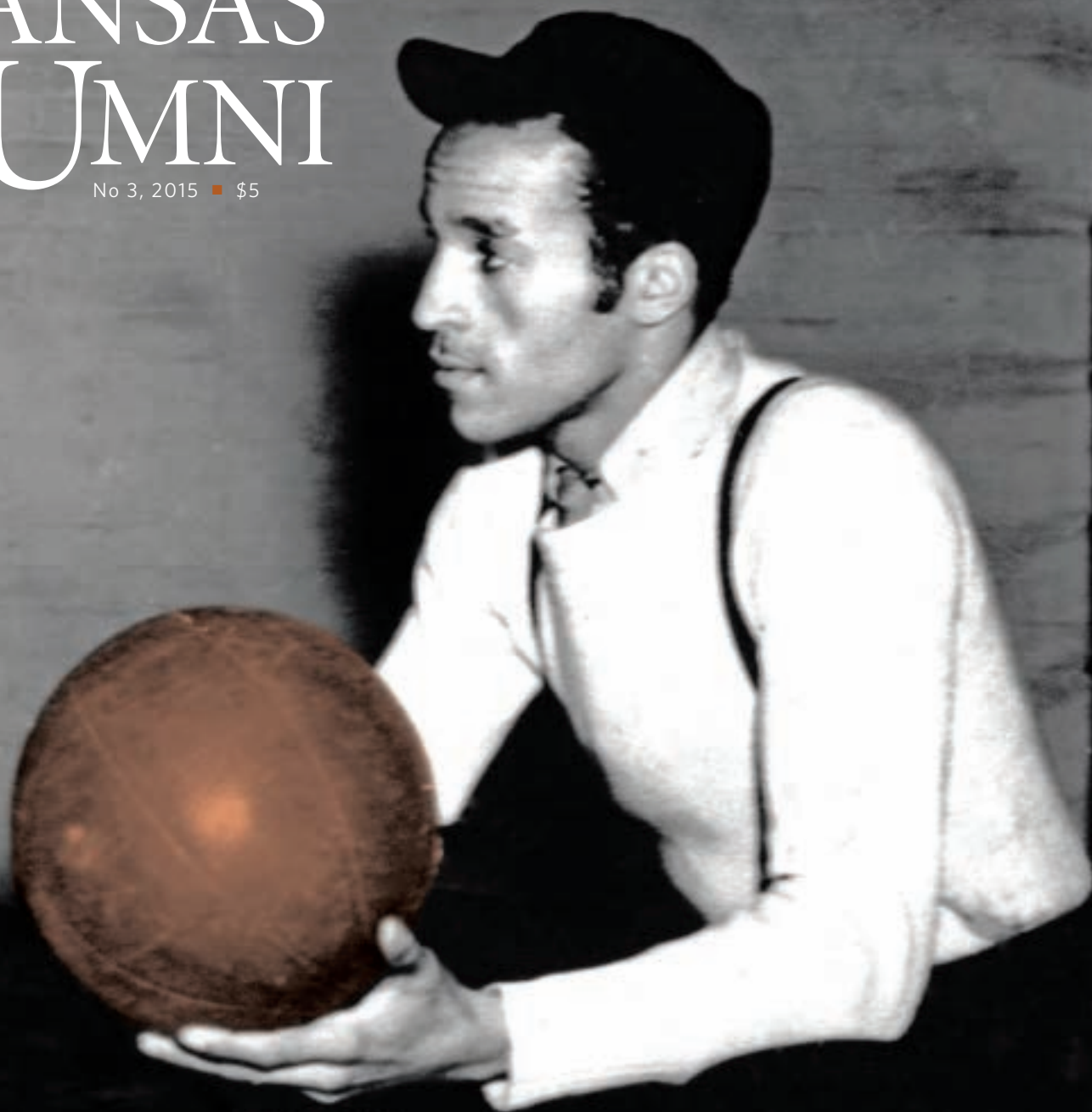


KANSAS ALUMNI

No 3, 2015 ■ \$5



Game Changer

*New book illuminates basketball pioneer
John McLendon's KU beginnings*

■ SWARTHOUT SINGS ■ FERGUSON STALWART



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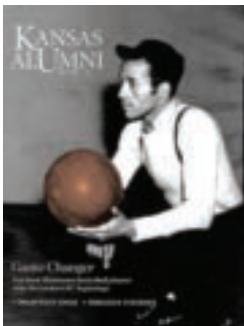


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COVER STORY

"That's How You Do It"

Hall-of-fame basketball coach John McLendon was a major innovator on the court, and his journey began at KU, where he learned the game from James Naismith and Phog Allen while also breaking new ground outside the lines.

By Scott Ellsworth

Digital cover illustration by Susan Younger; photograph courtesy Milton Katz

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Ode to Joy

Thanks to a floor-to-ceiling renovation that enhanced Swarthout Concert Hall's sound quality and aesthetics, KU's 57-year-old music venue is once again in fine voice.

By Chris Lazzarino

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The Road Ahead

Improving conditions in troubled Ferguson, Missouri, is the focus of city councilman Dwayne James' work—at city hall and beyond.

By Heather Biele

Lift the Chorus



quarters of a million visitors a year, The Learning Studio is well-positioned to ensure KU students succeed academically. Librarians at KU play a vital role in retention, and the studio serves an important cornerstone in this effort. I appreciate the light Chris Lazzarino has shed on this topic.

Rebecca Hurst Pruett, d'73
Houston, Texas

Lively libraries

THANK YOU for the thoughtful and comprehensive cover story on The Learning Studio in Anschutz Library ["Turn the Page," issue No. 2]. As incoming chair of the KU Libraries Board of Advocates, I have seen firsthand the approach KU Libraries and its partners have taken in creating this student-centered space. The students' enthusiasm and enjoyment in working and collaborating in such a wonderful environment is very evident when one visits this well-planned and valuable resource.

With more than three-

Drumroll call

AS A LIFELONG JAZZ and blues drummer who played most every weekend in Kansas City during my time in Lawrence and at KU Medical Center, I immediately noticed a famous face in the photo of the Tommy Dorsey Band on page 68 of the most recent *Kansas Alumni* [KU 150, issue No. 2].

The drummer in the photo is the legendary Buddy Rich, one of my earliest heroes, still considered by many to be one of the best ever.

David Zehring, c'63, m'67
La Veta, Colorado



Legendary drummer Buddy Rich played with the Tommy Dorsey Band in the Kansas Union in 1941.

'Nuff said

I GRADUATED from the KU School of Business in 1957 (which is 57 years ago) and I look forward to every issue of *Kansas Alumni*. Reading it late last night, I was fascinated by the profile on Amanda Thompson ["Recovery from brain injury brings career calling," Class Notes, issue No. 2].

Her determination, positive outlook, forthright spirit, amazing attitude and decision to give of herself through speech pathology says it all!

Harvey Bodker, b'57
Overland Park

Thanks for the memories

THANK YOU FOR EDITING one of the best alumni magazines ever. I have graduated from two other schools and only one alumni magazine is comparable to KU's.

One of the first things I read is "First Word." The rest is gravy. The Class Notes section is very important to me because I can keep up with classmates who toot their own horns.

I enjoy the lack of typographical errors and consistent good grammar. Your photographers produce award-winning slices of time. Altogether, you should be proud of your staff. They turn out a fine magazine.

I graduated from KU in 1959. If I remember correctly, the tuition for 12 or more hours a semester in 1958 was \$106.50.

One of my favorite stories of my KU days is about Jim's Diner, on the east side of

Massachusetts Street. I would get hungry about 11 p.m. and go to Jim's. There I would order two eggs over-easy, hash browns, toast and a cup of coffee. When I was finished stoking my furnace, I would pay Jim 53 cents for my late breakfast. Most people who hear this story think that these are the ravings of a lunatic, demented old man. Jim's Diner was a part of my KU experience.

Merle W. Jephson-King, e'59
Plainville

The bard of the Kaw?

I WAS READING Bill Bryson's book *At Home* (that is the name of the book, not where I was reading it) and saw on page 381 that people in Shakespeare's day could wear velvet on doublets "so long as the velvet wasn't crimson or blue—colors reserved for people of still higher status."

Some things never change.

Cal Karlin, c'74, l'77
Lawrence



Your opinion counts

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

Issue 3, 2015

KANSAS ALUMNI

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Florida
15 February 2012

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SUSAN YOUNGER



The School of Journalism's annual William Allen White celebration is always a high holy day for Jayhawk journalists, especially when one of our own receives the William Allen White National Citation for extraordinary achievement. Bob Dotson, j'68, returned to the Hill April 23 to accept the citation and share his insights from 40 years at NBC News, where he has become revered for his stories of folks he describes as "seemingly ordinary Americans." Their tales fascinate Dotson—and fans of his broadcasts and books—because, as he explains, "Names we don't know, and should know, are why our country not only survives but thrives."

Kansas Alumni has followed Dotson's career since 1985, when he visited campus on a national tour for his first book, *In Pursuit of the American Dream*. Last month, as I listened to his William Allen White lecture, it occurred to me that many of the Jayhawks we have featured in this magazine through the years have shared the characteristics Dotson says are common to the protagonists of his tales. They are pioneers who embrace differences, value teamwork and keep their promises. Perhaps most important, when misfortune or tragedy befalls them, they pick themselves up and start again.

These traits ran especially true in the late, great John McLendon, d'36, whose story we are long overdue in telling. A talented basketball player, he attended tryouts for the Jayhawks but was ignored because of an unspoken but enforced rule that African-American students were not allowed to play on KU teams. McLendon nevertheless became a student of the game as one of the last protégés of its inventor, James Naismith, who was still on the faculty but by the 1930s had been eclipsed by his charismatic and more victorious successor, Forrest C. "Phog" Allen. McLendon went on to become a


coaching legend in his own right as one of the innovators of the fast break, the first black coach in U.S. professional sports and the coach of championship teams at all levels. Ultimately McLendon was inducted into the hall of fame that bears the name of his early KU mentor.

Our cover story is an excerpt from *The Secret Game*, a new book by journalist and historian Scott Ellsworth, who paints vivid portraits of the players and coaches who dared to compete in a momentous matchup—the first integrated collegiate basketball game, played at great risk in 1944 in North Carolina. McLendon coached one of the teams, the Eagles of the North Carolina College for Negroes.

For the magazine, we've chosen one of the book's early chapters, in which Ellsworth describes McLendon's quiet activism as a KU student. In an era when African-American students struggled against many overt and subtle biases on campus, McLendon began to change the culture, displaying the innate leadership that helped him excel in the national arenas of civil rights and basketball.

As the nation continues to struggle with issues of race, many stories focus on strife in the streets, especially in communities like Ferguson, Missouri, where violence erupted last summer. But long before Ferguson made headlines, Dwayne James, e'94, was quietly

working as a city council member and advocate for the town's teenagers. As new staff member Heather Biele reports, James vows to continue striving to heal his community and bring hope to its youth.

James and McLendon exemplify the Americans Bob Dotson has covered throughout his career: creative folks who seek solutions to big problems but shun fanfare for their work. As Dotson says, "The shortest distance between two people is a good story. Once you know my story and I know yours, I know not only how we differ, but I start to understand how we're alike." 

COURTESY SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM



Dotson

On the Boulevard



Washington, D.C., Network Crabtacular

'Hawk Days of Summer are back with a bang this year, with activities throughout Kansas and across the country. So whether golf is your game or a relaxing river cruise is more your speed, get in on the fun with the Alumni Association and your fellow Jayhawks. For more information, go to kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Lied Center 2015-'16

SEPTEMBER

- 23** "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"
- 26** KU Symphony Orchestra with Benjamin Beilman, violin
- 29** Paul Taylor Dance Company

OCTOBER

- 1** Black Violin
- 2** Kansas
- 4** Tesla Quartet
- 7** "Truth Values: One Girl's Romp Through M.I.T.'s Male Math Maze"
- 16** "The Magic of Bill Blagg: Live"
- 23** An Acoustic Evening with Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt

NOVEMBER

- 5** The Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass
- 7** Thodos Dance Chicago
- 11** KU Jazz Ensemble I with Sean Jones, trumpet
- 15** Kuok-Wai Lio & Zoltán Fejérvári, piano
- 21** "Mamma Mia!"

DECEMBER

- 11** Sweet Honey in the Rock: "Celebrating the Holydays"

JANUARY

- 19** "I Love Lucy, Live on Stage"
- 24** Moscow Festival Ballet: "The Sleeping Beauty"
- 29** Shemekia Copeland with Blind Boy Paxton

FEBRUARY

- 12** The Band of the Royal Marines & The Pipes, Drums & Highland Dancers of the Scots Guards
- 23** KU Wind Ensemble with Jeff Nelsen, French horn
- 25** Chanticleer
- 28** Sang-Eun Lee, cello

MARCH

- 9** "The Demo: Concert Version"

APRIL

- 1** Olga Kern, piano
- 6** Branford Marsalis Quartet
- 8** PROJECT Trio
- 21** Mike Daisey: "Faster Better Social"
- 27** Emerson String Quartet

- 29** Popovich Comedy Pet Theater

MAY

- 5** "Beauty and the Beast"

'Hawk Days

MAY

- 21** Denver: Networking breakfast



Salina Steak Out

25 KU Day with the Yankees, Bronx, New York

29 Salina Steak Out, Wilson Ranch

30 KU Night: Royals vs. Cubs, Chicago

JUNE

2 Jayhawks on Business, San Francisco

6 'Hawks, Helmets and Handlebars, Westwood

10 Dallas: Jayhawks and Java

15 KU Alumni Invitational at Prairie Dunes, Hutchinson

17 Houston: Networking breakfast

19 Hawkstock, KAMO Ranch, Mulberry

21 KU Night with the Oklahoma City Dodgers, Oklahoma City

23 Denver: Networking breakfast

26 Southwest Golf Tournament, Liberal

27 East Kansas Wine Festival

27 Lawrence Young Alumni Pub Crawl

JULY

9-10 Wellington Wheat Festival

15 Houston: Networking breakfast

18 KU Night with the Arizona Diamondbacks, Phoenix

23 Denver: Networking breakfast

25 Lawrence Network BBQ & Social

AUGUST

7 Milwaukee River Cruise, Pere Marquette Park, Milwaukee

12 Dallas: Jayhawks and Java

18 Denver: Networking breakfast

19 Houston: Networking breakfast

29 KU Alumni Night with the Colorado Rapids, Commerce City, Colorado



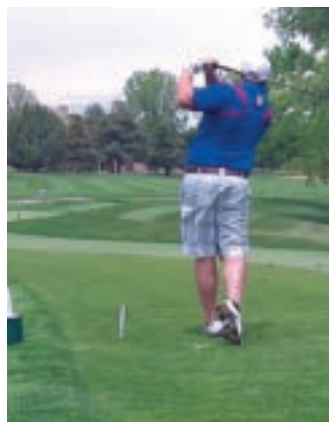
Tri-State 'Hawkstock



East Network Wine Festival



Madison Square Garden Tour



Smoky Hill Golf Tournament

The Spencer Museum of Art is currently closed for renovation. Galleries are tentatively set to reopen in 2016.

While the galleries remain closed, the museum will offer offsite programs and special events throughout the community. Visit spencerart.ku.edu for more information.

Jayhawk Walk



STEVE RUPPE

Charlie Podrebarac

Podrebarac stays in tune with Kansas City

Kansas City artist Charlie Podrebarac has never lacked outlets for his prodigious creativity: His instantly identifiable illustrations have long graced *Kansas Alumni* magazine, for instance, and Podrebarac was part of the wildly popular 2001 Kansas City Cow Parade.

But for more than 30 years, his primary outlet had been *The Kansas City Star Magazine*, which printed Podrebarac's "Cowtown" cartoon panel. When the newspaper in February stopped publishing its Sunday magazine, Podrebarac, '81, could have indulged in woe-is-me reflection.

Nah. Not his style.

On March 1, Joe's Kansas City Bar-B-Que announced it would publish "Cowtown" on the restaurant's Facebook page. "It's like getting a grant from a barbecue restaurant," Podrebarac notes wryly. A Facebook fan gushed, "One KC icon helping another. Way to go!"

Ten days later, Podrebarac helped launch "Pianos on Parade"—which will place 100 "artistically transformed" pianos across the city for all to play and enjoy—by unveiling a painted-by-Podrebarac grand piano at Union Station. And in April, *The Independent*, Kansas City's society journal, announced that it, too, would feature Podrebarac's work.

His spring rejuvenation seemed unlikely when *Star Magazine* perished, but there are plenty of people following Joe's Kansas City on social media. "They have 75,000 followers, so who knows, I may be getting more eyes on it now than I was before," Podrebarac says of his iconic "Cowtown" panel.

Sort of a Podrebarac on Parade ... a cool thing, indeed.

Silver-plated success

SINCE 2006, NONA GOLLEDGE has managed the mammoth operations of KU Dining Services: three residential dining centers, 16 retail dining locations, one full-service restaurant, KU catering services and more than 600 staff who churn out nearly 2 million meals throughout the school year. In March, she received the foodservice industry's highest compliments for a chief.

The International Foodservice Manufacturers Association (IFMA) awarded Golledge one of seven Silver Plate honors in its annual competition; IFMA says its prestigious plates are to foodservice what the Academy Awards are to film.

"It's truly humbling to be recognized in this manner," says Golledge, a 34-year veteran of the industry. "Over the years I've learned that a successful leader is one who continually stays abreast of the trends in the industry and leads from the heart. And that's what our dining team does. That's what has made us successful."

KU Dining Services has built a strong reputation among peer institutions for its efforts in sustainability, management of student allergies, creative menu ideas and strategic planning.

Golledge will join her fellow Silver Plate recipients for a celebration May 18 in Chicago, where one of the seven will receive the Gold Plate award.



STEVE RUPPE

Golledge

This cup runneth under

Spring break isn't about moderation. The fine folks at Student Health Services get that, but they also get that partying hearty doesn't preclude partying smartly.

Hence the spring break safety cup, a plastic beverage receptacle with handy marks denoting pour lines for a standard 1.5-ounce shot of liquor, 5-ounce glass of wine and 12-ounce cup of beer. Student Health Services doled out 1,000 in its Safer Spring Break Kit to teach students what constitutes a single serving and how many drinks per hour yield a blood alcohol content at which coordination and judgment are affected, but not impaired.



"Just over 75 percent of KU students report using alcohol at least one time in the past 30 days," says Jenny McKee, d'04, g'06, health educator at Student Health Services. "Telling them not to drink would be fighting years and years of behavior; giving them tips and tools to stay safe seems like a much smarter way to go."

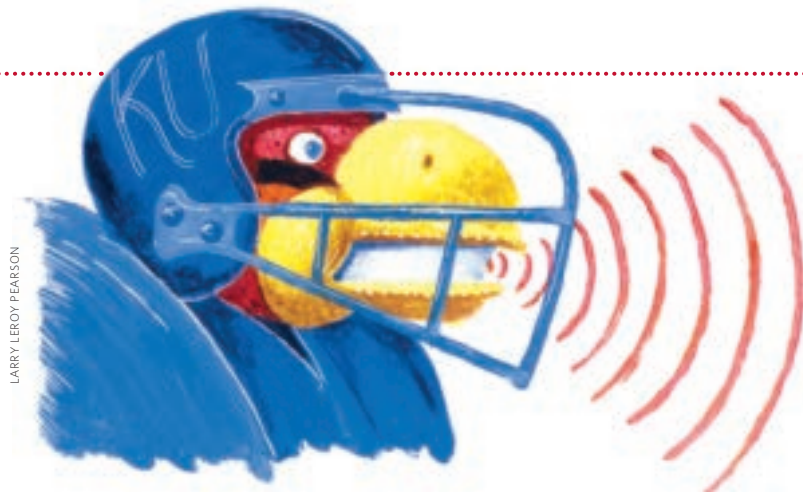
Safety cups are "education pieces," McKee says, not party supplies. She doesn't expect to replace a certain iconic alcohol delivery system. On second thought ...

"In my dream world students would come to my office to pick up 50 for their house party," McKee says. "I want these to be the new red Solo cup."

Maybe they need their own theme song. Are you listening, Toby Keith?



Taylor



LARRY LEROY PEARSON

From dental health to mental health

The utility of football mouthpieces has always been as important as it is unglamorous: protect players' dental health. Now, thanks to "ESP Chip Technology," mouth guards are being asked for more.

Under the direction of assistant athletics director of sports medicine and head football trainer Murphy Grant, KU football players this spring are using mouthpieces outfitted with microchips that transmit real-time information to trainers about the magnitude, location and direction of impacts sustained by players after hard hits on the gridiron.

"Think of it like a smartphone in your mouth," Grant told the Lawrence Journal-World. "But a player doesn't have to worry about any of that. There's no button, no blinky lights, nothing a player needs to do."

Monitoring concussions has long been a concern for Grant, recently named the Kansas Athletic Trainer of the Year, and he was eager to outfit the Jayhawks with the latest high-tech tool: the Vector Mouthguard, from i1 Biometrics.

KU is one of the country's first college programs to test the \$199 devices. Data generated by the high-tech mouthpieces is monitored during games, then collected to compile each player's impact information over the course of a season—a final score that truly matters.

Monarch mystery

RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS at KU's Monarch Watch found a unique research project this spring after a genetic mutation produced two white monarch butterflies.

Orley "Chip" Taylor, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and Monarch Watch founder, says the rare pair appeared when the group added wild stock to its breeding program. Selective pairing helped expand the flock of white monarchs from two to more than 200. They look like standard monarchs but lack the species' distinctive orange pigment.

Finding out if other, less evident

differences exist between the mutant monarchs and their colorful cousins will be a subject of research.

"The how, what and why questions are where the real science is," Taylor says. "It isn't deep, groundbreaking science, but it's the fun kind of thing that we can get a lot of students working on."

Though he started rearing butterflies in grade school and annually rears thousands at Monarch Watch, Taylor had never produced a white monarch before.

"It's a very good day when you get a surprise in the lab. It's not only a curiosity, it's an opportunity."



Hilltopics

STEVE PUPPE



Atchley

As part of The College Online, KU also offers a new Plus 12 program, a four-course sequence that enables academically qualified students who are 12 hours away from their graduation to complete bachelor's degrees in general studies. The sequence includes courses in career development, ethics and world culture along with a capstone course. For more information on requirements, visit thecollegeonline.ku.edu/major/plus-12-program.

The College Online

Program emphasizes challenge, community, support to help Jayhawks finish their degrees

When Michael Irvine was a KU senior, his path to graduation veered off course. “My father passed away,” he explains. “I needed to go back home to Chicago to help my mom.”

Unfortunately, Irvine couldn't return to the Hill, where he had majored in history and played baseball for the Jayhawks. “One year went by. Two years went by,” he says. “I tried enrolling in an online program through a community college, but it was a disaster.”

Irvine began his career as a baseball coach through a Chicago-area sports academy, and four more years slipped by. Last summer, he received a phone call from KU, offering him a spot in a pilot group to launch the College of Liberal Arts & Science's online degree completion program.

He jumped at the chance. “I wanted to get my degree,” he says, “and I wanted my diploma to be from KU.”

