



An amazing house, an amazing man

By Jennifer Byrd, graduate student

There was a little singing and a whole lot of fun as a group of 25 faculty, staff, supporters and students from the School of Journalism boarded a charter bus to attend the opening dedication of the William Allen White House State Historic Site on May 14 in Emporia, Kan.

White, the namesake of the J-School, was a famous journalist who was editor and publisher of the *Emporia Gazette* from 1895 until his death in 1944. He won two Pulitzer Prize awards, one for his 1922 editorial "To an Anxious Friend" and one for his autobiography published two years after his death in 1946.

Ann Brill, dean of the School of Journalism, said the trip was meant to be a fun way for the school to recognize White.

"I think it's important to let the people in the state know that we recognize our roots, that we're still connected very strongly to Kansas journalism," Brill said.

"And I thought it could be fun for the faculty, staff and students to go and see. It's a pretty amazing house."

The house, also known as "Red Rocks," after the red sandstone brought in from Colorado used in its construction, was built circa 1889. The White family began renting the home in 1899 and purchased it in 1901.

The house remained in the family until 2001, when William Allen White's granddaughter, Barbara, and her husband, David Walker, donated it to the Kansas State Historical Society. A federal grant allowed the Historical Society to make the house and grounds look much as they did in the 1920s.

Jennie Chinn, executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, and Carolyn Kuhn, chair of the William Allen White Community Partnership, spoke at the dedication.

(White House – continued on page 2)



Letter from the Dean

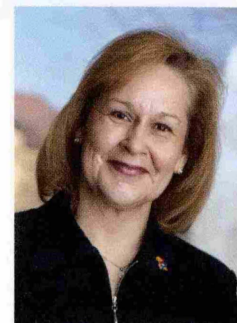
Stay in touch.

That's one of the messages we deliver every day to our alumni, so it was appropriate that the May 2005 graduates heard that at our commencement ceremony. While we wish them every success in life, we also feel a bit sad to see the young men and women who we've gotten to know so well leave the Jayhawk nest.

I remember saying goodbye to one of my college professors at graduation and thinking that there was no way I could thank her for all she had done for me. She challenged me, she encouraged me and one particular day, even bought me a sandwich when she knew I had worked through lunch on a story. I still stay in touch with her.

The connection between this school and its graduates is special. Our students and alumni reflect the values of the school.

(Dean's Letter – continued on page 2)



Ann M. Brill, Dean

Earl Richardson

What's Inside...

- + I Knew William Allen White
- + J-School Calendar of Events
- + Community Journalism Grant
- + Student Honors and Achievements
- + Kansas Journalism Institute
- + Alumni News & Notes
 - Visitors to the J-School this Year
 - Miss Kansas Adrienne Rosel
 - David and Bobbi Olson
 - Sarah Hill
 - Andy Marso
 - Chris Cobler
 - Penny Reiss



Banner photos from the Emporia Gazette.

(Dean's Letter – continued from page 1)

You will read some of their individual success stories in this issue of J-Links. There's also an update from Andy Marso, who missed graduation last year while battling bacterial meningitis. Andy was the journalism school speaker this year and, with the help of his brother, made it down the hill at the KU graduation in his wheelchair. His is a very inspiring story. You can read the full text of Andy's graduation speech on the School's Web site, www.journalism.ku.edu.

Another message the graduates heard this year is one that I've been delivering throughout this year in talking with alumni and others. We want all our graduates to leave here with skills, passion, and integrity. This school is so much more than a place to learn the technical skills of journalism. Our students win awards for not just what they know, but for their creativity, discipline and high standards of professional conduct. When I talk with alumni and current students, it's inspiring to see how much they care about their profession and the fondness they have for the School of Journalism. Whether it's been two months, two decades, or more since you've graduated, I hope you are still practicing what you learned at the KU School of Journalism – using your skills, passion and integrity.

And, while we were saying good-bye to our graduates, we were getting ready to welcome 155 students from seven states to our week-long KJI high school journalism program. These high school journalists are so full of energy! Meeting them gave me a sense of confidence about the future of KU journalism. I hope they enjoyed their time here as much as we enjoyed hosting them. Like all of you, we hope they stay in touch with the School.

If you've had changes of location or job recently, please fill out the form in this issue and return it to us.

