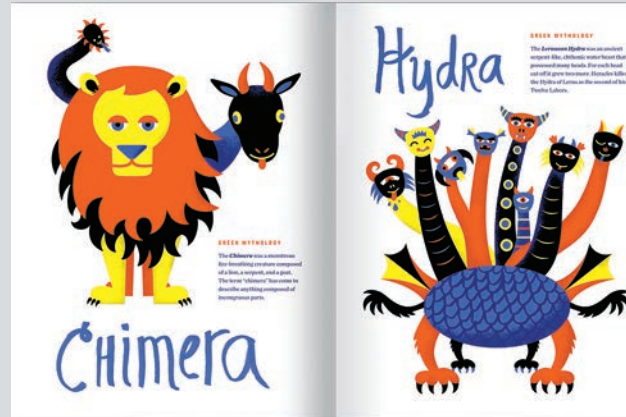
—Chris Lazzarino



Sally Carmichael, You Can Be an Expert Rifleman



Erin Zingre, Beasts of Fancy: Vol. 1



Jing Jian, poster
The Electric Universe



Justin Zielke, stylized portrait



Lauren Bowles, UpCycle website

Designers win top honors, again

Students and faculty in the department of design are still buzzing over last semester's dominance of the Ninth Student Design Show, an annual conference, exhibition and awards program hosted by the Dallas Society of Visual Communications.

With 1,200 entries arriving from 40 colleges and universities, KU students were responsible for 50 of the 170 works chosen for the show, and design department students earned Best Sophomore, Junior and Senior Portfolio awards and more than \$15,000 in prize money, which, in an era of limited scholarship funds, is particularly gratifying for Andrea Herstowski,

interim chair and associate professor.

"Professionals recognize the good work and we have continued to do very well," Herstowski says. "I am very happy and proud of all the work that the students submit, and that we have been awarded Best School two years in a row is just remarkable."

Says Dallas art director and show co-chair Steven DeWitt, "KU seems to really pay attention to concepts and narrative in the design work. And that is really important as it draws in an audience and gives them something to engage with."

—Chris Lazzarino

Glorious to View Photographs by Dan Storey



Evidence that harried architecture and design students made time for much needed study breaks flanks the stairway to Marvin Hall. If wisecracks that have swirled around campus the past couple of years about a ruthless legion of ferocious squirrels are to be believed, the little guy at left was probably plotting the jack-o'-lanterns' destruction.

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