Irvine took an online sociology course that fit his academic interests. “I work full time, and it was a wonderful experience,” he says. “The teacher was awesome, and she was reachable. The course really hit home with topics that matter to me, including discussions about Chicago.”

Based on the pilot group's success, KU this spring launched The College Online, a degree completion program for alumni like Irvine who were preparing to walk down the Hill until life's surprises stopped them in their tracks—or students who want to supplement their technical

degrees with a broader education.

The College Online includes a variety of liberal arts and sciences courses and starting times throughout the year. Most courses are offered in eight-week “minimesters” that begin in June, August, October, January or March. Students who complete the program will graduate with bachelor's degrees in general studies.

Years in the making, The College Online is led by Paul Atchley, associate dean for online and professional education and a professor of psychology who has taught online courses for a decade. By studying the results of his own courses and those taught by other faculty, Atchley concluded that online courses produce learning outcomes equal to those of face-to-face courses. The challenge for higher educa-

Courses in the degree completion program begin in June, August, October, January and March, and most are offered in eight-week ‘minimesters.’ For details, visit thecollegeonline.ku.edu.

tion will be to balance online and campus experiences.

“People still want to work with other people face to face,” Atchley says. “We want to send our children to college because when you’re around folks who aren’t like you, you learn so much. When you have a chance to go someplace else, you have a chance to develop in ways you can’t if you’re just at home.”

KU’s College Online aims to challenge students with rigorous academic standards while providing the support and sense of community that are vital to success. Samantha Montague, program coordinator, maintains regular contact with students from enrollment through completion. As a graduate student and soon-to-be mother of two, Montague, c’04, understands the demands that pull students in many directions, so she contacts them at regular intervals. Faculty members reach out to students who are struggling academically, and they alert Montague when a student might need her extra encouragement. “I work full time, I have a kid and I’m going to school. I get it,” she says. “I can tell them, ‘I know what you’re trying to get done, and I applaud you. I’m thinking about you.’”

Atchley predicts that the demand for online courses will continue to grow as the cost of the traditional college experience moves beyond the financial reach of many families. He expects more students to blend online and campus learning. “We might have students who go to the University online for a year, then they come to the University campus for a couple of years, then they go out in the job market and they complete that last year online. I think that will become the new normal.”

Irvine takes pride in his circuitous path to a KU degree, and he touts his 2015 class year. “To me it’s a badge of honor, because I had to go through some tough emotional stuff,” he says. “When my kids ask me why it’s not 2008, I’ll explain, ‘I had to help your grandmother, but I never gave up. I finished! It will be a learning tool for them. It’s about perseverance, and the number doesn’t matter.’”

—Jennifer Jackson Sanner

STEVE PUPPE



Jess Pierson and Jen Humphrey (left) and Jenny and Thomas Buller (below) are growers for Crops to Campus, a quartet of certified organic farms bringing local food to Mount Oread.

Homegrown

Alumni farmers team with KU to bring fresh veggies to campus

Eating locally will be a little easier for the KU community this summer and fall, thanks to a new partnership between the University and four local farms.

Crops to Campus, a subscription-based CSA (community supported agriculture) service open to faculty, staff, students and Lawrence residents, will deliver weekly shares of local vegetables from mid-May to October to as many as 250 subscribers at two campus pickup locations. A full share of fresh vegetables, fruits, herbs and eggs costs \$18 per week; partial shares run \$13.

Spearheading the effort are KU’s Faculty/Staff Wellness Committee and the Center for Sustainability.

“We’re interested in providing easy access to produce that our faculty and staff can get conveniently on their way home from work,” says Kimberly Criner, education and outreach coordinator at the

Center for Sustainability. “Plenty of studies show that people who are part of a CSA eat more fruits and vegetables, and they are also able to have that local food built right into their diet, into their budget and into their schedule.”

The program features the three elements of sustainability that the center likes to emphasize: ecology, social equity and economics.

“All three of those tie together very easily in food,” Criner says. “We have all these great local farms in Lawrence, and to be able to strengthen that relationship with KU, to give them a stronger economic base and provide a stronger economy for local food, is something we’re happy to help promote.”

Four certified organic farms are working together under the brand “Common Harvest” to service the CSA shares: Moon on the Meadow, run by Jill Elmers; Red Tractor Farm, run by Jen Humphrey, j’96, c’02, g’10, and Jess Pierson, c’95; Buller Family Farm, run by Thomas, c’99, and Jenny Welch Buller, c’99; and Juniper Hills Farm, run by Scott Thellman.

The local growers will be present at the weekly pickups to answer questions and provide recipes and cooking tips.

“I think more and more consumers are becoming aware of where their food is coming from and craving that kind of authenticity and relationship you get when you know the person who produced your food and you know how far it came to get to your table,” Humphrey says. “The people who signed up for this are going to

STEVE PUPPE





Funding falls: Research expenditures from all sources declined at KU during fiscal 2014. Spending from externally sponsored grants totaled \$238.8 million last year, down from \$260.5 million in 2013. Federal research funding at KU dropped in 2014 for only the second time in the past decade, as a result of the continuing federal budget sequester.

have the chance to see the people who produce the food and be able to talk to them about how to prepare it.”

Growers, on the other hand, use CSAs as a way to hedge against the many uncertainties of running a small farm.

“A CSA can be part of a portfolio that helps you manage the risk of being a farmer,” Humphrey says. “You have more upfront sales, so you know how much you need to plant, it helps you buy seeds at the beginning of the season, and it’s a great way to balance out all the different ways that we sell what we grow.”

Criner notes that the new venture gives the Center for Sustainability a chance to showcase some tenets of the sustainability

ethic that can sometimes remain vague.

“Things like social connection or economics are two of the more complicated, less visible parts of sustainability,” Criner says. “But I think it is easy to understand when you go to a CSA pickup and see the people whose farms your money is helping to grow, and you see where your food is coming from and that the person growing it is one of your neighbors in the community.”

Common Harvest will also offer a back-to-school option that begins on Labor Day and runs through the second week of November. For more information, visit commonharvestcsa.com.

—Steven Hill

Director’s choice

New event series reflects Dole Institute director’s personal interests

Recalling the 1968 Republican National Convention, which he watched on TV as a 14-year-old who was “already, by then, a political junkie,” Bill Lacy, director of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics, says his perception at the time was that Ronald Reagan jumped into the race at the last minute, almost on a whim and with no real chance of beating the eventual nominee, Richard Nixon.

That perception lingered, even after Lacy worked in the Reagan White House as director of political affairs. So when Thomas Reed earlier this year published his remembrance of Reagan’s early political career, *The Reagan Enigma: 1964-1980*, which detailed the future president’s California gubernatorial campaign (which Reed ran) and his serious, but ultimately unsuccessful, 1968 bid for president, it made a natural choice for the Dole Institute’s new Director’s Series.

VISITOR

STORY OF US

NBC News correspondent Bob Dotson, j’68, accepted the William Allen White Foundation’s National Citation.

WHEN: April 23

WHERE: Kansas Memorial Union

BACKGROUND: Dotson’s grandfather, a KU alumnus, encouraged him to attend KU. He got his broadcasting start at the campus station KUOK, and

in college worked as a reporter and photographer for KMBC-TV in Kansas City, and as news director for KANU-FM in Lawrence. He has won a record five Edward R. Murrow Awards and his third book, *American Story: A Lifetime Search for Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*, is a New York Times best-seller.

ANECDOTE: Dotson came to KU to study prelaw, he said, “Then I found KUOK and it all changed.” His grandmother was “nonplussed” by his decision, even after seeing his first piece

on “The Today Show.”

“You ought to learn a trade,” she told him. “They’re not going to pay you for two minutes work a day. You will starve to death!”

“It was our running joke for years,” Dotson said. “I’d call on Friday and say, ‘I got another paycheck, Grandma.’ ‘Fooled them again, did you?’”

QUOTE: “Here I am, in my 40th year with NBC News, at 68, and they’ve taken me from a red-headed, freckle-faced kid, to gray, 4 million miles in this country, crisscrossing back and



COURTESY SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

forth, on a simple idea: Maybe that big media mirror that reflects power and celebrity has someone standing behind it who is important.”

—Steven Hill



Lacy

“I knew Tom’s material would be interesting to me because it was Reagan and I had worked for Reagan,” says Lacy, “but also because I knew his perspective on Reagan was driven very differently from most people who write personal books about Reagan, because of his very early connection with Reagan. I thought he had a completely unique perspective from most people who’ve written about Reagan historically.”

Unique perspectives on topics of particular interest to Lacy—now in his 11th year as director—will be the focus of the series, which brings the interview format of the institute’s evening programs to afternoon sessions designed to appeal to serious students of politics.

“What we’ll do with the series,” Lacy says, “is look at these really nuanced topics that give people who are political geeks or political nerds a chance to expand their education.”

In addition to Reed, the first round of Director’s Series programs this spring featured Steven Jacques, whose novel *Advance Man* weaves a fictional account of a Democratic presidential campaign from the point of view of the candidate’s lead advance man; and Ben Domenech, publisher of *The Federalist*, who discussed

divisions between traditional social conservatives and libertarian-leaning millennials that could affect the 2016 Republican presidential primaries. (A fourth program, featuring Karl Brooks, PhD’00, of the Environmental Protection Agency, was postponed and may be rescheduled as part of next fall’s Director’s Series.)

The Dole Institute houses the Robert J. Dole Archives and Special Collections; featuring papers, photographs, films and objects related to Sen. Bob Dole, ’45, it is one of the largest congressional archives in the nation. The institute also hosts extensive public programs devoted to encouraging balanced political debate and public service, especially among students.

Appointed director in 2004, Lacy set about building programs at what he described as “a pretty quiet” place. Domestic politics was then the main focus. But as the institute diversified offerings to include international affairs, women and leadership, public service and other topics, the emphasis on domestic politics declined. The new series is a way of bolstering those types of programs, which are a natural area of interest for Lacy, who worked for several Republican presidential campaigns, including stints as a strategist for Dole’s presidential runs in 1988 and 1996.

“This is something that I don’t think I would have started 10 years ago,” Lacy says. “Having been here over 10 years now, I feel like I have a little bit more leeway on what I can and can’t do.

“What I’ve found over this first semester of doing it is there’s lots of other people interested, too—and that’s nice to know.”

—Steven Hill

Milestones, money and other matters



■ **The School of Law** honored three graduates with its Distinguished Alumni Award in April: John Brand, c’54, l’59, retired attorney and community leader; Nicholas Kittrie, l’50, g’51, international criminal law expert; and Lawton Nuss, c’75, l’82, chief justice of the Kansas Supreme Court.

■ **Student body president** Jessie Pringle, junior, and vice president Zach George, senior, won 68 percent of the vote in student elections in April. The Advance KU candidates ran on three issues: sustainability, community and access. They took office May 3.

■ **Life Span Institute** researchers won three grants totaling more than \$360,000 from Empower Kansas, a three-year, \$1.5 million initiative to help Kansans with disabilities find jobs. The researchers represent Assistive Technology for Kansans, the Center on Developmental Disabilities and the Research and Training Center on Independent Living.

■ **A \$1 million estate gift** from Alexandra “Sandy” Mason will create the Ann Hyde Fellowship for Medieval and Early Modern British and European Manuscripts at the Spencer Research Library. Mason joined the library as a cataloger of rare books in 1957 and retired as Spencer librarian in 1999. The fellowship honors Mason’s lifetime friend, Ann Hyde, c’60, manuscripts librarian at the Spencer, who died in 2014. Mason died in 2011.

Journalists who overlook ordinary people “miss the real story of America. ... What we do is travel as journalists in herds and pounce on problems to repeat over and over without a glimmer of solution, because we’re not asking the people who might have the solution.”

—Bob Dotson

Hilltopics

STEVE PUPPE



van Loben Sels and Tappan

SCHOLARSHIP

Two juniors win Goldwater award

BRYCE TAPPAN AND JESSICA van Loben Sels are the latest KU students to earn a prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship.

Since the Goldwater was established in 1986 by Congress, 58 Jayhawks have won the premier undergraduate award for academically gifted students in science,

technology, engineering and mathematics. The one-year scholarship provides up to \$7,500 for tuition, fees, books and room and board.

Tappan, a Brookings, South Dakota, junior in chemistry, is interested in the area of nanotechnology and plans to research environmental applications. He works in the laboratory of Mikhail Barybin in chemistry.

Van Loben Sels, an Albuquerque, New

Mexico, junior in microbiology, conducts research related to the herpes simplex virus and plans a research career in virology. She works in the laboratory of David Davido in molecular biosciences.

Also nominated were David Gier, Overland Park junior in physics, interdisciplinary computing and mathematics, and Daniel Rhodes, McLouth junior in physics. Rhodes earned honorable mention.

"We had four outstanding nominees this year," says Anne Wallen, c'03, assistant director of national fellowships and scholarships for the University Honors Program. "For two of them to win and a third to receive honorable mention is an outstanding achievement and a testament to their hard work and dedication."

KU also had two students earn Udall Foundation Scholarships this spring: juniors Ashlie Koehn, a triple major in economics, environmental studies and global and international studies; and Jennifer Stern, an ecology and evolutionary biology major. Koehn received a double bonus when she was also selected as the University's 18th Truman Scholar—and found out via a surprise call from Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, who used Skype to deliver the good news to Koehn, who is studying abroad this semester in Kyrgyzstan.

UPDATE

COURTESY MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS



Ryan Limbocker, who last year won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship ["Chemistry major wins Goldwater scholarship," issue No. 3, 2014], this spring received yet another boost to his plans for a research career when he was named one of 40 Gates Cambridge Scholars.

Established in 2000 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, The Gates Cambridge Scholarship

allows scholars outside the United Kingdom to pursue a full-time postgraduate degree at the University of Cambridge.

Limbocker, an Overland Park senior, will study for a doctorate in chemistry at Cambridge with Christopher Dobson, a pioneer in the research of neurodegenerative diseases. At KU the Honors Program student has conducted undergraduate research on neurodegenerative ail-

ments such as Huntington's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

"I see neurodegenerative disease as one of the most widespread and dreadful ailments of the human body," Limbocker says. "This is a challenging field that I enjoy studying and am very intrinsically motivated to advance with the goal of trying to help the millions of people who will be impacted by illnesses like Alzheimer's disease."

2016

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APRIL 28-MAY 6



Flavors of Spain
MAY 7-15

Sorrento, Italy
MAY 11-19

Provence to Normandy
MAY 19-30

Mediterranean Serenade
MAY 20-JUNE 2

London
MAY 29-JUNE 9

Celtic Lands
MAY 31-JUNE 9

Southern Culture and Civil War
JUNE 4-13



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SEPT. 29-OCT. 7



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Captivating Mediterranean
OCT. 8-16

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McCollum Hall

STUDENT HOUSING

McCollum memories sought ahead of fall demolition

FORMER RESIDENTS of Mount Oread's largest residence hall are invited to upload photos, videos and written recollections of McCollum Hall life at housing.ku.edu/share-mccollum-hall-memories.

Built in 1965, the 900-student hall held its 50th and final move-out in May; it will be demolished during the fall semester and the space will be devoted to parking for Daisy Hill residents, including students living in the newly constructed Madison A. and Lila Self Hall and the Charles W. Oswald Hall, which will open in August.

According to KU Student Housing, newer furniture such as beds, desks and tables will be used in other campus halls, and other furniture will be distributed to universities in the region. An estimated 15 tons of steel will be removed and recycled, and asphalt, concrete and masonry from the site will be reused.

Student housing plans to share the gathered memories at a later date.

"I hear so many wonderful stories from McCollum alumni who have fond memories of living there," says Diana Robertson, director of KU Student Housing. "As new buildings go up and we bring new generations of Jayhawks to Daisy Hill, it's important to honor the stories and the KU traditions of alumni who were residents of McCollum Hall in years gone by."

GRADUATE EDUCATION

U.S. News rankings tout quality of KU programs

TEN GRADUATE PROGRAMS at KU were ranked in the top 10 of U.S. News and World Report's annual "Best Graduate Schools" rankings for public universities released in March.

Programs in city management & urban policy, in the School of Public Affairs, and special education, in the School of Education, ranked as the No. 1 programs in their field. Occupational therapy (School of Health Professions) ranked as the second-best program in the field.

In all, 38 KU graduate programs ranked among the top 50 programs among public universities nationally.

"Our graduate programs educate leaders who will go on to make contributions in essentially all disciplines, in both the private sector and academia, and those contributions directly benefit the people of Kansas and our society," Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little said. "This breadth and depth of excellence is just one example of what a flagship research university can bring to the state it serves."

KU's additional top-10 programs are public management administration (ranked 3rd), public affairs (4th), clinical child psychology (5th), speech-language-hearing (6th), audiology (7th), physical therapy (9th) and the School of Education (9th).

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **A \$1.8 million gift** from current and former students and colleagues of Solon E. Summerfield Distinguished Professor Ron Borchardt will create a pharmaceutical chemistry professorship in his name. Borchardt, PhD'70, retires this fall from a 44-year career teaching biochemistry, medicinal chemistry and pharmaceutical chemistry at KU, having mentored more than 170 students and authored or co-authored more than 500 research papers. Colleagues and former students are planning a three-day event in Lawrence in October to honor him, and the School of Pharmacy will announce the inaugural recipient of the Ronald T. Borchardt Professorship this summer.

■ **Michael Blomquist**, a critical care nurse at the University of Kansas Hospital, received the inaugural National Patient Safety Foundation's DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses in April. The award recognizes professionalism and a patient-centered approach in nursing. Blomquist helped establish life-saving Rapid Response teams to provide early intervention for deteriorating patients. In 2014, 91 percent of Rapid Response patients survived to be discharged, according to the hospital.

■ **The School of Business** bestowed its 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award on Tim Barton, b'89, and Roshann Parris, g'86, in April. Barton, a member of the school's advisory board, founded the online freight brokerage Freightquote in 1998 and grew the company to more than 1,000 employees before it was acquired in 2015. Parris founded Parris Communications in 1988; in addition to serving as the strategic communication firm's president and CEO, she has held roles on the presidential campaign staffs of nine candidates.

JEFF JACOBSEN



Pille

Ace, again

Senior Pille reclaims role as softball's No. 1 pitcher

Unless a conference title or NCAA Tournament berth had been on the line, Alicia Pille's second career no-hitter, Feb. 8 against Penn State, could hardly have come at a more opportune time. She had blazed into her KU career three years earlier with 17 wins and was named the team's Pitcher of the Year. Pille led KU pitchers with 13 wins and 172 strikeouts as a sophomore, but the following year lost the ace role to sophomore Kelsey Kessler.

Still, Pille was 12-7, remained a mainstay on a staff that was second in the Big 12 with a 2.59 earned-run average, and helped the Jayhawks to their first NCAA Regionals appearance since 2006.

But when Kessler transferred to Arizona State after the season, Pille was unexpectedly back in position to reclaim the No. 1 job as a senior. The 5-foot-7 dynamo from Royse City, Texas, was ready.

"I tell Alicia Pille all the time, the minute she walked on campus is the minute our program changed," says sixth-year coach Megan Smith. "She's a

game changer for us, and has been. I told her, 'You need to finish with your best season because you've done so much for our program.'"

In her third start of the season, in Boca Raton, Florida, Pille shut down the Nittany Lions with a no-hitter, helping launch the red-hot Jayhawks to a 29-2 nonconference record.

"I knew it was going to be different this year with Kelsey leaving," Pille says, "and I never wanted my team to feel like our pitching staff wasn't going to hold their own weight. Our hitting this year has been phenomenal and our defense has always been great, so I think we were feeding off of each other's energy. That's why we clicked so well."

As *Kansas Alumni* went to press, the Jayhawks headed into their final home series of the regular season, against No. 14 Baylor, with a record of 35-10. With six Jayhawks hitting over .300, including senior infielder Chaley Brickey's .421, the overall team batting average was .326, second-best in the rugged Big 12. Senior utility player Maddie Stein on March 22 became the all-time RBI leader in KU softball history with 141, and heading into the Baylor series she was at 149.

Pille was 21-4 as of early May, becoming

KU's first 20-game winner since Kara Pierce, d'06, in 2001, with a 2.84 ERA and five shutouts.

After struggling in KU's first conference series, taking a pair of losses against Texas, Pille rebounded with a pair of impressive starts for the 23rd-ranked Jayhawks at Oklahoma State, including a complete-game victory to set up the series sweep. On April 24 she earned the win in KU's 4-2 upset of No. 5 Oklahoma.

"When they're deciding who gets into a regional, a lot of the committee's decision is based on how strong you finish, more than how strong you start," Pille says. "So that's what we need to be focused on, so they remember us as a strong team."

Pille has a capable fastball, but she and Smith agree that she also must rely on solid off-speed pitches. She generates good movement on the ball, but says accurate location of her pitches is even more important; with one of the Big 12's elite defenses backing her up, Pille knows she doesn't have to make hitters miss to be successful.

"Pitching is easier when you're relaxed," she says. "When you're trying to make things happen, that's when things don't tend to go your way."

Academic All-Big 12 First Team as a junior, Pille will graduate with a degree in exercise science as soon as she completes a 600-hour spring semester internship at OrthoKansas, a Lawrence orthopedics clinic. She hopes to gain acceptance next year to the rigorous occupational therapy program at KU's School of Health Professions.

Pille has known since high school that she wanted to become a therapist, and says her interest in proactive "pre-hab," rather than just rehab, helps her as both an athlete and therapist. Her goals were fortified the past two years while watching her younger brother, Austin, rehabilitate from injuries suffered in a car accident that left him unable to walk.

"When my brother had his accident,

that's when it was confirmed for me," she says. "That's when I was sure that this was what I want to do."

Unable to work full time while also serving as the No. 1 pitcher for a softball team with postseason dreams, Pille will briefly put her pursuit on hold while she completes her internship hours this summer. She's hoping a deep NCAA Tournament run could delay it even further.

"She's got a lot of bounce. She has a lot of energy. She's fun to watch," Smith says. "She comes in hard on hitters and she's got a great off-speed pitch. She just battles. She's the type of player a coach loves to coach. She works hard, she's a great kid, she does all the right things, and then she fights for you when she's out on the field."

Phase three

Special teams coach accepts Beaty's challenge

When he took over the beleaguered KU football program, coach David Beaty announced that fans would see uptempo offense and an attacking defense, but made no promises about how good either of those phases might be anytime soon. Not so special teams.

"We're going to create an advantage in this area that our opponents simply may not have, by overemphasizing and outworking people in this third [phase of the game]," Beaty said in December. "We are to going win that third [phase]."

Beaty hired Gary Hyman, who had spent one season with Beaty at Texas A&M as quality control coach for special teams, as special teams coordinator and tight ends coach. Like others on Beaty's staff, including the boss, Hyman bounces around the practice field with high energy, and he expects the same from his players.

"You're going to see enthusiasm, you're going to see relentless effort, and you're going to see their willingness to compete," Hyman says.

When football teams rebuild, it's the

"She comes in hard on hitters and she's got a great off-speed pitch. She just battles. She's the type of player a coach loves to coach."