Finally, a personal note: As I look back on this year as dean, I am grateful to our faculty, staff, students, alumni and many friends. We go into the 2005-2006 school year with the confidence that this will be another outstanding year for us. □

Ann M. Brill



From left: Chris White Walker, William Allen White's great-grandson, poses with his daughters by the home's garden and water feature; Visitors at the dedication wait behind the house to take a tour.

(White House – continued from page 1)

After the dedication ceremony, the house was opened for tours. The 5,368-square foot house contains many of the same furnishings used by William Allen White and Sallie White, in addition to items the family collected during their world travels and the bed where several famous dignitaries, including Teddy Roosevelt, slept while visiting White.

"I could see William Allen White at the head of the table speaking with various national luminaries," said retired journalism professor Tom Eblen. "They'd be talking about issues of the day. It was a meeting of the minds."

Eblen did not take the charter bus trip to the dedication. Instead, he took retired KU vice chancellor Keith Lawton and his wife Phyllis to the opening. Phyllis Lawton has a special connection to the house. She grew up in Emporia and knew William Allen White (see page 3 for a story on the Lawtons).

Her father, Bowmer Q. Hughes, worked for White as a linotype operator at the *Gazette*, and Lawton would often go to the Whites' house with her parents.

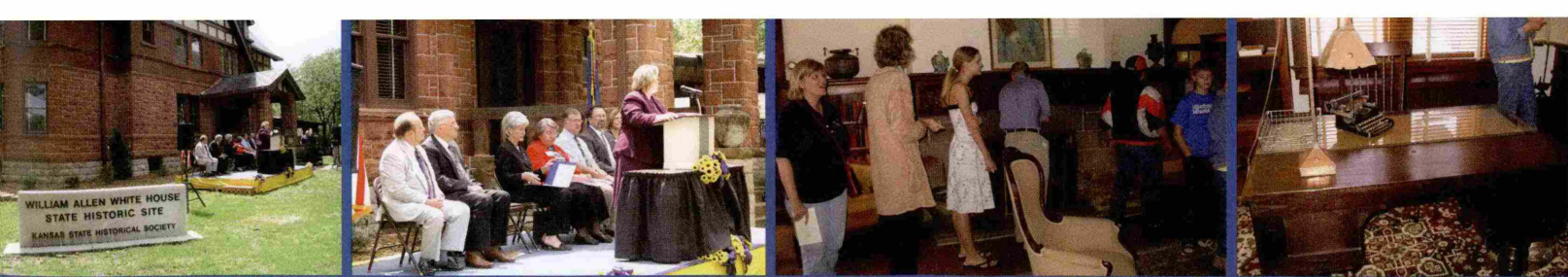
Lawton was impressed with the renovations and said the house was similar to what she remembered.

"The interior of the house says a lot about the White family because it is very homey, unpretentious and welcoming," Lawton said. "The collections of art pieces from their world travels are outstanding. Many of the world leaders of the time stayed overnight in the house. It helped keep Kansas on the map."



J-School faculty, staff, students and supporters pose with Christopher White Walker in front of the *Emporia Gazette*.

Following the home tour, Christopher White Walker, William Allen White's great-grandson and a 1994 J-School graduate, took the KU group on a tour of the *Emporia Gazette* where he is editor and publisher. During the tour the group saw William Allen White's office, the newsroom and the old printing room and presses. □



Banner photos from the William Allen White House State Historic Site dedication.

I knew William Allen White

By Jennifer Byrd, graduate student

When Phyllis Lawton was a little girl, she remembers roller-skating through the halls of the *Emporia Gazette*, past the cluttered office of one of the most famous journalists of all time, to go see her father at work.

But she was never in much fear of being scolded by William Allen White, the Pulitzer Prize winning editor of the paper.

"Nobody was afraid of Mr. White," Lawton said.

Lawton is a rarity these days: Someone who had direct contact with White, the namesake of the University of Kansas School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Lawton and her husband, former KU vice chancellor Keith Lawton, went to the recent dedication of the William Allen White home in Emporia with former journalism professor Tom Eblen, and came across few people who knew the man directly.

"There aren't many people around who had direct contact with Mr. White, even down in Emporia," Keith Lawton said. "It's a happenstance that (Phyllis) was a child when all of this was going on. All of us, including myself, who are fascinated with Mr. White, are very privileged to have somebody who actually knew him."

In Kansas, White has gained legendary status. But people often forget how big a national figure he was during his lifetime.

