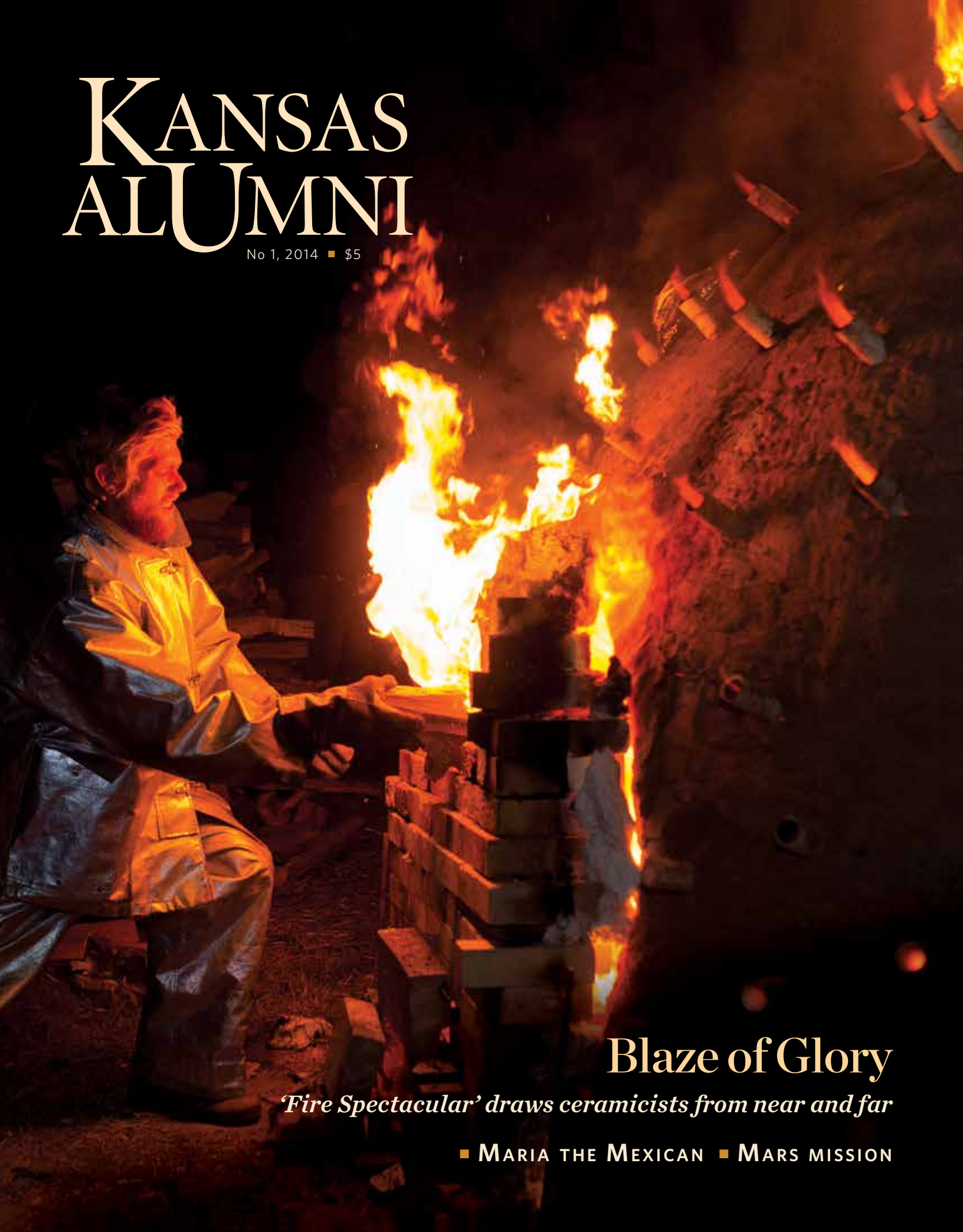


KANSAS ALUMNI

No 1, 2014 ■ \$5



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COVER STORY

All Fired Up

The department of visual arts' Fire Spectacular kindles creativity for ceramics artists from campus, Lawrence and beyond.

By Chris Lazzarino

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A Martian Odyssey

As the world's first and only exopaleontologist and a member of NASA's Curiosity rover project, Jack Farmer is a pioneer in the field of Mars exploration.

By Diane Silver

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Blood Harmony

Sisters Tess and Maria Cuevas set their mariachi roots to a rock 'n' roll beat in Maria the Mexican.

By Steven Hill


Cover image by Steve Puppe



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January 2014

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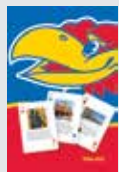
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Scene on campus

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Even though Ryan and Erinn Colaianni are in the midst of renovating their home in Arlington, Va., they did not hesitate to host a student recruitment event Jan. 12 for prospective Jayhawks from the Washington, D.C., area. “Erinn and I would be honored to serve as co-hosts,” Ryan said in an email shortly before Thanksgiving. “With both of us from out of state, and relatively recent alumni, I think we would be ideal folks to tell our story and share how much KU means to us.”

Ryan, c’07, j’07, grew up in McLean, Va., and applied to 12 schools before choosing KU. Erinn Schaiberger Colaianni, b’07, g’08, grew up in Mesa, Ariz., and considered eight colleges before deciding to become a Jayhawk. They met at a Super Bowl party as KU seniors and married in 2010. Shortly after graduating, Ryan volunteered to help lead the Washington, D.C., chapter; he won the Dick Wintermote Chapter Volunteer of the Year Award in 2011.

The Colaiannis hosted one of 13 “Home for the Holidays” events in key cities: New York; Austin, Texas; Omaha, Neb.; San Francisco; Phoenix; Atlanta; Tulsa, Okla.; Wichita; San Diego; Los Angeles; Memphis, Tenn.; and Kansas City. Hosted by the Office of Admissions and the Alumni Association in alumni homes, the receptions offer opportunities for high school seniors and their families to meet informally with admissions representatives, current KU students who are home during winter break, and alumni.

With their own home full of paint cans and power tools, the couple transported trays of food and supplies into Washington, where Ryan, a senior account executive at Edelman public relations, secured one of the firm’s employee lounges for the reception. Fourteen prospective students and their families attended, along with two current KU students, several young alumni and co-host Paige Gugat, j’07, who recruits East Coast students full time as one of eight KU regional admissions representatives, six of whom were hired last summer (“National Reach,” No. 5, 2013).

“This is our first year having a Home for the Holidays event on the East Coast, and I am so thrilled to be able to do so,” says Gugat, who lives in Washington. “Not everybody is able to make it to Lawrence for a campus visit, and this is the next best thing to

The Colaiannis and Paige Gugat (r) welcomed prospective students and their families. KU juniors Erica Davis and Hayley Davis, both from the local area, shared their campus experiences. Guests included Jamie Wilson Collins, b’84; her sister, Dana Wilson, j’82; and Dana’s daughter, McKenzie Cory, who proudly declared her commitment to continue the family’s KU tradition. McKenzie says the reception “definitely would have nudged me in the direction of KU” had she not already decided.

.....

give them as much information as possible while they make their decision—and perhaps spur them to visit. I held an event in the New York City area as well, and the high school students really enjoyed talking to the current students and learning all about their transition to college life in Lawrence.”

Gugat asked Ryan; Lisa Burgess, ’06; Erica Davis, Washington, D.C., junior; and Hayley Davis, Centreville, Va., junior, to describe their own college searches and field questions from students and parents on subjects including residence halls, study abroad, internships, Hawk Week, campus activities, KU basketball and the Jayhawk alumni network.

Lorna Jackson, whose son, Jelani, is considering KU, praised the event in an email: “We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves on Sunday. ... The information and experiences we heard from the alumni and the two students were absolutely inspiring. The one thing that stuck with me was the way in which KU alumni have built a ‘Forever Network’ for your students. And it was a good idea to host such an event for prospective students who may not have the opportunity to visit the KU campus.”

During the panel discussion, Ryan Colaianni assured the local students that KU would soon feel like home. “No matter where you are from or who you know, you’re going to feel at home right away. I didn’t know anybody, but I consider Kansas my second home now. If I could move back to Lawrence tomorrow, I would do it.”

But for now, he and Erinn will stay in Arlington and hope to have their home projects finished in time to host next year’s recruitment reception in their renovated basement.

The décor no doubt will feature lots of Jayhawks and hues of crimson and blue. 🍷

On the Boulevard

COURTESY LIED CENTER (4)



The Lied Center's spring lineup brings exhilarating acts to center stage (clockwise from left) China's world record-holding Peking Acrobats, "The Wonderful Wizard of Song," The Cleveland Orchestra and "The Addams Family."

Exhibitions

"James Turrell: Gard Blue," Spencer Museum of Art, through May 18

"Conversation XVII: Photographic Memory," Spencer Museum of Art, through May 18

25 Wind Ensemble

26 The Cleveland Orchestra

MARCH

9 Gleb Ivanov

11 University Band and Symphonic Band

28 "Much Ado About Nothing," directed by Peter Zazzali

MARCH

1-2, 7-9 "Much Ado About Nothing," directed by Peter Zazzali

27 Visiting Artist Series: Martha Coucel Vargas, flute, Swarthout Recital Hall

FEBRUARY

9 Kansas Virtuosi, Swarthout Recital Hall

18 Women's Chorale, Swarthout Recital Hall

Lied Center events

JANUARY

22 "Watchtower," film

26 "The Wonderful Wizard of Song: The Music of Harold Arlen"

FEBRUARY

1 Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble 1

2 Prairie Winds Concert

12 "The Addams Family"

18 The Peking Acrobats

University Theatre

FEBRUARY

14-20 Black Box: Undergraduate Directing Projects

Murphy Hall events

JANUARY

24, 26 KU Opera presents "Rape of Lucretia," Crafton-Preyer Theatre

MARCH

2 Instrumental Collegium Musicum, Swarthout Recital Hall



9 Visiting Artist Series:
Allison Robuck, oboe,
Swarthout Recital Hall

Visual Imagery in Late
Medieval France,” Anne D.
Hedeman, Judith Harris
Murphy Distinguished
Professor of Art History

Performances

FEBRUARY

6 Wind Ensemble, Parkhill
High School, Kansas City,
Mo.

13 Jazz Composers and
Arrangers with Jazz Ensem-
ble I & Jazz Combo I,
Lawrence Arts Center

27 Symphonic Band at
Kansas Music Educators
Association, Century II,
Wichita

28 Women’s Chorale at
Kansas Music Educators
Association, Century II,
Wichita

MARCH

7-8 Jazz Festival Concerts,
Kansas Union

12 Scholarship Concert,
Kauffman Center for the
Arts, Kansas City, Mo.

MARCH

11 “Through the Eye of a
Needle: Wealth, the Fall of
Rome, and the Making of
Christianity in the West,
350-550 AD,” Peter Brown

Academic Calendar

JANUARY

21 First day of spring classes

MARCH

17-23 Spring break

Kansas Honors Program

FEBRUARY

3 Fort Scott

3 Pittsburg

5 Great Bend

13 Washington

17 Beloit

19 La Cygne

26 Atchison

26 Holton

Lectures

FEBRUARY

21 “Imagining the Past:
Interplay Between Literary &



Alumni events

JANUARY

20 Wichita Bus Trip, KU vs.
Baylor

21 An Evening with
Naismith: Artifacts of a KU
Legend, Minneapolis

23 KU Night at Goose Island
Brewery, Chicago

24 TGIF, Adams Alumni
Center

25 KU at TCU pregame

FEBRUARY

1 KU at UT pregame

1-2 KU Mini College,
San Antonio

4 KU at Baylor pregame

6 KU night at Houston
Museum of Art

11 An Evening with
Naismith: Artifacts of a
KU Legend, Oklahoma City

12 An Evening with
Naismith: Artifacts of a
KU Legend, Tulsa

21 TGIF, Adams Alumni
Center

22 Southwest Jayhawk
Tumble, Liberal

24 Wichita Bus Trip,
KU vs. OU

24 An Evening with
Naismith: Artifacts of a
KU Legend, Tucson

25 An Evening with
Naismith: Artifacts of a
KU Legend, Phoenix

27 KU Night with the
Denver Nuggets

MARCH

1 Great Plains Chapter
Shrimp Boil, Garden City

12-15 Big 12 Tournament
pregame at Z-Strike, Power
and Light District, Kansas
City, Mo.

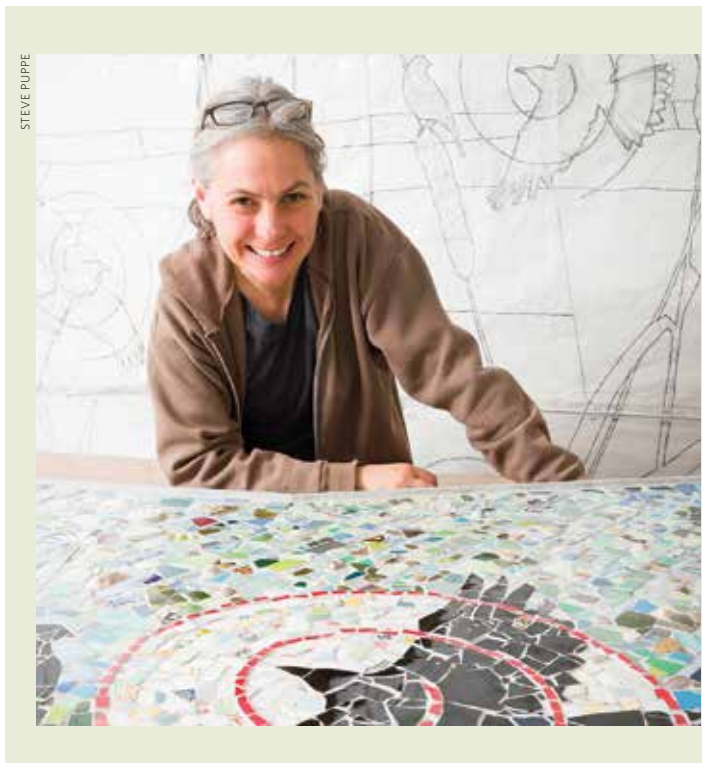
14 TGIF, Adams Alumni
Center

17 KU Night with the
Brooklyn Nets

**Events listed here are high-
lights 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



Memorable mosaic

Next time you stop by Free State Brewing Company, the brewpub that's a Mass Street favorite, look for the new addition: A 7-by-7 foot mosaic above the front stairs by Lawrence artist Lora Jost, '90.

At the request of brewery owner Chuck Magerl, '78, Jost created a mosaic that portrays three familiar landscapes: the Wakarusa Wetlands, the Kaw River valley and patchwork Kansas farm fields. Birds—a frequent motif in Jost's work—figure prominently; materials include ceramic dishes donated by friends, found objects like fossils and lake pebbles, and hardware and fittings from Free State's brewing and bottling operations.

Jost eschewed direct reference to the brewery's main product, instead reflecting Magerl's business philosophy. "It feels like it's in keeping with his interest in trying to stay in step with the environment while running a business," she says.

Look carefully, though, and you'll find a piece of beer-bottle glass bearing the prairie falcon, part of the Free State logo. Because without beer, even art does not seem to go as well.

Ghost of a chance

BACK WHEN YOU WERE a broke college student, the biggest challenge posed by ramen was working up the gumption to eat it for the umpteenth time. But these days the notorious noodle is part of Lawrence's hottest food dare: the Ghost Ramen Challenge at Tim and Shantel Grace's restaurant, Ramen Bowls, 125 E. 10th St.

When the Kansas natives who met at KU moved back to Lawrence from Hawaii, they missed the fusion of Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Filipino and Portuguese influences of island food. In particular, they missed ramen—not the salty bricks of cellophane-wrapped noodles you plunge in boiling water and top with a packet of dry seasoning, but the Hawaiian take on the traditional broth-and-noodle dish that originated in Japan.



Finding no authentic made-from-scratch ramen bar in Kansas, they opened their own.

"We wanted to provide an escape for our customers and bring a piece of what we love about Hawaii to Lawrence," says Tim, d'01. "We wondered, 'What can we both do and still feel a connection to the islands?' This is our answer."

The Ghost Ramen Challenge debuted on Halloween and became permanent due to popular demand. A mountain of noodles is served with a broth made from ghost chilis, the world's hottest pepper.

Finish every spicy bite (as a handful of intrepid eaters have) and you get the \$20 dish for free, a T-shirt and your picture on the restaurant's Wall of Fame. Fail and you earn the admiration of your peers.

"There have been tears and otherwise," says Shantel, '02, "but mostly people leave laughing and smiling."



Tim and Shantel Grace



LARRY LEROY PEARSON

Wheel-world research

KU often turns to videoconferencing, text messaging and Web-based technology to fulfill its research and outreach missions across Kansas. But a new project at the School of Architecture, Design and Planning puts an old-school twist on the high-tech approach by retrofitting a 1972 Airstream trailer purchased for \$4,000 on craigslist as a mobile lab for researchers.

After gathering ideas from faculty, students in associate professor Nils Gore's ARC 409 class will gut the trailer and rework the interior while preserving the shiny exterior. Enhancements will include new heating and cooling, updates to the 1970s brown-and-blaze-orange furniture, and audio-visual gear for presentations. In May, the lab will be ready for road-tripping researchers. It's already generating interest from scholars in business, psychology, public administration and the Life Span Institute eager to not only teach but also learn as they cross the state.

"I think it fights the perception of the University as the ivory tower, cooped up on the Hill with our noses in books—that negative perception of academia as people studying stuff with little relevance to the world," Gore says. And the Airstream's iconic, eye-catching design doesn't hurt.

"People notice them. They're cool. When this rolls into a town, there's going to be a buzz around it."

Flag football fun

AS FANS CELEBRATE TOUCHDOWNS by waving the wheat, another athletic feat also deserves cheers: the yell leaders' lap around the track while carrying aloft the K-A-N-S-A-S flags. And on windy days such as Nov. 16, when KU scored four touchdowns against West Virginia, a daunting task gets even harder.

"I was running as hard as I possibly could but felt like I wasn't getting anywhere," says sophomore Riley Grammer. "I felt like I was walking."

Explains sophomore Cole Meierhoff, "You have to keep smiling when you're completely exhausted, and then come right back and put a girl into the air."

While the letter flags are hauled out after touchdowns, the big Jayhawk flag that leads the team onto the field—"Big Blue"—is another challenge entirely.

"That thing feels like it weighs as much as three of those other flags," Grammer says. "It's a matter of getting it started. Once it gets started, it's not that bad."

And, notes Grammer, "I wouldn't trade it for the world. It's an honor, and I love every minute of it."



JEFF JACOBSEN



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In actual dollars, state funding for Kansas Regents institutions equals the fiscal year 2002 funding level. State General Fund support per KU undergraduate student has decreased nearly 40 percent in the past 15 years.

Toil in Topeka

KU, Regents schools to urge restoration of budget cuts, investment in health education

Gov. Sam Brownback hailed an improved state economy in his State of the State address Jan. 15 in Topeka. Regarding higher education, Brownback, 1'82, said, "In my budget proposal, I will continue to support our universities, community and technical colleges, and I am confident they will produce the next generation of Kansas leaders."

The Kansas Board of Regents and the University had urged the governor to restore statewide higher education cuts of \$44 million for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, which were passed last year by the Kansas Legislature and approved by Brownback. While Kansas leaders reduced higher education funding in 2013, 37 other states increased their financial support for colleges and universities. At KU, the cuts include \$13.53 million: \$5.26 million for the Lawrence and Edwards campuses and \$8.27 million for KU Medical Center.

But Brownback's specific proposals, released Jan. 16, advocated restoration of only a small portion of the statewide cuts: \$10.9 million over two years to restore one-half of salary-based reductions in the current fiscal year, and all the salary-based reductions in the next fiscal year, which begins July 1.

The governor also did not include funding for the other key item KU had requested: a \$75 million investment in the Health Education Initiative to build a new classroom facility at the Medical Center's



CHUCK FRANCE/KU MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Douglas

Kansas City campus and support the new four-year medical school program on the Wichita campus. Instead, Brownback recommended \$70,000 for the Medical Center's bridging program to place physicians in rural areas, where the shortage is greatest. For the Lawrence campus, the governor proposed \$2 million to create the Kansas Institute for Translational Chemical Biology, which would support research in drug discovery and delivery, including treatments for infectious diseases, many forms of cancer, and neurological diseases. "A center like this would impact nearly every potential medical area of bioscience," said Jeff Aubé, University distinguished professor of medicinal chemistry. "It would provide the broad capabilities we need to work in nearly every area of drug discovery."

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little said KU would continue to urge support to

To join Jayhawks for Higher Education or find Hawk Points and recent messages, visit kualumni.org/jhe.

For KU's legislative agenda and updates, visit publicaffairs.ku.edu/govrelations/state.

expand programs to train physicians and address the health care needs of rural areas. “We’re pleased the governor’s budget largely reverses the salary cap cuts, and we appreciate his support for our work in translational chemistry and for the Rural Health Bridging Program,” she said. “We’ll also work with Gov. Brownback and policymakers to advance the Health Education Initiative, which would expand the KU Medical Center’s ability to educate the physicians Kansas communities desperately need.”

Looming over the legislative session is a case before the Kansas Supreme Court regarding the budgets for K-12 schools statewide. A lower court ruled that recent cuts to K-12 education violated the Kansas Constitution, concluding that the state must increase public school funding by nearly \$500 million per year. If the Supreme Court agrees, the matter will return to legislators, who must decide whether they will follow the order to restore funds or defy the Supreme Court.

In his State of the State address, Brownback made his position clear: “The Constitution empowers the Legislature—the people’s representatives—to fund our

schools. This is the people’s business, done by the people’s house through the wonderfully untidy—but open for all to see—business of appropriations.

“Let us resolve that our schools remain open and are not closed by the courts or anyone else.”

The University and alumni advocates across the state will continue to urge the Legislature to adequately fund higher education. Throughout 2013, membership in the Alumni Association’s advocacy network, Jayhawks for Higher Education, (JHE) increased to more than 1,700 alumni and friends in all Kansas counties. All Regents universities are rallying their alumni to the cause.

Helping to lead the effort is KU’s new director of state relations, Lindsey Douglas, who began work Jan. 6. She served as chief of policy and legislative affairs for the Kansas Department of Transportation since August 2010 and joined the agency in 2009. She played an integral role in the passage of T-WORKS, the 10-year, \$8 billion statewide transportation construction program.

Douglas reports to Timothy Caboni, vice chancellor for public affairs. “Lind-

sey’s experience in state government, her advocacy work and legal training will make an outstanding addition to the public affairs team at the University,” Caboni says.

Before joining KDOT, Douglas worked for the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Overall, she has worked with policymakers through eight legislative sessions. A Kansas native, she holds a bachelor’s degree in public administration from Washburn University and a master’s degree in environmental law from Vermont Law School.

Douglas and her colleagues in KU’s Office of Public Affairs will continue to collaborate with the Alumni Association throughout the legislative session. During the fall semester, the Association sent five messages to JHE members, sharing KU’s legislative agenda and key talking points (“Hawk Points”) for alumni and friends to use in conversations and correspondence with their local lawmakers. The campus team will continue to provide biweekly messages and Hawk Points for JHE members in the weeks ahead. To join JHE and monitor legislative issues affecting KU, visit kualumni.org/jhe.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner



Jesse Bright, a graduate student in the School of Architecture, Design and Planning, took first prize in the

2013 student design awards sponsored by the American Institute of Architects Kansas chapter for his design for a

community center in Denver’s Five Points neighborhood.