—softball coach Megan Smith, on pitcher Alicia Pille



STEVE PUPPE (2)

Whether coaching kickers such as sophomore Ryan Weese (47) or motivating the entire squad during warm-ups, special teams coach Gary Hyman intends to instill effort, enthusiasm and competitive drive.

special teams coach, who works with players from throughout the roster, who can often be a good early judge of progress. In Hyman's view, this team's development was evident at every spring practice.

"If you put on any film from any drill at any time from day one, and you look at the same drill on practice nine, the educated fan and the professional coach can see the difference," Hyman said April 15, 10 days before the spring game. "We are constantly getting a little bit better each day, and that's beginning to build up. Every day has been a little bit better, in some facet. What more can you ask for?"

Nobody gets a pass when it comes to participating on special teams, and Hyman notes that he's been given the authority to help Beaty make good on his initial pledge of special teams success.

"I have been given an opportunity by the head coach to put emphasis on special



teams. With his blessing I have taken that and ran with it, and players have followed. I think that's about working together. That's going to be part of the magic."

The team's progress suffered a serious blow when quarterback Michael Cummings injured a knee in the April 25 spring game, requiring surgery. "It was completely a freak accident," Beaty said of the injury.

Heartening news, though, came in the unexpected return of sixth-year senior Taylor Cox, who lost his senior season of 2014 to an Achilles tendon injury early in preseason practice after sitting out nearly

Sports

all of 2013 with a hamstring injury. Cox, who turns 25 in September, was granted clearance by the NCAA to return for a final season; in his only full year here, the powerful runner averaged more than 5 yards a carry in 2012.

"I feel really good," Cox told the Kansas City Star. "The rehab process went really well. I feel strong. I feel almost back to full strength."

Goosebumps

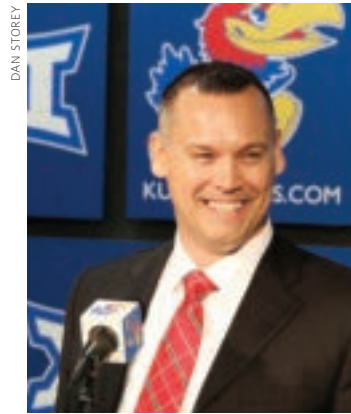
Women's hoops coach foresaw return to Allen Field House

Brandon Schneider, the sixth head coach of KU women's basketball, was a first-year coach at Emporia State when he drove to Lawrence to attend a men's basketball practice.

The visit changed his life.

"Before I even stepped on the court, I began to feel it. You know, the goosebumps, the hair on the back of your neck [standing up]," he said April 21. "That day, as I drove back to Emporia, any career goals and aspirations that I had were altered. From that point forward, honestly for the last 20 years, there have been two words that I've always wanted to say. I told myself I'm not going to say them, I'm going to wait until one day I get to be part of the KU family. Today, I could not be more honored, humbled, to finally get to say, 'Rock Chalk.'"

Schneider was 95-66 in five years at Stephen F. Austin University, with league titles the past two seasons. At Emporia State, Schneider went 306-72 and won the



Schneider

2010 NCAA Division II championship. His father, Bob, coached West Texas A&M from 1981 to 2006.

"I am coach Brandon. I am not coach Schneider. That is coach Schneider," he said, gesturing to his father.

Schneider replaces Bonnie Henrickson, who lost her job after a second-straight losing season. Henrickson's 11 seasons included two trips to the NCAA Sweet 16.

In his 17 years, Schneider's teams averaged about 76 points a game, and he says he'll keep the same uptempo offense here.

"I had a lot of friends who called, texted, 'Are you going to apply for the KU job?' And I told them pretty bluntly, you don't apply for those jobs. I was fortunate that my name came up as a potential candidate, and I feel very grateful."

UPDATES

Sophomore closer **Stephen Villines** was named to the national Midseason Stopper of the Year Watch List. As the Jayhawks prepared to host Baylor when *Kansas Alumni* went to press, Villines had 11 saves and a 3.74 ERA; senior outfielder **Connor McKay** was hitting .364 and sophomore catcher **Michael Tinsley** was hitting .333. The Jayhawks on April 12 won a weekend series over No. 9 Oklahoma State with a 4-2 victory, and on April 21 completed a season sweep of Wichita State with an 11-6 win over the Shockers. ...

Senior hurdler **Michael Stigler** was named national Track Athlete of the Week March 31 after winning the Texas Relays' 400-meter hurdles in 48.44 seconds, the



Villines

best mark by a collegian in nearly four years. Stigler defended his Kansas Relays title April 17 with a time of 50.07. Also at the rain-shortened relays, 2013 NCAA champion **Lindsay Vollmer**, a senior, broke the meet record in the heptathlon with 5,767 points;

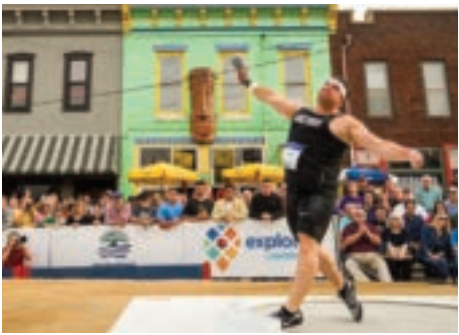
junior **Sydney Conley** won the 100-meter dash in a career-best 11.54 seconds; senior **Colleen O'Brien** won the high jump with a career-best height of 1.85 meters; freshmen **Jacob Morgan** and **Sharon Lokedi** won their 5,000-meter races; senior **Jaimie House** won the women's pole vault with a career-best 4.20 meters; and KU men won the 4x400-meter relay. ... Two-time All-American **Jo Jo White**, '69, will be enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in September. ... Forward **Chelsea Gardner**, who averaged 16.8 points and 8.6 rebounds, was named All-Big 12 First Team and was selected by the Indiana Fever in the April 6 WNBA draft. ... Junior golfer **Yupaporn Kawinpakorn**

was named Big 12 Player of the Week. ... Junior forward **Perry Ellis** was named Big 12 men's basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year. ... Freshman **Smith Hinton** on April 7 was named Co-Women's Tennis Player of the Week. Senior **Maria Belen Luduena** won the award March 24. ... Rowing won the Kansas Cup with a 14-9 victory over Kansas State May 2 at Wyandotte County Lake.

Sports Photographs by Steve Puppe and Jeff Jacobsen



Lindsay Vollmer (above), Michael Stigler (left) and Sydney Conley (top right) were among KU's winners at the Kansas Relays at Rock Chalk Park. The downtown shot put, organized by the Lawrence Sports Corporation and Explore Lawrence, again drew an enthusiastic crowd to cheer on world-class athletes, including winner Christian Cantwell (right, with fan). Cantwell, a Mizzou grad and Olympic silver medalist, hopes next year to organize a similar event in Columbia to build on momentum generated by Lawrence's popular competition.





Ode to

C



Beloved, busy Swarthout Recital Hall finds new voice after dazzling renovation

By **Chris Lazzarino**

The beauty of remodeled Swarthout Recital Hall is immediately apparent, from the glimmering entrance off the Murphy Hall lobby to a heavenly new concert space of polished and radiant woodwork reaching floor to ceiling. Luxurious theatre chairs. Perfect lighting, directing attention toward a shimmering stage.

What once was tired is vibrant again.

But a music hall is more than visual delights, and the reborn 58-year-old space—the most-used concert performance venue in Kansas, hosting more than a million visitors for an estimated 300 concerts a year since its 1957 debut—seems proud to brag on itself the moment the first note is struck.

On this early April afternoon, the debut performance by pianist Richard Goode is still two days away. The place is so new that even associate professor of piano Steven Spooner, who selected Swarthout's new Steinway concert grand piano from the factory showroom in Hamburg, Germany, has yet to test the magnificent ebony instrument in its new home.

Portrait by
Brian Goodman



“When you have a piano of this caliber, you have the potential for world-class performers wanting to come to play it,” Steven Spooner says of Swarthout’s Steinway. “And prospective students who sit down at this gorgeous piano for their audition are certainly going to be affected by the experience of playing on such an instrument.”

Robert Walzel, dean of the School of Music, arrives with keys to unlock the hall and lead a tour for special visitors. The Couch family of Portland, Oregon, has come straight from the Kansas City airport to Murphy Hall, too eager to wait for even a day longer than absolutely necessary.

“It looks fantastic!” Charles Couch, c’81, exclaims as he steps inside, but he isn’t looking up and about, as many will. Instead he takes notice of the floor—the floor he donated, madrone hardwood expertly selected and milled by the craftsmen at Couch’s Oregon Lumber Co.

“I told the architects that I want it to take your breath away,” Walzel says, “and it does. It really does.”

And then comes the music.

Couch’s daughter, Emily, a senior at Portland’s Jesuit High School and a prospective KU student, accompanied her parents to Lawrence to tour the University. She plans to study chemistry as a pre-med major, either on Mount Oread or at Fordham University, but she also is a devoted piano student and plays at home on her family’s own Steinway. While others in the group admire the hall’s physical features, Emily is invited to sit at the piano.

She accepts, and soon the intimate room animates with the purpose of its existence:

a bright young student filling its air with a medley of romantic classics by Chopin, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Schubert.

When she ends her mini-recital and steps away from the Steinway, Emily Couch takes a seat and ponders the stage, as well as her family’s role in helping Swarthout shine anew.

“The connection between music and education, that’s always been a value in our family,” she says, speaking softly, respecting the formality of a room built for beautiful music, not chitchat. “To have it all come together like this, and for my father to be able to contribute to a place that he really enjoyed when he was my age, has been a very unique and wonderful experience for him.”

Thanks to Charles Couch’s generosity, expertise and enthusiasm, the new Swarthout finds itself in elite company. Oregon Lumber Co. supplied the hardwood flooring for Carnegie Hall, Disney Concert Hall, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Tanglewood Music Center’s Ozawa Hall and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, which is decked out in the same madrone as Swarthout.

“That floor is going to get more beautiful with time,” Couch says. “It’s going to

get richer, with a nice patina. And the way it is now, it’s perfect.”

Couch’s father, John, b’50, came to KU from Anthony, south of Wichita. After graduating he ventured to the Pacific Northwest to visit a relative who was in the lumber business in Longview, Washington. Upon John Couch’s arrival, his hosts blindfolded him and led the young Kansan to the beach. There they removed the blindfold and, in an instant, he had his first view of the ocean.

John Couch had found his new home. He enrolled in a school for wood products and in 1962 founded Oregon Lumber Co., in Lake Oswego, to supply furniture parts for assembly elsewhere.

Although he grew up in Portland, Charles Couch inherited his father’s love for KU, and arrived here in the late 1970s to study music. Specifically, classical guitar—a program KU has never offered. So Couch was teamed with cello professor Edward Laut, and together they learned from each other, studying and playing Bach cello suites and Camille Saint-Saens’ cello classic “The Swan.”

“The lessons were more like conversations,” recalls Laut, who in August will retire after 38 years on the KU faculty. “And that’s really as it should be. We were able to talk things over, work things out and explore sounds.”

Couch was allowed to finish his music studies with a professor of guitar at the University of North Carolina, then came back to KU to walk down the Hill. He then returned to Oregon to join his father’s business. Under his leadership, Charles Couch moved Oregon Lumber Co. away from furniture parts and toward high-quality, specialized flooring.

Beyond music venues, the firm’s many notable projects include the Getty Museum, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, San Francisco’s Jewish Contemporary Museum and the famed revolving dance floor in Rockefeller Center’s Rainbow Room.

Couch takes pride in creating gorgeous new wood products that customers demand and competitors can’t match. Madrone, for instance, is a curvy, deter-



mined tree that grows in the shadows of Oregon's towering Douglas firs. Madrone are cut away for access to the desirable giants, and for generations were sold off as firewood. Couch saw potential for more.

"If you look at the grain, it's really beautiful," he says. "I think it's prettier than maple, and it has all the hardness of maple, so for a musical stage environment it will hold up. And it's unique."

His decision to provide the flooring for Swarthout Recital Hall represents more than a graduate's warm feelings for his alma mater. In Couch's estimation, the music education he received at KU led directly to the success he found in

reinventing his family's lumber business.

"All those processes you learn in music are the same processes you have in business," Couch says. "Self-discovery. Discipline. Finding the unexpected."

Which is why the Couches started Emily on Suzuki violin lessons when she was 4, then began piano lessons when her hands reached the required size and dexterity. In the Couch home, music is revered as more than lovely entertainment.

"It builds self-esteem. It teaches you how to concentrate, to think, to be creative. It gives you a lot of the fundamental life lessons that you can carry on to anything that you want to do with your life."

Swarthout Hall opened, along with Murphy Hall itself, in 1957, and it charmed audiences and artists alike.

"I think I was one of the very first on that stage, as a freshman, and it was fabulous," recalls mezzo-soprano Joyce Castle, f'61, University distinguished professor of voice. "Swarthout Recital Hall was a very, very good hall from the very first. The acoustics were excellent."

Over the years, it hosted such titans of American and international music as Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, Percy Grainger and Leon Fleisher. (Fleisher, a former pianist in residence at KU, was scheduled to play the renovated hall's

debut concert, March 30, but canceled for health reasons and was replaced by the Beethoven specialist Richard Goode.)

“It’s a combination of large enough and yet intimate,” Laut says. “You have the feeling that the performer is playing just for you.”

But heavy usage took its inevitable toll. The hall’s Steinway piano, “a really old instrument that had seen its glory days 30 years before,” was, in Steven Spooner’s expert estimation, simply exhausted: “It was just getting played on so much that there was no way it could possibly be good, even with a lot of attention.”

The worn, faded-blue velveteen-ish chairs—all original equipment from 1957—squeaked, and those were the good ones; others were breaking down or unusable. Vinyl flooring was chipped. Dean Walzel last year described the hall’s lighting as “pretty archaic.” With just two small bathrooms, there were no amenities for artists backstage, an area that had simply become worn and depressing.

“You had to sort of bring yourself up to go out on stage,” Castle says, “because the backstage area was so shabby.”

Spooner recalls that when he made his first visit to KU to interview for a faculty position, in 2007, he was eager to visit a piano education enclave that had long been widely admired; he rightly expected to find here facilities worthy of the piano department’s reputation, but instead was dumbstruck at what one of his students later described as “a concert hall in a doomsday bunker.”

“I entered this hall and I thought, you’ve got to be kidding me,” he recalls. “What is this place? What is going on here?”

“It was getting very drab,” Castle says. “It had been needing a facelift for a very, very long time.”

Fundraising began shortly after Walzel assumed the deanship in 2010, and in December 2013 KU Endowment announced a \$1 million gift from the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation. The School of Music on May 15, 2014, hosted a “decommissioning” concert, and shortly after Commencement construction crews scraped the hall bare. The \$2.5 million renovation was underway.

KU’s Office of Design and Construction Management and architects Dan Sabatini, a’86, and Katie Nichols, a’03, of the Lawrence firm Sabatini Architects, brought in architectural acoustics expert Robert Coffeen, an adjunct associate professor and lecturer in the School of Architecture, Design & Planning who has studied Swarthout’s acoustics with his students for more than 20 years, and together they shaped a new space.

Ambient noise from three air handlers in a mechanical room confoundingly situated directly behind the second-floor control room had to be reduced.

Three-quarter-inch wood veneer wall panels were never properly secured and braced, and their minute vibrations absorbed low frequencies. (“It was never a very warm sound because of that,” Coffeen explains.) Side walls that ran parallel to each other about a third of the way down

from the back of the hall created a “flutter echo,” in which the hall’s flanking walls essentially talked to each other rather than scattering sound throughout the room.

And the seats’ dreadful upholstery failed its task of absorbing sound at roughly the same rate as human bodies, meaning the hall sounded different when musicians practiced in an empty room and performed for a full house.

Among the fixes, walls were tilted 3 degrees vertically and 4 degrees horizontally, and lined with thick, secure panels topped by wood veneer. Gone are the aisles that split the room into thirds, resulting in side seating that was too close to walls to offer those audience members any sensation of being surrounded by reflected sound. Aisles now flank both sides of the room, with seats centered from the stage to the rear exits.

Backstage, a new dressing room is properly outfitted with a makeup table and lighted mirror, and a video screen lets artists and production managers view what is happening on stage.

Upgrades went all the way to the exterior roof, which received specialized materials to dampen rain noise.

Although he was confident the new Swarthout’s acoustics would be as warm and rich as its visual palette, Coffeen had to wait until the first performance to be certain. When Richard Goode played four Beethoven sonatas on the new Steinway, Coffeen was convinced.

“He had a great dynamic range in his music, from soft to quite loud, and I

Floors and more

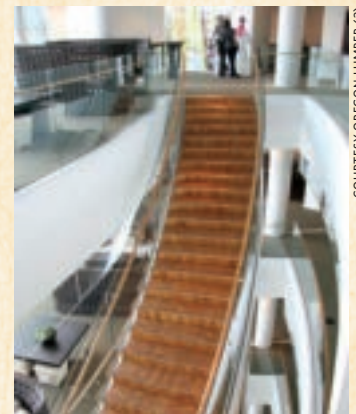
Oregon Lumber’s clients include Alice Tully Hall (madrone, like Swarthout, but treated to evoke orangish European pear wood), the Bronx Documentary Center (Douglas fir), and Seattle’s Gates Foundation (custom engineered end-grain alder on floors, stairs, walls and ceilings).



Alice Tully Hall



Bronx Documentary Center



Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

COURTESY OREGON LUMBER (3)

thought it was great,” Coffeen says. “I’m very happy with what happened here, as I thought I would be.”

For Castle, the first hints of the hall’s technical artistry came when she stepped onto the stage before the April 1 “Celebration of KU Music Alumni”—an alumni performance reunion Castle organized as one of eight events celebrating Swarthout’s renewal—and tested the room by singing just a few short notes. She recalls quickly telling herself, “Oh, this is going to be fun.”

“You either know it’s a good hall or you know you’re going to have to work,” Castle explains. “You don’t have to work in this hall. It enhances the music. It enhances the artistry. The students will be inspired.”

The ultimate proof, though, came at the event’s conclusion, when Swarthout was tested by the alumnae sopranos.

“I wondered if the hall was going to take those last high, high C’s that so many of the gals took on the finale of ‘Candide,’” Castle says, “and wow was that loud! And *really* exciting! The hall handled it beautifully. It was mountaintop. It could not have gone better. I was thrilled.”

Steven Spooner, one of the few pianists sponsored as an official Steinway artist, suggested that the School of Music shop for its new Swarthout piano at Steinway & Sons’ Hamburg factory, rather than New York. Although the company insists the manufacturing process is identical at both factories, Spooner says the handmade instruments are finished differently.

Because European concert spaces tend to be smaller than American “megahalls,” Steinway’s Hamburg pianos “are a little less bright, or brilliant,” which makes a Hamburg a good fit for the 273-seat Swarthout: “We didn’t need a huge, loud piano, like we need at the Lied Center.”

Spooner says that the seven pianos offered by Steinway in the Hamburg showroom represented the best pianos he’d ever seen at a selection. He can normally play a few chords and know within 30 seconds whether he has any interest in a particular piano; this time, the process was arduous, and came down to a difficult choice between two beautiful finalists.



BRIAN GOODMAN

Charles Couch, with his wife, Rie, and daughter, Emily. He downplays his contributions to Swarthout’s revival, but is glad for the opportunity to help young musicians hone their talents in an inspirational space. “My dollar amount is relatively small,” he says, “but I hope the vision is big, in terms of the opportunities this hall represents.”

Spooner suggested to Dean Walzel, who accompanied him to Germany, that they purchase both; with a price tag for Hamburg Steinways in the neighborhood of \$150,000, that was not possible, but fundraising is continuing for the purchase of a more affordable New York Steinway to join the Hamburg model in Swarthout.

When KU is able to offer visiting artists a choice between New York and Hamburg Steinways, perhaps within a year, Swarthout will “enter a category of venue that’s pretty rarified.” But even before a new American Steinway joins the inventory, the new Swarthout is already a gem.

“It’s a marriage between the hall and the piano, and this is one of the better halls for a piano recital that I’ve ever heard,” Spooner says. “The difference in the hall with this new piano is that the sound will surround a listener, and then every nuance of a master pianist will be audible.”

Swarthout, of course, is not limited to piano recitals. It hosts senior recitals for KU music majors in every instrument specialization, and even the occasional guitarist. It might be 30-plus years late, but Charles Couch hopes to find the practice time to confidently return for a guitar-cello recital with his mentor, Ed Laut.

Couch is even considering Laut’s suggestion that he hire a luthier to build a

guitar from the same madrone hardwood that graces Swarthout’s floor and stage.

“I have yet to become a classical guitar player,” Couch says. He smiles and adds, “Hope springs eternal.”

As it will for generations of KU music students, world-class musicians and Kansas music lovers who will discover in the renovated Swarthout the music hall of their dreams.

“When you have a space like that, it empowers you,” Couch says. “It shows what’s possible, on so many different levels. It’s inspiration.”

Says Walzel, “This place is about music, and to have a place where music can really be made and learned and experienced and enjoyed at its full potential is something the University of Kansas deserves. And now we have a facility that will rival any in the country. For our students and our faculty and our audiences, it’s going to be a very, very special place.”

It already is. Simply sit and listen. Let Swarthout sing just for you. 🎻

More online

Concert footage and interviews by videographer Dan Storey can be viewed at www.kualumni.org.



MILTON KATZ

Naismith Hall of Fame coach John McLendon, d'36, learned basketball from the man who invented the game, then transformed it with his emphasis on the fast break, pressure defense and physical conditioning. The first coach to win three consecutive national titles and the first African-American to coach a professional basketball team,

McLendon was also out in front on matters of race, as Scott Ellsworth demonstrates in his new book, *The Secret Game*.

Ellworth's exhaustive research (compiled with help from KU archivists, historians and former basketball players) brings to light a remarkable story: a 1944 game played in an empty, locked gym in Durham, North Carolina, between

McLendon's North Carolina College for Negroes team and a powerhouse, all-white military squad of medical students from Duke University. Kept quiet in deference to the tense racial climate of the day, the game demonstrated that white players and black players could compete on the same court, not separated by the color of their skin but united by their

common love of the game.

Lost to history until now, this secret contest also showed just how effective were the innovative methods employed by McLendon, a young coach already well accustomed to pushing boundaries on the court and—as this excerpt detailing the Kansas native's formative years at KU makes clear—off the court as well.

—The editors

by Scott Ellsworth

“That’s How You Do It”

John McLendon, James Naismith, Phog Allen
and the birth of modern basketball



During World War II and in the decades leading up to it, African Americans called themselves colored or Negro. And while these obsolete terms may seem insulting today, they were the accepted terms during the era in which the book’s story takes place. Rather than force today’s terminology into a book that is set largely during the 1940s, and to better capture and stay true to the voices of the period, I have utilized the language of the day.

—S.E.

John McLendon wasn’t the first colored student at the University of Kansas. Not by a long shot. A Negro woman had been admitted in 1870, only four years after the school opened. The first colored graduate came 15 years later, and the Jayhawks baseball and football teams featured Negro players on their rosters throughout the 1880s and 1890s. By World War I, there had been scores of colored KU graduates, while in the late 1920s, the number of colored students on campus in any given year was more than one hundred. When McLendon showed up in Lawrence in the late summer of 1933, Negroes had been attending KU for more than half a century.