"I think that in his day, people recognized the impact that he had," said Ann Brill, dean of the School of Journalism. "He may not be as well known today as some TV anchors, but his influence is still felt."

The house shows off White's national and international prominence. Five presidents — Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Warren Harding, Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover — slept in a bed on the second floor. Pictures of White with Albert Einstein, Teddy Roosevelt and at the signing of the Versailles Treaty, just to name a few, adorn the walls.

"The amazing thing to me is to hear about this man from Emporia who was very well respected, not just locally and in Kansas, but throughout the world," Brill said. "He traveled, he met with Einstein, and he met with presidents, with kings. When you think of who you respect as a journalist, and who's so prominent, he's on that list."



Phyllis Lawton and her husband, former KU vice chancellor Keith Lawton, at their Lawrence home.

Lawton's father, Bowmer Q. Hughes, worked for White as a linotype operator at the *Gazette* for 30 years. Newspapers used linotype machines to set print on a page.

As a child, Lawton remembers that even during the depression, White's employees each had a paycheck and were entertained at an annual Christmas ball. During the balls, White gave out bonus checks and "presented each child with an autographed book appropriate to their age," Lawton said.

As a reviewer for *Reader's Digest*, White received several books each year and always kept them so he could give them out as presents to his employees' children.

Lawton, who donated all of her books to the Spencer Research Library, said they were signed: "To Phyllis Hughes, from her father's friend, W.A. White."

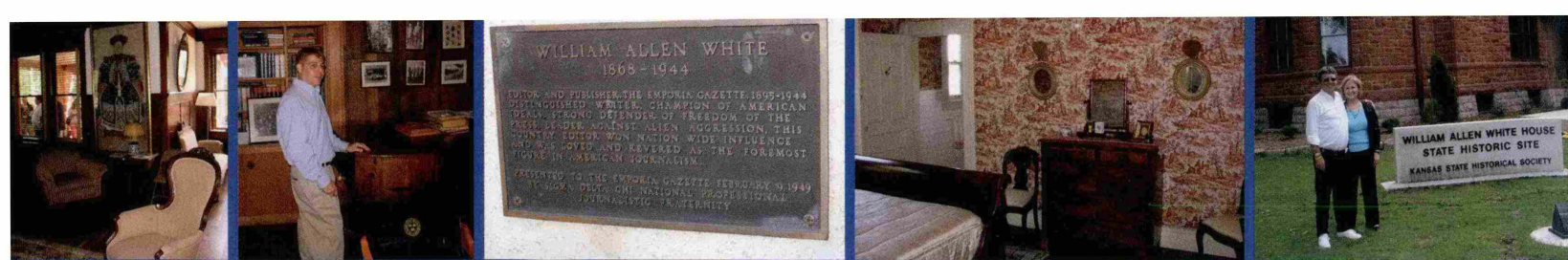
Also at the Christmas banquets, White would go around the children's table — with a large dinner napkin tucked into his vest — urging each child to have more gravy.

"He came to each one of us individually and would say, 'Let's see, should we put more gravy on this?' It was just fun," Lawton said.

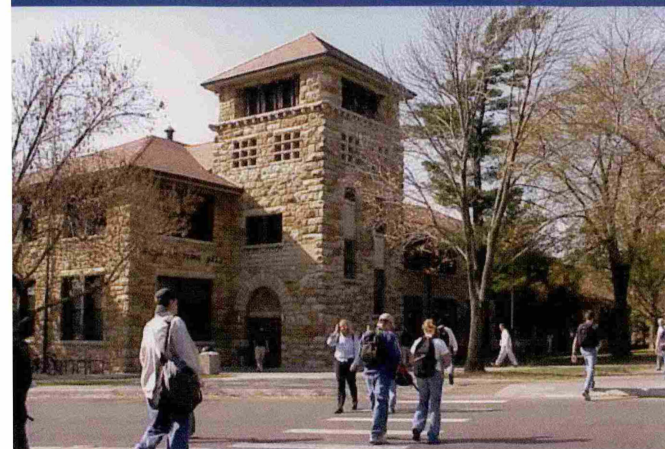
Each year Lawton's mother, Ruth, would bake White a birthday cake on Feb. 10. Lawton's parents would push her up to White's house door to deliver the cake. The Whites always welcomed the family in and had a little chat.

"One of Mr. White's thank you notes said, 'It was the best cake that has crossed our threshold!' assuring that neither Sallie (his wife), nor Bertha (his housekeeper), would be offended," Lawton said.