Bright’s “Common Ground” food incubator project incorporated a community kitchen, urban gardens, cafe and market, and business development center intended to bring together a community.

“The idea is that the community would have some kind of common ground to meet at,” says Bright.

The common ground in his design was a pair of greenhouses built atop the

CLASS CREDIT

project’s other structures.

“I saw it as a stepping stone to education,” Bright says. “The greenhouses wouldn’t produce enough food for the whole community, but they would create a space where people could come and learn and that would help knit a once fragmented community back together.”

Bright accepted the \$500 first place prize at the AIA Kansas conference in Lawrence last fall.

Hilltopics



Research rise: KU improved its rank to 38th among public research universities in the National Science Foundation annual survey of federally funded research expenditures released in December. KU attracted \$171 million in federal research funding in 2012, up from \$162.7 million in 2011. At KU in 2012, 87 percent of all research funding came from the federal government.

Museum makeover

Spencer gets go-ahead for phase one of renovation

A planned \$5 million renovation of the Spencer Museum of Art will bring front and center the campus museum's goal to not only collect and curate art, but also to integrate art into the University's education mission.

The project will expand the building's main entry on Mississippi Street with an enlarged foyer and glazed portico, improve study rooms where students and museum-goers can more closely examine works of art, and transform the central court with skylights and an elevator and stairway connecting the third- and fourth-floor galleries. Improvements may also be made to the auditorium and other third-floor spaces if funding allows. About \$3.4 million of the proposed \$5 million project has been raised.

Since the museum opened in 1978, the collection has grown from 13,800 items to more than 36,000, and plans to expand have long been on the drawing board. While adding galleries is still a goal of a potential phase two renovation down the road, the current project, says museum director Saralyn Reece Hardy, c'76, g'94, is less about adding space than about making better use of the space the museum already has.

"I think what will happen is it will be a



Hardy

more inspiring feeling," Hardy says. "You walk into a museum and the feeling should be inspiring and inviting." Adding natural light to the central court and improving nearby study spaces, she believes, delivers a message that any university museum should convey.

"These architectural changes will reflect the art museum's core purposes, which are to bring together people, art and ideas and be an inspiring place to learn and see," Hardy says.

Classes regularly tour the galleries with members of the Spencer's academic staff and the KU faculty; those tours increased 95 percent between 2005 and 2012, according to the museum. Third-floor

study rooms such as the print room (which hosts Walk-ins Welcome Fridays, where visitors can view by request works from the Spencer's collection of 15,000 prints, drawings and photographs) provide the kind of distinctive learning opportunities for which university art museums should be known, Hardy says. Part of the money raised for the renovation includes a large gift that will pay for improvements to the print room, which has seen visits increase 134 percent over the past seven years. The room will be named for Stephen Goddard, the museum's associate director and senior curator for works on paper.

With approvals already in hand from the Kansas Board of Regents and KU's capital projects committee, Hardy hopes to begin work in June.

"It feels wonderful to make progress in a direction that feels so close to our core purposes, to not only have the commitment from donors and the University, but also to know that we are going to contribute to the University's education mission," she says. "I think it will be the kind of facility that will inspire great thinking."

Online honors

Student newspaper, radio station win accolades for Web content

Student efforts to supplement their traditional newsgathering with online media attracted top awards from two national collegiate groups last fall.

Kansan.com, the online news site for the University Daily Kansan, earned its sixth Online Pacemaker Award in seven years from the Associated Collegiate Press. KJHK 90.7 FM, KU's student-run radio station, was named the Best Student Media Website by the College Broadcasters Inc. National College Media Production Awards.

The Online Pacemaker, ACP's highest award, looks at two months of coverage for design, ease of navigation, writing and editing, graphics and interactivity; judging is done by professionals in



KU's student-run radio station and newspaper both won awards last fall for their efforts to supplement traditional media with online content.

design, journalism and interactive media. Kansan.com was one of 12 sites honored in the category for schools with more than 20,000 students.

Newspapers all too often resort to “shovelware” for their online strategy, according to Scott Reinardy, associate professor and chair of the news and information track at the William Allen White School of Journalism.

“You just take what’s in the paper and shovel it online,” Reinardy says. To avoid that problem, Overland Park senior Tim Shedor, the technical editor for Kansan.com who designed the structure of the site, and Overland Park junior Natalie Parker, Web editor during the award period, worked with Hannah Wise and Trevor Graff, editors-in-chief of the UDK during the spring and fall semesters, respectively, to explore online-first publication and multimedia initiatives

like videos, photo slideshows and interactive graphics that only work online. “There was a real engagement with the audience that we hadn’t seen before,” Reinardy says. “Tim and Natalie really pushed the envelope to take it into a new realm.”

A story on the student who ran a “Fake Jeff Withey” Twitter account drew more than 10,000 unique visitors in a few hours, Reinardy says, noting that the target audience for online content is off-campus readers like alumni. “I think it’s surprising to students to look at that and say, ‘OK, we publish 12 to 15,000 papers a day, but the audience is so much bigger than that,’” Reinardy says. “I think awards like the Pacemaker demonstrate how important online content is, and how powerful it can be.”

The CBI hands out awards in 24 categories that honor the best student work in video, television and radio production. In addition to the award for best website, KJHK also won the prize for Best Regularly Scheduled Program for “Live @ KJHK,” a weekly hourlong program that features in-studio performances and artist interviews with local and national performers.

Like the Online Pacemaker, the CBI awards look for excellence over an extended period, says Tom Johnson, f’05, general manager of the station and Assistant Director of Media and Outreach for KU Memorial Unions, which oversees KJHK.

“There are a lot of incredible college stations out there with great weekly programs and impressive websites,” Johnson says. “Those areas have to be developed and maintained week in and week out. For the students at KJHK to be recognized for producing the best products in both of those areas, they had to demonstrate that they take great care in producing and coordinating their station programming and online operations every single week.”

The ongoing, large-scale effort required to do that, Johnson adds, draws on every part of the KJHK operation.

“I know the entire staff is thrilled with this recognition, and they certainly deserve it.”

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **Robert Simari, m’86**, professor of medicine at the Mayo Clinic, will become executive dean at the School of Medicine March 24. Simari succeeds Douglas Girod, who has served as interim executive dean since becoming executive vice chancellor in February 2013. At the Mayo Clinic, Simari is vice chair of the division of cardiovascular diseases and co-director of the Mayo Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences. His research focuses on the response of blood vessels to injury and the role of adult stem cells in atherosclerosis.

■ **The Center of Everything**, a 2003 novel by assistant professor of English Laura Moriarty, s’93, g’99, will be the KU Common Book for 2014-’15. All incoming students will receive a copy of the novel and will participate in book discussion groups during ‘Hawk Week as well as other programs sponsored by the Office of First-Year Experience.



■ **A \$4.4 million grant** will support research by KU’s Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis that aims to bypass industrial hazards created in the manufacture of manmade chemicals. The four-year grant, part of the Networks for Sustainable Molecular Design and Synthesis program, is



one of only four such awards made this year by the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Hilltopics

STEVE RUPPE



ACADEMICS

2 receive honorary doctorates; nomination deadline March 31

THE UNIVERSITY'S THIRD round of honorary degrees will be bestowed this May at Commencement, recognizing a Nobel Prize winning alumnus and a world-renowned opera singer with eastern Kansas roots.

Vernon Smith, g'52, is the first KU graduate named a Nobel laureate, winning the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2002 for his pioneering role introducing laboratory experimentation to the field. His lab

research in a discipline known more for abstract theory earned him a reputation as the founding father of experimental economics. He will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Science for notable contributions to experimental economics.

In an interview with *Kansas Alumni* in 2002, the Wichita native credited KU professor Richard Howey for his strong research foundation.

"I can say that Dick is the person from whom I learned what scholarship is really all about—in terms of getting the details right," Smith said. "No one taught me more thoroughly."

Joyce DiDonato, who grew up in Prairie Village and studied vocal education at Wichita State University, is among the leading mezzo-sopranos in the world, with appearances in major opera companies throughout the United States and Europe.

In 2010 she was named Gramophone magazine's artist of the year, and in 2012 she won a Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Solo and was one of the 50 inaugural honorees inducted into the

Gramophone Hall of Fame. She will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Arts for notable contributions to opera.

Honorary degrees, first bestowed in 2012, are awarded for outstanding scholarship, research, creative activity, service to humanity and other achievements. Nominations for degrees to be awarded in May 2015 will be accepted through March 31 at honorarydegrees.ku.edu/nominations and are reviewed by a campus committee chaired by Susan Kemper, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Psychology. Final selections are made by the Chancellor and approved by the Kansas Board of Regents.

LIED CENTER

Kwan named new Lied director

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER'S former head of concerts and touring is the new executive director of the Lied Center of Kansas.

VISITOR

Novel perspective

Fiction writer Junot Diaz answered questions and read from his latest book, *This Is How You Lose Her*, before an overflow audience in Woodruff Auditorium as part of the Humanities Lecture Series sponsored by KU's Hall Center for the Humanities.

WHEN: Nov. 17

WHERE: The Kansas Union

BACKGROUND: Diaz won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for his debut novel, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar*

Wao. This Is How You Lose Her, a collection of linked stories, was a New York Times bestseller and a National Book Award finalist. Diaz received a MacArthur "genius" award in 2012.

ANECDOTE: In response to a student's question about universities' support for minority students, the Dominican-born Diaz (who is the Nancy Allen Professor of Writing at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) said that as a first-generation graduate student at Cornell University fighting for Latino Studies programs, he and others



RICHARD GWYN/LAWRENCE JOURNAL-WORLD

handcuffed themselves in the president's office and called CNN, because "schools hate to be embarrassed."

QUOTES: Diaz disagreed with a questioner who challenged the engagement of

today's college students, noting the difficult environment created by the erosion of state support for education. "Do you know, sir, what is the feeling that comes pouring off the students I meet?" Diaz said. "Fear. It ain't apathy, it is fear."

Derek Kwan, who served as vice president at the New York City jazz institution from 2012 to 2013 and as an associate director from 2000 to 2005, will succeed Tim Van Leer, who retired at the end of 2013 after leading the University's performing arts center for 12 years.

"There is something unique and stimulating about university communities, and Lawrence is one of the greatest college towns in America," Kwan says. "I am energized by the idea that we will need to continually evolve in order to remain relevant on campus and in the community."



Kwan

COURTESY KU MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

family come from a small rural community," Mandela said. "The message he tries to run home whenever we're engaging with one another is anyone can play their part, anyone can play their role, and it's less to do with where he came from but rather the company that he kept and the types of engagements and conversations and debates that they would have. ... Leadership

wasn't anything he actively pursued; he just happened to find himself in a lot of the environments and would rise up to the task at hand."

Mandela was the 10th recipient of the prize, established in 2003 to honor a person or group whose public service inspires others. The \$25,000 award will benefit the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory at the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

DOLE INSTITUTE

Nelson Mandela awarded Dole Leadership Prize

FORMER SOUTH AFRICAN president and anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela received the 2013 Dole Leadership Prize from the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics, which his great-grandson, Luvuyo Mandela, accepted on Mandela's behalf during an October event at the institute, just five weeks before Mandela died, at the age of 95, on Dec. 5.

In an interview with Bill Lacy, director of the Dole Institute, Luvuyo recalled that his great-grandfather was reluctant to run for president. He was inaugurated as South Africa's first democratically elected leader on May 10, 1994, four years after he was freed after nearly 30 years in prison. He shared the Nobel Peace Prize with F.W. de Klerk for their work to end apartheid.

"He always tells the story that we as a



Mandela

ISTOCK.COM

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **A \$1 million gift** from the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City will help renovate the School of Music's Swarthout Recital Hall. Planned improvements for the hall—the primary recital venue for music students for the past 60 years—include renovation of the stage, lighting and acoustics; new seating; ADA entrance and seating; audio-video and telecommunications equipment and the purchase of two new Steinway grand pianos. With other gifts already received, about \$2.3 million of the \$2.5 million project has been raised.

■ **The PRISM Award**, a new honor that recognizes "exceptional nursing practice, leadership, and outcomes" in hospital medical-surgical units in the United States was bestowed on University of Kansas Hospital's combined Hematology, Oncology and Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit in November. "We are honored to be the first recipient of this award," said Tammy Peterman, n'81, g'87, executive vice president, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer of the hospital. "It is not only a validation of the remarkable work of our nurses and the entire patient care team, it confirms patients receive outstanding care when they choose the University of Kansas Hospital."

■ **Leonard Krishtalka**, director of the KU Biodiversity Institute, lends his name to a newly discovered 50-million-year-old fossil shrew. *Nyctitherium krishtalkai* was named in honor of Krishtalka by Richard Stucky, curator of paleoecology and evolution at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science "because of his mentoring in the early stages of my career and for his research on the group of fossil mammals to which it belongs."

"You grew up in a culture that no longer funds education and so says, 'You want to learn, take a loan that will haunt you for the rest of your life.'" —Junot Diaz

The big story

Embiid emerges as big-time star, bolstering KU's deep frontcourt with moves rare for a 7-footer

After 10 seasons as Georgetown's head basketball coach and a lifetime spent watching his father guide the Hoyas, John Thompson III is an undeniable expert at gauging potential in talented big men. When asked after his team's Dec. 21 loss in Allen Field House to offer an assessment of 7-foot freshman sensation Joel Embiid, who had just scored 17 points despite attempting only four field goals, Thompson chuckled, softened his steely expression into a slight grin and said with understatement, "He's pretty good. He's pretty good."

Thompson continued, "And he must be pretty smart because he's getting better and better with each game. I think he has a chance to be a special player, there's no two ways about that."

Thompson paused, then added, "He might be at that point already."

There's no surprise that scouts and prognosticators are talking about a Jayhawk being one of the favorites to be chosen No. 1 overall in the June 26 NBA draft. The shocking part is, they suddenly can't seem to agree which Jayhawk it might be.

Andrew Wiggins, a 6-8 swingman with a 7-foot wingspan and exceptional athletic ability, arrived at KU as both the consensus No. 1 recruit as well as the top contender for 2014's No. 1 overall draft pick. If Wiggins were to be displaced atop the draft board, it was supposed to have been by hotshots Jabari Parker of Duke or Kentucky's Julius Randle.

Embiid arrived with plenty of expectations as a notable prospect at center, but was thought to need time to develop. He grew up playing soccer and volleyball in Cameroon, and didn't play team basketball



Sporting one of men's basketball's two new alternate uniforms, 7-foot freshman center Joel Embiid scored 11 points in 19 minutes in his first Big 12 game in Allen Field House, Jan. 11 against Kansas State.

until moving to Gainesville, Fla., when he was 16. His father, Thomas, had never seen Joel—"Jo" to teammates and coaches—play basketball until he attended his first game in Allen Field House, Nov. 19.

With his sharp-dressed dad in the stands, Embiid scored 16 points against Iona for his first double-digit scoring game as a Jayhawk, and added 13 rebounds and a pair of blocked shots. Embiid won the starting center job from senior newcomer Tarik Black six games later, and is unlikely to give it back.

After Embiid scored 18 points with six rebounds, four blocked shots and three steals in 25 minutes Dec. 14 against New Mexico in the Sprint Center, coach Bill Self was forced to acknowledge that what once seemed a distant uncertainty suddenly loomed as a likelihood: like Wiggins, Embiid appears destined for one year in a Kansas jersey.

"We need to play him all the time," Self said after Embiid's monumental performance in Kansas City, "but the more he plays, the less time he's going to spend in

Lawrence. I'm not sure it's a real wise decision for me to do this, but he's got to play because he's got so much talent."

Initially praised for graceful footwork that is exceedingly rare for a 7-footer, Embiid is also gaining a reputation for another modern-hoops rarity: challenging defenses as a scoring threat with his back to the basket. He can also drop field goals from the free throw line and beyond, his huge strides devour the space between him and any basketball he intends to swat, and he flashes the sort of intensity that coaches are still trying to spark in sophomore forward Perry Ellis.

"I didn't expect anything," Embiid said of the dazzling first months of his collegiate career, "but I knew coming in I had to work hard, listen to what coach Self says every day, and keep getting better. I knew what I had to do was keep improving and keep working."

At Big 12 media day in October, Self said, "I think Joel has a chance to be about as talented a big guy as I've ever had." After the Dec. 21 Georgetown game, Self said,

STEVE PUPPE (3)

“He’s still just scratching the surface. He scores 17 points today and takes four shots. What about if he’s taking 12 shots a game? We’ve got to play through him more. Nothing he does surprises me because he’s capable of doing so much, and we see it every day.”

While Embiid is using flashy athleticism and size to make a name for himself as a young star on the rise, it’s arguable that he isn’t even the most important piece in what San Diego State’s all-star guard Xavier Thames called KU’s “NBA front-court.” Sophomore forward Perry Ellis, himself an athletic and graceful 6-8, still has better post moves than Embiid, and although he’s turned in some regrettable clunkers—four points in a loss at Florida, five against Georgetown and four in the humbling home-court loss to San Diego



Embiid

“We’ve got to play through him more. Nothing he does surprises me because he’s capable of doing so much, and we see it every day.” —coach Bill Self, on Joel Embiid

State—Ellis remains Self’s go-to big man.

“He has great footwork,” Embiid said of Ellis. “I’m trying to work on my footwork, my hook shot, my post move; Perry is a great post-move player, so every day in practice I’m watching him.”

Said Self, “We need him to be a consistent scorer for us. Perry’s definitely got some confidence and some momentum. Even though he’s not as aggressive as we’d like, he’s a lot more aggressive than he was last year.”

The frontcourt rotation also includes Black, who broke through with 17 points and a pair of blocks against Georgetown, and high-energy forwards Jamari Traylor and Landen Lucas. On a team that starts three guards, these are the guys Self sees as his keys to success.

“When we play through our bigs,” Self says, “that’s the strength of our team.”

The Jayhawks closed their challenging nonconference schedule with a 61-57 loss to San Diego State—keep the Aztecs in mind when filling out your brackets in March—and Self, while acknowledging shortcomings, also found some positives: Although KU shot 29.8 percent from the field and non-freshmen accounted for only four points, Self noted that his guys forced more turnovers than they committed, blocked 13 shots and had a chance to tie the game with a free throw with 11 seconds left. Most important, Self said, it no longer mattered.

“The big thing is, we’ve got to put this behind us,” Self said, with the start of a brutal early Big 12 schedule set to commence just three days later at Oklahoma. “This deal is over.”

Buoyed by a most-welcome fresh start, Kansas opened its quest for a 10th-consecutive Big 12 championship with a 90-83 victory in Norman, followed by an 86-60



Ellis

trouncing of Kansas State, a nearly flawless performance highlighted by 22 points from Wiggins; 20 from another freshman sensation, Wayne Selden Jr., who came alive with 24 at OU; 12 points and five rebounds from Ellis; and 11 points and nine rebounds by Embiid.

“I’m not sure if I can recall if we’ve played a tougher stretch than what we’re getting ready to play, based on records and rankings,” Self said of a Big 12 schedule that opened with games against top-25 teams OU, KSU, Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Baylor. “Going into a conference season, I don’t think we’ve ever had as many teams that you could say, when they’re playing their best over a period of time, could be the best team in the league.

“Now I think there are multiple teams that you could say that with.”

Volleyball’s best yet

Jayhawks earn first Sweet 16 after runner-up Big 12 finish

KU volleyball ended its season with the Jayhawks’ first 3-0 loss of the year, but it wasn’t difficult to quickly see past the disappointment of being swept by

Sports

JEFF JACOBSEN



Huddled around senior libero Brianne Riley (blue jersey), volleyball players celebrate their first trip to the NCAA Sweet 16 after their 3-1, second-round victory over Creighton Dec. 7 in Allen Field House.

Washington, an eventual Final Four team, in the NCAA regional semifinals Dec. 13 in Los Angeles.

The Jayhawks, 25-8 overall and 12-4 in the Big 12, finished second in the conference and advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16, both program firsts. They opened their tournament with two matches in Allen Field House, first avenging last year's NCAA loss to Wichita State then defeating

Creighton in round two.

The Jayhawks set school records for attack percentage (.254) and block assists (522), and led the Big 12 in assists (13.55), kills (14.41) and service aces allowed (0.70) per set.

Senior middle blocker Caroline Jarmoc closed her career as KU's all-time blocks leader (555), and senior libero Brianne Riley became the first Jayhawk to top 2,000

digs in a career (2,053). Senior setter Erin McNorton was the unanimous choice as Big 12 Setter of the Year; McNorton, Jarmoc, and junior outside hitters Sara McClinton and Chelsea Albers were named All-Big 12 first team; and 16th-year coach Ray Bechard was named Big 12 Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

"I think the group of girls on the team this year has been through the lowest of lows together and now to the highest of highs," Riley said on the eve of their Sweet 16 contest. "We've really come a long way since we were freshmen. We've worked hard to get there as a group. It's been a big team effort."

After the season-ending loss, Bechard said, "Tonight was very tough and we need to talk about that, but we also need to celebrate some great careers from these young ladies. I do want to thank this team for the joy and the energy they've given us, not only this year but their entire careers."

UPDATES

Women's track and field, last year's Big 12 indoor and outdoor champion, NCAA outdoor champion and indoor runner-up, opened the 2014 indoor season ranked No. 10. Returners include NCAA heptathlon champion **Lindsay Vollmer**, NCAA indoor pole vault champion **Natalia Bartnovskaya**, and 2012 400-meter champion and Olympic gold medalist **Diamond Dixon**. The men's team returns 90 percent of its scorers from last season, including NCAA silver medalist **Michael Stigler**, two-time



Vollmer

defending Big 12 champion in the 400-meter hurdles, and Big 12 indoor pole vault champion **Alex Bishop**.

The Jayhawk Classic in Anschutz Sports Pavilion is set for Jan. 24 and the Big 12 Indoor is March 1 at Iowa State. The 87th Kansas Relays, which KU Athletics hopes will open Rock Chalk Park in west Lawrence, is April 16-19. ...

Junior forward **Chelsea Gardner** led all scorers with 16 in women's basketball's first Big 12 victory, Jan. 11 over Texas Tech. Through 16 games,

Gardner led the team with 15.9 points per game. Also in double figures, at 12.3, was junior guard **Asia Boyd**. ...