But they also lived a most precarious existence. For in Lawrence, despite Kansas’s storied past as a so-called free

state, the abolitionist flame had flickered and all but gone out. In 1882, three Negro men accused of murder were taken away from authorities by an angry white mob and led to a nearby bridge, where they were lynched. “Pete Vinegar, George Robertson and Isaac King were each swung over the bridge and their bodies left dangling over the muddy Kaw,” the Lawrence Daily Journal reported, adding, “Prayers were short.” Colored citizens, who made up nearly a quarter of the town’s population by the turn of the century, were still barred from downtown restaurants, shops, and theaters. Many also felt that after three o’clock in the afternoon, it was unwise to be out on the streets of town. “Lawrence was a nasty old hole,” recalled Arthur Lloyd Johnson, who grew up in the town’s small colored community.

Dark clouds had appeared over KU as well.

Kansas

In 1902, a group of white students stole a Negro cadaver from the medical school and hung it, in plain sight, on campus. Within a decade, colored athletes disappeared from Jayhawks teams, while some professors began insisting that all Negro students enrolled in their courses sit at the back of the classroom. Segregation was part and parcel of campus life. Negro students were banned from living in the dormitories and had to rent rooms from colored families or live in makeshift fraternity houses in North Lawrence or East Lawrence. When the Memorial Union opened a new cafeteria in the 1920s, colored students had to sit in a designated section, even though whites could eat anywhere. A similar mind-set limited the classes Negro students were allowed to take. “The administration would keep blacks out of engineering and blacks out of medicine,” one former KU student recalled. “[They] frowned on law. Music department was wide open. But that was it. See, it was a double, crooked deal.”

Conditions only worsened in the 1930s, as the Great Depression took its toll and fewer and fewer colored families could entertain dreams of a college education for their children. Not only did the number of Negro undergraduates at KU begin to decline, the students themselves had also become less visible. Colored students were barred from attending on-campus dances and could no longer take part in intramural athletics. Unease and uncertainty hovered over the day-to-day lives of colored students. The old Lawrence and the old KU were gone, and what would replace them, in the year 1933, was far from clear.

And John McLendon was about to find out.

His father, however, wasn't taking any chances. For even though it was boiling hot on that late-summer day when he took his son to school, the railroad man didn't slip off his jacket, loosen his tie, and roll up his sleeves, though other men did. Instead he kept his wool jacket on all day long, both outside, in the blazing late-

August sun, and inside the classroom buildings, where the air felt like it was coming from a blast furnace. Anyone watching him closely that day would have noticed that his jacket hung a little lower on the left side. For in the inside pocket—grip up, loaded, but with the safety on—rested a small revolver. You just never knew, the father reasoned; you just never knew for sure.

His son, however, soon had a pretty good idea.

On the very first day of school, John McLendon walked up the steps of the hulking, neoclassical administration building, located his classroom, found an empty desk near the back, and sat down. The class was an introduction to economics. Once the professor arrived, he kicked off the semester in his usual fashion. First he introduced himself and talked a little about the class, which was, as a result of the ongoing economic crisis, more relevant than ever. He called roll after that and greeted the students, many by name. Then he told a nigger joke.

“I just walked right on out,” McLendon later recalled. “The way the classroom was set up, I had to walk behind the instructor,” he said. “He just looked at me, and he looked puzzled. But I didn't say anything. I just kept on going.”

Welcome to KU, McLendon thought to himself.

It was basketball, of course, that had brought John McLendon to Lawrence, and he wasted no time trying to get involved. In those days, players on the KU basketball teams were usually from Kansas. Some were farm boys who had spent long hours shooting at an iron hoop nailed to the side of a barn, and some were from country towns like St. Marys or Osage City. Others, from Topeka and Wichita, had played their high school ball in brick gymnasiums and had traveled to away games on team buses. And being a native Missourian, Phog Allen had no problems with crossing the state line in search of talent. “To hell with Kansas,” grumbled the University of Missouri fans, but it didn't matter. Phog snagged his fair share of Kansas City boys as well.

The Jayhawks were also white. There had never been a Negro basketball player at KU. None had played for James Naismith early on, nor had any been on the roster during the years when the Jayhawks played in the Missouri Valley Conference. When the Big Six Conference was formed in 1928, there weren't any regulations barring colored athletes. Instead there was an unwritten agreement by which all the member universities, including Kansas, agreed not to allow Negro athletes on their teams. Basketball, like all the other varsity sports at KU during the 1930s, was for whites only.



Phog Allen

“Sitting quietly in the stands while the sounds of balls bouncing and sneakers squeaking echoed off the walls of the Robinson gym, John McLendon studied everything that Allen was doing. It was there that he followed the plays painted on the court and unlocked the secrets of the zone defense, and it was there that he learned the little tricks and unusual drills that the KU coach had been perfecting for more than a quarter of a century.”

But at the open tryouts for the Jayhawks varsity team, held in Robinson Gymnasium each fall, McLendon arrived, dressed and ready to play, and took a seat in the bleachers with all the other hopefuls. “I was sitting there with the other guys,” McLendon recalled, “and Phog Allen is calling some of the guys out to do some of the drills that he’s doing. But he never did call me. And so I said to myself, ‘Well, this is a hopeless situation.’ And then I went around to the other students, and they said, ‘They don’t allow you to play on anything.’”

McLendon was beginning to get the picture. Or at least some of it. For even though Allen honored the gentleman’s agreement and kept the Jayhawks lily-white, his personal life revealed a different side. For years, Phog’s next-door neighbors on Louisiana Street in Lawrence were a colored family named Holland, whose patriarch, born a slave in Tennessee, had served in the Civil War as a private in the Fortieth Regiment of the United States Colored Troops. Not only did the Allens and Hollands get along, Phog also spent time in the homes of other Negro families in Lawrence as well. “I’d say six to 10 times Phog Allen was in my living room,” recalled Arthur Lloyd Johnson, whose family ran a market garden. “I don’t know



John McLendon (page 28) in 1936, his senior year at KU, and (above) and 1941.

anything about him negative. When they started integrating, he was ready to coach blacks. I wouldn’t scratch him up as a racist.”

“He was a just a prisoner of the system,” McLendon reflected decades later. “If he tried to change it, he’d’ve lost his job, as great a coach as he was.” In order to build his basketball dynasty in Lawrence and create the first modern version of college basketball, Allen also went along with what the university administration—and, by extension, the all-white state legislature—wanted, especially when it came to matters of race. “I always say that he was a victim, because the first chance he got he showed where his heart was,” McLendon said. For his part, McLendon—who was the first colored physical education major at KU—didn’t hold a grudge. “He was my teacher,” he said, “and we got along well.” Not only did Allen teach him physical therapy, first aid, athletic administration,

and the principles of physical education, he also taught him something about coaching.

Like a number of his classmates, McLendon used to go down and watch the Jayhawks practice at Robinson Gymnasium. Sometimes he would sit high up, where the indoor track was, and get a view of the floor. But other times he would sit on the bench, where from time to time one of the students would be called out onto the floor to help run a play. “The first time I went,” McLendon recalled, “I went ready to practice, just to see if he would let me come out on the court. He never even looked my way. But then it wasn’t embarrassing. I was just trying him out.”

Sitting quietly in the stands while the sounds of balls bouncing and sneakers squeaking echoed off the walls of the Robinson gym, John McLendon studied everything that Allen was doing. It was there that he followed the plays painted on



The Secret Game
A Wartime Story of Courage, Change, and
Basketball's Lost Triumph
By Scott Ellsworth
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the court and unlocked the secrets of the zone defense, and it was there that he learned the little tricks and unusual drills that the KU coach had been perfecting for more than a quarter of a century. “He had his players shoot free throws with blindfolds,” McLendon remembered. It was an exercise in muscle memory—and it worked. “In a free throw, the body has to remember without your mind being a concern. If you aim that ball, you miss. If you get worried about missing it, you will.” In the Robinson gym, what McLendon did get was an unofficial advanced degree in coaching basketball.

By the early 1930s, the number of colored students at KU had been cut in half.

Negro wage earners—“last hired, first fired,” the saying went—had been hit hard by the Depression, and many could no longer entertain dreams of college educations for their children. In Lawrence, most of the sixty or so colored undergraduates made ends meet with part-time jobs, such as washing dishes at the white fraternity houses and working on the serving line or in the cafeteria kitchen in the Union. Forced to live off campus, they were held together partly by KU’s four Negro sororities and fraternities. Not only

were these groups an oasis away from the daily sting of segregation, they were also the source of scuttlebutt on what classes to take, which teachers to avoid, and what, in fact, a Negro student could and could not do at the University of Kansas.

But not for John McLendon. Though he lived at the Kappa house, he refused to join. Part of it had to do with the hazing and initiation rituals. “My roommate,” McLendon recalled, “had his kidney ruptured because of the beating they gave him. He was a little guy, about one hundred and five pounds. They ran all the way across the room and hit him with a paddle with holes in it.” When the Kappas approached McLendon about joining, he had an alternative proposal. “I said, ‘I’ll join if you let me hit you every time you hit me.’ But I never had anyone take me up on that.” There was another reason as well. “If you were a Kappa, you weren’t supposed to date Deltas. And if you were an Alpha, you weren’t supposed to date AKAs. And I told them it was stupid,” he said. “I mean, there’s just a few of us here, and you’ve got all these stupid things. Why should we divide ourselves any further?”

McLendon’s troubles with status quo did not begin and end in KU’s tiny colored community. Elected as the first-ever Negro member of the student council, he soon found himself wrestling with phantoms. “They had some little rules that weren’t written, you know. These were the hardest to get rid of.” For example, whites and Negroes weren’t supposed to play snooker together in the student union, so one evening McLendon and one of his roommates ended that prohibition. Negroes couldn’t get served at some of the soda fountains downtown, either, but fixing that took longer. “I’d order something, and then they’d wait on everybody else.” Finally one day McLendon noticed that a white classmate he knew was working behind the counter. “I said, ‘Man, give me a milk shake. What’s wrong with you?’ ”

And then there was the spring dance. The biggest social event of the year, it was a dreamscape of floor-length ball gowns and corsages where farm boys in rented tuxedos danced the box step and small-

town bankers’ daughters, with their hair up and Mama’s good earrings on, wondered whether the young man they were dancing with was “the one.” Because Kansas City, one of the true capitals of the jazz world, was located only 40 miles away, the dance bands were always top-notch. For three and a half hours each year, KU students could forget what it had taken to get them there, forget the Depression, and forget the jobs that weren’t waiting for them when they graduated. But not the colored students. In order to avoid the possibility of “physical contact” between the races, especially between colored men and white women, Negroes had been barred from the dance—even though they, too, had paid their student activity fees. “Most of our colored students understand,” the university chancellor had declared.

McLendon had other ideas. After he learned one year that Andy Kirk and His Clouds of Joy—a nationally known Negro band that operated out of the Pla-Mor Ballroom in Kansas City—would play at the spring dance, he decided to go, too. But none of the other colored students would hear of it.

“You can’t go,” they said.

“We’re paying a fee, aren’t we?” McLendon said.

“Yes.”

“Well,” McLendon said, “I’m going.”

McLendon then called on his girlfriend, Alice Hultz, a local high school student, and asked her if she wanted to go.

“Can we get in?” she asked.

“We’ll have to see. Put on your stuff and let’s go.”

McLendon was playing a dangerous game. Even in Kansas—crazy Kansas, where a colored person never knew for sure what he or she could or could not do—he had already been skating along the edge. In truth, in spite of all his bravado, as he and Alice walked up the Hill that early spring evening with the sounds of “Bearcat Shuffle” and “Moten Swing” drifting out into the night air, he hadn’t a clue as to what lay ahead.

It turned out to be a white student standing at the door.

“You going to the dance?” he asked.

“That’s what we came for,” McLendon replied.

“Okay.”

And that was that. “We walked on in and started dancing,” McLendon remembered. “And they [the white students] were always worried whether I was going to dance with one of them. But we didn’t want to dance with anyone except each other.”

He added, “We had a good time.”

Not everything would run so smoothly, but one place where it did was in Naismith’s orbit. McLendon had met the old man on his very first day in Lawrence when he rapped on the door to Naismith’s office—a windowless, cramped cubbyhole packed with papers and books and located below one of the stairways in

the Robinson gym. Naismith had asked the new freshman why he had come to KU, and McLendon had explained that his folks didn’t have enough money to send him to Springfield College and that when his dad discovered Naismith was in Lawrence, the decision took care of itself.

“So your dad told you to come here and find me?” Naismith asked.

“Yeah.”

A slight smile appeared beneath the old man’s salt-and-pepper mustache.

“Fathers are always right,” he said.

But the real beginning of their relationship came on the first day of school, when McLendon reported what had happened in his economics class. “You did right to leave the class,” Naismith said. After that, John McLendon simply couldn’t get enough of James Naismith. And the elderly professor, for his part, found his

new advisee to be a delight. It wasn’t long before McLendon started haunting the office below the stairs.

On the surface they were an odd pair. Divided by age, race, nationality, and even size, there was much that could have kept John McLendon and James Naismith apart. But there were other things that, revealed over time, helped draw them together. Both had lost their mothers at a young age. Both had spent some of their earliest years on a farm. And both, for different reasons and in different ways, were outsiders.

McLendon soon learned that as an instructor Naismith had his own distinctive style. “He taught gymnastics with folded arms,” McLendon recalled. “He’d tell you exactly what you were supposed to do, and he’d stand there with his arms folded. And then you’d get up there and kill yourself.” When the old man learned that McLendon could box, he had him lace up his gloves with a white student who had a reputation as a bully. “I caught the fellow flush in the face with my second punch, and he was counted out in a sitting position,” McLendon recalled. Another time Naismith asked McLendon if he wanted to learn how to fence, then whacked him on the head with a fencing foil. “Talk about ‘Old Naismith was so quiet,’” McLendon later recalled. “I know better than that.” So that they could master human anatomy, he had each of his students purchase his or her own cadaver.

Soon there was another issue that would draw the student and the teacher even closer together. But unlike the situation in the economics class, it was not an issue from which, in the end, either of them could simply walk away.

.....

In James Naismith, McLendon found a staunch ally in the personal and professional battles he would fight at KU. The battlefield was often Robinson Gymnasium, where McLendon was rebuffed in his attempts to join the basketball team but successful in his determination to integrate the University’s swimming pool.



SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY (2)

In 1924 a new requirement had suddenly appeared in the university catalog. All graduating students, it declared, had to know how to swim. While many students welcomed the opportunity to learn, others, out of fear or anxiety or simply stubbornness, tried to worm their way out of the requirement. “Some students, I fear, received their degrees in this period under false pretenses. Many and varied were the schemes to ‘get by’ the swimming examiner,” a retired KU chemistry professor later recalled.

Colored students, however, didn’t need schemes to get out of the swimming test.

“Although the university was integrated, the pool at Robinson Gymnasium was not,” Milton Katz, the biographer of John McLendon, has written. Negro students, including those who were about to graduate, simply had the swimming requirement waived and were given an automatic A in swimming—even if they couldn’t do the dog paddle or hadn’t ever seen a pool. Among white students, however, the clamor over the hated requirement grew so loud that, in 1933, the university administration dropped it—except, that is, for physical education majors, all of whom were white. McLendon’s arrival changed that.

At first the plan had been to waive his swimming requirement altogether. But McLendon had other ideas. One afternoon he simply showed up at the pool, located in the basement of Robinson Gymnasium, and jumped in. Afterward, the manager drained the pool. When McLendon showed up the next day, the manager drained it again—and then called in help from the administration. While the other PE students could swim whenever they pleased, McLendon was informed that he could only swim on Friday afternoons. And so, once a week, he swam alone. Afterward the manager drained the pool. The compromise, it appeared, would work.

Only the incident wasn’t over. McLendon and some supportive white students arranged a meeting with the university chancellor and proposed a test run. For two weeks, they proposed, let the pool be open to all students, regardless of race. But if there were any racial incidents, the pool



MILTON KATZ

While still a student at KU, McLendon (back row, left) coached Lawrence Memorial High School’s all-black basketball team to a state championship.

would remain all white. The chancellor agreed, and the test was on. But Naismith was worried.

“What are you going to do?” he asked McLendon.

“I’ll think of something.”

That night McLendon sent the word out that all the Negro students at KU were to meet him at the Ninth Street Baptist Church. “I told them not to go to the pool,” he remembered. “If they weren’t there, there couldn’t be an incident.” It worked. The colored students stayed away, and nothing happened, while in the meantime a sympathetic white KU football player delivered a petition to chancellor Ernest Lindley, signed by a thousand students, requesting that the color line be erased at the pool. Lindley capitulated, and two weeks later, according to the agreed-upon conditions, swimming at KU should have been open to all students.

Only the pool manager wasn’t finished, either. Instead he put up signs announcing that colored students would have their own “privileged swim” on Thursday afternoons at three o’clock. “So,” McLendon said, “I took them all down.” But the manager still wouldn’t give in. That time he went directly to Phog Allen, who immediately called McLendon in for a meeting.

“If you plan to graduate,” Allen told McLendon sternly, “you can’t do this.”

“You can go cross the street right now and ask Dr. Lindley about this.”

“Oh, never mind,” Allen said. “That’s not the way I meant it.”

And with that, it was all over. McLendon had won. The pool was open to all.

The bond between John McLendon and James Naismith, meanwhile, grew stronger.

The old man had helped McLendon find ways to fulfill his practice-teaching requirements, first at Lincoln School, a Negro elementary school across the river, and then at Lawrence High School, where McLendon coached the colored varsity basketball team (the school had an all-white team, too) all the way to a state championship. But Naismith also had his protégé help him teach gymnastics to a mixed group of white and colored students at one of the junior high schools. The white students, McLendon recalled, didn’t care who was teaching. “They just wanted to learn something.”

But the heart of their relationship was always basketball. While the rest of the world no longer really cared what James Naismith had to say about the game he invented, McLendon did—and their

discussions were long and numerous. Naismith, for example, hated the zone defense, which Phog Allen's KU teams were then using. "Dr. Naismith abhorred the zone," McLendon recalled. "He abhorred any idea in the game that would have you retreat and wait for the offense to come to you." For Naismith, the game had always been, first and foremost, about recreation. And whether they were talking in class or in Naismith's office, McLendon—regardless of his own opinion—drank it all in.

But their most important conversation, as it turned out, came by chance. One bright and sunny afternoon, with a hint of autumn in the air, the two men were quietly sitting outside a local elementary school watching a group of first and second graders "play" basketball out on the playground. None of the children could dribble very well, and there was practically no scoring. Instead, whenever one of the boys or girls got hold of the ball, the other children would suddenly converge on the ball handler. To an outside observer it was just a mass of arms and legs with a ball in the middle moving quickly yet aimlessly up and down the playground. Only Naismith saw something else.

"That's it!" he suddenly cried out. "That's how you do it!"

Although John McLendon did not know it yet, this fleeting episode would turn out to be one of the key moments in his life, a turning point that would forever alter all that lay ahead. He would think of it many times. Naismith's seven words were more than a simple declaration. They were also the beginning of a brand-new approach to basketball, one that focused on speed and a relentless attack. There, on a dusty Kansas schoolyard during the depths of the Great Depression, the future of basketball suddenly shifted. There, for McLendon, another door had swung open.

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Championship pedigree



JAMES E. SHEPARD LIBRARY



MILTON KATZ (C)

John McLendon introduced his brand of fast-break, pressure-defense basketball at the North Carolina College for Negroes in Durham (top), and won championship trophies (left) at the high school, AAU, college and professional basketball levels. On a 1995 pilgrimage to Naismith's boyhood home, McLendon posed with his mentor, holding what is believed to be the same ball grasped by Naismith in the photo.

McLendon documentary in the works

A documentary film about John McLendon, produced by Scott Unruh, j'76, will be released later this year. "The Forgotten Coach" is the story of McLendon's struggle for equality in the 1940s and 1950s. The film was inspired by the 2007 book *Breaking Through: John B. McLendon, Basketball Legend and Civil Rights Pioneer*, (University of Arkansas Press, \$19.95) by Milton Katz, a Kansas City Art Institute professor of American studies. *Kansas Alumni* thanks Katz for allowing photographs from his personal collection to be reprinted here.

FERGUSON

CITY WALK



The Road Ahead

Councilman and community advocate Dwayne James hopes to engineer turnaround for troubled St. Louis suburb

In the wake of the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager, by a white police officer Aug. 9, 2014, Ferguson, Missouri, was thrust into the national spotlight. The St. Louis suburb unraveled as protests erupted and riots flared. Storefronts succumbed to vandalism and looting. Reports of racial bias and constitutional rights violations plagued a polarized community and pitted many of its residents against law enforcement officials. The fallout seemed endless.

Since then, some locals have abandoned Ferguson in favor of a quiet life far from the media's penetrating stare. Others stayed, despite stress and steady reminders of last year's tragedy, to support local businesses and stand with those who strive for a safer, peaceful future for Ferguson.

Dwayne James, the only black council member at the time of the shooting, will stay.

"I can't see myself leaving," he says. "I love the community."

A career in politics wasn't on the agenda for James, e'94, when he moved to Ferguson in 1997. The St. Louis native was working for an engineering firm when

he was approached to join his neighborhood association. He agreed.

After stints as the association's treasurer and later vice president and president, James moved on to serve on Ferguson's planning and zoning commission. Having proven himself as a leader, James was ready to fill a seat on the city council when a member resigned in 2007.

His position in city government was challenging at the time, but it was nothing compared with what he would face seven years later.

"When I first started, no one knew about Ferguson. Ferguson was not in the spotlight," James says. "Now, everything



you do is not only looked at by the residents and the stakeholders in the community, but it's part of the broader issue, the broader conversation."

James and Ferguson's other 21,000 residents still feel the effects from last year's tragic events. People from surrounding communities remain reluctant to come to the small town, and that's hurt the local economy.

"Businesses have suffered," James says. "And a lot of them are mom-and-pop shops. They were already doing what they needed to do to survive and provide for their families, and now they have to worry about overcoming this idea that

by Heather Biele ■ Photographs by Kevin Lowder



Calls for peace in bold graffiti are stark contrasts to the damage many Ferguson businesses endured during the riots.

Ferguson is so bad and destructive.”

Much of the community’s tumultuous history came to light with the March 4 release of the U.S. Department of Justice report, which outlined a number of constitutional violations against the people of Ferguson and recommended drastic changes in practices for both the Ferguson Police Department and the Ferguson Municipal Court. James explains that government officials have actively addressed these issues and are working hard to make positive change in the community—the results just aren’t as immediate as everyone would like.

Outside of his work on the council and a full-time job at Jacobs Engineering Group in St. Louis, James focuses much of his attention on Ferguson’s youths. In 2010, he spearheaded Ferguson Youth Initiative (FYI), a program that encourages the city’s teenagers to become more actively engaged in their community. He currently serves as the president of the nonprofit group’s board of directors. FYI also relies on a youth advisory board to help create new initiatives for 13- to 17-year olds and provide feedback on existing programs.

“We saw, from listening to them, that there weren’t enough programs and activities geared just toward them,” James says.