(Lawton — continued on page 4)



Banner photos from the William Allen White House State Historic Site dedication and the Emporia Gazette.



School of Journalism Calendar of Events

August 10, 2005: Alumni Event, San Antonio, Texas

The gathering is planned from 6-8 p.m. at Boudro's Zinc Room by the River Walk. Please send your RSVP to dlewis@kuuaa.org if you wish to attend.

September 10, 2005: Kansas Editors Day

The event begins at 1:30 p.m. in Alderson Auditorium of the Kansas Union. Kathleen Carroll, executive editor and senior vice president of the Associated Press, will be the featured speaker at the event. She was named executive editor in 2002 and senior vice president in 2003. She returned to the AP after six years with Knight Ridder, where she was a bureau chief supervising Knight Ridder's Washington coverage and its overseas report. As AP's executive editor, Carroll helps the AP face the challenges of helping newspapers build readership and providing up-to-date reports. She is also responsible for broadcast and new media areas. There is a Kansas-Appalachian State football game at 6 p.m. Call 785-864-7644 for details about Editors Day and game arrangements.

October 21, 2005: Alumni Event, Denver, Colorado

Dinner will be Friday night, followed by the KU/Colorado football game on Saturday. Check out our Web site at www.journalism.ku.edu, this fall, for more details.

February 10, 2006: William Allen White Day

Gordon Parks is the 2006 William Allen White Foundation national citation recipient. More details to come in the fall issue of J-Links.

Additional alumni gatherings are planned for Kansas City, Dallas, New York, Washington, D.C., and other locations in 2005 and 2006.

**A complete calendar of events is
available at: www.journalism.ku.edu**

(Lawton – continued from page 3)

When Lawton was a sophomore in high school she decided to apply for a job at the *Gazette* to be the Emporia High School news reporter. White interviewed her in his "crowded, busy, little office," she said.

"I sat at his knee and was informed that editorializing in the *Emporia Gazette* was reserved for the editorial page only. Over-

stated adjectives were inappropriate. And finally, I would probably receive 'string' wages of 20 cents an inch," Lawton said.

"The entire interview was conducted with that wonderful sparkle in his eye."

Lawton got the job and worked at the *Gazette* throughout high school. In addition to being the high school reporter, she substituted as a society reporter and occasionally as a proof reader, and was a street reporter.

Lawton was editor of the *Bulletin*, the Emporia State University newspaper, during her first two years in college.

When Lawton was engaged to Keith, Sallie White took her shopping and picked out a print for her dishes. As a complete surprise, Sallie White bought an entire starter set in the print for the Lawtons as a wedding gift. They still use those dishes today.

Keith Lawton remembers stories about White that his father-in-law would tell.

One of the stories was about how White would tell his employees if they were ever traveling and wary of the food, they should always order eggs.

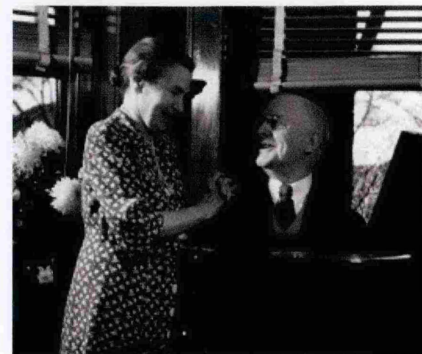
"Nobody can ruin eggs," he would say.

Another story was that his favorite activity at KU was to have a picnic near the university on Sundays.

"Food again, you know," Keith Lawton said.

Even with his national and international fame and wealth, Lawton remembers the Whites as kind people who were especially good to employees of the *Gazette*.