Football coach **Charlie Weis** hired former KU assistant **John Reagan** as offensive coordinator and offensive line coach and named linebackers coach **Clint Bowen**, d'96, defensive coordinator. Reagan, who spent five years as an assistant to **Mark Mangino**, was most recently offensive coordinator at Rice for four seasons. Senior **James Sims**, the first KU running back to top 1,000 yards in back-to-back seasons, was again named All-Big 12 first team, and senior linebacker **Ben Heeney** was named All-Big 12 second team. Sophomore safety **Isaiah**

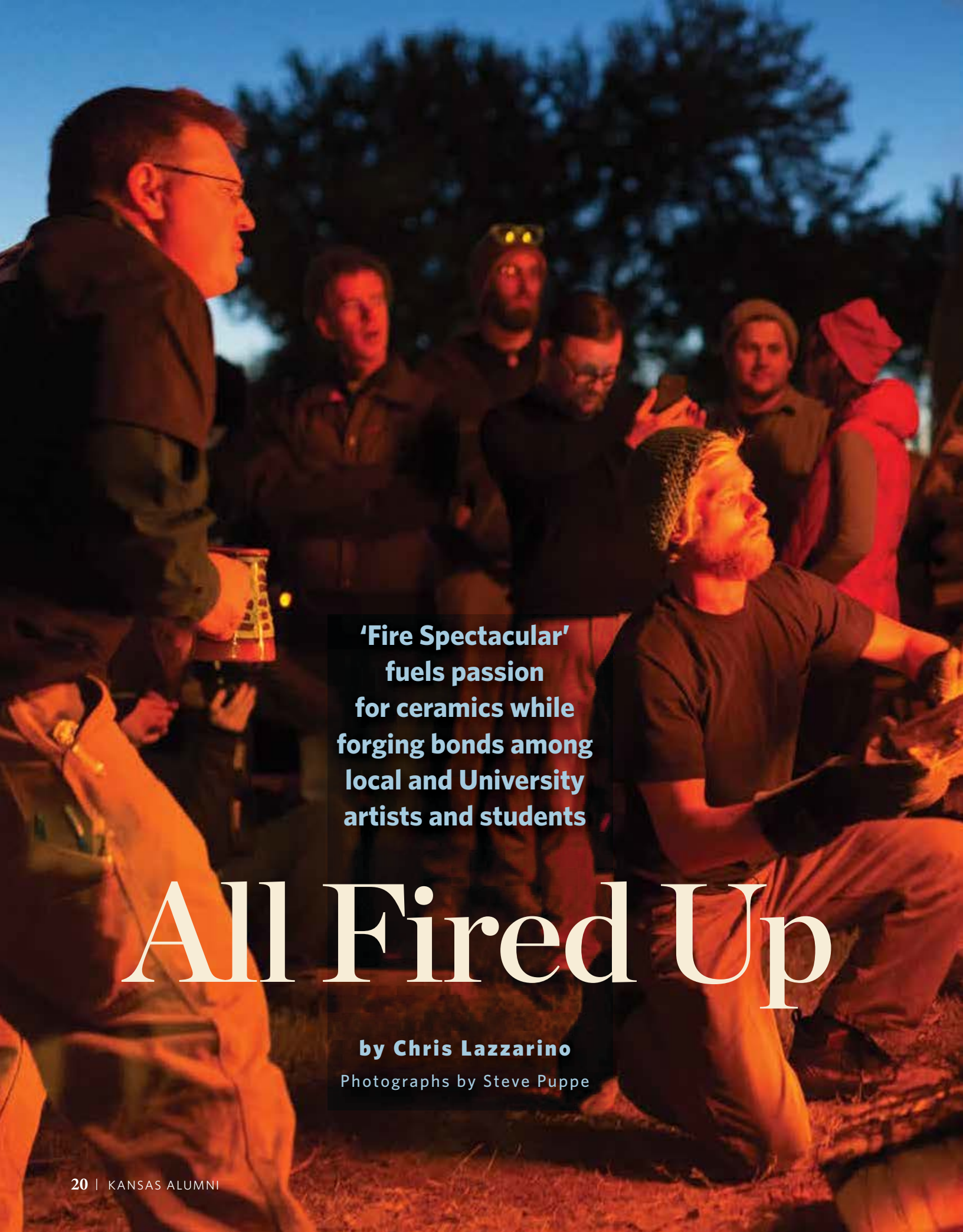
Johnson, a junior-college transfer, was named Big 12 Defensive Newcomer of the Year. ...

Billy Mills, d'62, inspirational winner of the grueling 10,000 meters at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and a leader on KU's 1959 and '60 NCAA outdoor national championship teams, was chosen for the NCAA's **Theodore Roosevelt** Award. Given annually to former collegiate athletes who went on to distinguished careers of "national significance and achievement," it is considered the NCAA's highest honor. ... Sophomore swimmer **Chelsie Miller** placed second in the 400-yard individual medley at the USA Winter Nationals Dec. 6 in Knoxville, Tenn.

Sports Photographs by Steve Puppe



With Andrew Wiggins (22) looking on, fellow freshman sensation Wayne Selden Jr. (clockwise from top left) flashed his athleticism against New Mexico Dec. 14 in the Sprint Center; junior guard Naadir Tharpe shoots over a K-State defender; cheerleaders lead the crowd and teammates congratulate senior guard Niko Roberts for his rare game appearance against Georgetown Dec. 21; students got a head start on New Year's festivities at the Toledo game Dec. 30; and Baby Jay sported a new knit cap for the Georgetown game.

A group of people, including students and artists, are gathered around a fire at night. One person is kneeling in the foreground, working on a ceramic piece. The scene is illuminated by the warm glow of the fire, creating a cozy and focused atmosphere. The background shows other people watching and talking, some wearing jackets and hats, suggesting a cool evening.

'Fire Spectacular'
fuels passion
for ceramics while
forging bonds among
local and University
artists and students

All Fired Up

by Chris Lazzarino

Photographs by Steve Puppe



IT MIGHT SEEM THERE'S SOME KIND OF GROOVY ZEN THING HAPPENING WITH THIS CLAY DOME BEING FIRED ON WEST CAMPUS ON THIS CRISP OCTOBER EVENING, AND EVEN ITS SCULPTOR ACKNOWLEDGES THE DUALITY INHERENT IN CREATING "KILN AS POT AND POT AS KILN." PERHAPS HE'LL FIND A MOMENT TO KNOCK THAT ONE AROUND LATER, SHARING A BOTTLE OF WINE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHILE HUDDLED NEXT TO THE COOLING EMBERS DEEP INTO THE COOLING NIGHT, BUT FOR NOW, SAM HOLLOWAY IS WAY TOO JAZZED TO GET ALL PHILOSOPHICAL.

He's stoking a 2,000-degree fire of his own creation, a conflagration so intense that it's making a Salvador Dali prop out of the steel grate holding firewood off the ground. When the sun finally dips behind the ridge to the west, the fifth-year senior will don a silver fire suit over his blue T-shirt and heavy cotton work pants, replace his knit cap with a face shield, pull on a pair of long gloves, and, in front of a riveted audience of a couple of hundred onlookers, snip the baling wire spooled around the Kao wool insulating blanket to reveal a glowing-hot 7-foot-tall ceramic dome, riddled with dozens of ceramic tubes blowing fire into the black night air.

If, that is, the whole thing doesn't collapse in on itself.
Or explode.

This is exactly the sort of thing that happens when you let kids play with fire, right?

Or, more specifically, when a talented, curious, energetic ceramics student pushes his interests beyond vases and bowls and instead goes searching for bigger ideas, bolder concepts, and discovers in his reading an Iranian-American architect and humanitarian named Nader Khalili, who rigged oil burners to heat cracked and crumbling rural adobe homes into sealed, stony permanence.

Khalili refined his ideas and techniques and went on to build homes and schools out of the very earth, providing his countrymen with shelter and an eager KU student far away in place and time with inspiration that could be quenched only one way: with fire and clay.



STEVE PUPPE (5)



“His language and his writings and his books, talking about incorporating the four elements into architecture, resonated with me as a ceramic artist,” Holloway says, “because that’s exactly what I do in my own work: taking dry clay, essentially dirt, and adding water to it, and using it to make a form, and then adding fire to that form to solidify it and make it a permanent existing piece.”

On its own, the firing of Holloway’s retro-futuristic clay dome—think desert planet design aesthetic for an early “Star Wars” set—would make for a fascinating daylong adventure in ceramics. But on Oct. 19, it was just one ring of the ceramics circus playing at the Chamney Barn kiln complex, adjacent to Bob Billings Parkway on West Campus.

“Fire Spectacular,” a town-gown partnership between the KU department of visual art and Lawrence Arts Center now in its sixth year, featured four wood kilns—six, actually, if you include Holloway’s dome and a mini-kiln built and fired by 12-year-old Malcom Maude, son of assistant professor of ceramics Marshall

Maude—as well as a panel discussion with ceramicists from across the country and students and faculty from more than a half-dozen colleges and universities, a “durational performance of labor” stacked-log-form created over 16 hours by graduate student Eli Gold, a wooden-spoon-making workshop, an after-dark iron pour, roasted pigs, ragtime jazz playing softly from a stereo rigged to the public-address system, old pickup trucks, tree-stump seating, kids, parents, professors, colleagues, friends.

“We’re deeply ensconced in so many artistic endeavors in Lawrence, and the opportunity to be a part of them is really neat,” says Dan Parker-Timms, whose Shamrock Tree Service donated, delivered and stacked the mountains of harvested timber leftovers used to fire the kilns, as it has for the KU ceramics program for the past five years. “You can get a hands-on feel for it in a small town like this. I love it. It’s one of the great things about Lawrence.”

Amid the revelry and feel-good artistry, tucked away under its shed and shielded from view by a rampart of split lumber drying for next year’s firing, there churned away the great adobe beast, a long, horizontal “anagama” kiln, stoked for four violent and intense days by one of wood firing’s modern masters and rigged with a complex array of computerized sensors designed to generate more data revealing the science behind the ancient art than has perhaps ever been known before.

When Ben Ahlvers, a ceramic artist and director of exhibitions for the Lawrence Arts Center, arrived in town nearly a decade ago, he struck up a friendship with Maude, f’96, g’03, then an adjunct member of the ceramics faculty. As happens in ceramics circles, Maude issued an open invitation for Ahlvers to fire pieces in KU’s wood kilns, and soon they were exploring options to link their institutions and instruction in a significant way.

The 400 or so local artists and hobbyists who take ceramics courses each year at the downtown arts center have access only to

STEVE PUPPE



Maude



Sam Holloway (l-r) fires his experimental dome; Ami Ayars, c'12, tends the anagama kiln's fire box; Eli Gold stacks logs for his unusual creation; and visitors enjoy roast pork and potluck dishes. The iron pour (p. 25, l-r) lights up the night, and Holloway's dome and its heat-twisted iron grate slumber weeks later, after the season's first snow.

electric kilns to fire their pieces; KU, with its massive anagama kiln and a growing collection of smaller wood-fired kilns, seeks both public outreach as well as a pool of eager helpers for the semi-annual firings of the big anagama.

"With an electric kiln, you load it yourself and unload it yourself," Ahlvers says. "What makes this unique is, it takes a community to do it. This kiln is something you could not do on your own. It's a team of people who are preparing the work itself, preparing the wood for the kiln itself, preparing the kiln, and firing the kiln for 24 hours a day for four days."

Explains Maude, "Even within a couple hundred miles of here, there's nothing really like that. It's one of the larger kilns in the Midwest, for sure, and people don't have access to it. This way is great because you get KU students working closely with community members, and a lot of people taking classes from Lawrence Arts Center are pretty well established local artists. Those people really want a chance to fire their pieces here."

As Maude and Ahlvers began planning their sixth town-gown collaboration with the anagama kiln, happy coincidences pushed it to become their biggest yet.

On a trip last spring to Omaha, Ahlvers stopped by the studio of Jun Kaneko, a prominent Japanese-American ceramic artist, and there he was surprised to learn that one of his mentors, John Balistreri—who was at the forefront of the rise in American wood firing in the 1980s and is now one of the country's most esteemed ceramicists and a professor at Ohio's Bowling Green State University—was in town to work with Kaneko. Knowing that Balistreri had no access to a wood kiln in Omaha, Ahlvers invited him to come fire in Lawrence, then also suggested he might lead some fall workshops at the arts center.



CHRIS LAZZARINO

Holloway

Ahlvers was surprised and delighted when Balistreri accepted; encouraged, he reached out to another wood-firing pioneer, Dan Anderson, a professor emeritus at Ahlver's undergraduate alma mater, Southern Illinois University, who last summer lost the shed over his own anagama kiln to a tornado.

"He said he didn't know if he'd fire this fall," Ahlvers recalls, "so I said, 'John's coming down; you should come out and put some pots in the kiln.' He said, 'Yeah, I might do that.' So I followed up and said, 'You should teach as well.' So, the three of us taught this class at the arts center."

As word got out about heavyweights Balistreri and Anderson affiliating with the Lawrence ceramics scene, Maude fielded a rush of interest from his own academic colleagues and fellow artists, including Heather Nameth Bren, g'03, assistant professor at the University of Northwestern in St. Paul, Minn.; Mat Rude at the University of Iowa; Ted Adler, of Wichita State; Sacramento State's Chuck Owens; Russell Wrangle, of Southern Utah; and Irvine, Calif., artist Ian Meares.

In a rare treat for Maude, as well as the student artists whose pieces were being fired, the anagama's two-day loading and four-day firing was directed by Balistreri, who was elated with what he found at KU.

"The kiln is an old kiln, a little rough around the edges in terms of how it looks visually, but the way it fired was pretty much right on target," Balistreri says. "It acted and reacted well for that type of kiln, which is notoriously difficult to fire and get even heat from front to back. But that particular kiln works well, and so do all the others I saw that Marshall built there. I think it's a very good kiln yard.

"I travel all over the United States, and there's only a few locations that have that kind of facility. To have that kind of space and that kind of ability to build these kilns and do it right is fairly rare."

Balistreri wasn't the only master ceramicist hovering over the adobe-skinned leviathan that week: In a long-planned collaboration with Maude, Kansas City artist Andy Brayman, f'96, c'96,

rigged the anagama with six high-temperature thermometers—called “pyrometers”—and a variety of other sensors, including a scale to weigh each piece of wood, all wired to a computer outfitted with Brayman’s proprietary software.

Brayman, owner of a Kansas City studio called The Matter Factory and a technology consultant to artists and universities, insists he isn’t try to replace experienced kiln masters such as Balistreri and Maude with computers—“Basically,” he says, “we’re just exploring”—but Balistreri says such concerns are not warranted.

“As Andy and I started talking, at first I wasn’t exactly sure what to make of it,” Balistreri says. “Over time, there were a lot of things about it that were informative to me; not even analyzing the data post-firing, but while it was going on.

For example, I would never weigh out the wood. We usually tell people to stoke by throwing in so many pieces of wood and to kind of average it out. But the fact that we weighed the wood before each stoke as part of his data collection, it sort of stabilized that variable in a way that I’ve never thought of before.”

Maude, too, has no interest in downplaying the potential role of computerized analysis in his beloved anagama kiln, a technology developed a thousand or more years ago in Japan, Korea and China.

He says the data show exact time intervals between each of the 645 stokes. They know every temperature variation at six different sites within the kiln’s violent atmosphere at 2 1/2-second intervals over 85 hours, all the way to Saturday’s peak of 2,350 degrees—“That’s pretty hot,” Brayman notes dryly—and they know exactly how much all the wood weighed, both by individual load and total tonnage.

“I think I can say with relative confidence,” Maude says, “that we have more data from this kiln than any kiln that’s ever been fired in the history of the world, because of that last firing.”

Sam Holloway’s passion for ceramics was ignited at Olathe East High School, and he was a ceramics major from the day he first enrolled at KU until his December graduation.

As his education and experience grew, so did Holloway’s interest in one of his art’s fundamental elements: clay. Collecting samples from around Clinton Lake, north Lawrence and other regional sites, Holloway tested them in his studio and eventually



MARSHALL MAUDE



STEVE PUPPE

Ben Ahlvers (above), in his Lawrence Arts Center studio, and Kansas City ceramicist Andy Brayman (l), rigging sensors to KU’s anagama kiln, were two of the influential artists who helped Fire Spectacular reach far beyond campus.

.....

began incorporating local mixtures in his own work.

His desire to source his own local clay led Holloway to Khalili’s writing about using local materials to build and fire “ceramic architecture.” Feeling himself ready for the challenge, Holloway applied for and won an interdisciplinary research grant from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of the Arts.

“The year I applied for the grant, the theme was ‘building communities,’ which worked perfectly with me already looking at Nader’s work, making architecture out of clay and making structures that people could live in,” he says. “So I kind of went with it and wrote my proposal around building a 7-foot by 7-foot dome made out of local clay, and then firing that structure into a permanent standing sculpture that could potentially lead to further research into actually building houses and other types of structures that people could use.”

With a grant of \$1,100, plus \$500 for the ceramics department and \$250 to his adviser, Marshall Maude, Holloway at first intended to locate, dig and haul all the clay himself; he quickly saw the futility of attempting to “literally shovel thousands of pounds of clay and move it all,” so he looked elsewhere for a solution. He found it at the excavated downtown site of the renovated Lawrence Public Library and its new parking garage.

For \$125, RD Johnson Excavating—whose employees, Holloway says, were intrigued by his plans for firing a clay dome—delivered an entire dump-truck load of Lawrence clay to the West Campus kiln complex. He supplemented it with equal parts sand, sawdust and straw, rolled it into heavy coils and, over the course of 10 hectic days, built up the structure, hoping it could dry out in time for the firing, which began slowly with a gas burner set to low. He gradually increased the gas heat over five days and, for the final two days, added a wood fire.

“When I showed up, the dome was built but really wet, so I

knew he had a lot of challenges to be able to make that thing work by the time the event happened,” Balistreri says. “It was a great performance piece, the design was elegant, and I was impressed by his overall execution on it. It was beautiful.”

“At one point,” Maude says, “I thought he had about a 50-50 chance of making it. But it was an experiment anyway, so if it would have failed it would have still been successful, in the sense that he learned something.”

Maude recalls that when he and Holloway began discussing the dome’s plans, Holloway focused on architecture while Maude was intrigued by the idea of it being used as a performance piece to headline the Oct. 19 “Fire Spectacular.” Holloway came around to Maude’s vision for the dome, forcing himself out of the comfortable, solitary place sought by most visual artists.

“That performance part was completely new to me,” Holloway says. “I spend most of my hours in the studio, in my little space, working away, so it was very overwhelming, just by the amount of people there. It was great that they were excited and interested and asking me questions, but that day wore me down. That was a very emotional night for me all around.”

As he’s reflected on the experience, Holloway seems especially intrigued by the dome’s effect on its audience. While he doesn’t expect that anybody who watched the fiery unveiling will be moved to design and construct their own clay structures, he does hope they took with them other forms of inspiration.

“A big part of the project was bringing some sort of awareness to the individual to think more about how we build our world,” he says. “I firmly believe that we should look more to the past to progress more in the future.”

After four days of firing, with peak temperatures more than 2,300 degrees, the anagama kiln required two weeks to cool down before it could be emptied of the 2,000-or-so pieces sculpted by hundreds of KU and community student artists.

It’s a nervous wait for sculptors and their teachers, because firing in a wood kiln—especially an anagama—is an uncertain process.

“The atmosphere is really violent and volatile, and some pieces don’t make it,” Maude says. “It’s kicking up a lot of heavy ash and heat, and some pieces just don’t come out very good. There’s a thousand ways to ruin something, but I think this was a good firing. We had a lot of good results.”

The ultimate success of an anagama kiln can’t be measured only by its ceramics, because a kiln solidifies and makes permanent not just clay, but friendships.

Everyone with a piece to go in the kiln is required to spend many hours in the weeks before the event chopping and stacking wood. As the firing gets underway, the kiln is never left unattended, and all the shifts are handled by artists. Countless hours are invested, and nobody is guaranteed anything but memories.

“These wood kilns really fill a true sense of community,” Maude says. “You have to work really closely with other people, and a lot of the work is really hard, physical labor. But it’s a lot of fun and there’s no competition. There’s no animosity created because everybody is working toward the same goal. I’ve been involved with kilns across the country and even in other countries, and it’s the same feeling. A very real sense of community, and I think that’s fantastic.”

Community also helps continually stoke Balistreri’s passion for wood firing, and he says he was so impressed by what he found at KU and in Lawrence that he’ll now encourage his students to apply for graduate school in KU’s ceramics program and for residencies at Lawrence Arts Center.

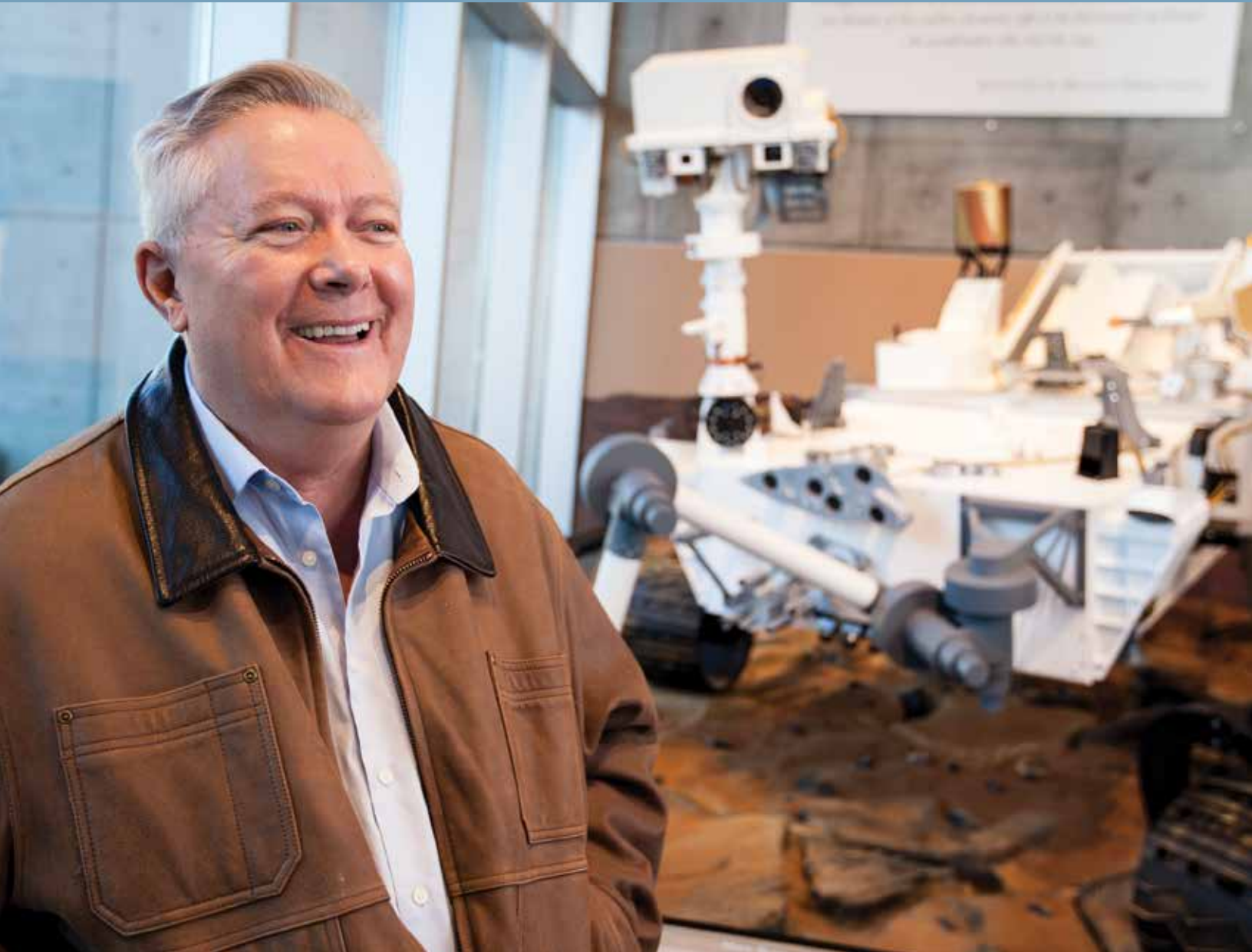
“There is a real scene that’s happening in Lawrence,” Balistreri says, “and the symbiotic relationship between the two institutions really builds on that. This is a genuine experience, and it’s a learning experience, and it’s organic. It’s a community-building kind of activity, and so it has all these deeper kind of positives than you can get through any normal pedagogical methods.