One FYI project James is particularly proud of is the Ferguson Community Service Program, which provides the city’s young people opportunities to perform mentor-guided community service in lieu of fines or incarceration for city ordinance violations. The program is a win-win for Ferguson, he says. Residents, businesses, schools and churches benefit from it, and youths learn valuable lessons in responsibility and accountability for their actions.

“They see the community in a different light by volunteering and providing service,” James says. “And the community sees them as active participants and not in the negative light that they might have seen them in before.”

FYI also served as an open forum for the city’s youths following the shooting last year. James explains that teenagers wanted to meet and discuss their feelings in a supportive, safe environment.

“They held a teen summit to talk about what needed to be done,” he says. “They wanted to talk to the city and police department and say, ‘How are we going to work together?’”

James says the youths recognized that not only did law enforcement and city officials need to do a better job for Ferguson, but also that young people had to do their part and take some responsibility—and work a little harder, too.

The teens now plan to create a task force to put their ideas for Ferguson’s future into action.

Gail Babcock, FYI program director and a 20-year Ferguson resident, has worked with James on the board of directors for the last four years.

“He recognized what was missing in our community was something for teenagers,” she says. “He was the initiator of this. He kept the meetings going and kept volunteers coming in. He helped build the website and set up our Facebook account. He’s just a dynamo when it comes to organizing people and bringing them together.”

Babcock says that when FYI first started as a nonprofit, it was difficult to fund the project. James helped the group create a budget and found ways to raise money through volunteer projects, including making candles and “Ferrariums,” a clever name given to terrariums they built, to sell at the local farmers’ market.

The program was making strides and had started applying for grants when the shooting occurred.

“We had a lot going on prior to everything that’s happened here,” Babcock says. “It definitely slowed us down.”

Although the events in Ferguson took a toll on FYI and at times made it difficult for the city’s teenagers to safely attend

events, Babcock insists that the group is rebounding and growing now at a faster pace—and she credits James for a lot of that.

“He’s just a really committed person to the community and to the youths,” she says. “He works really, really hard to make this happen.”

As Ferguson Youth Initiative looks forward to a positive future for the city and its young residents, so does James.

In April, he was joined by three new city council members, two of whom are also black. Although the election of Ella Jones, the first black woman on the council, and Wesley Bell makes for a more racially balanced governing body, the road ahead isn’t smooth for these city officials, new or incumbent.

“As we continue to work to build and rebuild our community, it is going to take everyone working together, doing what they can to make things better for our residents,” James says. “I trust that the new council members have fresh ideas that I am excited to hear and work with them to implement.”

This year, the council is responsible for hiring a new city manager, police chief and municipal judge—all of whom resigned following the release of the U.S. Department of Justice report—as well as tending to changes in law enforcement policies recommended by the Department. Some local Ferguson activists also have started a recall petition to remove the current mayor, James W. Knowles III, from his seat, suggesting the political climate is still highly charged, despite the changes brought with the recent election.

As for James, his term on Ferguson’s city council expires in 2016. He isn’t sure what lies ahead for his political career, but he resolves to stay engaged in some way.

“There’s a lot more work that needs to be done after this year,” James says. “It’s going to take a lot of community support as well. So on council or not, I’ll still support those initiatives that unify and help our residents.”

The future of Ferguson



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF FERGUSON YOUTH INITIATIVE (4)



KEVIN LOWDER

Dwayne James and Gail Babcock (center) work closely with the city’s young people to build programs and plan activities designed to keep the next generation of Ferguson engaged and involved in their community. “I have to make sure more youths are engaged,” says James. “We already have a good group of youths, but we don’t have everyone that needs to be involved.”

Association

DAN STOREY



Back on the Hill

**Alumni relive good times,
make new memories**

The sights and sounds of spring provided the perfect backdrop as nearly 200 alumni and guests returned to Mount Oread April 9-11 for the Class of '65 and Gold Medal Club reunions.

The weekend kicked off on Friday with guided tours of Quantrill's Raid through Lawrence, campus bus tours, and a lunch and presentation with KU student leaders.

An evening reception and dinner followed at Adams Alumni Center, where Mary Kay Kennedy Henderson, d'65, class secretary, delivered a warm welcome to attendees. Before distributing the 50-year pins, Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little spoke of changes on the horizon for KU and ensured the group of the University's commitment to fulfilling its mission and making the '65 graduates proud.

"Thank you for your love of this University," she said. "It's a wonderful place to be."

KU Endowment President Dale Seuferling, j'77, also participated in the evening festivities and thanked the group for their loyalty and support for the University. He praised the Class of '65 for their generosity, as evidenced by the \$24.5 million in financial support they have donated to the University over the past 50 years.

"In so many ways you have supported KU," Seuferling said. "You've increased the value of our KU brand and brought distinction upon our University."

Throughout the evening, alumni gathered in groups and shared memories with one another from their days on the Hill. Many recalled historical events, including President Kennedy's assassination, the Selma to Montgomery marches in Alabama and the civil rights movement, which incited sit-ins at Strong Hall.

"By the time we graduated, it had become a turbulent time," remembered Annette Luyben, d'65.


One event most everyone at the reunion remembered fondly, though, was the football team's upset victory over Oklahoma in 1964.

Longtime friends and fellow Jayhawks Mike Milroy, Thad Sims, Annette Luyben, Elaine Proctor Cannon, Kay Kelly Hoffman, Julia "Ellie" Taylor Sims, Donna Multer Ward, and Betty Milroy reconnected at the 50-year reunion at Adams Alumni Center. Highlights included campus bus tours, presentations from KU leaders, and performances by the KU marching band and chamber singers. Cannon (below) was one of more than 60 alumni who received a 50-year pin and citation from Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little.

"They won 15 to 14," recalled Donna Multer Ward, d'65.

On Saturday morning, Gold Medal Club members—alumni who have passed their 50th class anniversaries—gathered at the Adams Center for brunch and a presentation by Bryan Young, e'95, g'97, director of the University Honors Program.

Warren Corman, e'50, received a Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award, which recognizes Jayhawks who have demonstrated more than 10 years of volunteer service as KU ambassadors in their local communities.

"Warren has served our country, KU and the Alumni Association extremely well," said Heath Peterson, d'04, g'09, the Association's vice president for alumni programs, who presented the award to Corman. "He is a great example for Jayhawks everywhere." 



DAN STOREY

A NOTE FROM KEVIN

Association aims to sustain Commencement spirit for alumni

Commencement is an exciting time for more than 6,000 students participating in the ceremonial walk down the Hill into a colorful stadium of proud family members. It's a walk that requires years of hard work, late nights and strong nerves, yet to those observing, it appears as if there was never a care in the world. Smiles, cheers and laughter abound as the graduates gather on Memorial Drive, walk through the Campanile and down the Hill into Memorial Stadium. The final stretch across the football field to the north end zone features high-fives, cartwheels, students carrying one another on their shoulders, banners of "Thanks, Mom and Dad," and a vast array of artistic expressions—all displayed on the stadium's video board.

The KU Commencement tradition has occurred 143 times, and even those who have attended many, many times still soak up the experience as if it were their first.

The ceremony also reminds the University and the Alumni Association that, even though we lose 6,000 students across KU's five campuses, we gain them as alumni. These new alumni now have the opportunity to be part of one of the most loyal and powerful alumni networks in all of higher education. The pride they will feel in the years to come when a stranger notices their Jayhawk apparel and says "Rock Chalk!" will differ from the pride they felt as students surrounded by fellow Jayhawks. The bond forms immediately and spans generations of graduates.

Continuing to provide communications, programs and services to keep more than 220,000 graduates engaged in advancing the University is a commit-



Corbett

ment that we and 42,000 members of the Association take seriously. Recent online and local career networking events have been highly successful additions to our existing portfolio of 400 annual programs. Add a record number of email communications coordinated and delivered on behalf of KU and academic units, and you begin to get the picture that building and managing a vast Jayhawk network takes many forms. The Alumni Association is a lifelong partner to thousands of Jayhawks.

To build an even stronger, more powerful network for the future, the Association must continue to create opportunities and experiences that replicate, in some way, the pride and connection we all felt as we walked down the Hill and became graduates. The support of 42,000 Association members, 500 annual members of the Presidents Club and hundreds of volunteers helps ensure that this Class of 2015 has every right to do cartwheels. Rock Chalk!

—Kevin J. Corbett, c'88
KU Alumni Association president

Two birthdays

Rock Chalk Ball partygoers revel in KU's 150th, the ball's 20th

More than 750 alumni showed off their finest crimson and blue April 25 to salute the University's sesquicentennial at this year's Rock Chalk Ball, appropriately titled "Hail to Old KU." The annual black-tie event, which celebrates its own 20th birthday this year, was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Kansas City Convention Center.

"This is a rare year when we have an opportunity to celebrate the anniversary of the ball and the 150th birthday of KU," says Betsy Winetroub, c'05, director of Kansas City programs for the Association. "Everyone came with that kind of birthday party, fun celebration mentality. It made this year stand out from others."

Reminders of KU's strong tradition flooded the ballroom, as guests enjoyed a slideshow of images depicting significant events in the University's history, and table toppers proudly displayed the Jayhawk's many shapes and sizes over the years. KU Libraries also provided a special exhibition of priceless photos and other rare keepsakes from KU's history.

Paxson, c'87, and Kelly McElhinney St.



Former KU football player Darrell Stuckey energized the crowd as emcee of this year's Rock Chalk Ball.

Association

Clair, c'87, l'90, chaired the event, and former KU football player and San Diego Charger Darrell Stuckey, c'09, was the evening's emcee. Several Rock Chalk Ball founders also attended the event: David Adkins, c'83, l'86; Jennie Boedeker Bennett, c'77; and Lewis, c'75, and Laura Davis Gregory, j'75.

"The tie to Kansas football made it so special," says Paxson St. Clair of this year's ball. "Darrell Stuckey did a fantastic job, and he was so much fun the entire night. Also having Coach Bowen and Coach Beatty there made it very special. They are such great leaders of a program that has been down, and they worked all night long to meet people and support the University."

The evening kicked off with cocktails and a silent auction before guests moved into the main ballroom for a live auction, dinner and dancing. Once again, the Nigro Brothers, Kansas City's famous charity auctioneers, led the live auction and rallied

the crowd into a bidding frenzy.

The highest bid of the evening was \$8,500 for a fiberglass Jayhawk—so popular that two birds were auctioned off at that price. Also bringing in the big bucks was the Coach Beatty Experience, which netted \$5,000 and included dinner for 10 guests with the new football coach, as well as six suite tickets to a home football game and six passes to the Association's Presidents Club tailgate. After dinner, guests hit the dance floor for the soulful sounds of Atlantic Express.

Red-carpet photos and party pics from the event can be found at kualumni.org/events/rock-chalk-ball and can be downloaded at no charge.

Next year's Rock Chalk Ball will be April 23, 2016, at the Overland Park Convention Center. For more information, contact Winetroub at bwinetroub@kualumni.org or call the Association at 800-584-2957.



Guests enjoyed cocktails and perused the KU Libraries exhibition of KU artifacts during the opening reception at Rock Chalk Ball. Students from the alumni leadership board took the stage during the live auction to show how donations fund critical programs and student opportunities. Chancellor Gray-Little and Shade Little mingled with Big Jay as the festivities began. Paxson and Kelly McElhinney St. Clair, co-chairs of this year's ball, showed off their crimson and blue spirit to celebrate KU's 150th. Alumni and their guests danced the night away to the tunes of Atlantic Express.



STEVE PUPPE (5)

Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships March 1 through April 30. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Ashlen R. Angelo
 Paul W. Barrett
 Terri Gast Bell
 James H. Bernard III & Alyssa Aude Bernard
 Casey R. & Jacklyn M. Biggs
 Stephen M. Blanchard Jr. & Laura M. Blanchard
 Lindsey K. Bloom
 Linda L. Brown
 Taylor R. Burkhead
 Daniel J. Burns
 Allison P. Butler
 JoAnn G. Carroll
 Mike Clark
 Nancy E. & Bob Corkins
 Jon E. Dahlfors
 Donald E. Davis Jr.
 Adam C. Dees
 Jason S. Drummond
 Annie Duckworth
 Brian T. & Mary E. Duffy
 Lindy Eakin & Elizabeth B. A. Miller
 Kyle J. & Hannah F. Eichelberger
 Darby Evans
 G. Max Faerber
 Christine Hartigan Falk
 Jason D. Fauss
 Karen D. Fender
 Jackson K. Ferguson
 Michelle McGavran Folkmann
 Marcy R. Fowler
 Mike M. Gabrawy
 Nicholas J. & Betsey Johnson Gallinger
 Michael P. Garrett
 Lindsey E. Gaston
 Michael A. Geller
 Rebecca L. Goering
 Amy M. Goodpasture
 Patricia A. Green
 Bradley J. & Michelle Ducey Growcock
 Rebecca Deeds Hamel

Sarah E. Hannah-Spurlock
 Kaleb S. Hawk
 Alec R. & Jessica Brady Hermanson
 Tyler S. J. Holmes
 Joyce E. Houser-Ferkovich
 Jacquelynne S. Hunt
 Janel S. Ikeda
 Mason N. Jones
 Shylah Reuter Karvo
 Robert D. Karwath Jr.
 Adam D. Keesling
 Wendell W. Kellogg
 Jeffrey C. & Joni L. Klemp
 Kylie A. Krizek
 John E. Kyees
 Ryan A. Libel
 Qiwu Liu
 Samuel H. Logan
 Jonathan T. & Miriam Lusk
 Christina Martin & Chad M. Barnett
 Jose L. Martinez
 K. Scott Mathews
 Amanda K. Matney
 Matthew Y. McCulley
 Jaclyn L. McCullough
 Carolyn M. McKanna
 Ryan J. McNeel
 Kelly Rake Meier
 Carissa E. Miller
 Jeremy M. Mims
 Matt D. Modrcin
 Kevin & Suzanne Wright Nelson
 William E. & Jennifer Ryan Newton
 Melissa L. Nguyen
 Caryl A. & Lyle C. Niedens
 Donna Crabb Nyght
 S. Patrick & Shannon Kerr O'Bryan
 Marquise R. Paige
 Brian A. & Deborah Pappas
 Brent M. Perry
 Carolyn A. Peterson



Danielle Lafferty Hoover, c'07, is the Association's new assistant director of Wichita programs. From her office on the KU Medical Center's Wichita campus, she works with Wichita Network alumni volunteers to plan 20 local events each year, including the Jayhawk Roundup, which will be Oct. 3 at Murfin Stables. She is a Wichita native. Ben Shepley is the new director of facilities for the Adams Alumni Center. Ben has significant project management, renovation and hands-on repair experience, having previously been employed at Paul Davis Restoration and more recently as a project superintendent for First Construction.

William D. & Wendy Tiemann Picking
 Joseph E. Pierle
 Frederick J. Pinne III & Wendy Raymond Pinne
 William C. Pollard Jr.
 Kevin T. Pringle
 Christie Reed Reniger
 Nicole L. Rissky
 Elizabeth K. Rupp
 Justin A. Sadowski
 Caitlin R. Scheckel
 Paige E. Schmidt
 Austin J. Schroeder
 Ervin Sims Jr.
 Andrew K. & Kelly Shepherd Smith
 Jeffrey A. Smith
 Martha Holman Smith
 Christopher W. Sook
 Becky S. Spencer
 James A. Steer III
 Madeline L. Sturgeon
 Jessica A. Swenson
 R. Patrick Thelen
 Ferol L. Thielen
 Colin R. Thomas
 Peg Vanwagoner
 Jessica L. Walters
 Elizabeth D. Ward
 Laura J. Warner
 Dale A. Werth
 Stephen J. Wojcehowicz
 Garrett P. Wolfe
 Mari Carpenter Wylie
 Angela Wennihan Zambrano
 Heidi K. Zarda
 Adam Zoellner

Class Notes by Karen Goodell

50 Robert Wilson, c'50, l'53, and his wife, Marguerite, continue to make their home in Centennial, Colorado.

58 Allan Higdon, b'58, received the Wichita Aero Club trophy last year for his contributions to the aviation industry and the Wichita community. He and **Judy Dold Higdon**, d'58, make their home in Wichita.

61 John Nowlin, c'61, lives in Bellflower, California, where he serves on the planning commission. He's also vice president of the California Military Officers Association of America.

62 Rita Harris Clifford, n'62, PhD'81, makes her home in Overland Park with her husband, **Jack**, f'60.

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
DPT	Doctor of Physical Therapy
EdD	Doctor of Education
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter)	Former student
assoc	Associate member of the Alumni Association

64 Harry Rutledge, a'64, is a consulting architect with Rutledge Architecture in Albany, New York, where he and his wife, Nancy, make their home.

66 Jerry Rees, e'66, g'69, a civil engineer, makes his home in Leawood with his wife, Sallie Veenstra.

Patricia Wulf Steinkuehler, d'66, serves on the Friends of Maclay board of the Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park. She lives in Tallahassee, Florida.

67 James Brink, c'67, received a Distinguished Teaching Award earlier this year from the Texas Tech University System. He's an associate professor in the honors college, founder of the Tech Transition freshman seminar and founding chair of the Teaching Academy. Jim and **Pamela Herd Brink**, c'67, g'68, live in Lubbock.

Howard Pankratz, j'67, retired earlier this year from a 41-year career with the Denver Post. He lives in Lakewood.

Patricia Goering Smith, c'67, wrote *Revolution Revisited: Behind the Scenes in East Germany* 1989. She and her husband, **Bill**, d'60, live in Ocean Shores, Washington.

Courtney Worley, d'67, works as a bookkeeper at Center Point Church. He and **Nancy Comstock Worley**, d'69, live in North Richland Hills, Texas.

68 Robert Campbell, j'68, teaches in the school of management at the University of California-San Diego. He and his wife, Jeri Lynne, live in Encinatas.

David Preston, j'68, is president of Scout Aviation in Kansas City. He lives in Overland Park.

Thomas Reid, '68, manages area sales for Landstar in Dublin, Ohio.

69 James Kastelic, c'69, is a planning professional and a fellow at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs. He recently helped lead a planning project that won a national

student award from the American Institute of Certified Planners.

70 Ronald Koelling, '70, is retired from a career in customer service and technical support. He lives in Jay, Oklahoma.

Ted Tracz Jr., c'70, c'71, manages quality control at Luzier Personalized Cosmetics in Grandview, Missouri. He lives in Kansas City.

72 Peggy Robertson Ban, c'72, practices law with the Raynes Law Firm in Houston, where she and her husband, Frank, make their home.

Stephany Brown Hughes, g'72, PhD'03, wrote *Mother as Emotional Coach: 8 Principles for Raising a Well-Adjusted Child*. She teaches writing classes and conducts poetry workshops in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, where she lives with her husband, John Hill.

Hannah Johnson Meredith, d'72, is a dental hygienist at Levison Dental in Lake Oswego, Oregon, where she and her husband, **Michael**, c'72, make their home.

Stephen Winters, c'72, l'75, has been elected co-chair of the national board of directors of Lambda Legal in New York City. He lives in Chicago, where he's retired general counsel for BP America.

Pamela Miller Yates, d'72, teaches art and German for the Tigard Tualatin Public School District. She and her husband, Ben, live in Portland, Oregon.

73 Roger Twibell, '73, owns Logoputter in Mission Hills, where he and his wife, Michelle, make their home.

75 Debra Spruk Carpenter, j'75, is a professor of public relations at Webster University in Webster Groves, Missouri.

Judith Patrick, h'75, is an occupational therapist at the KU Hospital in Overland Park. She lives in Prairie Village.



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DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY VALENTINO STELLA CONFERES WITH POST DOCTORAL RESEARCHER ANTONIO LOFALCO.

PHOTO BY STEVE PURVEY

Larry Peterson, EdD'75, a retired professor of art at the University of Nebraska in Kearney, was a featured artist in an exhibition earlier this year at the Museum of Nebraska Art, which he helped found. Larry and his wife, **Sharon**, assoc., continue to make their home in Kearney.

76 Michael Field, b'76, is a territory manager for Assurance America. He and his wife, Linda, make their home in Summerville, South Carolina.

Kevin Neuer, d'76, retired Sprint vice president of business services, makes his home in Lee's Summit, Missouri, with his wife, **Sharon**, '81.

77 Jennie Boedeker Bennett, c'77, is president of JHB Properties. She lives in Tucson, Arizona.

William Bradley Jr., c'77, f'80, is executive vice president, chief administrative officer, general counsel and secretary of NIC Inc. in Olathe. He and his wife, Roberta, live in Overland Park.

Guy Keefer, c'77, works as inventory and purchasing manager for Spectrum Paint. He lives in Lawrence.

78 Thomas Flanagan Jr., s'78, s'79, directs behavioral health integration at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, where he and his wife, Julie, live.

The Rev. **Robin Hagan**, j'78, is the ministry relations officer for the Presbyterian Foundation. He and **Janice Somerville Hagan**, c'80, live in Kennewick, Washington.

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Wier leaves Olathe North to help restart KU football

When he became KU's new football coach, David Beaty pledged to focus on Kansas high school players—as well as top athletes from across Kansas City, Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma—as the Jayhawks restock their depleted roster.

“Our philosophy is very simple. We think it's a relationship business,” Beaty said Dec. 8 in his first press conference. “We want to do a good job of keeping the best players in the state of Kansas right here at home, at their university. That is top priority for us, and we do that by building relationships.”

One month later, Beaty announced that six-time state championship high school coach Gene Wier, d'71, g'78, had left Olathe North after 25 seasons to become Beaty's director of high school relations.

“When you're in the high school ranks and you get in on the high school chatter, KU's name has not been very high, to be honest,” Wier says. “Coach Beaty hiring me—well, not me as a person, but hiring this position—tells the high school coaches that we want them to have everything they need to have at this University. This alleviates that barrier that they think might be there.”

Wier interrupted his tenure at Olathe

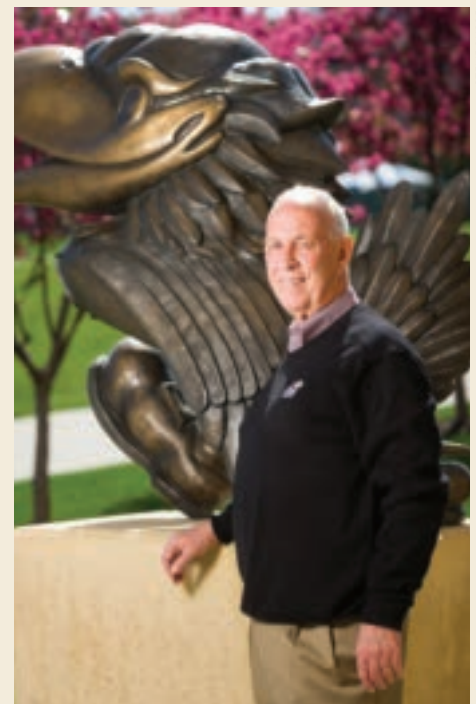
North to spend nine seasons at Richland High School in North Richland Hills, Texas, between Dallas and Fort Worth. Beaty at the time was head coach and athletics coordinator at nearby MacArthur High School, in Irving, and the two formed a professional bond that helped convince Wier to accept Beaty's offer to return to KU.