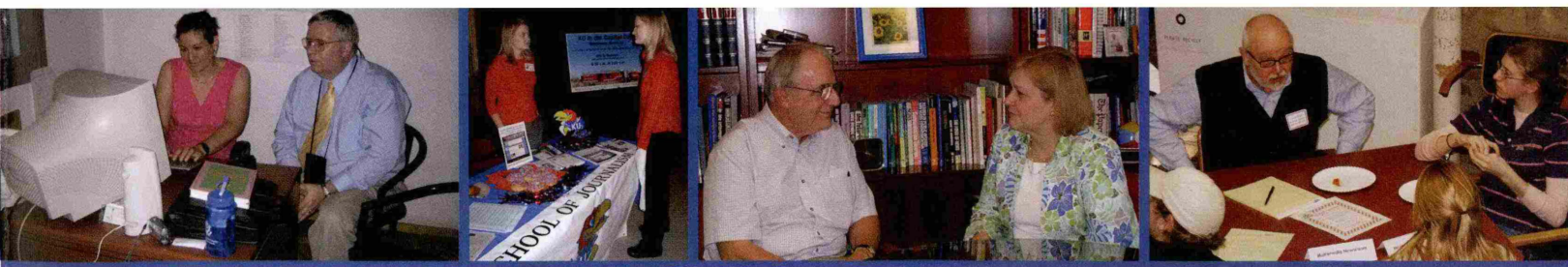
"W.A. and his wife Sallie took their employees into the extended family," Lawton said. "We always felt welcome around them." □



William Allen White and his wife Sallie



William Allen White signed this photo of himself in March 1935, noting "This is the best picture I have had in years."



Banner photos of J-School faculty and students.

Community journalism grant: J-School partners with Harwood Institute

The School of Journalism and The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, of Bethesda, Md., will work as partners over the next two years to develop resources to help journalists better understand how communities work and how to translate that knowledge into credible journalism.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has awarded \$200,000 each to KU and The Harwood Institute for the project aimed at improving community journalism.

Peggy Kuhr, Knight Chair on the Press, Leadership and Community at the J-School, and Richard Harwood, founder of The Harwood Institute, will develop teaching tools available on the Web to journalists, journalism students and professors.

THE PROJECT

The initiative's centerpiece will be Web-based access to a range of resources, including a community coverage handbook, modules for journalism educators and newsroom trainers, and case studies with examples of good community journalism. The J-School will host a series of three symposia with KU students to discuss the relationship between journalists and communities and the implications for credible coverage.

Building on Kuhr's experience and The Harwood Institute's body of work gives the partners a unique opportunity to spark a conversation among journalists about covering communities.

"Communities are as different as the people who live there. Journalists, and journalism students, need to understand them better, especially in this age of fast-paced change driven by technology," Kuhr said.

"For journalists to truly tap civic life, several basic questions must be asked in new ways," Harwood said. "What does it take to write with authority? How can journalists' work become more authentic? What makes journalists accountable? And why is that important?"

The Harwood Institute inspired and worked with many news organizations and journalists to tackle these questions throughout the 1990s. Among those initiatives was the American Society for Newspaper Editors' Journalism Values Institute, which examined what it takes to produce credible journalism in a rapidly changing world. The body of knowledge that emerged from the work with news organizations provides the base of materials for the partnership.

Kuhr has developed a strong national network among newsroom editors and journalism professors working on initiatives, including the Associated Press Managing Editors' (APME) National Credibility Roundtables Project.

The grants to Kansas and Harwood are part of several in recent years by the Knight Foundation aimed at improving community journalism. Last year, the foundation announced the creation of a "teaching newspaper" at the *Anniston Star* in Alabama, where the University of Alabama will offer a master's degree in community journalism. The foundation also

funded a New Voices grant program to help launch new community media experiments. New Voices is run by J-Lab at the University of Maryland.

"Most of America's journalism doesn't come from Washington, D.C., or from New York. Most journalism is community journalism. All across the country, there are hardworking, honest, local journalists who just want to report the news. We want to help those journalists do a better job," said Eric Newton, director of journalism initiatives at Knight Foundation.