“Marshall and Ben understand this, intuitively, at least, and from what I experienced there, you can really see that happening. It’s pretty spectacular.”

And definitely more than just an exercise in groovy Zen duality, worthy of stoking the conversation deep into the night until the fires grow cold.



LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE PUPPE, DAN STOREY (2)



A Martian •Odyssey

Ever curious, scholar continues his quest for evidence of life on Mars

On July 20, 1969, Jack Farmer, 27, fiddled with the rabbit ears on a small black-and-white TV, trying to clear up a fuzzy picture broadcast from the moon. Sitting in the large, rustic cabin that doubled as recreation hall and classroom at the KU department of geology's permanent field camp in Colorado, Farmer and his fellow students awaited the first moonwalk.

"We watched for hours," Farmer says, recalling the excitement of the day.

Forty-three years later, Farmer sat in NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., as the vehicle carrying the Curiosity rover roared down to the surface of Mars. This time he didn't have to worry about getting a clear picture. As a member of Curiosity's Chemistry and Mineralogy Team, Farmer had a front row seat. The rover, about the size of a car, touched down safely in Gale Crater on Aug 5, 2012—a landing that represented a high point of Farmer's career.

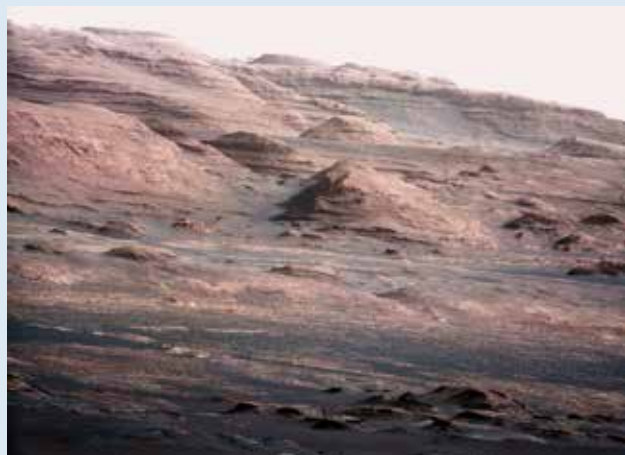
Now a professor of geological sciences at Arizona State University, Farmer is a pioneer in Mars exploration. He analyzed imaging data from Viking, the first mission to land on Mars, which touched down in 1976. Farmer helped select the site for Pathfinder's landing on Mars in 1997, and served on the science team for the mission that sent the Spirit and Opportunity rovers to Mars in 2004.

Farmer also helped conceptualize a new scientific discipline that has proven to be central to the exploration

of the red planet. He even coined the term "exopaleontology" to describe it. Exopaleontology searches for fossil evidence and chemical and biological traces—called biosignatures—that life once existed on other planets. In 1995, Discover Magazine called Farmer the "world's first and only full-time exopaleontologist." At the time, Farmer was on a yearslong quest to convince his colleagues that they should search for fossil microbes on Mars.

Today Farmer is seeing his effort come to fruition. Curiosity's major mission objective—to find fossilized evidence that Mars could support microbial life in the past—is blatantly exopaleontological. Curiosity met that objective this year, when it drilled a hole 1.6 centimeters (0.63 inches) deep into a rock scientists call "John Klein."

Using a method called X-ray diffraction, Farmer helped analyze the sample. Curiosity shot an X-ray through the material, and the resulting diffraction pattern acted like a fingerprint, enabling scientists to identify the minerals in



COURTESY NASA/JPL-CALTECH/MSSS (2)

Above: Curiosity rover's self-portrait at the "John Klein" drilling site on Mars. Left: Geological layers of Mount Sharp, near the landing site.



Top: Gale Crater. Right: Landing site with location of John Klein Rock. Below: Farmer has explored hot springs in Yellowstone National Park. NASA's Spirit rover has found evidence that hot springs once existed on Mars, so the study of similar hot springs on Earth could advance Mars research.



mapping and other field methods at the geology department's 35-acre outpost near Cañon City, Colo.

"The thing that capped off my KU education and that I've carried with me for the rest of my life is field camp," Farmer says. "It was organized so beautifully that you couldn't help but learn something, and I learned a lot. To me that's where geology comes alive, in the field."

At the time, Rowell also served as the director of field camp.

"I had the good fortune to come back the following year and TA the course for Bert. Field camp molded and shaped the rest of my career."

After earning his degrees, Farmer says he "bounced around quite a bit." He worked for a museum at UC-Davis, explored for oil as a petroleum geologist with Exxon, and taught geology at the University of California, Los Angeles. When he began working for the Exobiology Branch of NASA's Ames Research Center in California, he found a home in planetary science. Today, at 66, he lives with his wife, Maria, and their 12-year-old daughter, Bethany, in Scottsdale, Ariz.

A tall man with unrestrained enthusiasm for his work, Farmer laughs at the mention of possibly retiring someday. "Heavens no. Why would I do that? I'm having fun, and there's still so much to do."

—Diane Silver is a Lawrence freelance writer.



COURTESY DR. JACK FARMER

the rock. In this case, they found minerals that form in water, one of the requirements for life.

"We analyzed the materials in John Klein," Farmer says, "and discovered calcium sulfate there and clay minerals. We knew the place had seen water."

Farmer and his colleagues also found evidence that the water was neither too acidic nor too salty, favorable conditions for life on Earth.

"We haven't discovered life yet, but we've discovered environments where life could be sustained," Farmer says. "I'm very excited about that. Promoting the idea of looking for fossil biosignatures on Mars is beginning to pay off."

Curiosity is now making the 4-mile drive to the mission's main destination, an 18,000-foot mountain inside of Gale Crater called Mount Sharp. "Mount Sharp is layered like the Grand Canyon but more than three times thicker," Farmer says. "There's lots of stratified sedimentary rock that goes back to the earliest history of Mars. We're eager to get over to that."

Given the difficulties of rolling over unfamiliar terrain and the possibility that

scientists might find something intriguing to examine along the way, it is impossible to guess exactly when Curiosity will arrive at Mount Sharp. Farmer estimates the rover is on track to get there in summer 2014.

Farmer grew up in the Central Valley of California and began collecting rocks at age 6. His father claims he couldn't drive by a dry riverbed without having to stop so Jack and his mother could hop out and hunt for rocks. "By the time I was 10, my collection was so big I had to give a lot of rocks away when we moved," Farmer recalls. By the time he was a teenager, his love of geology was so well known that his friends nicknamed him "Stony."

He earned a bachelor's degree in geology from California State University, Chico, in 1969 and a doctorate from the University of California, Davis, in 1978, but it was KU that set him on the path to exploring Mars. Farmer's adviser, Bert Rowell, professor of geology, got him interested in paleontology. Farmer also credits his studies at field camp for his success. All geology majors are required to take field courses, mastering the fundamentals of

The crimson planet

Assessing the impact of radiation and isolation on astronauts, peering into the Martian subsurface, and fixing instruments before they break are just some of the ways KU researchers are helping to explore Mars.

The human factor

From his perspective as a retired astronaut, Steve Hawley, c'73, professor of physics and astronomy, analyzed the challenges of a human flight to Mars. In a paper in the October-November 2010 issue of the *Journal of Cosmology*, Hawley wrote that the challenges are greater than we have ever faced before.

Hawley, who also serves as KU's director of engineering physics, has a long history with Mars. After leaving the astronaut corps in 2003, he served for five years as director of space science for NASA's Johnson Space Center, where his group participated in the robotic exploration of the planet.

Among the many difficulties of sending humans to Mars is the length of the mission, Hawley says. With current technology, a round trip to Mars would keep astronauts in space for about 440 days—far longer than current space flights.

Hawley flew five times, racking up 32 days off the Earth in missions that lasted from five to 10 days. Few humans have spent even six months in space; only one person, a Russian cosmonaut, has come close to the transit time to and from Mars.

The chief risk posed by such a long journey is radiation, Hawley says. Earth's magnetic field protects astronauts in low Earth orbit. Interplanetary flights would require shielding, which adds to the spacecraft's mass. There also would be no way to rescue the crew if they were threatened by a solar flare.

Isolation would also create challenges. Add the time spent exploring Mars to the travel time, and the crew, perhaps numbering as few as three people, would have only themselves for company for as long as two years.

Despite the challenges, Hawley says a well-planned mission could succeed. He would be willing to go.

"Humanity's future is beyond low-Earth orbit," Hawley writes.

Mysteries below the surface

What started as a dissertation project has helped Carl Leuschen, e'95, g'97, PhD'01, become an explorer of the Martian subsurface. Now an associate professor of electrical engineering and deputy director of the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets, Leuschen created and tested an instrument in 2001 that was

designed to enable scientists to search for water underneath the surface of Mars. He has since served as a participating scientist on two Mars missions, processing data from instruments similar to the one he created.

One mission involved an instrument called MARSIS (Mars Advanced Radar for Subsurface and Ionosphere Sounding), which has been orbiting Mars for the past decade. Originally scheduled to last one Martian year (687 days), the mission has already been extended four times and is now funded until the end of 2014.

Among other discoveries, MARSIS has identified underground water-ice deposits, unveiled the fine layering of ice deposits at the planet's poles and discovered that the subsurface is older and craggier than scientists had expected.

Leuschen has also worked with an instrument called SHARAD (Shallow Subsurface Radar), which arrived at Mars in 2006. Designed to provide data that complement the findings of advanced radar, SHARAD cannot penetrate the Martian subsurface as far, but it depicts images of much finer resolution. Among other findings, SHARAD has shown that the outer shell of Mars, its lithosphere, may be more than 300 kilometers (186 miles) thick. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, Earth's lithosphere averages at least 80 kilometers (49.7 miles), although it is far thinner under the oceans and much thicker under mountain ranges.

Precise instruments

Buy the wrong tool to fix your car, and you might have to take an extra trip to the store. Pack the wrong tool on a vehicle that has to fly 34 million miles to get to Mars, and you can doom an entire mission.

Avoiding that kind of catastrophic failure is the impetus for a research project by KU geologists Alison Olcott Marshall, an assistant professor, and her husband, Craig Marshall, an associate professor. The two are testing portable Raman spectrometers like the ones NASA plans to send to Mars in 2020.

Never before included on such a mission, Raman spectrometers can analyze the mineralogy and biosignatures of a site with little to no sample preparation, making them ideal for planetary exploration. But most experiments testing the instrument's effectiveness have used bench-top models, which are far different than the less-powerful portable spectrometers that will be sent to Mars.

The Marshalls are testing the portable instruments on three places on Earth where geologic conditions are similar to Mars (known as Mars analogs). The two have conducted their first tests at sites in Oklahoma—Glass Mountain and the Great Salt Plain—which contain iron and sulfate-rich soil and rocks like those on Mars. Next up are tests at a group of acidic lakes in western Australia.

—D.S.





COURTESY MARIA CUEVAS

BLOOD HARMONY

Sisters blend mariachi roots with rock and pop in *Maria the Mexican*

Blame it on the folly of youth, perhaps, but as high school girls growing up in Topeka, there were times when Maria and Tess Cuevas were not thrilled to be mariachis.

Playing with their grandmother's band, *Mariachi Estrella*, the sisters sometimes longed to be just one of the gang.

"The band was a lot of fun, but at the height of our adolescence it was a bit of a struggle, because we had gigs when everybody else was going to parties," says Maria, c'10. "We couldn't hang out with our friends because we had mariachi practice. We gave our parents a hard time about it."

"You'd have this mariachi outfit on and you'd have to get to the gig," recalls Tess, c'08. "It really weirded people out. So at times I was like, 'Oh, this is so embarrassing.'"

The sisters long since moved beyond teenage exasperation to grown-up gratitude. As frontwomen of the band *Maria the Mexican*, Tess, 28, and Maria, 25, are forging a bold new sound that takes pride in their musical roots in traditional Mexican folk music. Their debut album, "*Moon Colored Jade*," fuses funk, soul and blues influences with the mariachi they grew up playing with their grandmother,

Teresa Cuevas, a founder of the seminal Topeka group thought to be one of the first all-female mariachi bands.

They call their sound Americana soul and Mexican groove, and the appealing blend infuses energy into the pop side of the mix while updating the Mexican folk tradition that Maria Cuevas says is a constant touchstone in their music, whether they are performing original tunes or reworking traditional songs.

"I think we came into this with the goal of always having our mariachi background as the backbone of the sound, but to contemporize it," she says.

By Steven Hill

The music—deftly written, flawlessly performed and orchestrated with an impressive depth and range of styles that suggests an utter lack of concern with fitting into any neatly labeled music industry niche—is a testament to their unique musical background. Both are classically trained musicians who began studying the Suzuki method at 6, and at 11 they began learning from their grandmother the mariachi tunes that today form the heart of their musical identity.

Even the band's name speaks to their pride in their culture.

"We wanted to tell our story, our Mexican background," says Maria, who notes that the name of the band isn't a literal reference to her. "We have this background with mariachi music that's such a big part of who we are and what we want to continue. The name is not derogatory at all; we just prefer to be called Mexicans when it comes to our cultural background. The name kind of gets that conversation started."

To complement their own base in classical and folk, they sought out some of Kansas City's best musicians to help shape the sound of "Moon Colored Jade." Guitarists Garrett Nordstrom, an accomplished songwriter who has released three albums on his own Birdsway Records label, and Jason Riley, a virtuoso improviser, round out the core of the group. Stellar session men like trumpeter Hermon Mehari and Hammond B3 wizard Ken Lovern, l'95, add studio chops to the recording.

"They're collaborating with a lot of young local players who add their own perspective," says Chuck Haddix, host of The Fish Fry radio show on KCUR, author of *Bird: The Life and Music of Charlie Parker* and a longtime observer of the Kansas City music scene. "You have a lot of outstanding parts coming together to create something really unique. It's triple-A radio material."

Haddix began playing cuts from the CD after the Cuevas sisters dropped off a copy with a handwritten note asking him to give it a listen. A student of many different styles of music, he detects in the recording

an impressive range of influences and an admirable originality.

"Blues, jazz, pop, rock 'n' roll, soul music—it all comes into play," Haddix says. The band reinterprets traditional mariachi tunes "Bésame Mucho" and "El Cascabel" and adds Mexican folk touches—the brassy horns, bright rhythms and tight vocal harmonies of the mariachis—to the various strains of American music evident in their material. "It's all there," says Haddix, "but they make it their own. It's got the *sabor*, the spice. It's a celebration of their roots in Mariachi Estrella but also a very contemporary recording. It's got one foot firmly in both worlds."

Nordstrom, who joined the group after the Cuevas sisters hired him to play guitar for them in a Chicago nightclub, says what drew him was their ease in performing.

"The first time I played with them I was astonished by how comfortable they were onstage," he says. "They definitely have a kinship and they do things naturally."

That ease comes from long years of performing together, and it contributes to another hallmark of their sound: harmonies so close it's sometimes hard to tell that two different people are singing.

"They have interchanging parts on the record that you won't notice," Nordstrom says, "because they sound so similar."

There's a term for the spooky musical kinship that sometimes arises between close relations: blood harmony.

"I just think we've been singing together so long it's easier to sing with her than anybody else," Maria says. "Our voices are similar, and the longer we sing together the more similar they get."

"When you've sung together for 15 years, it's just easier," Tess says. "It's second nature."

Their vocal partnership began in Mariachi Estrella. Though they didn't know it at the time, the sisters were joining a musical tradition that had deep roots not only in their family, but in Topeka's Mexican-American community.

In the late 1970s, Teresa Cuevas and six other women who sang together in the choir at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic

Church formed Mariachi Estrella and began to play at the church and in the community. As their popularity grew so did the opportunities to perform at churches and in communities across the state. A May 1981 recording of the group in the studios of Topeka's KTWU TV reveals an energetic performance where all seven musicians often join together in a joyful, rollicking chorus.

Two months after that show, the women were invited to play at the Kansas City Hyatt Regency on July 17.

They were crossing the second-floor skywalk above the Hyatt lobby when the fourth-floor skywalk collapsed onto them. Four members of the band were among the 114 people killed that night.

On the 25th anniversary of the Hyatt tragedy, the City of Topeka in 2006 unveiled a statue, "Mariachi Divina,"



commemorating the band. In an interview with KCUR radio that year, Teresa Cuevas recalled being buried in rubble.

"I was asking God to help me in Spanish—I said, 'Padre Santo ayudame.' And I had already made up my mind that I was going to die. But I said it real loud, and then all of a sudden a man said, 'She's alive! There's a live one.' The only thing I could move was this hand. I grabbed his hand, and they lifted it just a little bit and dragged me out of there."

Even before the Hyatt tragedy, the sisters say, their grandmother dealt with many "intense situations."

"She had played violin when she was young," Maria says, "but when she was married and had children she really wasn't allowed to do what she loved, wasn't allowed to play violin."

That changed when she divorced her



Joined by Garrett Nordstrom, Tess (left) and Maria Cuevas (center) perform an original song and a traditional mariachi tune from “Moon Colored Jade” at kualumni.org/Kansas-alumni-magazine.

husband, not an easy thing to do at the time.

“She was divorced at a time when divorce was not popular,” Tess says. “She was a single Hispanic woman, left by her husband, with multiple kids. I think that made her say, ‘OK, I’m on my own. I get to make the rules.’”

Adds Maria, “I think maybe she felt somewhat broken, but she was able to take up the violin again and get involved with these women. And the way she told it, they just had so much fun. They laughed and laughed and laughed.”

While the three surviving members sometimes played together in church, they never reunited as Mariachi Estrella. Instead, Teresa reorganized the group as a kind of teaching band, enlisting many young members of her family as a way of passing on the mariachi tradition. Tess and Maria each joined when they turned 11—Tess learning the violin parts from her grandmother, and Maria switching from piano to vihuela, a five-string guitar that’s a traditional centerpiece of the mariachi sound.

They would spend more than a decade in Mariachi Estrella, including their time at KU, where they roomed together and each earned degrees in communication studies.

“Every time we performed we had so much fun,” Maria says. “It was a very family-oriented, fun event.”

“Everybody we played with we enjoyed,” Teresa says. “We laughed a lot.”

The mariachi repertoire includes both songs of celebration and songs of grief. Unrequited love is a frequent theme. “It’s not halfway, it’s full,” is how Teresa Cuevas describes it. “Whatever you feel, you feel.”

“Moon Colored Jade” draws on those classic themes and that emotional tone, says Garrett Nordstrom, who had a hand in writing most of the 10 original songs on the album.

“This record probably has one major-key pop song on it,” Nordstrom says—“Rock and Sway,” which leads off the album. “The rest are kind of in the mariachi love ballad, minor key melancholy motif. That’s really where our palette is.”

“Bring it on Body” combines funk guitar and a blue-eyed soul vibe. “The Core” balances the sisters’ fascination with easy-listening grooves against classical guitar and cello accents. “That Heart” rocks out with a trippy vocal refrain and a soaring middle section that mixes strings and electric lead guitar. “You and Me Against the Moon” joins brassy horns and the Hammond B3 organ in a way that brings to mind Latino pop, The Memphis Horns and jazz fusion.

“It’s all there, the characteristics of the Mexican music they’re rooted in,” says Chuck Haddix. “The rhythms, the horns, the harmonies. They weave it all together

to make something new and really make it their own.”

Perhaps most impressive, says Haddix, are the vocal harmonies Tess and Maria create throughout.

“The use of harmony really sets this apart from other contemporary recordings,” Haddix says. “You don’t hear that much today. Most bands don’t take it on because harmony requires a real ear for music, for being in tune.”

Haddix notes that Los Lobos, Los Lonely Boys and Alejandro Escovedo—all performers that Maria the Mexican has opened for—expanded the boundaries of Hispanic pop and rock by being rooted in the tradition while making their own music and finding their own voice. “It seems to me that with this CD [the Cuevas sisters] have found their own voice,” Haddix says. “They’re breaking new ground with the fusing of classical with the mariachi with the pop sensibility and the harmonies. It’s a whole new chapter in the Hispanic music tradition.”

Teresa Cuevas passed away Dec. 12 at 93. Still playing until her final months, she loved seeing her granddaughters create their own take on the music she cherished.

“Seeing us do this was really special to her,” Tess says. “She was proud and happy that we’re carrying it on. It proved to her that she did a good job, that she didn’t do it for nothing, that it will continue on.”

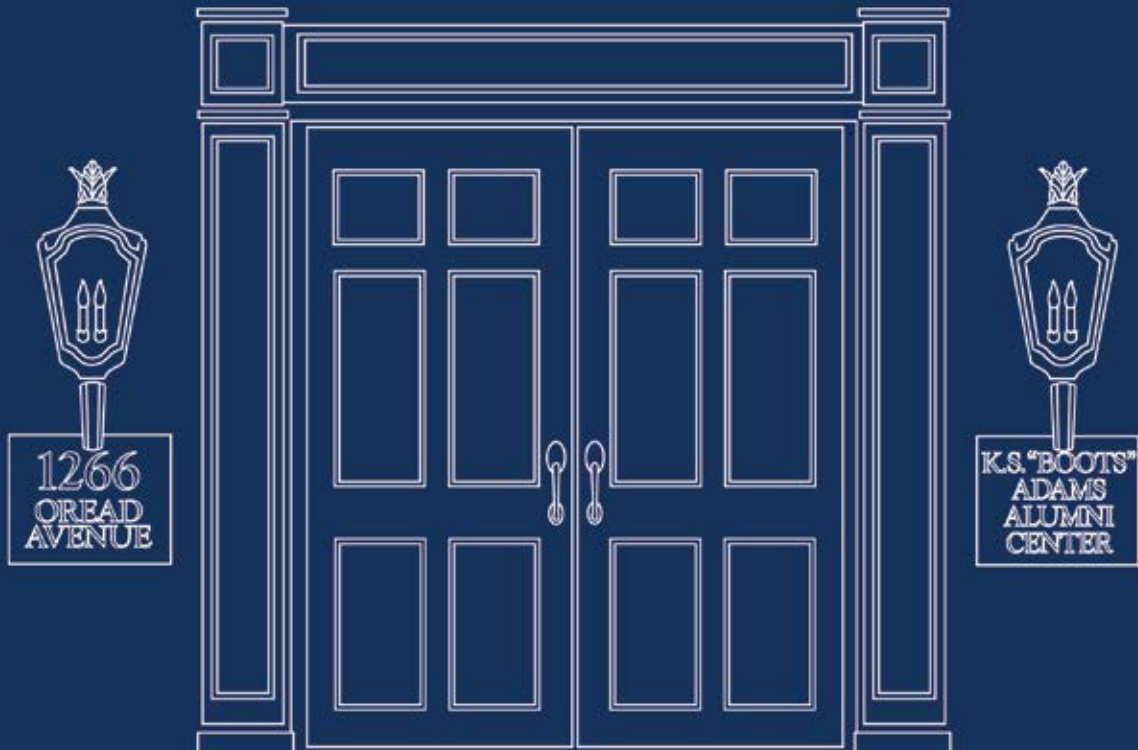
The first time the band opened for Los Lobos, the Cuevas sisters brought their grandmother to the gig.