Although he's no longer coaching or even recruiting, Wier wanted to be part of Beaty's commitment to rebuilding KU football by forming close ties with coaches statewide, as well as in Kansas City and Dallas.

“Coach Beaty is about people,” Wier says. “He likes high school football. He likes those coaches. He's been there, and several of his closest friends are high school coaches.”

Wier—whose son, Brandon, b'01, was a four-year KU football letterman as a defensive back, from 1998 to 2001—helped open the door to high school coaches to attend practice on campus during KU's spring drills, and he's now in charge of building a walk-on program to supplement the 25 new scholarship players allowed to join the team each year.

Wier says he's still working the same long hours he put in as the boss of a championship program at Olathe North. The job is not, he insists, about glad-



STEVE PUPPE

Coach David Beaty says longtime Olathe North coaching legend Gene Wier “is fulfilling a lifelong dream of becoming a Jayhawk.”

.....
handing and golf outings.

“I've seen that elsewhere, and one thing I was insistent upon is that this is not a place for me to slide into retirement. The minute I'm not contributing, I need to go,” Wier says. “I think it's better to get in there and do some work instead of complaining. Whatever my share of that is going to be, that's what I intend to do.”

Class Notes



Janet Gorman Hoven, j'78, serves as mayor of Chester, New Jersey, where she lives with her husband, Donald.

Douglas Hundley, j'78, c'81, f'82, g'93, recently spoke about Abraham Lincoln as part of the Friends of Arrow Rock Lecture Series in Arrow Rock, Missouri. He practices law in Leawood, where he and **Molly Ege Hundley**, b'80, live.

John Martin, n'78, h'81, works as a nurse anesthetist at Palmetto Health Baptist. He lives in Irmo, South Carolina, with his wife, Eloise.

Catherine Cohoon Wolford, f'78, works as a senior actuary at Charles Schwab & Company in Richfield, Ohio. She and her husband, Kermit, live in Aurora.

79 Arthur Andersson, a'79, spoke recently at a public forum sponsored by the Dallas Architecture Forum. He lives in Austin, Texas, where he's co-founder of Andersson-Wise Architects.

Susan Hadl, c'79, s'83, works as a mental health screener for Bert Nash Mental

Health Center in Lawrence, where she retired from a 32-year career with the Lawrence Police Department.

80 Richard Connors, b'80, g'81, joined the law firm of Jackson Lewis as a shareholder. He lives in Overland Park.

Gene Eckenberg, b'80, is Central Region sales manager for KEEN Inc. He and **Patricia Rupert Eckenberg**, h'83, make their home in Shawnee.

David Kenner, c'80, is president of Levy Craig Law Firm in Kansas City, where he and his wife, Nancy, make their home. She's president of Kenner Nygaard DeMarea & Kendall.

Lorraine Mangione, g'80, PhD'84, wrote *Daughters, Dads, and the Path Through Grief: Tales from Italian America*, which was published earlier this year by Impact Publishers. Lorraine lives in Florence, Massachusetts.

Thomas Munyon, c'80, lives in Marysville, Washington, with his wife, Utahna.

William Quatman II, a'80, a'83, is vice

chair of the Design Build Institute of America and senior vice president and general counsel for Burns & McDonnell. He also wrote *A Young General and the Fall of Richmond*, which was published earlier this year by Ohio University Press. He and **Denise Daniel Quatman**, d'80, live in Kansas City.

David Scott, c'80, owns Wellness Within Clinic in Wichita, where he lives. He's also an instructor in the extension department of the University of California-San Diego.

Michael Stucky, b'80, is CEO and an operating partner in Plute Capital in Edgewater, Florida. He and his wife, Kim, live in Ormond Beach.

Paul Wise, b'80, is chief technology officer at Dimensional Fund Advisors in Austin, Texas, where he and his wife,

Donna Cowie Wise, assoc., live.

81 Edward Barns, c'81, p'84, m'88, has joined Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach, Missouri. He is a board-certified otolaryngologist.

Thaine Shetter, j'81, lives in Plainsboro, New Jersey. He's an adjunct instructor at Mercer County Community College.

82 Warren Bickel, g'82, PhD'84, directs the Addiction Recovery Research Center at Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute. He lives in Roanoke and has become a fellow of the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research.

Layne Tait, b'82, m'86, is an anesthesiologist in Bloomington, Indiana. He received his private pilot's license and his instrument rating in 2014, and his commercial pilot's license in January.

83 Allison Baker Hammond, d'83, g'86, is an executive director at Arcadia Institute in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she lives with her husband, Michael.

Joseph Moore, c'83, a retired colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, is acting director for the Strategic Studies Group at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Claudia, live in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Ricky Ross, '83, has been elected to the 2015 class of the Wichita Sports Hall of Fame and Museum. Ricky, who lives in

Wichita, was a shooting guard at KU and averaged 12.2 points per game as a freshman during the 1979-'80 season.

84 Cheryl Roberson-Kouadio, c'84, m'89, practices medicine at Tampa General Medical Group Family Care Center. She lives in Tampa, Florida.

87 Brian Occhipinto, c'87, works as a mortgage loan officer at Enterprise Bank & Trust in Phoenix, where he and **Kathleen Koeller Occhipinto**, '00, make their home.

88 John Montgomery II, j'88, g'91, is vice president, chief operating officer, editor and publisher at Harris Enterprises in Hutchinson, where he and **Dia Noel Montgomery**, j'91, c'91, live.

89 Scott Dougherty, m'89, has joined BayCare Clinic in Marinette, Wisconsin, as a urological surgeon. He and his wife, Julie, live in Green Bay.
Lee Wyatt, l'89, joined the Portland law

firm of Reinisch Wilson Weier as an associate. She and her husband, Pete Baur, live in Corbett, Oregon.

90 Brett Leopold, c'90, is president of ITC Great Plains in Topeka. He lives in Fairway with his wife, Heather.

Douglas McLeod, l'90, owns DKK Energy Services in Makawao, Hawaii, where he lives with his wife, Kandi.

Igor Pangrazio Vera, c'90, became Paraguay's ambassador to the United States last fall. His home is in Asunción, Paraguay.

92 Eufrazio Centella, c'92, coordinates monitoring and evaluation for the National Social Protection System in Panama. His home is in Doral, Florida.

Scott Muyskens, b'92, c'93, is senior vice president at Hinsdale Bank & Trust. He and his wife, JoAnn, live in Chicago.

Chris Scholoesser, '92, works as legislative director for Rep. Donna Edwards, D-Maryland, in Washington, D.C. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Eileen Smith, g'92, is founder and chief executive officer of Kansas Solar Electric Cooperatives in Lawrence.

93 Gregory Gertz, '93, works as a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual McTigue Financial Group in Chicago.

Hale Sheppard, j'93, l'98, g'99, a shareholder in the Atlanta office of Chamberlain Hrdlicka, has been included in the 2015 edition of Georgia Super Lawyers. He makes his home in Decatur.

94 Thomas Fevurly, n'94, a U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, is a site director of nurse anesthesia clinical education at the U.S. Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland.

Randall Griffey, g'94, PhD'00, is associate curator of modern and contemporary art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Jeffrey Guidie, c'94, lives in Anthem, Arizona, where he's a sales executive for Align Technology.



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Jawn Ross, c'94, co-owns Ryker's Cellars, an urban winery in Denver.

95 Kurtis Hassler, e'95, is a senior engineer with George Butler Associates in Omaha, Nebraska, where he lives.

Terrie Dillon Jordan, c'95, works as assistant manager at Do It Best. She and her husband, Rick, live in Smithville, Missouri.

Brett Limer, c'95, works as a software engineer for Sprint in Overland Park. He and **Shelby Canby Limer**, assoc., live in Gardner.

Byron Matthews, b'95, has been promoted to president and general manager of MHI Global. He and **Jennifer Zerbe Matthews**, j'94, make their home in Hinsdale, Illinois.

Bryan Rusch, a'95, is a senior architectural technician for Populous in Kansas City. He lives in Olathe.

Whitney Vliet Ward, c'95, directs the commercial division of Keller Williams Realty Hometown Partners. She and her husband, **Michael**, j'95, live in Wichita.

96 Blake Vande Garde, c'96, f'01, practices patent law with Wiggins & Vande Garde in Charlotte, North Carolina. He and **Nicole Copple Vande Garde**, n'96, live in Waxhaw.

David Nash, '96, manages regional sales for Film Ideas. He makes his home in Wheeling, Illinois.

97 Ryker Brandt, '97, co-owns Ryker's Cellars, an urban winery in Denver. **Jeffrey Carver**, d'97, directs church engagement at Brightpeak Financial. He

PROFILE by Heather Biele

No. 1,000 marks lawyer's pro bono adoption legacy

When Kansas City attorney Gene Balloun and his wife agreed to become foster parents in 1987, they had no idea what was in store for them. Fast forward 28 years, and the couple has cared for 29 children, adopted two of them and just celebrated Balloun's 1,000th pro bono adoption case. To say the experience has been life-changing is an understatement.

Balloun, b'51, f'54, a commercial litigator and partner in the law firm of Shook, Hardy and Bacon, didn't foresee handling adoption cases when he and his wife, Sheila, first joined a support group for foster families years ago. But when fellow parents discovered he was a lawyer, he became the go-to guy for legal advice about the adoption process.

"If you're a lawyer, people start asking questions," Balloun says. "Pretty soon I was doing adoptions for foster parents."

Balloun took each case on a pro bono basis and elected to direct the state fees to a post-secondary education scholarship fund he helped establish for children who have been in the foster care system in Kansas. To date, that fund has distributed more than \$625,000 to almost 500 children.

"We hear from the kids we've helped

sometimes," he says of the recipients of the scholarships. "A few even came to Shook, Hardy and Bacon after graduating. We help give kids a start, then they move on. We keep track of them as best we can."

Balloun says that although helping children and families in the foster care system can be difficult at times, it's always rewarding. He has racked up a number of memorable adoption cases over the years,

including one family who adopted five children at once. But the most unforgettable by far is his 1,000th case, which involved a single mother who adopted 10- and 12-year-old siblings.

"We had a really nice celebration at the courthouse," he says. "I got to thank so many people who have been involved, including my wife, kids and other lawyers at Shook, Hardy and Bacon who have helped with the cases. And the judge was so gracious, just wonderful."

Now that Balloun has reached a milestone in his work with foster care children, does he plan to let up? Not yet,



STEVE PUPPE

"Gene is a brilliant, passionate and completely humble hero among us," Lori Ross, president and CEO of Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association, says of Balloun.

he says. Although he and his wife are no longer foster parents themselves, they still participate in foster parent support groups. He also serves on the board of directors of the Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association.

Balloun's passion for providing permanent homes for children in need will send him back to the courtroom as well, ready for the next child, the next adoption case and the next milestone.

"Being able to help form and create a family is tremendously satisfying," he says. "And seeing happy kids and happy parents—there's nothing better."

Class Notes



and his wife, Cameon, make their home in Edina, Minnesota.

Jeffrey Freese, e'97, has been promoted to project director of the Tarlton Corporation in St. Louis. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Chesterfield, Missouri.

98 Kenda Hultman Caskey, g'98, has been promoted to vice president and engineering director of Burns & McDonnell's process and industrial division in Kansas City. She and her husband, Troy, live in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Joseph Yager, c'98, works as an investment adviser representative at SagePoint Financial in Wichita, where he and **Holly Oglesbee Yager**, c'00, g'04, PhD'09, live.

00 Katherine Wyatt Blocker, c'00, owns Express Employment Professionals in Lawrence, where she and her husband, Michael, live.

Mary Ann Fildes Harrison, g'00, PhD'01, is a principal scientist and program manager for the WVHTC Foundation in

Fairmont, West Virginia. She and her husband, Charles, live in Morgantown.

Casey Dickerson Irwin, c'00, owns Monarch Montessori School in Prairie Village. She and her husband, **Charles**, c'01, live in Kansas City, where he's an account director for Centro.

Damon Klassen, c'00, works as auditorium co-manager for the Taos Center for the Arts. He lives in Taos, New Mexico.

Angela Rosel, d'00, an assistant track and field coach at Utah State University, coaches sprints and hurdles. She makes her home in Logan.

Aarthi Subramanian, g'00, is executive director of the board of directors at Tata Consultancy Services, headquartered in Mumbai, India. She heads the global delivery excellence group.

BORN TO:

Anne Costello, c'00, d'01, and her husband, Mike Evans, son, Samuel David, Jan. 12 in Lawrence, where he joins a brother, Maxwell, 2.

Jana Gruver Rombeck, c'00, and **Terry**,

assoc., daughter, Carly Jeanne, Jan. 23 in Andover, where she joins a brother, Nolan, 4. Jana is an occupational therapist at Via Christi Health in Wichita, where Terry is digital manager.

01 Hilary Evans Berg, j'01, edits Oregon Wine Press. She and her husband, **Christian**, c'93, own Roots Wine Company. They live in Yamhill, Oregon.

Hank Bohanon, PhD'01, is a professor of special education at Loyola University in Chicago. He lives in Skokie, Illinois.

Paul Croker, b'01, l'04, has joined the Kansas City office of Armstrong Teasdale as a litigation partner. He and his wife, Becky, live in Prairie Village.



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Harishachandra Shinde, g'01, is vice president-Canada of Appleton Group. He lives in Chesterfield, Missouri.

BORN TO:

Jason, c'01, l'04, and **Karen Schwarzer Thompson**, b'04, daughter, Victoria George, Dec. 30 in Topeka, where she joins two sisters, Neva, 6, and Caroline, 3. Jason is a senior assistant revisor for the Kansas Office of Revisor of Statutes, and Karen is an accountant for the Adjutant General's Department.

02 Christina Gawlik, d'02, g'05, is a curriculum and technology development specialist at Cyber Innovation Center. She lives in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Matthew Hastings, c'02, m'07, practices neurology at St. Luke's Health System in Kansas City. He and **Elizabeth Riscoe Hastings**, m'07, live in Fairway. She's a developmental and behavioral pediatrician at Children's Mercy Hospital.

Crystal Nesheim Johnson, l'02, has been

appointed magistrate judge for the state of South Dakota. She and her husband, Chad, live in Lennox.

Gerhart Kloiber Jr., b'02, g'10, works as a wealth advisor for Mariner Wealth Advisors in Leawood. He lives in Lawrence.

Jon Lynch, '02, is program director for KDUR radio at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

BORN TO:

Jason Nicolay, b'02, g'03, and **Lisa**, assoc., son, Weston Henry, July 27 in Mission Hills, where he joins a sister, Emerson, 3, and a brother, Camden, 2. Jason is vice president of Media Venture Partners in Kansas City.

03 Trinity Homewood, c'03, is executive chef at Bethel College in North Newton. He and **Amanda Buchholz**, s'02, s'03, live in Newton.

Leita Schultes Walker, c'03, j'03, l'06, is a partner in the law firm of Faegre Baker Daniels. She and her husband, **Jason**, j'02,

live in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Casey Waugh, j'03, manages communications and annual giving for Wayside Waifs in Kansas City. She lives in Olathe.

BORN TO:

Pradeep, g'03, and **Lori Smith Natara-jan**, c'07, daughter, Lilah Mallika, Nov. 20 in Eudora. Pradeep is a staff software engineer for IBM in Lenexa.

Adam, c'03, and **Lisa Kenney Wright**, f'03, daughter, Olivia Susan, Oct. 29 in St. Louis. Adam is campus director at the University of Phoenix, and Lisa is a user interface designer at Sprint.

04 Joseph Hawkins, c'04, m'08, practices medicine at Eudora Family Care. He and **Brandi Mishler Hawkins**, d'05, are residents of Marysville.

Peter Muther, g'04, is sports business development leader with the DLR Group in Overland Park. He and **Kelly Watson Muther**, d'99, live in Lawrence, where Kelly is chief of staff for KU's School of Business.

Class Notes



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Joel Skelley, g'04, directs policy for the Kansas Department of Transportation in Topeka. He and his wife, Dana, live in Tonganoxie.

BORN TO:

Scott Risley, c'04, and Katie, daughter, Harper Jean, Jan. 20 in Lawrence, where Scott practices at Risley Chiropractic.

Sheena Quinn Shearburn, d'04, and **Tylor**, d'06, daughter, Daphne Marie, Jan. 21 in Lawrence, where she joins a sister, Margo, 2. Tylor is a territory manager at Midwest Medical in North Kansas City.

05 Geoffrey Bowers, j'05, works as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo Advisors in St. Charles, Missouri. He makes his home in Ballwin.

Jeffrey Hrabe, d'05, is regional vice president of sales at Cavanal Hill. He and **Jill Burbach Hrabe**, c'04, live in Mission.

Amy Cox O'Hara, j'05, is a senior account executive with Allison & Partners in Scottsdale, Arizona, where she and her husband, **Sean**, l'06, make their home.

BORN TO:

Lauren Debiak Hannawald, j'05, and **Jeffrey**, c'06, son, Turner Samuel, Dec. 17 in Prairie Village. Lauren is director of marketing at Rockhurst University, and Jeff is program manager at Cerner.

Mark, c'05, m'10, and **Holly Rauch Oertel**, f'06, c'06, daughter, Larkin Elouise, Sept. 26 in Lawrence.

Eric, d'05, and **Lindsey Wiges Tanking**, c'07, son, Miles, Feb. 6 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

06 Erin Pursel Massaro, j'06, g'11, is a client services partner at Dovetail Solutions in Denver, where she and her husband, Adam, make their home.

Nathan McKee, c'06, directs learning technologies at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Kiata Sleet Nixon, a'06, is product program manager for Timex Group USA in Middlebury, Connecticut. She lives in Yonkers, New York.

Marisol Romero Romo, c'06, works as a communications specialist for KPERS in Topeka, where she and her

husband, Jesse, make their home.

Jill Maycumber Sommers, c'06, has been appointed to the board of managers of Allston Holdings. She and her husband, Michael, live in Alexandria, Virginia.

Maryna Tov, e'06, is a global corporate accounts manager at Butler Manufacturing in Kansas City. She lives in Leawood.

April Valdez, j'06, coordinates outreach and marketing at Gilda's Club Chicago.

MARRIED

Ronaldo Barron, b'06, and **Elizabeth**

Peterson, c'07, p'12, Dec. 6 in Topeka. He's a divisional sales specialist at Security Benefit Group in Topeka, and she's a clinical pharmacist at KU Medical Center. They live in Prairie Village.

07 Lisa Cloar, f'07, is an administrative associate at KU. She and her husband, **Ryan Pfeiffer**, c'02, live in Lawrence.

Albert Korir, PhD'07, an associate professor of chemistry at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri, received a

Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship to help develop a curriculum in Kenya using technological strategies for teaching chemistry.

Marcello Minzoni, PhD'07, works as a research geologist for Shell Oil. He and **Rebecca Totten Minzoni**, c'09, make their home in Katy, Texas.

08 Francis Baalman, l'08, is a partner in the Wichita law firm of Foulston Siefkin.

Laura Berry Brogdon, d'08, g'11, teaches

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Kansas City father of year gets Royal treatment

Steve Huff chuckles when his son Braxton says he had a hard time coming up with 250 words about him for an essay titled "What My Father Means to Me." Then Braxton finishes his thought.

"It took a long time to get to 250," the 16-year-old says, "because I was over by so much."

Braxton's winning essay was step one in a lengthy process that ended with Steve, b'89, g'91, being declared the 2014 Kansas City Father of the Year before a Royals game in Kauffman Stadium last summer.

The on-field presentation was "shocking and humbling," Huff says. "I don't feel like I'm some outstanding parent. I'm just doing the best I can."

The Merriam-based National Center on Fathering (NCF) started the essay contest in 1992 to raise awareness of the important role fathers and father figures play in children's lives. Finalists this year included a grandfather, a stepfather, a foster father, a campus supervisor and six biological fathers.

Children in grades one to 12 enter the contest, and five essays from each grade win recognition. Those fathers complete a questionnaire, and 10 are selected for a phone interview. Finalists are celebrated at Kauffman Stadium on or around Father's

Day, and one receives the Dan Quisenberry Championship Fathering Award, named after the late Royals pitcher. NCF also bestows a Father of the Year Award in conjunction with the Minnesota Twins.

Braxton's essay praises his father's myriad roles as spiritual leader, algebra tutor, loving husband, KU fan and eBay seller with 100 percent positive feedback.

"He's the man who will attend an Imagine Dragons concert that was a birthday gift for his son," Braxton wrote, "then go home and download the songs he now likes."

Steve says that he and his wife, Debbie, decided early in their marriage that their career focus would shift once they had children. He kept that promise by leaving a travel-heavy job that he loved for more family friendly employment. He now works as vice president of IT at Capitol Federal Savings.

"A lot of it is really just spending time together," Huff says. "We can't make quality time happen. It happens because



STEVE PUPPE

"It helps me think, 'OK, I am doing a lot of the right things,'" Huff says of his fathering award. "To see Braxton write those things down tells me to make sure I do more of that."

you're doing something together, not because you plan for it to happen."

His wife's support, his family's religious faith and the positive examples of his and his wife's parents inform his fathering. Helpful too are a sense of fun and strict adherence to certain family rituals. (He tucks in each of his three children, including 15-year-old Avary and 12-year-old Brendan, every night.)

"There can come a time when your teenager starts to pull away, and I haven't seen that with him yet," Steve says. "To think I have a teenage son who feels this way and was able to express it really kind of blew me away." —

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math at Shawnee Mission West High School. Laura, who lives in Overland Park, received the Educating Excellence Award from Perceptive Software and KU's School of Engineering.

Amy Cahill, f'08, g'11, is an administrative assistant at KCSA Strategic Communications in New York City, where she lives.

Julie Hayes, g'08, manages customer success at Evergage in Somerville, Massachusetts. She and her husband, **Brett Griffin**, '08, live in Boston.

Christopher Kelliher, b'08, works as a sourcing category leader at the University of Chicago medical school.

Andrew Sherwood, j'08, is assistant director of development for Kansas Athletics. He makes his home in Lawrence.

MARRIED

Logan Blackburn, h'08, g'10, and **Kelly Underwood**, c'10, Dec. 13 in KU's Danforth Chapel. They live in Mulvane.

BORN TO:

Eric, g'08, and **Jordann Parsons Snow**, c'08, daughter, Nora Adeline, Nov. 16 in Prairie Village.

09 Brooke Badzin Fineman, b'09, manages accounts for Intouch Solutions in Chicago, where she and her husband, Nathan, live.

Robyn Johnson, s'09, is an ACT mental health advocate for Development Centers Inc. She lives in Southfield, Michigan.

Aaron Landis, c'09, j'09, is a development officer at Habitat for Humanity. He and **Taylor Wright Landis**, j'07, live in Austin, Texas.

Elena Larson, d'09, manages Iron Tribe Fitness in Overland Park. She makes her home in Olathe.

Blake Perkins, g'09, works as a senior design professional at HOK in San Francisco, where he lives.

Jose Villafana, j'09, is Latin America manager with P&H Casters. He lives in Dallas.

BORN TO:

Lauren Massey Butler, c'09, and Kevin,



daughter, Sophia Blair, Nov. 25 in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

10 Christopher Cahill, b'10, g'10, is an assurance supervisor at McGladrey. He lives in Dallas.

Anthony Falcon, c'10, g'12, works as an investment officer at Ho-Chunk Nation. He and his wife, **Rachael**, '10, live in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Adam Finzel, b'10, is a financial analyst at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan. He lives in Ann Arbor.