“We went backstage to meet them and they were like, ‘We heard about your grandma. Is she here? Go get her!’”

The mariachi pioneer was the toast of the green room, and the headliners moved her to the front row for their set. But afterward she confided to her granddaughters that in her eyes Maria the Mexican was still the star—*la estrella*—of the show.

In a 2008 interview Teresa Cuevas noted that her granddaughters have their own songs to sing.

“Even though they love mariachi music, they’ve seen so many things that they want to do,” Cuevas said. “Isn’t that beautiful? What has opened up for these two girls?”



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An Association Member to Serve on the Board

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

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

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



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

Association

DAN STOREY



Event chairs Laura and Todd Sutherland will host Rock Chalk Ball 2014, "Jayhawks and Juleps," at the Overland Park Convention Center in April.

Jayhawks and Juleps

Kansas City's annual ball to highlight Kentucky Derby

Derby hats, bow ties and mint juleps will set a festive mood when the call to post sounds for this year's Kentucky Derby-themed Rock Chalk Ball, "Jayhawks and Juleps." An annual tradition for the KU Alumni Association and the premier fundraising event in Kansas City since 1996, the ball will transform the Overland Park Convention Center into a Sunflower State version of the iconic Churchill Downs racetrack April 26—one week before the traditional "Run for the Roses" starts in Louisville, Ky., on the first Saturday of May.

"Each year we try to do something a little fun and different with the Rock Chalk Ball," says Betsy Winetroub, c'05, the Association's assistant director of Kansas City Programs. "This year, we hope our Jayhawk faithful will get creative with their attire by wearing big derby-style hats and bow ties. In addition, we will have a celebrity guest emcee and decor that will transport you to Jayhawk Downs."

Event chairs Todd and Laura Sutherland, assoc., will host the ball. "Todd and Laura have long been benefactors of and volunteers for the University and the Alumni Association," says Kevin Corbett, c'88, Association president. "Their passion for all things KU over these many years has benefited many areas of the University and we are grateful for their service as chairs of the ball."

Steve Doocy, j'79, co-host of "Fox & Friends" on the Fox News Channel, will be master of ceremonies. This year's Rock Chalk Ball will feature entertainment from the KU Band, Spirit Squad and music from The Michael Beers Band.

For those Jayhawks with an artistic eye, the Rock Chalk Ball Committee is looking for alumni to design custom derby hats and

bow ties to be auctioned off. If you are interested in creating a custom hat or bow tie, contact Susan Younger at syounger@kualumni.org for more information.

Of course, the tradition is about more than having a ball. "While we want everyone who attends the Ball to have a fantastic time, we also want them to know that their attendance and support of the event play a huge part in the annual success of the Alumni Association," Winetroub says. "The ball supports our mission of strengthening KU by helping to build stronger student recruitment efforts, developing a more well-informed base of alumni advocates, enriching the experience of all KU graduates, and increasing the value of the KU degree by growing the strongest Jayhawk network possible."



Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, 2013. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

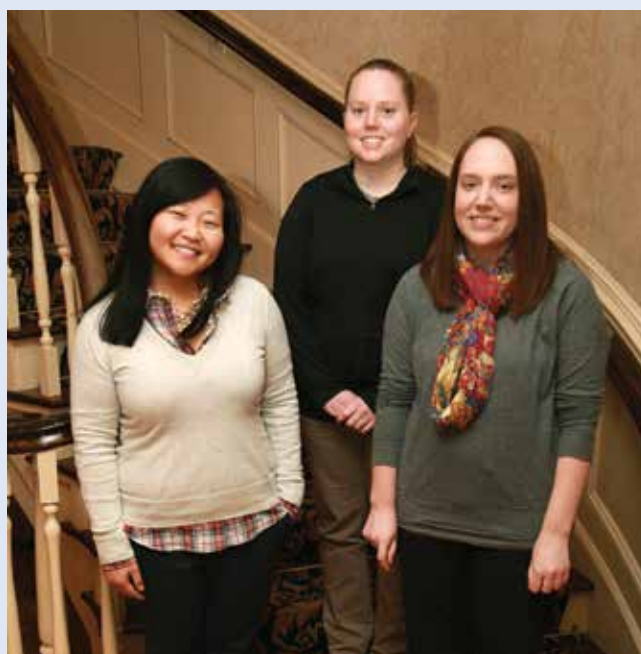
Joseph C. Accardi Jr. & Susan A. Accardi	Lara McBride Daniels
Emily B. Akers	Bo & Vanessa Dennis
Judson S. & Kelly Carlson Alford	Marci K. Deuth
Lacey R. Anderson	Charles W. & Margaret Durkin Dillon
Michael S. Anderson	Thomas H. Domine
Jordan L. Armenta	Peter A. Edlund
Steven D. Averbuch	Alexandra A. Emerson
Robert Babb	Lindsey A. Evans
Peyton R. Baldwin	Michael W. & Jane A. Fee
Paul M. Bammel	Steven J. & Elise Rock Fee
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James R. Bauer	Ralph W. Foiles
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Gail F. Berman	Dale W. Friesen & Connie J. Friesen
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Evan M. Cain	John I. & Jill Bradshaw Haley
Jennifer L. Calvert	Thomas B. & Jane A. Harrison
Linda Barton Carter	Christina Case Harvick
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	Anne E. Hinkebein

Elizabeth S. Hogan
Janet Leuthold Holt
Elliott D. & Michelle Capra Homan
Brooks P. Hubbard
Marianne R. & Daryl Irby
Chad D. Johanning
Erica R. Johnson
Jeffrey A. Johnson
Ralph G. Juhnke
James C. Kaiser
Melissa Horen Kaplan
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Marshall D. Kelley & Beth A. Kelley
Jeffrey A. & Rachel Deleon Kennard
Kailyn E. Keplinger
Riley E. King
Joseph E. Knoll
Phillip R. Knowles
Michael R. Kowal
Jill A. Krentz
Philip R. Krull
Edward T. Kuklenski

—continued on page 36

New Staff



Thornberry, Johnson and Kohlman

The Association's team includes new staff members in three departments:

Tegan Thornberry, d'05, g'10, has joined the Association as assistant director of membership after working at Kansas Athletics for nine years. She is from Overland Park.

Leah Kohlman, c'11, worked in the alumni records department for a year before making the transition last fall to her new position as communications coordinator. She is from Lyons.

Brittany Johnson, c'11, joined the records department after working as a data entry clerk at GDIT. Johnson came to KU as a student from Chandler, Ariz.

Chicago 'Hawks start the season right



DAN STOREY (3)



Shortly before KU topped Duke, 94-83, in the State Farm Champions Classic Nov. 12 in the United Center, more than 400 Chicago-area alumni gathered for the Alumni Association's rally at WestEnd; after topping capacity in the popular sports bar on West Madison Street, festive alumni eager to be among the crimson and blue for the start of basketball season filled up two nearby bars as well. For updated information about the Association's pregame rallies and basketball watch parties, visit kualumni.org.

Life Members

—continued from page 35

- James A. & Dana L. Landavazo
- Whitney Taylor Lawson
- Deron G. & Haley Harrison Lee
- Bruce E. Lerner & Devra Davis Lerner
- Kevin S. Letcher
- Drew P. Littell
- Amy R. Lonsway
- Matthew G. & Kathryn Williamson Lord
- Donna S. Luehrman
- Katherine M. MacCormack
- C.J. & Christa Rankin MacFarlane
- James C. MacMurray
- Tyler Manco
- Sylvia Mendez Martinez
- Carrie McAdams Marx
- Sara E. McBride
- Thomas E. McBride Jr. & Tiffany Sharp McBride
- Timothy P. & Kay Small McCarthy
- Marc C. McCort
- Kent C. & Annette F. McDonald
- Sara McElhenny
- Michael C. & Christine A. McGrew
- Marcy N. McGrew-Eudaly
- MAJ Christopher McLean
- Anita Moore Metoyer
- Reed D. & Jill Simpson Miller
- Shannon K. Miller
- Alan R. & Ashley Darling Miner
- Sarah Morgan
- Gary L. & Cheryl J. Morris
- Marilyn K. Murray
- Gene Myers
- Richard E. Nelson III
- Ryan J. Nicholas
- Joe L. Nichols
- Molly C. Niedens
- Michael F. & Susan Roffman Norton
- Craig B. Novorr
- Kelly J. Olson

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Retired faculty and staff of the University of Kansas



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To join, visit www.kualumni.org



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 David W. Owen
 Mary Ann Packard
 LTC Francis J. H. Park
 Jenny Wohletz Pelner
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 Larry D. Petersen
 Collette Pomeroy
 Shannon Kreiser Portillo
 Delbert W. Powell
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 Charlotte Dower Ramseyer
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 Liz C. Reynolds
 Callie E. Reber
 Scott P. Rehorn
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 Stanley R. Reiss
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 Janiece L. Richard
 Douglas R. Richmond
 Terisa D. Rick
 John C. & Valerie Vandenberg Roper
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 William A. Rostine
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 Lindsey L. Saint
 Josh Saunders
 Morgan L. Saylor
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 James M. Schneck
 Lee R. Schnee & Emily Evans-Schnee
 Christie M. Schroeder
 Rani S. Self
 Joshua O. Sestak
 Linda Hershey Shaffer
 Gregory D. & Angela Casey Shaw
 James F. Shoemake & Phyllis A. Shoemake
 Mary Dardis Shuman
 Richard L. Sias
 Theresa Bradford Sickler
 Tyler P. & Ashley L. Sifers
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 Catherine Virr Sloop
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 Paul G. & Yvette Whelan Stark
 David L. Stoll
 Alexander L. & Sonja Combest Straus
 Kristin Geoffroy Strong
 Brian K. Stucky
 Cecilia R. Stumpff
 Mark K. Swanson
 Steven R. Tosone
 Rosemarie T. Truglio
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 Kevin R. & Heather Switzer Wagner
 Christopher S. Walker
 Erickson C. Walker
 Paul R. Walker
 Samuel O. Walter
 Patrick M. Ward
 David A. & Greta A. Warta
 Robert M. & Rene Meyer Washburn
 Brian C. Waymaster
 Waden B. & Judith Clark Weinzirl
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 Tamisha Grimes White & Derrick White
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Vice President for Donor and

Membership Programs

Heath Peterson, d'04, g'09,

Vice President of Alumni Programs

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Bill Green, Senior Vice President for

Information Services

Stefanie Shackelford, Vice President for

Alumni Records

Class Notes by Karen Goodell

51 Karin Stack Winn, c'51, a retired teacher, lives in Tallgrass Creek Retirement Community in Overland Park.

57 Norman Arnold, b'57, is a customer-service specialist at Hy-Vee in Overland Park, where he and his wife, Iola, make their home.

58 James Grinter, c'58, president of Grinter Farms, received an alumni achievement award from the Tonganoxie USD 464 Education Foundation. Jim and **Mary Jane Brown Grinter**, '59, live in Lawrence.

60 David Ruf Jr., e'60, is president of Ruf Enterprises in Leawood.

61 Joyce Malicky Castle, f'61, sang the part of the marquis in Donizetti's

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

La Fille du Regiment, which recently was presented in Seattle. She's a professor of music at KU, and her home is in Lawrence.

62 Douglas Dechairo, c'62, m'66, was appointed chief of staff at the KU Student Health Center in Lawrence.

63 Al Feinstein, a'63, a retired architect, wrote two books, *America Lost? What We Learned by Living in Mexico* and *Questions That Need to Be Asked About and By America and Americans*. He and his wife, Biljana, live in Colorado Springs.

Jack Thomas, d'63, a retired teacher and coach, makes his home in Bogue.

65 Marilyn Anderson Lucas, g'65, and her husband, **Clarence**, e'52, are retired in Shawnee Mission.

Dennis Michaelis, d'65, was appointed interim chancellor at St. Louis Community College. He had been president of McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas, until retiring in 2009.

Marvin Pine, d'65, g'69, was inducted into the Tonganoxie USD 464 Education Foundation Hall of Fame. He lives in Lawrence and had a 32-year career as a teacher, coach and administrator in Tonganoxie.

66 Gary Mitchell, c'66, g'72, is a professor emeritus at Independence Community College. He continues to make his home in Independence.

67 Jerry Barney, d'67, joined the board of Torchlight Energy Resources, an oil and gas exploration and production company based in Plano, Texas.

Sister **Barbara Sellers**, c'67, is an archivist at Sisters of Charity in Leavenworth, where she lives.

69 Charles Loveland, c'69, m'73, retired last year after a 37-year career in pediatrics. He and **Mary Ladesich Loveland**, c'70, live in Lawrence.

70 Kenneth Johnson, g'70, wrote *Kansas University Basketball Legends*, which was published in November. He lives in Des Moines, Iowa, and is a senior provider consultant for XL Health.

71 Larry Harper, c'71, m'74, practices medicine with EvergreenHealth Primary Care in Woodinville, Wash., where he and **Pamela Aboussie Harper**, c'72, live.

Max Heidrick, p'71, owns S&S Drug in Beloit, where he and **Michele Boucher Heidrick**, d'71, make their home. He was honored with the KU School of Pharmacy's Distinguished Service Award.

David Reibstein, b'71, was inducted into the Topeka West High School Hall of Fame. He is the William Stewart Woodside professor of marketing at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. David and **Karen Lampe Reibstein**, c'69, have a home in San Diego.

72 The Rev. **David Lee Serven**, c'72, recently became pastor of Brawley First United Methodist and Holtville United Methodist churches. He lives in Fallbrook, Calif.

73 The Hon. **Robert Fairchild**, l'73, was reappointed to a two-year term as chief judge of the Douglas County Seventh Judicial District. He and his wife, Martha, live in Lawrence.

74 Phillip Estaver, l'74, practices law with Dovenmuehle Mortgage in Lake Zurich, Ill. He and **Sharon Mayer Estaver**, s'74, s'75, live in Buffalo Grove.

Dennis Fowler, m'74, directs clinical affairs for Titan Medical. His home is in New York City.

Ernest Garcia, s'74, g'77, served as grand marshal of Topeka's Veterans Day Parade in November. He's superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol in Topeka. Ernie and his wife, Amy, live in Overland Park.

Dean Kackley, l'74, practices law and is a real-estate broker with MortgageBriefing.com in Napa Valley, Calif.

William Marx Jr., m'74, is chief of anesthesiology service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New



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York City, where he and his wife, Bonnie, make their home.

75 Charles Boyd, c'75, g'76, was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of KU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences last fall. A retired U.S. Air Force general, he served as a combat pilot in Vietnam and survived nearly seven years as a prisoner of war. Charles and his wife, Jessica Tuchman Mathews, live in Falls Church, Va.

Stephen Boyda, l'75, practices law with Pottroff Law Office in Manhattan. He and his wife, **Nancy**, assoc., live in Topeka.

Sharon Massoth Kirchhofer, s'75, and her husband, Steven Mundahl, wrote *The Alchemy of Authentic Leadership*, published by Balboa Press. They live in West Suffield, Conn.

Steven Martens, c'75, is president and CEO of Grubb & Ellis-Martens Commercial Group in Wichita.

77 Israel Raz, Phd'77, is vice president of Extera Partners. He and **Edna**

Frant Raz, g'77, live in Highland Park, Ill.

MARRIED

Chuck Fischer, f'77, and Bill Evans, Oct. 24 in New York City, where they live. Chuck is an artist and product designer who also creates pop-up books, and his work is in the permanent collection of Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum. Bill is director of media relations for the Shubert Organization.

78 Mike Handelman, a'78, recently became a senior vice president at AECOM Technology in Kansas City, where he and **Ann Grigsby Handelman**, d'79, live.

Mark Jarboe, d'78, g'89, a retired high-school science teacher, lives in Lawrence, with **Anne Crump Jarboe**, d'78.

79 Richard Bresler, e'79, is senior project manager at WorleyParsons in Houston. He lives in Katy, Texas.

Paul Mokeski, c'79, is associate head coach of the Rio Grande Valley Vipers in

McAllen Texas. He and **Linda Mankin Mokeski**, c'81, have homes in McAllen and Reno, Nev.

Ramiah Subramanian, m'79, is a professor of pathology at the University of Georgia in Athens.

80 The Hon. **John Leith Carmichael**, c'80, l'83, serves in the Kansas House of Representatives. He and **Cheryl Carmichael**, '92, live in Wichita.

Kenneth Davis, j'80, wrote *100 Things Kansas Fans Should Know and Do Before They Die*, published last fall by Triumph Books. Ken and **Nancy Lenzen Davis**, d'81, live in Coventry, Conn. He's managing director of UConnplaybook.com, and she's a music therapist at Music Therapy Services.

Gail Harshaw, g'80, is district manager of the Wilson County Conservation District in Fredonia, where she lives.

Kurt Roberts, b'80, manages purchasing for Mid-America Millwright in Garden City, where he lives.

Daniel Woodrell, c'80, wrote *The Maid's*

Version, which was published last fall by Little, Brown and Company. He lives in West Plains, Mo.

81 J. Rod Betts, f'81, recently became a fellow in the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. He's a partner in the San Diego law firm of Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connaughton. Rod and his wife, Lisa, live in La Jolla.

Laura Ramberg, f'81, won a Phoenix Award for Exceptional Artistic Achievement from the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission. She's a sculptor and owner of

Laura Ramberg Studio in rural Lawrence.

Helga Schreckenberger, g'81, g'82, g'85, PhD'85, chairs the department of German and Russian at the University of Vermont in Burlington, where she and her husband, **Gordon Petersen**, d'75, s'81, live.

William Seibel, c'81, is an assistant professor of oncology at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. He lives in Hamilton, Ohio.

Diane Flott Senne, d'81, a retired insurance agent, makes her home in Lawrence.

Steven Sperling, c'81, m'85, is a diag-

nostic radiologist at Overlake Medical Center in Bellevue, Wash.

Janice Wanklyn Wissman, EdD'81, received a Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award from the Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society. She is retired associate dean of education at Kansas State University, where she's president of K-State Libraries. Janice and her husband, Donald, live in Manhattan.

82 Rita Holmes-Bobo, b'82, g'84, is president and CEO of the Niles Home for Children in Kansas City. She

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Encounter with poverty spurs Hamilton to action

Canoeing during a family vacation in Amazonian Peru, Chase Hamilton and his parents were stopped by a local tribe and told they couldn't pass unless they provided medication needed to save a young girl's life.

Through the help of a translator, they learned that the life-threatening illness the tribe sought to treat was diarrhea.

"Something as simple to treat as diarrhea was a huge cause for concern where they live, which is days and days from a health clinic," Hamilton says. "I was struck by the grinding poverty, which was completely world-shifting."

Such an encounter would dissuade many first-world tourists from further third-world travel, but not Hamilton, c'11. It inspired him to return to Peru after graduation to work with relief agencies and—eventually—to form his own, CGHealth. The group works with impoverished Peruvians to help them get clean water, medicine, health education and a political voice for their community.

As part of his work with one Amazonian relief agency, Hamilton surveyed local populations to find where they most needed help. Their young children's health was a major concern of the people he

talked with. Child mortality in the region is 17 percent, and most families felt the main cause was poor access to clean water.

"My question was, 'If so many organizations provide medical care, how many provide clean water?'" he says, "because that would be an obvious first step."

The answer, according to Hamilton, was only a few—and they weren't working together.

"I saw this huge mesh of aid was very unorganized and started our group to create an overlying network to communicate with other nongovernmental organizations and focus our efforts."

CGHealth concentrated first on distributing water filters in Belén, a riverside slum in Iquitos. The \$55 filters enable families to purify a million gallons of water over 10 years, protecting them from deadly diseases and parasites like hepatitis, giardia and leptospirosis. With help from KU undergrads and medical students, CGHealth last summer handed out 80 filters and provided training to explain how they benefit health.

Through its website cghealth.org the group recently raised \$14,000 to buy 250 filters; fees paid by students participating in the program this summer will fund another 240. The goal is to reach at least 400 families (about 2,400 people) annually.

"Almost one in five children do not live

"Many eyes, many hearts," is the motto of Chase Hamilton's nonprofit group CGHealth. "It means the more people we bring to a problem, the greater the aid we can provide."

to the age of 6 in the Amazon, and 30 percent of those deaths are directly attributed to drinking contaminated water," Hamilton says. "That's something we're desperately fighting. To see those numbers start decreasing would be amazing."



STEVE PUPPE

Class Notes

and her husband, **Luke**, e'82, live in Ballwin, Mo.

Stacey Leslie Lamb, f'82, completed her 30th year last fall as an artist for Hallmark Cards. She and her husband, **Brent**, c'84, live in Lawrence, where he's an assistant vice president at KU Endowment.

Jarmila Nold-Liebrock, h'82, works as an occupational therapist for the Northshore School District in Woodinville, Wash. She lives in Seattle.

Sara Ruge Stryker, c'82, l'85, is a public-affairs officer for the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. She and her husband, **Brian**, e'84, make their home in Gaithersburg, Md.

Natise Johnson Vogt, g'82, received a Young Alumni Medallion from Tabor College. She's principal of the Rural Life Center Charter School in Walton. She makes her home in Newton.

Rob Yohe, '82, is a commercial financial consultant for Robert G. Yohe Consulting in Stilwell.

83 Michael Belz, c'83, m'87, practices cardiology with Group Health in Seattle. He makes his home in Shoreline with his wife, Kimberly.

Steven Bennett, l'83, is executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at USAA in San Antonio.

Robert Chestnut, b'83, g'85, is chief financial officer at ProPharma Group. He and **Melissa Sampson Chestnut**, j'85, live in Lawrence.

Stephen Kort, l'83, is general counsel for Midwest Air Traffic Control Service in Overland Park. He and **Ellen Leinwand Kort**, g'79, live in Leawood.

Mike McGrew, b'83, is treasurer of the National Association of Realtors. He's CEO and chairman of McGrew Real Estate in Lawrence, where he and **Christine Blount McGrew**, c'92, make their home.

Harry Parker, g'83, PhD'92, received a Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Achievement from Texas Christian University, where he chairs the theater department. Harry and his wife, **Karen**, '83, live in Fort Worth.

Chandrima Shaha, m'83, directs the National Institute of Immunology in New Delhi, India.



Randy Stone, c'83, is senior director and project manager at Sunovion Pharmaceuticals in Marlborough, Mass. He and his wife, Lisa, live in New York City.

84 Heithem El-Hodiri, c'84, g'90, PhD'92, is an associate professor of pediatrics at Ohio State University in Columbus. He and **Valerie Herrington El-Hodiri**, d'85, live in Hilliard.

Richard Fisher Jr., f'84, recently became chief executive officer of the Chickasaw Council Boy Scouts in Memphis.

James Perkins, m'84, is a professor of surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle. His home is in Issaquah.

Randy Scott, PhD'84, co-founded InVitae in San Francisco. He and **Eileen Schmitz Scott**, '84, live in Los Altos.

85 Jeanine Vanleeuwen Brizendine, p'85, c'85, p'08, manages pharmacy operations for Via Christi Hospitals in Wichita, where she and her husband, **Jerry**, p'66, make their home.

The Rev. **Thomas Fangman Jr.**, c'85, received a Court of Honor award from the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben Foundation in Omaha, Neb., where he's a priest at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Laura Stakley Irick, l'85, works as a contract specialist for KU Innovation and Collaboration in Lawrence, where she makes her home.

Edgar Thornton III, g'85, serves as a U.S. foreign service diplomat in Monrovia, Liberia.

86 Andrew Bettis, c'86, works for NCR, and **Lori Roberts Bettis**, d'89, teaches kindergarten in Olathe. They live in Overland Park.

Andreas Bynum, c'86, is corporate vice president of global information services for AMD in Austin, Texas.

Jim Krekeler, b'86, works as an investment banking principal at Edward Jones in St. Louis, where he lives.

Col. **Karen Mayberry**, l'86, is chief defense counsel for the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C. She lives in Alexandria, Va.

87 Bradley Chilcoat, l'87, directs compensation programs and strategy at the University of California-Oakland. He lives in San Francisco.

Karla Roberts Ketchum, d'87, g'89, is territory business manager for Bristol-Myers Squibb. She and her husband, **Dean**, j'89, live in Leawood. He's national sales manager for Iowa Tool Works.

88 Elizabeth Polka Garvin, c'88, l'91, g'94, is of counsel with Spencer Fane Britt & Brown in Denver, where she and her husband, **Gregory**, b'85, l'88, live.

Matthew Lee, e'88, recently became senior vice president and executive director of nuclear projects at Black & Veatch in Overland Park. He makes his home in Olathe.

Renee Wachter, b'88, is chancellor of the University of Wisconsin in Superior, where she lives.

Robert Wilson, l'88, is deputy attorney general in the California Justice Department in Sacramento.

89 Lori Betts-Harrison, c'89, manages business operations for 3S Engineering in Wichita, where she and her husband, **Mark**, assoc., make their home.

Scott Crowns, l'89, manages technical support for Brocade in San Jose, Calif. He lives in Campbell.

Michael Harmelink, c'89, g'91, is associate vice chancellor and chief information officer at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. He and his wife, Ann, live in Olathe.



BORN TO:

Michael Wetson, b'89, and Shawn, daughter, Olivia, and son, Sawyer, Sept. 14 in Coppell, Texas. Michael is a principal at Inscio in Addison.



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90 Thomas Crabtree, e'90, g'92, does cargo market analysis for Boeing Commercial Airplane in Seattle. He lives in Bellevue.

Sarah Beeks Higdon, g'90, directs advancement at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. She and her husband, Don, live in Mission Hills.

91 Valerie Baldwin, l'91, serves on the staff of the appropriations committee of the U.S House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., where she lives.

Michael Casidy, c'91, recently became managing director of Mexico for Penske Logistics. He and **Melinda Ban Casidy**, d'91, live in Leawood.

Cynthia Cook, l'91, is senior counsel for Brown PC in Fort Worth, Texas.

Scott Coons, e'91, president and CEO of Perceptive Software, was elected a trustee of the KU Endowment Association. Scott and **Betsy Green Coons**, c'94, live in Lawrence.

Bonner Menking, l'91, owns a law practice in Gaithersburg, Md.

Stuart Michelson, PhD'91, is a professor of business at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Satellite Beach.

Paul Wallen, e'91, is executive director of transmission and substation construction at Westar Energy in Topeka. He and his wife, Jana, live in Lawrence.

92 Jeanine Ambrosio, g'92, received an award from the government of Ho Chi Minh City for her work in HIV prevention there. She works for the Centers for Disease Control.

John Poyhonen, g'92, is president and CEO of Senomyx in La Jolla, Calif.

Thomas Valuck, g'92, recently became a partner in Discern in Baltimore.

MARRIED

Drew Elder, c'92, to Lexi Bohnenkamp, Sept. 14 in Salida, Colo. They live in Denver, where Drew is vice president of Janus Capital Group.

94 Alan Alden, c'94, l'98, is chief operating officer of Omne Mobile Wallet. He lives in San Francisco.

Michael Brox, g'94, a U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, recently became materiel leader for Ground-Based Strategic Deterrence. He lives in Ogden, Utah.

A.J. Cleland, c'94, manages business development for Modis in Englewood, Colo. He lives in Denver.

Randall Griffey, g'94, PhD'00, is associate curator of modern America for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Margaret McCarthy, g'94, PhD'99, works as clinical psychologist at Shadow Wood Clinical Associates in Topeka,

where she and her husband, **Scott Teeter**, c'79, m'93, make their home. She was inducted into the Topeka West High School Graduate Hall of Fame.

95 Janice Coldwell, '95, is a bassoonist in the Summerville Community Orchestra in Summerville, S.C.

Dejian Liu, c'95, recently became a director of Baidu, a Chinese language Internet search provider. His home is in Baldwin Park, Calif.

John Sabraw, f'95, is an associate professor of art at Ohio University. His

show, *Luminous*, recently was featured in a video on the Discovery Channel. He and his wife, Carmen, live in Athens.

96 Lance Hamby, c'96, j'96, directs operations for Oracle. He makes his home in Bellevue, Wash.

Octavio Hinojosa, c'96, is executive director of the National Hispanic Corporate Council in Washington, D.C.

Joyce Lasseter, g'96, PhD'05, is an assistant professor of nursing at the University of St. Mary in Leavenworth. She lives in Spring Hill.

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

By air and land, Sproston racks up big-time miles

When she ran track in high school in Monmouth, Ill., Amy Sproston was the best runner on her team and regularly qualified for state meets. But she was injured early in her freshman year at Luther College and never regained her stride, battling prerace nerves and nausea.

"I was," Sproston says, "a head-case when it came to racing."

Sproston, g'00, eventually conquered her nerves well enough to become a world-champion ultramarathoner, a transition that began when she joined her father in her first marathon, in 1998, while a herpetology graduate student at KU.

A passion for distance events was ignited, and, while volunteering for the Peace Corps in Paraguay, she even used a good finish in the Asunción Marathon to qualify for the Boston Marathon.

After Paraguay, Sproston volunteered on Micronesia's Chuuk Island, where in 2003 she assisted with reforestation following a 2002 typhoon. She then moved on to Washington, D.C., where she took a job with an aid organization and gained experience in finance and administration. She also fell in with a group of trail runners who introduced her to the ultra-tough discipline of ultramarathons,

or races longer than 26.2 miles.

She placed ninth in her first 50-miler, in 2006, and won her second race shortly after.

"You know you're going to have some highs and lows," she says, "so there's not quite so much reason to stress."

After returning to D.C. from a trip to Afghanistan, Sproston jumped on a flight to visit Peace Corps friends in Oregon. The stark difference between Kabul and Portland prompted Sproston to decide on the spot that she had to move. Now living in Portland, where she is a financial compliance officer for Mercy Corps, Sproston logs 80 to 100 weekly miles of road and trail running.

Five weeks away from the 2012 World Championships, she returned from trips to Kenya and Turkey with a pulmonary embolism in her calf. Her doctor told her she couldn't run for six weeks; another said she could, and Sproston went on to the biggest victory of her career.

"I wasn't a favorite going in, which I think helped. I didn't have any expecta-



Champion ultramarathoner Amy Sproston says she's often asked what she thinks about while running for 19 hours or more. The answer: "Anything and everything," she says.

tions. I was just happy to be running."

Sproston is now training toward the June 1 Comrades Marathon, a 90-year South African tradition, followed by the most important U.S. event, the 100-mile Western States Endurance Run.

Sproston cherishes her sport's solitary and unique moments, such as the time she convinced her taxi driver in Kurdish Iraq to deliver her 10 miles outside of town and allow her to run back by herself.

"You get a lot of strange looks when you're running in Iraq. I think it's good for people in other countries to see, to break the stereotypes and norms and wonder what you're doing."

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—Bud Stallworth, Legendary KU Basketball Player, 1970-1972.

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Eric Madden, c'96, f'99, is a partner in the Dallas firm of Reid Collins & Tsai.

Monika Mahal, m'96, practices pediatrics at PeaceHealth Medical Group in Bellingham, Wash.

Rachel Casebolt Ronan, f'96, is principal and creative director at Kiwi Creative in Lenexa, where she and her husband, **Chris**, j'96, g'11, make their home.

Julie Moser Thorson, j'96, was inducted into the Iowa Central Community College Hall of Fame. She's president and CEO of Friendsip Haven in Fort Dodge, where she and her husband, Tjeran, make their home.

Erica Lee Voell, s'96, is a youth collection development librarian for the Kansas City Public Library. She and her husband, Bryan, live in Shawnee.



97 Elizabeth Egbert Berghout, g'97, g'01, is an associate professor of music and carillonner at KU. She and her husband, **Daniel**, g'99, live in Lawrence.

Ashleigh de la Torre, j'97, c'97, directs government affairs at Bombardier in Washington, D.C.

Patrick Linder, c'97, wrote *Ghost Music*, published recently by Oak Tree Press. He and **Teresa Dale Linder**, c'97, live in Snoqualmie, Wash.

Melissa Vancrum, b'97, f'11, g'12, is an associate at Hanson Bridgett in San Francisco. She lives in Walnut Creek.

98 Heather Holland Anschutz, h'98, joined Ameritas in Lincoln, Neb., as second vice president and associate general counsel. She and her husband, Tom, live in Plattsmouth.

Pamela Frieling Breukmann, b'98, g'99, serves on the board of Ferrellgas Partners. She's president of Ferrell Capital and president and chief operating officer of Samson Capital Management. Pam and her husband, Kurt, live in Olathe.

Brian Eldridge, c'98, a shareholder in Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, was named to the 2013 edition of 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch. He lives in Highland Park.

99 Babak Marefat, m'99, received an Alumni Achievement Award from Fort Hays State University. He's an ophthalmologist at Cotton-O'Neil Clinic in Topeka.

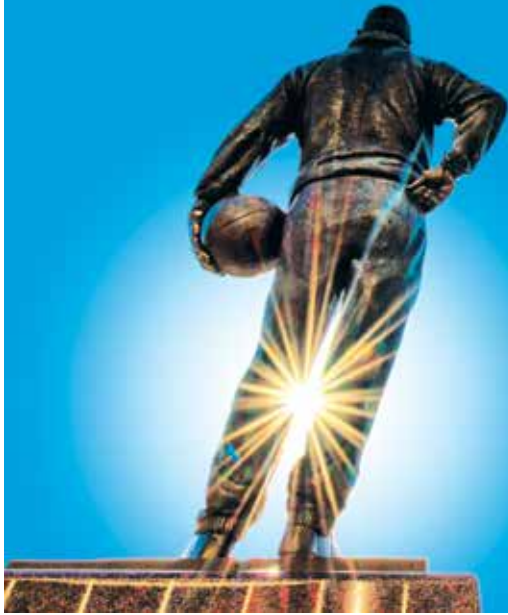
Joshua Rinkov, c'99, directs private client services at Credit Suisse Securities in Chicago. He received the Davis, Gidwitz and Glasser Young Leadership Award from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

Patrick Sterner, c'99, g'04, is a managing consultant for Gimmel. He lives in Kansas City with his wife, Katherine.

00 Amy Cline, f'00, is an associate with Bryan Cave in Chicago.

Timothy Mock, c'00, was named manager of the Lawrence branch of Truist Credit Union.

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Caleb Stegall, f'00, is a judge on the Kansas Court of Appeals. He and his wife, Ann, live in Lawrence.

BORN TO:

Courtney Kreutzer Payne, j'00, and Dylan, son, Sutton Prudhomme, April 4 in Kansas City, where he joins a sister, Sophie, 3.

01 Jill Wilder Emig, j'01, g'11, is channel manager at Assurant Employee Benefits in Kansas City. She and her husband, Paul, live in Overland Park.

David Holtzman, d'01, g'04, directs communications for the San Diego Padres. He and **Kerri Shafer Holtzman**, j'00, live in El Cajon, Calif.

Claudia Mercado, g'01, EdD'13, is associate vice chancellor of enrollment at City College in Chicago, where she lives with her partner, **Angelica Lopez**, s'01.

Samuel Rockford, g'01, g'02, teaches math at St. James Academy in Lenexa. He received an Educating Excellence award from the KU School of Engineering and

Perceptive Software. Sam and **Melissa Brickman Rockford**, c'97, m'01, live in De Soto. She's an assistant professor of anesthesiology at KU Medical Center.

02 Thomas Alderson, c'02, m'07, practices medicine at Stormont-Vail Healthcare and Cotton-O'Neil Nephrology in Topeka.

Jennifer Tucker Haaga, c'02, f'10, is assistant director of industry agreements at KU Innovation and Collaboration. She lives in Lawrence.

Asma Latif, c'02, m'06, is a medical oncologist and hematologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Basking Ridge, N.J. She lives in New York City.

03 Jacob Hecker, c'03, f'06, is an associate with Stinson Morrison Hecker in Phoenix, where he and **Lori Jorgenson Hecker**, c'03, make their home.

Richard Nichols, g'03, was inducted into the Highland Park High School Alumni Association Hall of Fame. He is executive director of the Disability Rights

Center of Kansas in Topeka.

James Novak, b'03, m'10, practices emergency medicine at Stormont-Vail Healthcare in Topeka.

Mark Randall, j'03, a community ambassador for the Denver Nuggets, was inducted into the Colorado High School Activities Association Hall of Fame. He makes his home in Englewood.

MARRIED

Sara Lounsberry, c'03, to Ryan Jackson, Oct. 11 in Kansas City. They live in Olathe.

BORN TO:

Jennifer Booth Bidwell, c'03, and Steve, son, Henry, July 26 in Colchester, Conn., where he joins a brother, Jack, 2.

Ryan Chappell, b'03, and Kara, daughter, Emma, Sept. 17 in Plano, Texas, where she joins a sister, Sophie, 2.

04 Kate Osborn Altenhofen, c'04, manages marketing for Huhtamaki in De Soto. She and her husband, Matthew, make their home in Overland Park.

Derek Nicholson, c'04, is a senior sales representative at Oram Sylvania. He and **Mindy Carlson Nicholson**, c'02, g05, live in Lawrence, where she works for KU Endowment.

Lindsay Poe Rousseau, c'04, j'04, f'08, works as budget director for Sedgwick County in Wichita, where she and her husband, **Trevor**, assoc., make their home.

BORN TO:

Jeff Lamb, b'04, and Sophie Blackwell Lamb, son, Ford Blackwell, July 3 in

Salina. Jeff is comptroller for ISG Technology, and Sophie is director of development for Kansas Wesleyan University.

Jason Sanders, c'04, and Belinda, daughter, Violet Marie, July 27 in Roanoke, Texas. Jason teaches high-school science in Lewisville.

05 Leah Hamilton, f'05, directs arts administration for Drury University in Springfield, Mo.

Simon Tolbert, f'05, practices law with Lear & Lear in Denver.

MARRIED

Joseph Czyz, b'05, and **Nell "Katie" Chaney**, c'08, Sept. 28 in KU's Danforth Chapel. They live in Lawrence, and Katie is a senior case manager with Litigation Insights in Overland Park.

Ryan McAtee, d'05, to Kathryn Kozal, May 11. He's a senior investigator for Target, and she's a material logistics agent for Bombardier Learjet. They make their home in Wichita.

Donald Robare, e'05, to **Courtney Meeker**, e'05, Sept. 14 in Wichita, where they live. He's a control tools process

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Online platforms win over top investigative reporter

Until he allowed USA Today investigative reporter Alison Young to test the soil in his yard, Cleveland homeowner Ken Shefton—who already had fled one house after one of his five sons became ill with lead-paint poisoning—had no idea that a nearby abandoned factory for decades had spewed toxic lead dust, a state agency had found soil contamination in the neighborhood years earlier yet neglected to inform residents, and his own yard was extensively contaminated.

"I needed to know that," Shefton said, as Young reported in the award-winning USA Today series "Ghost Factories," the result of a 14-month investigation into health risks posed by hundreds of forgotten lead factory sites across the country.

Shefton's startled, angry reaction defines the mission Young, j'88, set for herself in a journalism career that has taken her from Dallas to Phoenix, Detroit, Washington, D.C., Atlanta and now back to the Washington area, and across the even greater span of the reinvention of print journalism's formerly static news platform.

Wherever Young chooses to focus her investigative energies, she intends to help her readers—and now viewers—learn

information they need in their day-to-day lives.

"That really is the goal of my reporting," Young says from her office in McLean, Va. "The work I want to do is the kind that is going to have a real impact on real people."

Young in 2003 moved from the Detroit Free Press, where she had been deputy metro editor, to Washington, D.C., to join a new Knight Ridder investigative team. As Knight Ridder was about to dissolve three years later, Young joined the Atlanta Journal-Constitution to cover the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; in 2009 she left for USA Today, and a year later was assigned to the national newspaper's investigative team.

When she hit the road to report "Ghost Factories," Young carried two items new to her toolbox: a \$41,000 XRF soil analyzer and a \$300 HD Flip Cam. The soil analyzer was indispensable only for that story, but the camera remains, forever altering the way Young gathers and shares the news.

"I really do think this has the potential to be a golden age in journalism," she says, "but we've got to find a way to actually find the kinds of revenue and business models



USA TODAY (2)



Honors won by Alison Young and USA Today for "Ghost Factories" include awards for video, business and science reporting, illustrating the breadth of the project's reach.

that will support journalists to use the platforms to their fullest potential."

USA Today's multimedia team created for "Ghost Factories" an extensive online presentation (ghostfactories.usatoday.com). While not every project will reach that scale, Young says she expects to never again be limited to print.

"Believe me, I love print newspapers; I have two delivered at home. But there are more opportunities for digital storytelling that can really bring stories alive. And frankly, I'm glad not to be in the box of just reporting for print anymore."

Class Notes



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engineer at Spirit Aerosystems, where she's an accountant.

06 Leroy Alsop, g'06, directs community and economic development for McAlester, Okla.

Denae Schumacher Brennan, j'06, is education and meeting manager for the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electromyography Medicine. She lives in Rochester, Minn.

Jeremy Graber, b'06, f'09, works as an associate with Foulston Siefkin in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

Tonda Jones Hill, d'06, g'09, f'12, is assistant director of admissions for the KU School of Law. She and her husband, Tyrone, live in Lawrence.

Aaron Levine, c'06, f'10, is a regulatory analyst for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo. He and **Samantha Mika Levine**, f'12, make their home in Denver.

Benjamin Lowenthal, f'06, is an associate in the law office of Philip Lowenthal in

Wailuku, Hawaii. He lives in Haiku.

Sean O'Hara, f'06, practices law with Kerckmar & Feltus in Scottsdale, Ariz., where he and **Amy Cox O'Hara**, j'05, live.

Selena Sujoldzic, f'06, practices law with Arn, Mullins, Unruh, Kuhn & Wilson in Wichita.

MARRIED

Alexander Melin, c'06, g'08, to Svetlana Akhmerova, Aug. 24 in Ufa, Russia. They live in Lawrence, where Alexander studies law at KU.

Amy Thompson, c'06, and **Michael Leiker**, c'12, Oct. 12 in Lawrence, where they live. Amy is a dentist at Today's Dentistry in Topeka, and Michael is regional sales manager for Marlen International in Riverside, Mo.

BORN TO:

Jamin Dreasher Landavazo, c'06, g'08, and **Matthew**, e'07, son, Jonathan James, Oct. 6 in Wichita.

07 Robert Ray, m'07, practices emergency medicine at Montefiore Weiler Hospital in The Bronx, N.Y. He lives in New York City.

Susan Rohr, s'07, works as a screener at Horizons Mental Health Center in Hutchinson. She lives in Newton.

MARRIED

Amy Adams, c'07, to Jeremy Dreiling, Oct. 4 in Woodland Park, Colo. She's a nurse at the University of Colorado Hospital, and he works for Smith, Seckman & Reed. They live in Salida.

Kara Runge, n'07, and **Bryan Schuessler**, p'10, g'12, Sept. 7 in Kansas City. They make their home in Gainesville, Fla.

BORN TO:

Timothy Isernhagen, e'07, b'07, and Beth, son, Jonas Hanks, June 18 in Keller, Texas, where he joins a sister, Elsie, 2. Tim is an acquisition engineer for ExxonMobil.





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08 Mary Beth Blackwell, s'08, directs the Eating Disorder Resource Center at Jewish Family Services of Greater Kansas City.

Devon Doyle, l'08, is deputy district attorney for the 4th Judicial District. He lives in Aurora, Colo.

Matt Kincaid, c'08, g'12, l'12, practices business, employment and real-estate law with Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer in Overland Park.

Kyle Kitson, c'08, l'13, practices law with Husch Blackwell in Kansas City.

Summer Shiflett, c'08, l'12, is an adjunct professor at Columbia College Chicago.

David Siever, l'08, manages license and compliance at Dish Network in Englewood, Colo. He lives in Denver.

Charles Stinson, c'08, l'13, practices law with Duggan Shadwick Doerr & Kurlbaum. He lives in Overland Park.

09 The Rev. **Kyle Bauman**, c'09, is associate pastor at Bear Valley Community Church. He and his wife, Julia, live in North Richland Hills, Texas.

Tom Godsey, c'09, l'13, g'13, works for Ernst & Young. He lives in Leawood.

Alyssa George Hermreck, b'09, is a commercial lending officer for Commerce Bank in Kansas City, where she and her husband, **Chris**, e'07, make their home.

Jennie Joiner, PhD'09, is an assistant professor of English at Keuka College in Keuka Park, N.Y. She lives in Penn Yan.

John Keller, c'09, practices dentistry with Carrow & Chapel in Alton, Ill. He and his wife, Melissa, live in Edwardsville.

Spencer King, c'09, g'13, l'13, works as a senior broker at AON Risk Services in Denver, where she lives.

Adam Lovelace, b'09, is a cargo claims management and prevention analyst for Neovia Logistics. He makes his home in Monrovia, Calif.

William Lupton, c'09, l'12, is associate counsel at Lockton Companies. He lives in Glendale, Colo.

Manish Mistry, b'09, manages accounting at TransAm Financial Services in Olathe, where he lives.

Tarik Sahin, l'09, is senior attorney at

Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant in Ankara, Turkey.

Scott Stingley, b'09, works as an assistant bank examiner for the Missouri Division of Finance. He lives in Overland Park.

Helen White, l'09, practices law with Riggs, Abney, Neal, Turpen, Orbison & Lewis in Denver.

MARRIED

Lauren Massey, c'09, to Kevin Butler, Sept. 28 in Olathe. She coordinates admissions and recruitment at the UMKC law school, and he works for ATK. They live in Lee's Summit, Mo.

BORN TO:

Katherine Bengtson Winberg, c'09, and **Ryan**, assoc., son, Oliver, Sept. 12 in Aurora, Colo.

10 Jennifer Eirikson, p'10, is a pharmacist at Wal-Mart. She lives in Ankeny, Iowa.

Douglas Gaumer, g'10, was named

president of the Kansas City area for Intrust Bank. He lives in Lawrence.