Stephanie Goings, b'10, is a senior auditor for the federal government. Her home is in Lawrence.

Rebecca Hughey, c'10, works as a contract/budget analyst at Quintiles. She lives in Galveston, Texas.

Natalie Monson, c'10, coordinates research at Northwestern University in Chicago, where she lives.

Kendal Reed, b'10, has been promoted to senior associate at Intervale, an energy-focused private equity firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He lives in Boston.

Amanda Janssen Spell, j'10, co-founded Monroe Coffee Roasters in Wichita, where she and her husband, Benjamin, live.

Brett Stoecklein, p'10, is a clinical pharmacist for the emergency department and intensive care unit at Advocate Condell Medical Center in Libertyville, Illinois. He and his wife, Sherri Torrecer, live in Highland Park.

11 Gabriel Engeland, g'11, became city manager of Trinidad, Colorado, earlier this year.

Dezere Hodish, g'11, works as a fiscal analyst at the Kansas Legislative Research Department in Topeka. She commutes from Lawrence.

Wesley Kimmel, c'11, is an associate with the law firm of Foulston Siefkin in Wichita, where he and **Sara Exon**, c'11, make their home. She's a contract admin-

istrator at Koch Ag & Energy Solutions.

Ellen Duffy Kreifels, c'11, has joined the law firm of Blankenau Wilmoth Jarecke, where she's an associate attorney. Ellen and her husband, Justin, make their home in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Tona Leiker, PhD'11, has been promoted to assistant dean of nursing curriculum and assessment at American Sentinel University, an online university in Aurora, Colorado. She lives in Andover.

Michael Smith, c'11, g'15, is director of external affairs for the KU School of Business. He lives in Lawrence.

Sara Swezy, j'11, manages production for the New Media Firm in Washington, D.C., where she lives.

BORN TO:

Jennifer Nyberg, c'11, and James Hilty, son, Kaden Charles Hilty, Feb. 11 in Lawrence. Jennifer is a cashier at Home Depot, and James is a sales consultant at Laird Noller.

12 Jon Dahlfors, b'12, works as an analyst at Guggenheim Partners in Santa Monica, California.

Maj. **Samuel Fuller**, g'12, is an inter-agency fellow at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. He lives in Fort George Meade, Maryland.

Kelly Gerard, h'12, g'14, works as an applied public informatics fellow at Denver Health in Denver.

Nathan Hickey, e'12, is a staff professional at Geotek in Las Vegas.

Sharon Pruett, EdD'12, is an adjunct professor at Baker University in Baldwin City. She lives in Atchison.

Kristen Sheahan, c'12, is a client inquiry lead at State Street in Kansas City.

Eric Sidebottom, u'12, directs the band at Prairie View High School in La Cygne. He lives in Louisburg.

Lisa VanHoose, PhD'12, chairs the department of physical therapy at Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia.

MARRIED

Carolyn Fish, c'12, g'15, and **Eric Wittman**, e'12, Sept. 13 in Lawrence, where they live. They both work at Black & Veatch, where she's an air



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quality specialist, and he's a mechanical engineer.

BORN TO:

Gina Emel, b'12, and Ryan Barrick, son, Elijah Wayne Barrick, Jan. 8 in Lawrence, where they live. Gina is group lead for American Eagle Outfitters in Ottawa, and Ryan works at Amarr Garage Doors in Lawrence.

13 Megan Boxberger, a'13, is a graphic designer for Monkey Tag in Dallas.

Lauren Hipp, j'13, c'13, works as an SEO specialist with PlattForm Advertising in Lenexa. She lives in Kansas City.

Ryan Kaub, '13, is a nurse at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. He lives in Ottawa.

Stephanie Oswald, b'13, has become an associate in the Kansas City office of K Coe Isom.

Francis Park, PhD'13, works at the Center of Military History at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

Ashley Peaches, s'13, coordinates community care for Metro Lutheran Ministry-Wyandotte in Kansas City.

Sarah Kramer Pfeifer, l'13, works as a court judicial assistant for the State of Colorado. She and her husband, Ryan, live in Colorado Springs.

Erin Sampson Spurlock, c'13, is a human resources assistant at Peoples Bank. She and her husband, **Brett**, c'09, live in Eudora. He's director of corporate communication at Gen3 Technologies.

Hans Walther, e'13, owns Guided Engineering and Research. He lives in Lawrence.

14 Jennifer Bates Klopp, '14, works as a nurse at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, where she and her husband, **Matthew**, '82, make their home.

Hoonhee Lee, c'14, is a sales and marketing specialist at Daewoo International Corporation in Troy, Michigan.

Laci Lechlitter, s'14, is a social worker and therapist at Goodland Family Health Center in Goodland, where she lives.

Carissa Miller, d'14, is a senior sales consultant for the Arizona Diamondbacks. She lives in Scottsdale.

Douglas Reinert, g'14, is a park superintendent for the city of Ottawa.

15 Meredith Burke, c'15, works as a bioinformatics software specialist for KU's Biodiversity Institute in Lawrence.

Julia Johnson, b'15, is an associate with ISN. She lives in Dallas.

Ben McLemore, '15, a guard for the Sacramento Kings, won the NBA Cares Community Assist Award in recognition of his charitable efforts.

Sarah Robbins, c'15, has signed with the Portland Thorns FC of the National Women's Soccer League. Her home is in Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Quebec, Canada.



Hail to Old KU

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Bill Reetz, c'93, l'03, and Judy Harris
Mark, d'78, and Ann Crump Jarboe, d'78
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Michael, c'73, l'76, and Cindy O'Neal
Rosita and Roger McCoy
Linda Ellis Sims, e'79, and Russ Sims
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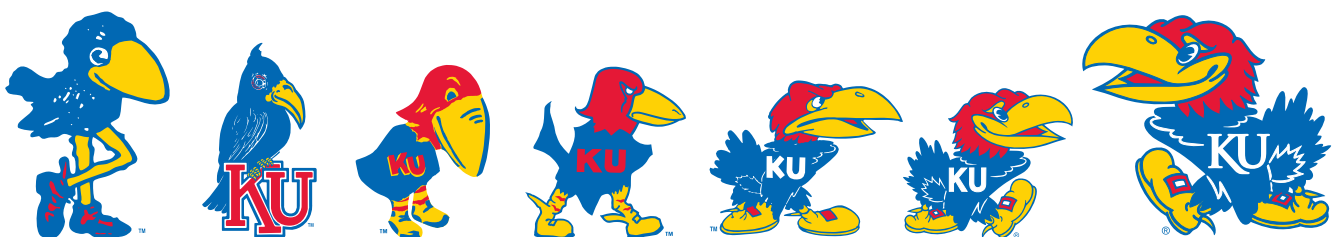
Table Hosts

Christopher Angles, c'93, l'96
John, b'73, and Cynthia Ballard
Bob Site Ford
Mary, '94, and Derek Bridges, g'99
Wyatt Cobb, c'06
Kristen Coady, j'05
Paul Cohen, b'05
Commerce Bank
Chancellors Club
Christopher Dillman, c'88
Kent, b'95, and Amy Fincham, c'05
Alaina Webster, c'04, and Mark Frutiger, b'01
Andrew Grim, b'11
Lindsay Hare, c'02, l'05

Jeff, c'06, and Heather Hawkins, j'06
Craig, b'77, and Roxi Helpings-tine, j'76
Christina, c'10, and James Hopkins, c'11
Thomas Hubler, g'11
Kansas City Royals
Jeff, '85, and Allison Long, b'85
Christopher, j'72, and Mary Meisinger O'Brien, d'72
Lynn, c'74, m'77, and Deborah Boulware O'Neal, d'70, g'94
Karissa Smith
Nick Sterner, b'07, c'07, and Catherine Bell, c'04, l'07
Adam, b'07, and Hayley Wisnieski
Brandon Woodard, c'14
Andrew Wymore, '04

Contributors

Clay, b'65, and Janet Blair
Taylor, p'88, g'90, and Lisa Burch, c'92
Ned, b'71, g'72, and Janis Riss, f'72
Kellie, c'06, and Tim Rogers
Del and Carol Shankel, '68
Deborah, j'86, and Tom Ward, b'80



CELEBRATING KU'S 150TH BIRTHDAY AND 20 YEARS OF ROCK CHALK BALL!

In Memory

30s **Mary Bure Sainick, c'38, 97,** Feb. 13 in Long Beach, California, where she was a retired teacher. Two sons, a daughter and five grandchildren survive.

Eugene Trice, c'33, 103, Dec. 13 in Kansas City. He had a 40-year career as a pastor in the United Methodist Church. Surviving are twin sons, five grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren.

40s **Bethel Reimer Boles, c'45, m'48,** 90, Feb. 1 in San Bruno, California, where she was a retired physician. She is survived by two sons, four grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Harry "Britt" Brown Jr., c'46, 87, Jan. 26 in Wichita, where he was retired owner and chairman of the board of the Wichita Eagle & Beacon Publishing Company. He is survived by two daughters, Cathy Brown Hedlund, j'73, and Cynthia Brown Burgess, d'73, g'75; two sons, Bruce, j'76, and Britt, '74; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Charles Burns, b'49, 89, March 16 in Atlanta, where he was a retired executive at General Motors. He is survived by his wife, Joann Clough Burns, d'49; two daughters; a brother, Allan, b'47; and three granddaughters.

Gerald Clausing, b'42, 94, Feb. 24 in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he was a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and a former social studies teacher. He is survived by his wife, Winifred Hargrove Clausing, '43; a son; and four grandchildren.

Katherine Heck Dieterich, '41, 96, March 4 in Ottawa, where she volunteered at Ransom Memorial Hospital. Among survivors are two sons, one of whom is Dale Jr., assoc.; a brother, Emil Heck Jr., assoc.; and six grandchildren.

Mason Feese, b'49, 91, Feb. 14 in Leawood, where he was retired first vice president at Stifel Nicolaus. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Gregory Feese, assoc.; a son, Greg, j'93; two daughters, one of

whom is Janae Feese Sims, c'85; two stepdaughters; and five grandchildren.

Monte Robbins Reese Flannery, c'40, 95, June 7, 2014, in Lawrence, where she was a retired teacher. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by three daughters, Lee Reese Henry, c'68, Sue Reese Hopkins, c'70, and Virginia Reese Schneider, '74; two stepsons, Joseph Flannery, j'72, and Robert Flannery, '69; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Leonard Hieber, e'48, 91, Jan. 29 in Port Charlotte, Florida. He was a retired engineer with Caterpillar Tractor Company. Surviving are his wife, Carolee Fausett Hieber, '47; a son; two grandsons; and two great-grandchildren.

Walter "Gene" Linthicum, b'48, 90, Feb. 5 in Pinehurst, North Carolina, where he was a retired U.S. Navy captain. He is survived by his wife, Carol, a son, a daughter, a sister and five grandchildren.

Betty Gaines Murfin, '44, 92, Feb. 27 in Wichita. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Barbara Murfin Murphy, b'72; a son, David, e'75, b'75; 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Nancy Abel Spence, c'44, 91, Dec. 11 in Colorado Springs. Three sons, a daughter, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Andrea Hinkel Sperry, c'49, 87, Dec. 17 in Bottineau, North Dakota. She had been secretary/treasurer at Sperry Brothers Apiaries and is survived by her husband, Kenneth, d'50; two sons; a daughter; a brother; two granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

Frances Sewell Wartman, n'46, 82, Feb. 5 in Bremerton, Washington. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, seven grandchildren, a great-granddaughter and a great-great-granddaughter.

Robert Wyne, e'49, 86, Feb. 10 in Huntsville, Alabama, where he worked for Rockwell International. He is survived by his wife, Pat, a daughter, a son and four grandchildren.

50s **Edmund Ahrens, c'50, 85,** March 4 in Overland Park. He worked for the Kansas Division of the Budget and the Legislative Research Department in Topeka. Surviving are two sons, Cameron, c'80, and Chris, l'81; two daughters, seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The Rev. **Robert Alpers, c'55, 79,** May 31, 2014, in Hendersonville, North Carolina, where he was retired after a 55-year career as a pastor in the United Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two sons, one of whom is Steve, p'85; two daughters; a stepson; and seven grandchildren.

Robert Banks, c'51, m'55, 85, March 14 in Paola, where he was a retired physician. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Smith Banks, '52; four sons, three of whom are Robert, d'76, Lawrence, e'77, and Donald, e'81, m'88; 11 grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

Dan Henry Bowser, g'54, 89, Feb. 28 in Kansas City, where he was known professionally as Dan Henry, the longtime weatherman for WDAF-TV. Two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren survive.

Bill Brooks, c'54, 84, March 11 in Lawrence, where he was a retired oil and gas subsurface geologist. He is survived by his wife, Grace Endacott Brooks, f'53; two daughters; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Celia Kilgore Brown, c'53, 83, Feb. 7 in Overland Park. She is survived by two sons, John III, c'80, m'84, and Michael, c'87; two daughters, Melinda Brown, c'83, m'87, and Susan Brown Derrington, j'84; and six grandchildren.

Irwin Brown Jr., '56, 86, March 1 in Ruskin, Florida. He had a career in news journalism and also had owned a tavern. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Irwin III, '82; a daughter, Alison Brown Boston, j'88; and five grandchildren.

Robert Brown, '51, 88, Feb. 25 in Perry. He co-owned Brown Brothers Construction and later Valley West Galleries. Surviving are a son, Craig, '79; a daughter, Cindy, f'81; a sister, Barbara Brown Nesser, '51; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Joan Worley Conkey, d'56, 80, Feb. 5 in

Brownsville, Texas, where she had been a chemical dependency counselor. She is survived by a daughter, Debra Conkey Arnold, '74; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Monte "Gene" Cox, e'51, g'56, 85, March 11 in Phoenix, where he was a retired football and track coach. He is survived by his wife, Jane Semple Cox, d'52; three sons; two brothers, Ray, d'57, g'63, and Dennis, c'71, a'74; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Laura Shutz Cray, c'54, 82, Jan. 19 in Overland Park. She helped found Highlawn Montessori School in Prairie Village. She is survived by a son; a daughter, Susanne Slough Bryan, '84; two stepsons, one of whom is Thomas Cray, '86; a stepdaughter, Patty Cray Mach, c'80; a brother, Byron Schutz, c'49; two sisters; and three grandchildren.

Kenneth Davidson, e'56, 80, Jan. 7 in Centennial, Colorado, where he was a retired engineer. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, two daughters, a son, a brother and nine grandchildren.

JoAnn Hoover Franke, '54, 82, Jan. 23 in Hutchinson, where she was a substitute teacher and an administrative assistant at Mass Mutual Life Insurance. She is survived by her husband, Roger, b'56; and a daughter, Cindy Jo Franke, j'83.

Nancy Munger Hamilton, c'54, 82, Feb. 20 in Bellingham, Washington. She is survived by her husband, Robert, c'53, m'56; two sons; a daughter; and four grandchildren.

Bernard Hansan, c'54, 83, March 9 in Muncie, Indiana, where he was a stockbroker. Surviving are his wife, Nancy, a son, two daughters and two grandchildren.

Herbert Haufler, e'59, 76, April 14, 2014 in Richardson, Texas, where he was a retired senior project manager with Lucent Technologies. He is survived by three daughters; two sons; a brother, Walter, e'55; a sister, Marie Haufler Wudtke, d'64; 11 grandchildren; and two stepgrandchildren.

Marilyn Evans Hill, c'59, 76, Sept. 9 in Colorado Springs. She is survived by a daughter; a son; a brother, Ellis Evans, d'58; and a granddaughter.

Denni Wade Hughes, c'53, 83, Feb. 26

in Lawrence. She is survived by a son, Patrick, c'77, m'80; two daughters, Janice, '82, and Sharon, '85; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Gregory Johnson, c'57, 82, Feb. 14 in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, where he was a retired civil engineer. He is survived by his wife, Violeta; two daughters; a son; two brothers; a sister, Diane Johnson Weil, c'51; and five grandchildren.

John Kane, e'56, 80, March 22 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where he was a partner in Kane Enterprises and owner of Kane Cattle Company. In 1991, he received KU Alumni Association's Fred Ellsworth Medallion honoring his service to the University, which included terms as director and president of the Alumni Association and trustee of KU Endowment. He also was active in church and civic affairs. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Burke Kane, c'59; two sons, one of whom is John, c'82; three daughters, one of whom is Kathleen Kane Donoghue, b'85; a brother, Henry, c'61; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

William Laughlin, b'58, 79, Dec. 13 in Colorado Springs. He is survived by his wife, Sue Bye Laughlin, d'58; a daughter; a son; and two grandchildren.

Dean Matthews Jr., e'56, 80, March 2 in Sammamish, Washington, where he was retired from Matthews Associates. He is survived by his wife, Lynn, two daughters, a stepdaughter, a stepson, two brothers, eight grandchildren and four stepgrandchildren.

Irwin "Stub" Messer, p'50, 91, Dec. 22 in Pratt, where he had owned Messer Drug. Surviving are a son, two daughters, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Larry Moyer, b'59, 77, March 20 in Pratt, where he was a retired teacher. Two sisters survive.

Jack Murray, b'58, 81, March 13 in Mission, where he was retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is survived by his wife, Judith; a son; a daughter, Jill Murray Folsom, '94; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Miles Nichols, c'53, 83, Jan. 25 in Lenexa, where he was retired from the

insurance business. He is survived by two sons, Kevin, '84, and Gregory, c'86.

Gilbert Novak, e'57, g'98, 84, Feb. 25 in Kansas City, where he was an architect. Surviving are his wife, Donna, three daughters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Jim Olander, b'50, 87, Feb. 18 in Wichita, where he was president of Olander Construction. He is survived by his wife, Carol Forbes Olander, '53; a son, Kenneth, b'77; two daughters, one of whom is Pam Olander Bruce, d'79; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Bruce Rider, b'58, 78, Jan. 23 in Rockville, Maryland, where he was retired from the American Bankers Association. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Fountain Rider, c'59; two sons; and three grandchildren.

Carol Stutz Schmidt, d'55, g'69, 82, March 14 in Topeka, where she was retired board secretary of Stutz and Company. She is survived by her husband, Eugene, '75; two stepdaughters, Sheryl Schmidt Speelman, d'80, and Suzanne Schmidt Peterson, c'88; a stepson, Stephen, '79; a brother, Robert Stutz, c'53, g'57, PhD'61; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Nancy Teed Shears, c'54, 82, Dec. 13 in Hutchinson, where she was retired senior vice president at First National Bank. A daughter and four granddaughters survive.

Dwight Thompson Jr., '50, 87, Feb. 21 in Wichita. He is survived by two stepsons and a brother, Willard, b'51, l'58.

James Thompson, b'51, 87, Jan. 20 in Prairie Village, where he was retired from 40 years in the insurance business.

Robert Walmer, c'50, l'52, 88, March 9 in Leawood, where he was former claims adjuster for Employers Insurance of Wausau. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Nichols Walmer, '50; two daughters, one of whom is Colette Walmer Majerle, c'77; a son; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Willard Washington, c'59, 86, Jan. 9 in Potomac, Maryland. He had been a senior forensic chemist with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. A daughter survives.

In Memory

Patricia White, c'52, 83, Dec. 18. She lived in Patterson, New York, where she was a retired computer specialist at Draper Labs. Several nieces and nephews survive.

Thomas White, b'51, 85, Oct. 12 in Leawood, where he was a retired claims attorney for Amoco Oil. He is survived by two daughters, Brenda, c'87, and Sondra White Troup, c'89; a son, Bryan, c'91, l'94; and four grandchildren.

Grace Gwinner Zimmerman, b'50, 86, Feb. 23 in Prairie Village. She is survived by her husband, Joe; a daughter, Jane Zimmerman, f'76; a son; four grandsons; and a great-grandson.

60s Richard "Rob" Amerine, d'65, 72, Feb. 26 in Kansas City. Among survivors are a son and his sister, Rochelle Amerine Waugh, '69.

Sister **Melba Beine, c'68**, 69, Feb. 27 in Adrian, Michigan, where she was a retired physician. A sister, Caryl Hines, survives.

Edwin Burton, g'68, 85, Jan. 24 in Stilwell, where he was retired from Black & Veatch. He is survived by his wife, Betty; a son, James, c'81, e'01; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

Edward "Sandy" Cahill, d'64, 74, March 17 in Lee's Summit, Missouri, where he was a retired teacher and coach. Surviving are his wife, Regina, two daughters and five grandchildren.

Thomas Herrmann, b'68, 69, Feb. 3 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he had owned several companies. He is survived by his wife, Chris Steinmitz Herrmann, '71; three sons, one of whom is Jeffrey, b'05, g'06; a daughter; and five grandchildren.

William Markman, d'65, 90, March 5 in Lenexa, where he was a retired teacher. He is survived by his wife, Joan Worthington Markman, d'55; a son, Richard, d'80; and two grandchildren.

James Martin, d'65, 72, Feb. 9 in Overland Park, where he was a financial planner. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; a son, Geoffrey, c'92, g'94; two stepsons; and a granddaughter.

Gray Montgomery, j'69, 67, Aug. 2 in Aurora, Colorado, where he had been a lodging manager for U.S. Foodservice and earlier was a major-account manager for Alliant Food Service. A daughter survives.

Bruce Null, e'65, g'69, 74, Feb. 8 in Williamsburg, Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Victoria; a son; a sister, Margery Null Jenkins, d'55; and a granddaughter.

Marnita Cusman Oliver, d'62, 74, Sept. 4 in Littleton, Colorado. She is survived by her husband, Jay, p'53; two daughters; a sister; and three grandchildren.

James Sander Jr., b'68, 71, Feb. 24 in Colorado Springs, where he owned Utes Lanes Bowling Center. Earlier he had been CFO for University Medical Center in Las Vegas. Surviving are his wife, Rose, assoc.; two sons; three sisters; and six grandchildren.

Michael Shinn, e'66, 72, March 17 in Shaker Heights, Ohio, where he was a certified financial planner with Shinn Financial Services. Earlier he had worked for General Electric and Ford Motor Company. He had received KU Alumni Association's Fred Ellsworth Medallion in 2004 and the University's Distinguished Engineering Service Award in 2008. He served as a KU Endowment trustee and School of Engineering Advisory Board member. He and his wife founded the Mike Shinn Scholars program for minorities in engineering at KU. Surviving are his wife, Joyce, assoc., and a son.

Dwight Wallace, b'68, l'71, 68, Feb. 11 in Wichita, where he was a partner in Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer. He is survived by his wife, Linda Kleinschmidt Wallace, c'69, g'71; three sons, two of whom are Matthew, e'96, and Benjamin, g'98; a brother, Wayne, b'62, l'65; a sister, Kay Wallace, b'71, g'74; and four grandchildren.

Ira Winarsky, a'65, 72, Jan. 4 in Archer, Florida. He was a professor emeritus of architecture at the University of Florida in Gainesville. A sister and a brother survive.