Joy Noakes Isaacs, c'10, f'13, practices law with Snell & Wilmer in Phoenix.

Wayne Larson, j'10, coordinates marketing for CBIZ Benefits & Insurance in Leawood. He lives in Kansas City.

Ian Osler, b'10, g'11, is a senior tax associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He and **Juliette Nguyen Osler**, b'10, f'13, live in Mission.

Jennifer Watson, c'10, j'10, is a compliance associate with Platinum

Supplemental Insurance. She lives in Roeland Park.

11 Cassandra Byfield, s'11, s'13, is a case manager with Catholic Charities-TurnAround in Kansas City. She lives in Edgerton.

Carolyn Battle Cohen, c'11, j'11, works as a social-media strategist for Barkley in Kansas City, where she and her husband, **David**, b'11, g'12, make their home. He's an assurance associate for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Himanshu Dande, g'11, PhD'13, is an application engineer with ESI North America in Farmington, Mich. He lives in Bloomfield Hills.

Allison Dodd, f'11, practices law with Lasater & Martin in Highlands Ranch, Colo. She lives in Denver.

Mason Heilman, d'11, c'11, teaches Spanish at Gateway STEM High School in St. Louis.

Lauren Henion, c'11, g'13, is a speech-language pathologist at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital in Spring Hill, Fla.

PROFILE by Leah Kohlman

Eco-friendly passion fuels online business

Curt Lindeman hoped to purchase a green vehicle, but an overwhelming array of choices caused him some confusion—and inspired ideas for a new business venture.

After his car-shopping adventure of a couple of years ago, Lindeman, f'97, teamed up with longtime friend Jason Davis to create eGreenCars.com, a website built specifically for comparing green vehicle technologies.

"eGreenCars.com aims to be a one-stop Web resource for educating shoppers looking for fuel-efficient vehicles," Lindeman says, "presenting shoppers with a convenient way to find those vehicles in their market and providing dealerships with a focused method to reach those shoppers.

"We co-founded the company after identifying that shoppers for fuel-efficient vehicles were being underserved. There was a lot of confusion about the different alternative fuel technology vehicles, and how those vehicles compared with the traditional gasoline and clean diesel models."

Environmental awareness isn't the only reason consumers purchase eco-friendly vehicles. Economy is another factor that

weighs on their decision, because green vehicles save drivers money at the pump.

The ultimate goal of eGreenCars.com is to be an online destination where both consumers and dealers can explore all available options. The site also will show clients how to best preserve the environment and reduce dependence on foreign oil, all while saving money.

So far the company has successfully completed testing the website with more than 40 San Diego dealerships. The next step is to obtain financing to increase sales and marketing in the San Diego area and then move into new markets.

Lindeman thinks purchasing a green vehicle can also lead to other environmentally friendly choices.

"We have seen that once buyers purchase a green vehicle, they tend to be more aware of the sustainability issues and actually begin to think of themselves as green," Lindeman says. "Therefore, the fuel-efficient car tends to be more of a gateway to sustainable living, rather than a conscious green decision."

While Lindeman, a corporate lawyer in Solana Beach, Calif., and Davis, a car dealer, both say they enjoy their current



COURTESY CURT LINDEMAN



Solana Beach attorney Curt Lindeman hopes his new Web venture, promoting environmentally friendly vehicles, helps potential buyers find a car that will lead to a new lifestyle.

..... careers, they also want something more, a project that is both gratifying and a vehicle for them to work together.

"Professionally, it is a lot of fun coming into work each day and learning something new," Lindeman says "I find it so exciting to be a part of the dynamic and evolving nature of alternative fuel technologies."

Class Notes

Brittany Johnson, c'11, works as a records specialist with the KU Alumni Association in Lawrence.

Leah Kohlman, c'11, is a communications coordinator for the KU Alumni Association in Lawrence, where she lives.

Daniel Press, l'11, practices law with Wallace, Saunders, Austin, Brown & Enochs in Wichita.

Sibyl Wong, l'11, is an associate with Frassetto Law in Oakland, Calif.

MARRIED

Carolyn Battle, c'11, j'11, and **David Cohen**, b'11, g'12, Oct. 6 in Dallas. They live in Kansas City, where she's a social media strategist at Barkley and he's an associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Jordan Scott, d'11, g'13, and **Julia Ann Cummings**, d'12, Sept. 14 in Kansas City. They live in Lawrence, where they both work for Kansas Athletics.

12 Sabrina Ahmed, j'12, works as a photojournalist at ABC5 News in

West Des Moines, Iowa, where she lives.

Sean Allen, l'12, g'12, is a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor in Denver. He lives in Littleton.

Colin Baumchen, l'12, practices law with Woods & Aitken in Denver.

Macey Guthery, e'12, works as a reservoir engineer with Occidental Petroleum. She lives in Oklahoma City.

Byron McDonald, g'12, is a counselor at the McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul, Minn. He lives in Minneapolis.

Cherese Paloni, c'12, works as a mental-health specialist at Vanderbilt University's Emergency Services Hospital in Nashville, Tenn.

Scott Smith, p'12, lives in Castle Rock, Colo., and manages the pharmacy at Safeway.

Lijuan Xing, SJD'12, is an assistant professor of law at City University of Hong Kong. She lives in Kowloon, Hong Kong.

MARRIED

Stephanie Morris, c'12, to Jared Dunn,



Oct. 19 in Kansas City. They live in Overland Park. She's a marketing specialist at Platt Form Advertising, and he's a designer at Fleishman Hillard.

Amy Naff, n'12, to Daniel O'Hare, Sept. 7 in Lawrence, where he's a deputy with the Douglas County Sheriff's Department. Amy is a nurse at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. They live in Tonganoxie.

13 Allison Apple, g'13, manages marketing for National Advisors Trust in Overland Park. She lives in Leawood.

Megan Boxberger, a'13, is a digital studio artist at TracyLocke in Dallas.

Sean Brennan, g'13, works as a foreign-service specialist with the U.S. Department of State. He lives in Alexandria, Va.

Jennifer Conforti, g'13, is a designer with the Lawrence Group in St. Louis.

Benjamin Davis, e'13, works as an engineer with Kiewit Power Constructors in Lenexa.

Laura Dean, g'13, is associate director of financial assistance at Loyola University in Chicago.

Erik Deddens, e'13, works as a process engineer with Black & Veatch. He and **Esterenia Armanto-Deddens**, c'12, live in Overland Park.

Abigail Durham, c'13, recently became the community youth group coordinator for the Levite Jewish Community Center in Birmingham, Ala.

Josh Emmons, b'13, is a financial analyst with Thermo Fisher Scientific in Lenexa.

Darci Goddard, b'13, is an administrator with Cerner in Kansas City.

Tiffany Hanchett, c'13, is a quality management system assistant at Plastikon Healthcare in Lawrence.

Kirsten Hoogstraten, u'13, teaches at St. Mary's Junior/Senior High School in St. Mary's. Her home is in Shawnee.

Alicia Johnson-Turner, s'13, works as a

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therapist and behavior consultant for the Douglas County Child Development Association in Lawrence.

Alexa Jones, c'13, is president of Evolve. She lives in Mission.

Amanda Locke Jones, d'13, teaches at Logan Avenue Elementary School in Emporia, where she and her husband, **Kevin**, '14, make their home.

James Kievit, g'13, serves as an officer in the U.S. Army. He is stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Steven LaCour, e'13, is an electrical engineer with CRB Consulting Engineers in Kansas City. He lives in Lawrence.

Jacob Lowenthal, f'13, works as a legal clerk in Wailuku, Hawaii. He makes his home in Haiku.

Lauren Luhrs, f'13, practices law at Stueve Siegel Hanson in Kansas City.

Gregory Oehlert, h'13, is a respiratory therapist at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. He lives in Topeka.

Nicholas Pompeo, j'13, coordinates accounts at Fox News Channel in New York City.

Matthew Rissien, c'13, is director of youth activities at Congregation Beth Shalom in Chicago.

Stephane Roque, j'13, is a sports clerk at the Kansas City Star.

Jack Sanner, b'13, is a professional services consultant with the Cerner Corporation in Kansas City.

Kevin Sauer, f'13, is a law clerk for the U.S. District Court in Laredo, Texas.

Edward Schroer, c'13, works as a videographer at Muller Bressler Brown in Leawood. He lives in Lawrence.

Patrick Shaw, c'13, is an assistant golf professional at Lake Shawnee Golf Course in Topeka.

Taylor Smith, d'13, teaches eighth-grade American history at Shawnee Heights Middle School in Tecumseh.

Caitlin Stene, g'13, is a management analyst for the city of River Falls, Wis. She lives in Cottage Grove, Minn.

Bernard Vilza, g'13, works as an architect for Canon Design in St. Louis.

Samantha Heady Woods, f'13, practices law with Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace

& Bauer in Wichita. She lives in Bel Aire.

Kevin Wright, c'13, is a marketing technology specialist with Reece & Nichols Realtors. He lives in Olathe.

Ashley Wurst, b'13, is a delivery consultant with the Cerner Corporation. She lives in Fairway.

MARRIED

Abbey Bauman, n'13, to Casey Stalder, Oct. 4 in Junction City. Their home is in Lenexa. Abbey is a perioperative nurse at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City.

Mark Stringer, c'13, and **Jessica Watkins**, c'13, June 7 in Weston, Mo. They make their home in Lawrence.

14 Josh Kincaid, c'14, is a territory sales manager for Altria. He lives in North Liberty, Iowa.

The Jayhawk figurines adorning these pages have been donated by alumni and are from the collection at the Adams Alumni Center.

In Memory

30s **Rosalie Roney Wilson, c'39**, 96, Sept. 10 in Longwood, Pa. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

40s **Mary Catherine "Cathy" Piller Ball, '48**, 87, Oct. 24 in Napa, Calif. She is survived by her husband, Chuck, e'46; three daughters, one of whom is Sally Ball Rosenthal, '80; two sisters, Helen Piller Davis, c'50, and Joan Piller Lubary, c'54; and eight grandchildren.

Carolyn Crocker, c'46, c'48, 89, Nov. 13 in Kansas City, where she was a medical technologist at KU Medical Center. Many nieces and nephews survive.

Jack Gilliland, c'43, m'45, 91, Sept. 2 in Bella Vista, Ark., where he was retired from a career in medicine with the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife, Betty, a daughter, a son, a stepdaughter, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Margaret Rand Glass, n'42, 92, Aug. 24 in Eustis, Fla. She had been a nurse and a real-estate broker for Glass & Pfeiffer in Orlando. Surviving are two sons, a daughter, eight grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth "Betty" Brown Noble, d'44, 91, Sept. 23 in Independence, Mo., where she was a retired kindergarten teacher. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Richard, s'67, c'67; a daughter; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Annette McEwen Peck, b'49, 86, Oct. 7 in Lenexa. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth, e'49; a son, Roger, e'79; a daughter; two brothers, Richard McEwen, e'48, and Conrad McEwen, e'50; and four grandchildren.

Alice Reiss, c'49, c'51, 83, Nov. 15 in Shawnee Mission. She lived in Lenexa and is survived by a brother, Jacob Reiss Jr., b'39.

The Rev. **Robert Richter Jr., c'48**, 86, Jan. 2, 2013, in Mountain View, Calif., where he was a retired United Church of Christ minister. He is survived by two daughters;

two brothers, one of whom is Jean Richter, c'53; a sister; and four granddaughters.

Sarah Kurtz Schweitzer, n'47, 88, Sept. 27 in Greeley, Colo. She is survived by two daughters, a son, six grandchildren, three stepgrandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Al Stewart Jr., c'49, 85, Nov. 1 in Kansas City, where he owned Stewart Industrial Hygiene and Safety. A daughter, a son, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Edward "Ned" Tanner Jr., b'48, 88, Nov. 10 in Rio Verde, Ariz. He was a partner in the Kansas City accounting firm KPMG. Surviving are his wife, Janet; a daughter, Lori Tanner Zedaker, f'82; a son, Ward, c'72; and two grandsons.

Gerald Tewell, b'43, 91, Oct. 1 in Denver, where he owned Tewell's Printing. He is survived by his wife, Rene Jose Tewell, '50; a daughter; and a son.

50s **Eleanor Burt Allen, g'59**, 98, Nov. 27 in Lawrence, where she owned and operated Suzuki Talent Education Institute for more than 40 years. She is survived by two sons, Burt, d'70, g'72, g'77, and Robert, c'73; a daughter, Marian, c'67; five grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Joan Morris Bradford, c'50, 85, Nov. 29 in Wamego, where she was office manager at Wamego City Hospital. She is survived by two sons, Kirk, b'75, and Stephen, b'80, l'82; a daughter, Ann Bradford Yingling, d'75; 10 grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Jeanine DeGroot Dalton, d'55, 79, Oct. 20 in Hays, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, Standlee "Bud," c'56; two daughters, Lynnly Dalton, '82, and Danna Dalton Kaiser, '87; a son; and nine grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

John Eland, c'57, l'59, 78, Nov. 1 in Salina. He practiced law in Hoxie and later lived in Cuchara, Colo. Surviving are his wife, Carolyn King Eland, d'58; three sons,

two of whom are Kenneth, c'81, and David, e'83; a daughter, Kay Eland Heikes, s'90, s'94; and 12 grandchildren.

Marilyn Kulp Endsley, d'58, 79, Oct. 1 in Beloit, where she taught second grade at Beloit Elementary School and gave piano lessons. She is survived by her husband, Ernest, assoc.; a daughter, Mary Lynn Hodgson Blacklock, d'85; a son; two stepsons; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Jack Eskridge, d'50, 89, Feb. 11, 2013, in Valley Falls. As a U.S. Marine, he witnessed both flag raisings at Iwo Jima. He was an assistant coach and equipment manager at KU under Phog Allen, and after he was hired by Tom Landry as the Dallas Cowboys' first equipment manager, he designed the team's star logo. He later taught at Englewood Christian Academy in Independence, Mo. Surviving are his wife, Carol, two daughters, two sons, two stepsons, two stepdaughters, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Marian Cox Fearing, c'50, 84, Sept. 29 in Bay Village, Ohio, where she was retired from a career in real-estate accounting. She is survived by her husband, Franklin, c'49; a daughter; a son; and three granddaughters.

Jane Pope Gagel, '53, 82, Oct. 6 in Englewood, Colo. She had worked for National Office Machines and is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Pamela Gagel, assoc.; a son; a sister, Joann Pope Parkins, c'56; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Glen Halliday, m'54, 87, Sept. 1 in Los Altos, Calif., where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Donna Clark Halliday, n'52; four sons, one of whom is John, '80; a daughter; two brothers, Arthur, e'52, m'58, and Roger, c'51, m'54; and four grandchildren.

Wilma Hartman, c'51, 83, Oct. 26 in Grand Junction, Colo. She was a research librarian at the Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology in Kansas City and is survived by a sister, Emily Hartman, c'53, g'55, PhD'57.

Gilbert Holle, b'51, 84, Nov. 25 in Lawrence, where he was an office manager at Lawrence Memorial Hospital and later a tax accountant with Nick Berndt. He is

survived by his wife, Opal; a son, Alan, '76; a daughter, Barbara, '86; three stepdaughters; two stepsons; 11 stepgrandchildren; and a stepgreat-grandson.

George Holyfield, e'54, 82, Sept. 11 in Houston, where he had been an area manager with Chevron USA. He is survived by two sons, a sister, three grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Donald James, g'57, 80, Oct. 20 in Kirkland, Wash. He coached the University of Washington Huskies football team for 18 years, during which time the team won four Rose Bowls. He earlier had been an assistant coach at Florida State, Michigan and Colorado before becoming head coach at Kent State. While at KU, he was a graduate assistant coach. He is survived by his wife, Carol, a son, two daughters and 10 grandchildren.

Maryanna Wuttke Kurtz, d'57, 78, July 9 in Kalispell, Mont. She lived in Havre, where she was active in the community choir series. Two sons and four grandchildren survive.

Michael McCormack, '51, 83, Nov. 15 in Palm Desert, Calif. He had been an offensive tackle for the Cleveland Browns and helped the Browns win NFL championships in 1954 and 1955. He was assistant coach of the Washington Redskins and head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles, the Baltimore Colts and the Seattle Seahawks, where he also was president and general manager. Mike is a member of the Kansas Athletics and Pro Football halls of fame. He is survived by his wife, Ann Helsby McCormack, '56; two sons; two daughters; a sister; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

George McNeish, e'51, 84, May 3 in Winfield, where he was an independent geologist and designer and co-founder of Cumbernauld Village. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Powers McNeish, assoc.; three sons, two of whom are Greg, e'78, and Tom, c'84; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Thomas O'Farrell, c'56, m'60, 78, Nov. 15 in Mission Hills. He founded Kansas City Vascular and General Surgeons and was an associate clinical professor at UMKC. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by

his wife, Nancy Dunne O'Farrell, c'58; two sons, Thomas, '86, and Pat, c'95; two daughters, Amy O'Farrell Sullivan, c'88, and Anne O'Farrell Russell, c'82, j'84; a sister; and nine grandchildren.

Melvin Pankratz, c'58, 81, Nov. 3 in Valley Center, where he was retired owner of Melco Leasing. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, a son, two daughters, a sister, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Delma Nichols Parks, b'50, 90, Sept. 30 in Raymore, Mo. She had a 26-year career with AT&T and is survived by a twin sister, Doris.

Robert Randell, e'51, 86, Nov. 9 in Topeka, where he had a 41-year career with Goodyear. He had managed engineering in Sydney, Australia, and in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Surviving are his wife, Mildred Gulnik Randell, j'50; three daughters, two of whom are Deborah Randell Willis, c'78, and Myra Randell Harold, '80; a sister, Elsie Randell Kuhn, '51; and three grandchildren.

Ernest Rieger, m'56, 84, Sept. 25 in Wichita, where he practiced surgery. He had been surgeon general at McConnell Air Force Base. Surviving are his wife, Karin Larsson Rieger, '54; a son, Erik, m'82; a daughter; a sister, Betty Rieger Anderson, d'54; a brother, Robert, '63; and five grandchildren.

William Rosser, b'51, 89, Nov. 19 in Raytown, Mo., where he was a retired agent with the Internal Revenue Service. He is survived by his wife, Lena, two daughters, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Margaret Clark Salanski, d'57, 78, Oct. 19 in Kansas City. She lived in St. Joseph, Mo., where she was active in community affairs. Surviving are her husband, Charles "Bud," e'57; a son, Stephen, c'79; two daughters, Kim, c'82, h'83, and Pam Salanski Singer, d'91; a sister, Mary Ann Clark Farris, d'59; and five grandchildren.

A. William Shafer, c'50, m'54, 85, Oct. 28 in Lake Quivira. He was executive director of blood-services operations for Southeastern Michigan Red Cross in Detroit, where the National Testing Laboratory is named for him. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth Thomas Shafer,

b'52; two daughters, one of whom is Sandra Shafer Francis, d'74; a stepdaughter, Susan Dring Deaton, '81; two stepsons, one of whom is Thomas Dring, c'85; two sisters, one of whom is Jeanne Shafer Blessing, c'51; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joan Templar Smith, f'51, 86, Oct. 12 in Norman, where she was a professor of music theory at the University of Oklahoma. She is survived by her husband, Jerry, a daughter, a son and five grandchildren.

Wilber Spalding Jr., m'59, 82, Oct. 13 in Mission Hills, where he was a retired ophthalmologist. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, assoc.; two daughters; a brother, David, m'59; and four grandchildren.

Leonard "Bud" Starr, b'55, 80, July 30 in Tacoma, Wash. He had been a U.S. Air Force meteorologist and later worked for H&R Block. He is survived by his wife, Carol Hemphill Starr, b'55; two sons; a daughter; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Joe Stroup, f'54, 83, Oct. 4 in Lawrence, where he started several real-estate, building and property-management businesses. He is survived by his wife, Kala Mays Stroup, c'59, g'64, PhD'74; a son, Chandler, '95; a daughter; Megan Stroup Sappington, c'91; and four grandchildren.

John Studdard, b'56, 82, Nov. 18 in Lawrence, where he was a retired accountant and auditor. Among survivors are his wife, Audrey Kamb-Studdard, g'92; a son; and a stepdaughter, Janice Griffin, f'94.

Roger Tuttle, c'52, 82, Sept. 21 in Midlothian, Va., where he was retired from a 50-year career practicing law. He had a private practice and also had been a corporate counsel and dean and professor of law at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla. Surviving are his wife, Beverly, two daughters, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Wainwright, e'58, g'60, 77, Aug. 31 in Bakersfield, Calif. He was retired from a career as a geologist with ARCO and several independent oil companies. Survivors include his wife, Sharon Dey Wainwright, d'60; a daughter; and a granddaughter.

In Memory

60s **Kay Adams, d'69**, 65, April 19 in Evanston, Ill. She had owned Purrfect-Pals and is survived by a cousin.

Marilyn Parzbok Bok, d'69, g'74, 67, Sept. 7 in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. She taught school and later was an assistant manager with Coach Bags. Surviving are her mother, Maxine Pringle Parzybok, c'43; a sister, Laurie, d'79; and a brother.

Geraldine "Deanie" Bolinger, c'63, 72, Oct. 3 in Cheney, where she was a retired physical therapist. Two brothers and three sisters survive.

Bill Braden, m'60, 82, Oct. 9 in Wamego, where he practiced medicine and helped found Wamego City Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Huann, assoc.; two sons; three grandchildren; and two stepgrandchildren.

Kathleen Butterfield, g'67, l'86, 68, Oct. 21 in Kansas City, where she was a retired attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor Solicitor's Office. She is survived by a daughter, Trisa Andel Hosford, s'96, s'12; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

Reginald "Reggie" Buxton, c'62, 97, Oct. 2 in Lawrence. He ran the library at Ellinwood High School until retiring and had worked as a newspaperman, farmer and movie-theater owner. Surviving are a daughter; two sons, one of whom is Scot, d'74; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

David Cheung, g'63, 75, Sept. 16 in St. Louis. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; two daughters, one of whom is Kerry, a'91; a son; and six grandchildren.

Terrence Davis, e'60, 75, June 4 in Bartlesville, Okla., where he had a long career with Phillips Petroleum. A sister survives.

Norma Stone Geivett, n'65, 86, Oct. 6 in Shawnee Mission. She taught nursing at Trinity Lutheran Hospital and is survived by her husband, Paul; three brothers, one of whom is Carl Stone, e'60; and a sister.

Karen Wright Gould, d'67, 68, Oct. 19 in Sausalito, Calif. She was an artist and an interior designer with Gould Evans Associates. Surviving are her husband, Bob, a'67; two daughters, Kira Gould, j'90, c'91, and Mischa Gould Buchholz, c'95; and three grandchildren.

Edward Graves, m'60, 86, Feb. 24 in

Louisville, Ky., where he practiced medicine until retiring in 1995. Three daughters and four grandchildren survive.

Katherine "Betsy" Woods Luder, c'60, 75, Nov. 9 in Arkansas City. She is survived by her husband, Stuart, b'60; two sons, Robert, j'83, and Patrick, '87; two brothers, Tom, b'65, and Bill, b'56; and five grandchildren.

Barbara Werbe Meek, d'60, 75, Oct. 27 in Baton Rouge, La. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Mindy Meek Piontek, c'91; and four grandchildren.

Kay Black Miller, f'66, g'70, 69, Oct. 25 in Fern Park, Fla., where she was a retired elementary school teacher. She also had worked for Needlecraft magazine and for an interior-design company. She is survived by a daughter and a brother, Thomas Black, '66.

Sandra "SanDee" Gordon Nossaman, '65, '94, 73, Nov. 1 in Lawrence. She retired from the Kansas City Public Schools, where she worked as a speech therapist, and was an active community volunteer. She is survived by her husband, Jerry, d'60; a son, Cale, '95; two daughters, Cali, g'11, and Cara Nossaman Anderson, b'96; a sister; and two grandsons.

James Peters, g'67, 82, Oct. 29 in Overland Park, where he was retired from a 32-year career with Bendix/Allied Signal/Honeywell. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two daughters, one of whom is Diana Peters Wallace, b'88; a son, Daniel, e'83; four grandsons; and five great-grandchildren.

Wilma Stillabower, g'69, 87, Oct. 14 in Mesa, Ariz. She taught in the Shawnee Mission school district for more than 20 years and later managed a retirement facility. A sister, Bonnie, survives.

Frank Viscek, b'68, 66, Oct. 11 in Kansas City, where he had been an economic-development specialist for the city of Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; his father; and three brothers, two of whom are Denis, b'73, g'75, and Robert, '80.

70s **William Belden, p'71**, 65, Nov. 4 in Kansas City. He lived in Lenexa and had a 40-year career in pharmacy. Surviving are his wife, Jane Leighton

Belden, d'70; a son, William, c'91, l'96; a daughter, Kris Belden-Adams, j'93; and two grandchildren.

Helen Oliver Boner, g'71, 95, Nov. 14 in Lee's Summit, Mo. She taught school in North Kansas City and is survived by two daughters, two grandsons and seven great-grandchildren.

Vernon Breit, e'71, 64, Oct. 14 in Golden, Colo., where he was a petroleum engineer and founder of International Reservoir Technologies. Two daughters, two sisters and a granddaughter survive.

James "Wally" Coonfield, m'78, 68, Nov. 4 in Vinita, where he had been a physician at the Oklahoma Forensics Center. He is survived by seven daughters, two sons and seven grandchildren.

Cynthia Pool Cramer, d'76, 59, Oct. 10 in De Soto. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Gerald, b'69; a son, Matthew, '09; a daughter, Holly, c'07; and two grandchildren.

Cladine Cornwell Johnson, PhD'74, 91, Nov. 14 in Concord, Mass. She was the first woman public high-school principal in Kansas and was a professor emerita at Wichita State University. Surviving are a daughter; a son, Keith Johnson, m'81; and six grandchildren.

Paul Morehouse, c'74, m'78, 65, Dec. 1 in Lathrop, Mo., where he was a physician. He is survived by his wife, Jean Rohrbach Morehouse, '80; three daughters; a son; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Linda Slaughter, c'71, 64, Nov. 14 in Kansas City, where she had worked for Farmers Insurance Group. Several nieces and nephews survive.

David Stuckey, f'79, 58, Aug. 28 in Dallas, where he was an artist and a musician. He is survived by his mother, Joan, and a brother.

Kimberly Weigand, c'73, 63, Nov. 17 in Wichita. She was a retired teacher and is survived by a brother and two sisters, one of whom is Adrienne, c'75.

Hugh Wiegman, m'73, 79, Sept. 25 in Leawood. He established Radiology Associates in Hays and is survived by a son, Jay, c'89; three daughters, two of whom are Molly Wiegman Miller, b'91,

g'01, and Stacy, c'89, p'94; and five grandchildren.

80s Larry Binnicker, s'83, 66, Oct. 23 in Independence, Mo., where he was director of chaplains at Centerpoint Medical Center. He earlier had been director of social work at Independence Regional Health Center. He is survived by his wife, Susan, two sons and five grandchildren.

Sherman Halsey, '81, 56, Oct. 29 in Tulsa, Okla., where he was vice chairman of the Jim Halsey Company, which represented many of country music's top stars. He produced and directed hundreds of television shows and videos and had won awards from MTV, the Academy of Country Music and Country Music Television. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his mother; his father, James, '52, and stepmother; a sister, Gina, f'85; a stepsister; and a stepbrother.

Dorothy Baldwin Lowe, g'85, 84, Nov. 3 in Overland Park. She lived in Prairie Village and had taught kindergarten and second grade. She is survived by her husband, Ronald, b'52; a daughter, Laurel Lowe Barnes, l'83, g'83; and a sister.

Brant Tidwell, b'82, 53, Nov. 15 in Prairie Village, where he was president and owner of the Tidwell Company, a real-estate firm. He is survived by his wife, Lucy Woodard Tidwell, c'83; two sons, one of whom is Calvin, b'13; his parents, Ted, j'60, and Janet Meserve Tidwell, '60; and a brother, Scott, c'85.

Warren Walker, g'86, 57, Sept. 23 in Merriam. He had worked for Atwood Publishing and is survived by a sister, Joyce.

90s Julie Bahr-Kostelac, c'93, 42, Nov. 7 in Kansas City, where she worked at United Government and the Kansas City Kansas Police Department. She is survived by her husband, Jim, a daughter, her parents, a sister and two brothers.

Gina Jennings, h'98, 39, Nov. 27 in Salina, where she had been an occupational therapist for the USD 305 Central

Kansas Cooperative in Education. A brother and her grandmother survive.

Janet McClelland Shaffer, f'97, 56, Oct. 5 in Liberty, Mo. She was active in the Northland community and is survived by her parents, Hugh, e'49, and Marjorie McClelland; two sons; a brother; and a grandson.

Jennifer Lane Sieben, c'91, 45, Nov. 4 in Overland Park. She had been vice president of account services at Weyforth-Haas Marketing. Among survivors are her husband, Darren, c'91; a daughter; her father and stepmother; her mother and stepfather; and five sisters, two of whom are Julie Lane Miller, b'88, and Janice Lane Hartsock, c'92.

00s Boe Keesling, p'05, 32, Oct. 4 in Lyons, where he was a pharmacist at Shop-Ko. He is survived by his wife, Erica; two daughters; his parents; a sister; a brother, Brett, '09; and his grandfather.

Robert Walton Jr., c'01, 56, Aug. 7 in Littleton, Colo. He is survived by his wife, Jesika; three sons; a daughter; his parents, Robert, g'60, and Nadyne Walton, assoc.; and a brother, Philip, e'87.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Albert Burgstahler, 85, Oct. 12 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of chemistry. He was a recipient of the Scientific Integrity Award for Fluoride Action, which recognizes scientists who uphold standards of scientific integrity to end fluoridation worldwide. He is survived by three daughters, two of whom are Janet Burgstahler Anderson, '85, and Jennifer, b'86; two sons, Albert, e'83, and David, e'91; a sister; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

William Cameron, m'62, 84, Oct. 5 in Lake Charlevoix, Mich. He was an emeritus professor of obstetrics and gynecology at KU Medical Center, where he had been vice chair of the obstetrics-gynecology department. Surviving are his wife, Monsie; a son; two daughters, one of whom is Julie Cameron, c'84, m'88; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Jacob Frenkel, 82, Aug. 15 in Santa Fe,

where he taught at the University of New Mexico. He was a research pathologist and a professor emeritus at KU. Surviving are his wife, Rebecca Reese Frenkel, n'53; a son, Carl, b'84; two daughters, Lisa, c'76, m'81, and Linda Frenkel Bedell, c'79; and six grandchildren.

Helen Heath, c'49, c'51, 86, Oct. 9 in Salina. She was a hematologist and an assistant professor at KU Medical Center, where she mentored students in the medical-technology program. Surviving are two brothers, Alan Heath, b'53, and Don Heath, b'57.

Calder Pickett, '57, 92, Oct. 29 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of journalism and also had served as acting dean of the journalism school. He was the recipient of several HOPE teaching awards, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation Award and the Mott-KTA Award for journalism research. He was a radio broadcaster for 32 years for Kansas Public Radio and had produced more than 1,500 hour-long episodes of "The American Past." A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, Carolyn Pickett Zeligman, d'73, g'77, and Kathleen Pickett Jensen, f'75, j'75; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Donald Richardson, 83, Nov. 7 in Albuquerque, N.M. He had been a professor of education at KU for more than 27 years. Surviving are his wife, Glenda Stutts Richardson, g'73; a son, Steven, c'77, m'80; a daughter, Sue, '79; and two granddaughters.

Mary Booth Ridgway, c'47, 88, Oct. 9 in Albuquerque, N.M. She had been a librarian in KU's School of Education Curriculum Lab from 1980 until 1992. Surviving are two sons, Eric Palmquist, '73, and Karl Palmquist, f'86; a daughter, Kristin Palmquist Keller, f'77; two stepsons, Stephen Ridgway, c'69, and David Ridgway, c'85, g'92; and two stepdaughters, Stephanie Gradinger Deere, c'67, and Catherine Johnson, d'76.

Robert Spires, 76, Nov. 27 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of Spanish literature. He is survived by his wife, Roberta, assoc.; a son, Jeffrey, c'86; and a daughter, Leslie Spires Decatur, '91.

Rock Chalk Review

STEVE PUPPE



A better world

Rhodes finalists seek solutions to Middle East troubles

Jenny Curatola and Nicholas Kellum were both in elementary school when al-Qaida terrorists struck the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, and since then they've seen the endless series of dramatic events radiating from wars and uprisings in the Middle East and worldwide religious intolerance and ignorance. Their pursuits of knowledge about Islam and the Middle East—both roundabout, yet eerily similar—led the KU seniors to coveted spots as Rhodes Scholarship finalists.

Though neither was named a Rhodes Scholar after interviews with the regional selection committee Nov. 23 in St. Louis, they say the long selection process was invaluable in helping them solidify their goals for lives and careers spent advancing American interests abroad and helping find solutions to age-old conflicts and mistrust that still haunt the modern world.

"I definitely believe this is a huge

generational issue for us," says Kellum, a global and international studies major from Baxter Springs. "The impetus for me to engage with Arabs and bridge the divides cast by fear and ignorance comes from my experience when I was sitting in a fourth-grade classroom and 9/11 happened. I remember very vividly being told to be afraid, and learning to be afraid."

Curatola, a 2012 theatre graduate from Lansing who is now finishing additional degrees in English and global and international studies with a minor in Italian, used her Rhodes application to stress the potential for theatre to shape and reflect social movements, especially in the Middle East, where other forms of communication, such as newspapers and online social media, can be subjected to censorship. She

Rhodes Scholarship finalists Nick Kellum and Jenny Curatola, seniors in global and international studies, both say their theatre studies and other diverse academic interests boosted their efforts to study Arabic and the Middle East.

hopes to one day work as a cultural affairs officer for the U.S. Department of State, where, rather than influencing policy, she can encourage artistic and educational programming that ultimately promote truthful human expression rather than manipulated messages.

"My argument was that we should be looking at arts communities in the Middle East if we really want to understand where those countries are going," she says, "because what we're seeing, or what's available to us, has been altered and shaped by the forces that are currently in power."

As Curatola entered her senior year, she found herself thinking beyond theatre and soon came to realize she no longer wanted to be an actor. Kellum came to KU as an aerospace engineering major, switched to theatre vocal performance in his second semester, and after another year switched again, to global and international studies, specializing in Arabic and comparative politics in the Middle East.

He has been invited to participate in the National Prayer Breakfast, Feb. 6 in Washington, D.C., where he will engage in "interfaith dialogues" with more than 3,000 world leaders and attend an address by President Barack Obama. After his May graduation, Kellum hopes to have either a

"These are not cookie-cutter students in any way. The Rhodes wants interesting individuals who are doing different and amazing things, and that's what we see with both Jenny and Nick." —Anne Wallen

Washington internship or begin law school, and eventually be in position to promote new avenues for peaceful negotiations between Middle Eastern countries and the Western world.

“I achieved fluency in Arabic really quickly, and that was partly due to my musical training,” Kellum says. “I can memorize sounds quickly because I have a musical ear. But it also has something to do with my math brain because Arabic is so gramatically about building equations in the purest form.”

Curatola, c’13, and Kellum knew each other from their theatre studies and as members of the KU’s prestigious University Honors Program. One day she mentioned to Kellum her interest in finding new academic challenges, and he told her how thrilled he was to have found Arabic and international studies. Reflecting on her interests in languages and travel and her memorable first reading of the Quran in her junior-year Western Civilization course, Curatola decided to add global and international studies to her academic portfolio. Like Kellum, she also chose to pursue a Rhodes nomination.

“After they told us who won the Rhodes, one of the judges came up to us and shook our hands and said, ‘For two people who were children during 9/11, I’m so happy that you responded in this way,’” Curatola recalls. “In our lives, there’s been event after event that has drawn our attention to that part of the world. I think any student of my age who is working on Middle East studies doesn’t assume that they can solve everything but knows that there is some improvement to be made and that we need to be paying attention.

“I think you end up with a lot of really talented students in that area because the complexity of the situation draws you in. Those are the talented and intelligent people we need to be able to deal with these problems.”

Curatola’s father, a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, served in Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and her mother is a teacher; she sees her interest in diplomacy as a reflection of their combined influence.

“I’m very proud to be an American,”



KELSEY KIMBERLIN (2)

The band plays on



Before they boarded the bus to Carnegie Hall for their historic March 26 performance (“The Big Stage,” issue No. 3, 2013), the musicians of the KU Wind Ensemble performed in closed sessions at the Lied Center of Kansas, recording a CD of the selections they would play in New York City. In November, the Naxos label released “In the Shadow of No Towers,” the ensemble’s fifth title in the Wind Band Classics series for Naxos.

The recording highlights “In the Shadow of No Towers: Symphony No. 4,” a commemoration of the 9/11 terrorist attacks by acclaimed composer Mohammed Fairouz. Jim Zakoura, d’70, l’72, and the Reach Out Kansas foundation commissioned the symphony for the ensemble, beginning a two-year collaboration with conductor Paul Popiel, KU director of bands, and his students.

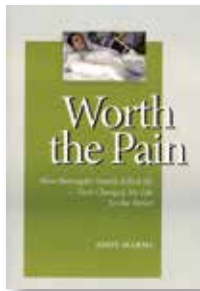
KU’s stellar band tradition also played a part in the CD: Randall Foster, c’02, in 2006 founded the Naxos wind band series, which now includes 45 CDs. His name should strike a familiar note—his dad, Robert Foster, directed KU’s award-winning bands from 1971 to 2002.

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner



Conductor Popiel and composer Fairouz prepared the 69 student musicians in the wind ensemble for their Carnegie Hall debut—and an intense recording session at the Lied Center.

Rock Chalk Review



Worth the Pain
by Andy Marso
\$16.95
Kansas City Star
Books

Curatola says, “and I think our involvement in the Middle East is inevitable. But we want to be able to do it carefully and with respect for cultural norms. Education is a major part of that.”

Michael Wuthrich, lecturer and assistant director of KU’s Center for Global and International Studies, says this year’s rare tandem of Rhodes finalists reflects a growing interest among KU’s better students to seek courses in Middle East studies and Arabic language training. Wuthrich and his colleagues hope to soon launch a minor in Middle East studies.

“It’s becoming an unavoidable area of interest and focus,” Wuthrich says. “For me, it’s amazing to see at KU how many students are taking credit hours on Middle East themes, how many seats are being filled in classes on Middle East themes. Part of it is, the special kind of students coming from high school with a global vision really want to solve, to take on, world issues and problems.”

Kellum spent last summer studying Arabic in Oman as a recipient of the Critical Languages Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State; Curatola hopes to win the same scholarship this summer. Both say they are considering applying again for the Rhodes, which they can continue to do until they turn 24.

“Our honors students want to understand the world around them and they are going to go after things that are important to our world even if they are very challenging,” says Anne Wallen, c’03, the University Honors Program’s coordinator of national scholarships and fellowships. “These are not cookie-cutter students in

any way. The Rhodes wants interesting individuals who are doing different and amazing things, and that’s what we see with both Jenny and Nick. They are also good examples of the ways that the Honors Program can let students explore a wide range of interests. Even if they do have a similar general focus on the Middle East, they are approaching that in different ways.”

KU has produced 26 Rhodes Scholars, more than all other Kansas colleges and universities combined; the most recent Jayhawk so honored was Kelsey Murrell, c’12, in 2012. —

—Chris Lazzarino

A reporter’s story

Detoured by meningitis, Marso writes his next chapter

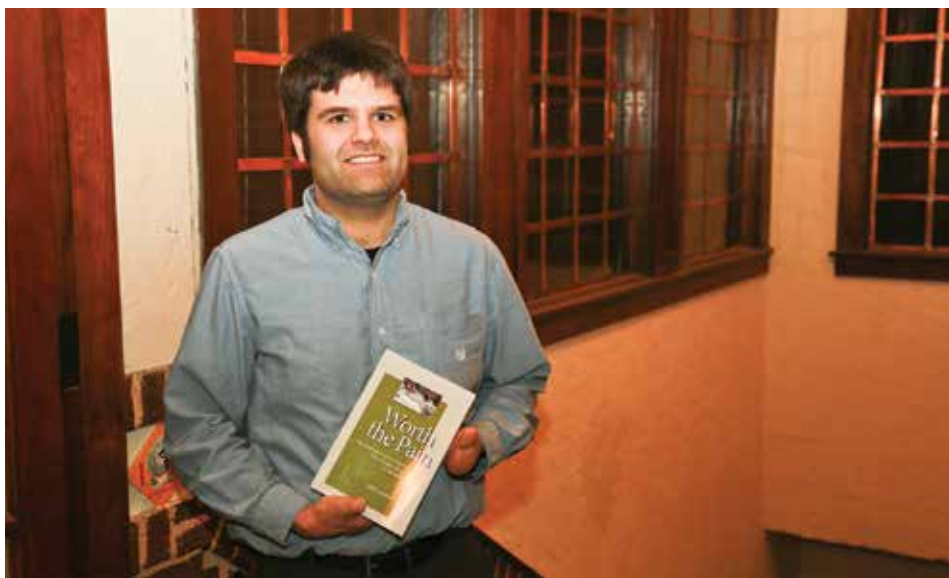
Andy Marso always dreamed of writing a book, but it wasn’t until he found himself lying in a hospital bed, fighting bacterial meningitis, that he finally discovered a story worth telling. April 27, 2004, was the beginning of a life-altering journey, starting with a shiver that shot up his back and culminating in the publication of his first book, *Worth the Pain*.

As a state government reporter for the Topeka Capital-Journal, Marso, j’04, spends his days at the Statehouse covering hearings, news conferences and floor debates in an unbiased and impersonal manner. In 2006 he sat down to write his story. He had to force himself to look inward and relive his voyage from being a typical, healthy college student who played pick-up basketball with his friends to lying in a hospital bed on a ventilator at KU Medical Center, fighting for his life.

When Marso began to write his story he told himself, “If you’re going to do this you need to do it right. And that means pulling no punches. Tell people exactly what you were feeling.”

Marso’s writing makes you feel as if you are right there next to him, living every moment, good or bad, from his days in the Intensive Care Unit to his time relearning how to eat, dress and walk. Parts of his story are heartbreaking yet inspiring, while others are surreal yet palpable. There is no way to fully understand how he felt and what he went through, but his ability to remain vulnerable as he tells his story allows us to partially comprehend.

For Marso, coping with the amputation of his fingers and toes was among the most difficult challenges. “It was a long process to accept that,” he says. “At first I was in denial, then I bargained with God for a miracle. Finally I came to accept that the



DAN STOREY

Marso

amputations were going to happen and my life was going to change forever. I went through a period of depression before finally deciding to embrace my new life.”

Marso misses playing basketball with his friends but now he spends his spare time serving a greater purpose, advocating to end meningitis, meeting and supporting other survivors, and appreciating all the good things that he would have missed had he not survived.

—Leah Kohlman

Second chances

Transplant center brings specialists together at single site

The concept of “multidisciplinary health care” can have no more meaningful application than in organ transplantation, for which gravely ill patients must navigate a spectrum of medical specialties.

That’s why the August opening of the Center for Transplantation, on the first floor of University of Kansas Hospital, is touted as a crucial improvement for patients and their weary, worried families.

“Bringing a multidisciplinary team together is vital,” says transplant surgeon Timothy Schmitt, associate professor and center director, “because we handle very complex cases where there is often more than one health issue involved.”

Years in planning, the 25,000-square-foot, \$6 million center includes 36 exam rooms, a dedicated lab, a patient information resource center, offices and room for an estimated 10 years of expansion.

Even with the center open for just three and a half months, University Hospital had performed more than 100 liver transplants through November 2013, a 40-percent increase from 2012, and kidney transplants were up 15 percent.

“Patients and families have had input all along in designing the center,” says Tracy Giacoma, director of solid organ transplant and the center’s administrative leader. “One of the things families wanted was to know that everyone in this space is



MIKE GLYNN (2)

Saira Conde, medical team assistant, in the new Center for Transplantation at University of Kansas Hospital. Opened in August, the center allows critically ill patients and anxious family members to visit just one site to meet with all of their doctors and care providers, both before surgery and for a full lifetime after.



dedicated to transplant and they know how to reach who they need to reach. We have 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week coverage for patient and family needs, and now they know they’re all located in the same place, where we have the transplant expertise they need.”

Giacoma, who came to KU five years ago to help plan and open the center, notes that while critically ill patients can become so sick and medicated that they are no longer fully aware of their dire circumstance, their loved ones must constantly struggle with the uncertainty of waiting for an organ to become available.

“It may be actually harder on the family members than the patient,” Giacoma says. “The patient’s family is still trying to cling to the hope that the transplant will occur in time.”

In its first semester of operation, the center had already offered a condensed learning experience for students from nearly every niche of health-profession education in Kansas City and Lawrence,

including medical students, pharmacists, dieticians, social workers, and physical therapists and others from the School of Health Professions. At the center, students can begin to comprehend the logistics necessary for a successful transplant.

“I think they get a unique experience,” Giacoma says. “They can really see how the entire team takes care of that patient and those families, not just for the transplant event, and not just before the transplant, but for the rest of the patient’s life.”

Giacoma says the KU transplant center is among “very few” nationally with its comprehensive depth. A transplant surgeon in Wisconsin who hopes to replicate the center at his own hospital wrote in a recent email, “This is what everybody strives for and almost never accomplishes.”


—Chris Lazzarino

Glorious to View

Photograph by Chris Lazzarino



Historic Mount Oread Fund says the face of the student depicted alongside law dean “Uncle” Jimmy Green was modeled by sculptor Daniel Chester French after Alfred C. Alford, c’1896, l’1897, the first Jayhawk killed in the Spanish-American War. Others contend the student was French’s fictional, artistic creation. There is no debate, however, that the low angle of the Christmas Day sun casts one of KU’s iconic memorials in a dramatic light.

A man with a beard, wearing a blue hoodie, a blue fishing vest, and grey waders, stands in a brightly lit office hallway. He is holding a fishing rod. The background shows office desks and chairs, but they are faded and less distinct. A large blue hexagon is overlaid on the man's torso, containing the text.

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