70s Virginia Certain Beene, c'74, 81, Feb. 3 in Lawrence, where she was director of Christian education and care pastor at First Christian Church. She is survived by her husband, Doug, c'56; three daughters, Sharon Beene Gardner, b'79, g'80, Leslie Beene Ahlert, '85, and Carolyn Beene Johannsen, '80; a son, Steven, b'87, g'89; 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

J.E. Bungard, g'70, g'71, PhD'85, 71, Dec. 27 in Mililani, Hawaii. He was a former pastor and a professor of religion and American studies at the University of Hawaii-West Oahu. Surviving are his wife, Karin, a son and seven sisters.

Thomas Dunaway, e'70, 68, March 2 in Camarillo, California. He had a career with the USGS and the U.S. Minerals Management Service. A son, three daughters and two grandchildren survive.

Johnny Freeman, g'71, 72, Jan. 31 in Roswell, Georgia, where he was retired from a career in school administration. He is survived by a son, three daughters, a brother and two sisters.

Thomas Kelly, EdD'71, 77, Feb. 5 in Palm Desert, California, where he was retired from a 40-year career in higher education. He is survived by his wife, Helen, two daughters, a son, a sister and three grandchildren.

Barbara Klassen, c'76, 64, Feb. 1 in Silver Plume, Colorado, where she was lead librarian with the Bureau of Land Management Library at the Federal Center in Lakewood. She is survived by her husband, Joe, and a sister, Kathleen Brown, d'71.

Paula Plumer Kramer, f'73, 64, March 7 in Basehor, where she was a voice teacher and a professional singer. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Du Wayne Jr., b'72; a son; a daughter, Kelli Kramer Jackman, g'03, PhD'07; and a granddaughter.

Michael "Mickey" McClure, c'79, 61, March 6 in Topeka. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service. Among survivors are his mother, Mary Ann Wolf McClure, d'52; two sisters, Cynthia McClure, s'94, and Laura McClure Nash, '73; and two brothers, David, c'78, l'85, g'89, and Scott, c'86.

Peter "Skip" Nagrodski, g'79, 63, March 9 in Puyallup, Washington, where he was a retired teacher. He is survived by his wife, Shari, a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Brian Salvay, l'78, 61, March 11 in Woodridge, New York. He had owned Platinum Abstract and Title Corporation in Monsey and is survived by his wife,

Loretta Goodman Salvay, '79; six sons; two daughters; his mother; a brother, Craig, '78; and eight grandchildren.

Mark Schuler, f'73, 63, Feb. 5 in Overland Park. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Evin Schuler Felix, f'06; his father, Charles, e'48; his mother; a sister, Kim Schuler Wright, '84; and three grandchildren.

Suzanne McComas Williams, d'72, 65, Feb. 22 in Topeka, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by her husband, David, d'74; a son; two brothers, Raymond McComas, d'70, and Stephen McComas, j'72; and three granddaughters.

80s Randy Staley, d'84, 55, March 17 in North Charleston, South Carolina. He was a teacher. Surviving are his wife, Claire Boston-Staley, d'85, d'86; his parents; a daughter; and a son.

Linda Farhart Varberg, g'86, 54, March 8 in Lawrence, where she had worked with the education outreach program at the Community Mercantile. She is survived by her husband, John, g'88; two sons, Joe, '11, and Byron, assoc.; her father; and two sisters.

90s Tracy Pieper Brown, b'91, 50, Feb. 10 in Wilmington, North Carolina, where she was a banker and a financial planner. She is survived by her husband, Michael; a daughter; her mother; and two sisters, Kristen Pieper O'Keefe, c'89, and Melanie Pieper Zuanich, '92.

Erdice Cooper Court, g'92, 77, Jan. 27 in Appleton, Wisconsin. She taught at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky, and had worked at the American Embassy in Moscow. Surviving are a son; a daughter, Kerry Court Thompson, g'92; and six grandchildren.

Amelia Stewart Hankins, g'98, 65, March 10 in Kansas City. She was a retired assistant principal at Olathe South High School. Surviving are a daughter, a son, two sisters, a brother and six grandchildren.

Timothy Waters, b'93, 45, March 13 in Gardner. He had been fleet manager for JB Hunt. His parents and a brother survive.

00s Anthony Bernal II, f'03, 35, March 2 in Kansas City. He lived in Shawnee and is survived by his parents, a sister, his grandparents and a great-grandmother.

Derek Zarda, j'09, c'09, 30, Jan. 30 in Taiwan, where he taught English at the Taipei Language Institute. Among survivors are his mother, Kathy Gunderson Zarda, c'75, d'76; his father; a sister, Heidi, d'12; and a brother, Christopher, c'04.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Myrta Anderson, c'50, g'56, PhD'70, 90, Feb. 11 in Wichita. She was a professor of political science at Baker University and also had taught at KU. She retired from the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

Robert Anderson, 71, Feb. 5 in Lawrence, where he was a retired associate professor of French at KU. Two sons and a granddaughter survive.

Roderick Bradley, c'45, m'47, 91, Jan. 31 in Overland Park, where he was retired after 35 years of teaching at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Robinson Bradley, assoc.; two daughters, Sharyl Bradley Kinney, c'75, and Karen Bradley Cook, b'77; two sons, one of whom is Scott, b'81; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Roy Gridley, c'57, 79, March 2 in Lawrence, where he was a professor emeritus of English at KU. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Leidig Gridley, c'57, g'76, PhD'86; two sons, Karl, c'85, and Mark, '88; a brother; a sister, Imajean Gridley Barta, d'67; and two granddaughters.

Thorkil Jensen, 96, Feb. 3 in Overland Park, where he was a professor emeritus of microbiology at KU Medical Center. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine, a daughter, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

George Mastio, c'48, m'53, 89, Feb. 2 in Wichita, where he was a clinical assistant professor of surgery at the KU School of Medicine. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, Ann Mastio Bauer, c'73, d'75, and Katie Mastio

Kaufman, d'77; a son, John, d'75; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Elden Tefft, f'49, g'50, 95, Feb. 17 in Lawrence, where he was a professor emeritus of art. Among his sculptures are two iconic statues on the KU campus, the Academic Jay outside Strong Hall and Moses outside Smith Hall. A son, Kim, f'80, and four grandchildren survive.

Virginia England Tucker, 84, March 16 in Olathe. She had been a professor of pediatric medicine at the KU School of Medicine and is survived by three siblings.

Barbara Fisher Ashton Waggoner, g'68, 94, Feb. 22 in Lawrence, where she was an adjunct lecturer and research associate in Latin American studies. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a son, Thomas Ashton III, c'68, l'71; a daughter, Jennifer Ashton-Lilo, c'71, g'73; two stepdaughters, Jane Waggoner Deschner, c'69, and Sarah Waggoner Hoffman, c'75; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

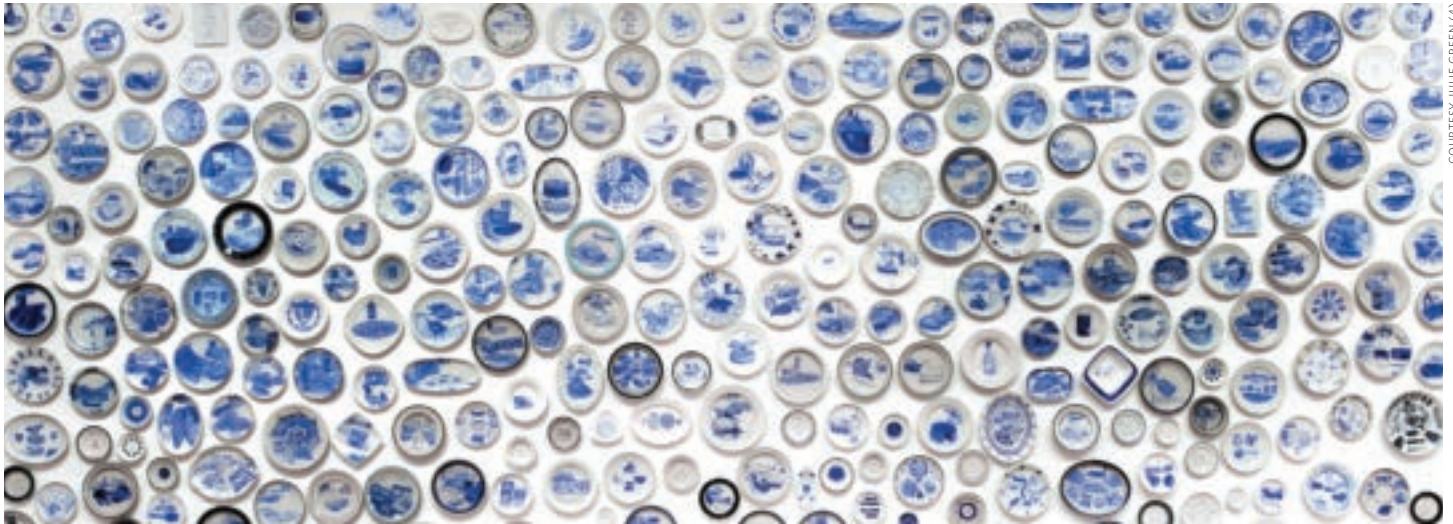
Ronald Willis, 79, March 6 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of theatre. He taught at KU from 1970 until retiring in 2000. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Marie Willis, g'92; three sons, two of whom are Jeffrey, c'80, g'87, and Craig, '87; a sister; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

ASSOCIATES

Robert Kennedy, 58, March 9 in Overland Park, where was a CPA and a financial adviser. He is survived by his wife, Debra Dicus Kennedy, d'80; a daughter, Elizabeth, c'11; two sons, one of whom is Thomas, b'12, g'13; his mother, Dorothy, d'54; two sisters, Carol Kennedy Johnson, b'77, and Katherine Kennedy Chalfant, j'81; and three brothers, James, c'85, Donald, c'87, and William, j'92.

Beverly McLean, 93, Dec. 3 in San Marino, California. She had been executive secretary for the president of Cyprus Copper Mines. Her twin sister survives.

Rock Chalk Review



COURTESY JULIE GREEN (4)

Food for thought

Painter's depictions of death-row meals spark capital punishment debate

Julie Green's exhibition "The Last Supper: 600 Plates Illustrating Final Meals of U.S. Death Row Inmates" focuses on a grim ritual of capital punishment to provoke a conversation about the death penalty in America.

On white ceramic plates of varying shapes and sizes, Green, professor of art at Oregon State University, paints in cobalt blue pigment the last meals requested by condemned prisoners.

She began the project after reading in her morning paper about a meal requested by an Oklahoma prisoner executed by lethal injection. The condemned man's final menu ("three fried chicken thighs, 10 or 15 shrimp, tater tots with ketchup, two slices of pecan pie, strawberry ice cream, honey and biscuits and a Coke") followed a detailed physical description of his final moments. Green was struck by the contrast between life-giving food and death-dealing drugs.

"I'm 53, have a shaved head, and wear lipstick and pearls," Green, f'83, g'96, said

in an e-mail. "Contradictions inspire me."

She began to collect newspaper accounts of executions, which usually include details of a prisoner's last meal. When those details were missing, she sometimes called prisons to learn them. She looked into the historic record to gather accounts of older meals, too.

"I wonder about this ritual to offer a choice of a last meal prior to an execution," Green says. "For me, art can be a meditation. Painting can provide time to reflect on things that don't make sense."

Green is hoping her exhibition, which in April wrapped up a two-month run at the Dayton Art Institute at the University of Dayton and in May begins a three-month stay at the Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, inspires debate about the death penalty. She supplies comment books to encourage museumgoers to share their thoughts about the art and the issue.

"Often there are several hundred responses, with a wide range of view-



HalLam

Each of the more than 600 plates in painter Julie Green's exhibition "The Last Supper" depicts the final meal requested by an executed prisoner. Green spends six months on the project each year and vows to keep painting until the death penalty is abolished.

points," she says. Some criticize her for focusing on inmates rather than victims, but the dialogue itself is "most important" she says. "It seems healthy for our country to be having this conversation."

"The comment book is amazing," says Elliott Reickert, curator of special projects at the Block Museum. He recently toured the Dayton show in preparation for its arrival at Northwestern. "It's like a paper



Indiana 05 May 2007

Pizza and birthday cake shared with 15 family and friends. A prison official said "He told us he never had a birthday cake so we ordered a birthday cake for him."



Texas 29 February 2012

Same meal as rest of unit: barbecued chicken, beans, potato salad, and yellow cake with chocolate icing.



Indiana 14 March 2001

German ravioli and chicken dumplings prepared by his mother and prison dietary staff.

version of an online forum: so many people writing their thoughts, really long essays and reflections, people commenting on each other's comments. It's an exciting dialogue in this little notebook."

Green's husband, Clay Lohmann, a painter and quiltmaker, looks at every piece and often makes suggestions. Her technical adviser, Toni Acock, fires each plate in a 1,400-degree kiln. Many of the stark blue-on-white compositions include brief passages of text, and each carries a title that includes the location and date of the execution. Not included are names of inmates or victims.

The first impression, on seeing 600 plates mounted on a museum wall, Reickert says, is of the "sheer human cost of the death penalty." Viewing single plates leads to thoughts about the individual people involved, with the contents of the meals offering hints to the socioeconomic background and personal experiences of each prisoner. Among the more evocative plates is an oval platter depicting a birthday cake and pizza beneath five lines of text: "He never had a birthday cake, so we ordered a birthday cake for him."

"Your eyes toggle in and out between the mass display and the individual plates," Reickert says. "She really reframes the issue around the human costs, and by leaving out a lot of information she activates our imagination. I found myself wondering who these individuals are. It develops a kind of curiosity which isn't too different from empathy. It relies on the spectator to draw their own conclusions."

Dayton Art Institute made Green's exhibition part of a citywide conversation on human rights, faith and reason. The Block Museum is planning a summerlong series of events connecting the art to Northwestern's law and journalism schools, which have been involved in death penalty issues: Work by the law school's Center

for Wrongful Convictions contributed to a 2000 decision by then-Gov. George Ryan to suspend executions. Illinois halted the death penalty in 2011.

Green would like to see more decisions like that nationwide.

"I generally paint 50 plates a year, and plan to do so until we no longer have capital punishment," she says. "I hope to end the project sooner than later."

She has at least one convert already.

"My mother used to support capital punishment. Now she doesn't. If you can change your mom," Green says, "you can change the world."

—Steven Hill

Hunt resumes

KU physicists upgrade detector as supercollider fires anew

While the Large Hadron Collider goes through the early stages of reignition after a two-year maintenance hiatus, KU physicists, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate and undergraduate students are tuning their "pixel detector," a key piece of the supercollider's exploration of the mysteries of particle physics.

The KU scientists led the team that designed, built and maintained a high-speed data analysis system at the

heart of the 14,000-metric-ton Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector. CMS is one of two detectors responsible for the thrilling discovery in 2012—four years after the debut of the 17-mile-long Large Hadron Collider, straddling the border of France and Switzerland—of a subatomic



STEVE PUPPE

Bean

Rock Chalk Review

particle closely resembling the elusive “Higgs boson,” essentially confirming the hypothesis of an elementary particle in the Standard Model of particle physics.

“I can never tell you that we’ve discovered the Higgs boson,” says Alice Bean, professor of physics and astronomy and one of the lead researchers on KU’s CMS pixel detector [“A big hit,” Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 4, 2008]. “I can tell you that what we’ve discovered seems pretty clear it’s the Higgs boson. No one will ever know with 100-percent certainty, but since that time we took three or four times more data, and all of the evidence that we have points to, yes, this is the particle that was predicted as part of the Standard Model.”

The upgraded Large Hadron Collider and its 10,000 magnets will generate massively higher energy levels once it is fully functional again this summer. That means KU’s pixel detector must sort through massively higher amounts of data.

“Our detector is performing exquisitely well,” Bean says. “And now with the data rate increasing, it’s a continuing process of improving the software and computing to actually analyze the data. There’s 40 million pictures a second that we are taking with this approximately 100 megapixel camera, so that’s a lot of work to figure out how you are going to throw

away 99.99999 percent of the pictures and record only about 100 to 200 a second.”

Current upgrades to the detector are an early step for the KU team as it prepares to design and build a replacement system for installation in 2017.

“We’re very excited to start taking data at this new energy level because it’s opening up a whole new realm,” Bean says. “There’s some interesting questions about things that don’t make sense, and we’re trying to figure out whether there’s something new out there.”

—Chris Lazzarino

When storms strike

Newly identified phobia morphs healthy respect for weather into life-altering fear

Fear of severe weather is both natural and healthy. But for some, necessary caution develops into a debilitating, full-blown phobia, according to the first weather phobia study of its kind.

Karen Multon, professor of counseling psychology, teamed with her daughter, Jill Coleman, associate professor of geography

at Ball State University, and KU psychology doctoral students Kaylee Newby and Cynthia Taylor to survey about 300 people from across the United States on their attitudes toward severe weather.

While 85 percent of respondents reported having some fear of weather, about 10 percent rated their fear levels as “extreme” or “quite a bit.”

“We all have to be cautious,” Multon says. “But when your reaction is so intense that you’re changing how you normally live to avoid the threat, that’s a problem.”

The collaborators published their study in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* and presented it last August at the Washington, D.C., conference of the American Psychological Association. When the research made its way into mainstream news outlets, many sufferers of severe-weather phobia reached out with stories of their own struggles.

A Midwestern man reported that his fear of thunderstorms is so severe that he drives hundreds of miles to flee the threat, straining his new marriage. Multon heard from a colleague who said her counseling group for post-traumatic stress disorder includes

a severe-weather phobia sufferer who didn’t know where else to turn.

“Looking at treatment options and making recommendations to psychologists is

ultimately what my goal would be,” Multon says. She

also is developing an “easy measure for crisis workers to identify those most vulnerable to prolonged and severe reactions” after severe events such as tornadoes, hurricanes and floods.

“Of course you’re going to be scared and fearful if your house is damaged or gone, but some people are more resilient and they’ll bounce back. They’ll call the insurance company and get things set and get through the whole crisis, while for others it will impact for years. Identifying those people and getting them in treatment earlier would be helpful.”



STEVE PUPPE



Newby, Multon and Taylor

The research originated in a proposal from Newby and Taylor to study phobias related to trauma. Multon cautioned that the topic needed to be narrowed, so she suggested weather-induced fears. A search turned up just one academic study on the topic, from the early 2000s, and it was limited to students at the University of Iowa, resulting in no demographic or geographic breadth. Coleman, a climatologist and geographer who studies how weather patterns affect people, used her skills to broaden the reach.

The researchers say television and social media's thirst for dramatizing weather—such as the Weather Channel hyping storms by branding them with names—fuels some of the fears.

Preparedness is a good first step in confronting severe-weather phobia, Multon says, and she suggests sufferers start by writing down plans for finding shelter at home, work or when caught in a car out in a storm.

“Avoidance doesn't count,” Multon says. “No matter where you are, there's going to be some kind of severe-weather issue.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Silos no more

Full inclusion in the classroom benefits students of all abilities, KU researchers conclude

For years, the so-called “norm” in classrooms nationwide has been to segregate special education students from general education students. Now, researchers at KU insist it's time to move away from that outdated teaching model and implement one that benefits all students.

Over the past 10 years, Wayne Sailor, professor of special education and director of the Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation (SWIFT) Center, and Amy McCart, associate research professor and director of technical assistance for the center, conducted research in inner city, low-performing schools across the country and developed an approach to inclusive

Wayne Sailor and Amy McCart say an integrated teaching model benefits the learning and academic achievement of all students, even those without disabilities.



STEVE PUPPE

school reform known as the Schoolwide Applications Model, or SAM. The model uses learning principles that can be applied to and benefit all students, even those without disabilities.

“The advance of our research was that it enabled those kids with disabilities to benefit from more fully integrated, inclusive education, but also benefited the general education kids,” says Sailor, g'67, PhD'70.

Backed by the positive results of their research efforts, Sailor and McCart, c'88, g'98, PhD'03, developed the SWIFT Center, an expansion of SAM, which assists and supports kindergarten through eighth-grade schools nationwide in adopting a full-inclusion model of teaching. The center was funded with a five-year, \$24.5 million grant—the largest in KU history.

The goals of the SWIFT Center are ongoing and include identifying and supporting select schools, districts and states across the country to help transform their educational practices; expanding that effort nationwide; and building a knowledge bank of resources and tools to benefit schools that are interested in adopting this new way of education. The center currently works with 67 schools in 16 districts in five states.

One of the most challenging obstacles Sailor and McCart face when transforming a school is breaking down the fragmented support “silos” and integrating the

available resources to help all students.

“Special education is a clear example,” explains Sailor. “In lots of schools, it's a self-contained system. It has its own budget, its own kids and teachers.”

An educational framework that dissolves those “silos” and encourages collaborative teaching at all grade levels would help alleviate that problem.

McCart also notes that it's important to get “all hands on deck” when assisting and supporting schools. That means enlisting all school staff as well as families to participate in the teaching and learning process.

“People who work in the cafeteria are not just responsible for preparing lunch, but they help implement positive behavior interventions and support,” McCart says. “We have support staff paraprofessionals engaged in helping students in small group settings with additional reading enhancements. We have everyone. Everyone's involved.”

Sailor points out, however, that in order to truly implement sustainable transformation in schools, the school districts and states must nurture the process and remain dedicated to implementing changes in multiple schools.

“We're very interested in making sure when we leave, the states and districts we're working with now have the capacity to do what we've done,” he says. “Our job is to set the process in motion.”

—Heather Biele

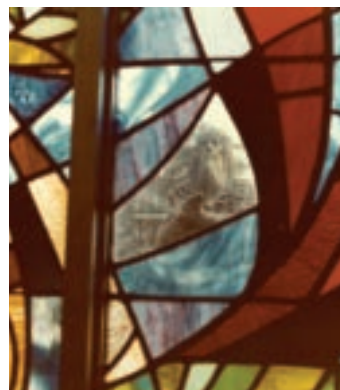
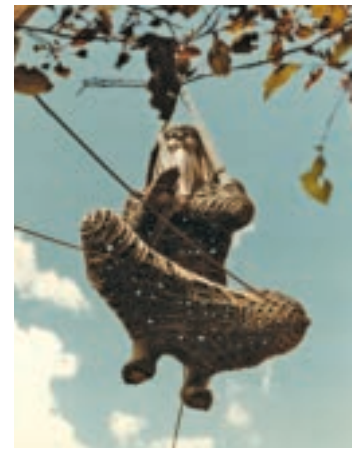
KU 150 Historical notes in celebration of the University's sesquicentennial

SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY (6)



The May 7, 1982, journey from the Art and Design Building's foundry at the west end of Jayhawk Boulevard to a Smith Hall perch was hardly the most arduous ever undertaken by Moses. Although short in distance, the trek lasted 15 years for Professor Emeritus Elden Tefft, f'49, g'50, who once described his 3,000-pound masterwork as "massive yet ethereal." Tefft's own journey, itself massive yet ethereal, ended Feb. 17. He was 95. Thanks to "Moses," Strong Hall's "Academic Jay," and the James Naismith statue he designed for the new DeBruce Center at Allen Field House, Tefft's journey will continue, as generations of Jayhawks pause and ponder the creators who came before.

—Chris Lazzarino





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