Prof. Peggy Kuhr

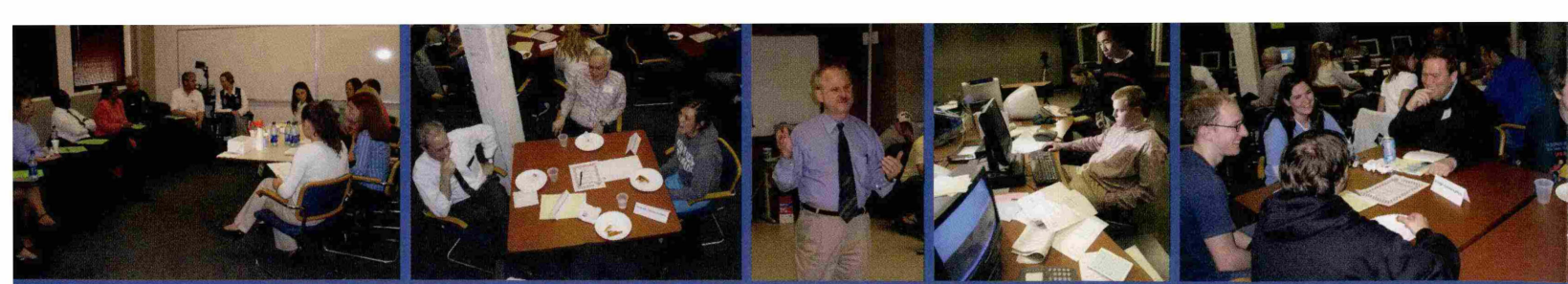
THE PARTNERS

"We are excited for the opportunity to work with The Harwood Institute and are grateful for the generous support from the Knight Foundation," said Ann Brill, dean of the School of Journalism. "We are very fortunate to have someone of Peggy Kuhr's caliber at the J-School leading the project at KU."

Kuhr joined KU in 2002; previously she was managing editor for content at *The Spokesman-Review* in Spokane, Wash. She has served as president of the Washington State AP organization and president of the Utah-Idaho-Spokane AP Association. She was co-chair of the Spokane Bench Bar Press Association, and served on the national board of directors of APME (Associated Press Managing Editors). This year, as part of the National Credibility Roundtables Project, she is working with seven journalism professors whose students are holding roundtables for partner newspapers.

The Harwood Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded in 1989 that works with organizations seeking to improve public life and politics. Richard Harwood is a national authority on civic engagement and improving America's communities. He is the author of numerous studies on health care, education, the role of the media, the state of American politics and the changing conditions in American society. He is a frequent commentator and contributor to national media.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation promotes excellence in journalism worldwide and invests in the vitality of 26 U.S. communities. Since it was established in 1950, Knight Foundation has approved more than \$250 million in grants aimed at improving journalism and advancing a free press. □



Banner photos of J-School faculty and students.

Student honors and achievements from the 2004-05 academic year

NATIONAL AND STATE NEWS HONORS:

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Editing Internships were awarded to seven students—Anna Clovis at the *Rochester* (Minn.) *Post-Bulletin*; Rupal Gor, the *Erie* (Pa.) *Times-News*; Stephanie Lovett, the *Amarillo Globe-News*; Tess Montano, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*; Alison Peterson, the *Columbus* (Ga.) *Ledger-Enquirer*; Jon Ralston, the *Indianapolis Star*; and Azita Tafreshi, the *Kansas City Star*.

Hearst Foundation Writing Competitions—Zach Hemenway and Erik Johnson tied for 11th place in feature writing; David Nobles placed 10th for in-depth writing; Ryan Greene placed 13th in personality profile writing; and Miranda Lenning placed 19th in spot news.

Washington Politics and Journalism Semester—Deron Lee, a graduate student, was one of 13 students chosen nationwide as a reporting intern for spring 2005. Jennifer Byrd, also a graduate student, was chosen for fall 2004.

Freedom Forum Chips Quinn Internship Scholarship—Audrey Esther was awarded this internship to report for the *Springfield* (Mo.) *News-Leader* in summer 2005.

Pacemaker Award—The *Kansan* was one of 15 college newspapers to receive it for 2003-04. It won the best single issue award for the October 7, 2004 issue in which page one featured a campus memorial service for Americans and Iraqis killed in the war and a report on a female student in the National Guard who was leaving for Iraq.

Washington Post National Desk Internship—Kimberly Sweet Rubenstein, a graduate student, will report for the *Post* in summer 2005.

National Press Club recognition—Zach Stinson was asked by the press club to donate one of his original cartoons for the organization's fund-raiser in Washington. He chose a cartoon on the Abu Ghraib prison that ran in the *Kansan* in May.



In a surprise visit to her History of Journalism class, Anna Clovis, left, receives the Caryl Smith Student Leadership Award. From left, Clovis; Ann Eversole, Dean of Students; Marlesa Roney, Student Success-Vice Provost; and Dean Ann Brill.

Pulliam Fellowship—Doyle Murphy was one of 10 Pulliam Fellows who worked on the *Arizona Republic* in summer 2004.

"Kansas Week" public television program—Susie Cable, graduate student, presented her in-depth report on stem cell research on "Kansas Week," on KPTS, Wichita, and KTWU, Topeka. It first aired as a two-part series on KUJH-TV. The story is also a national finalist for in-depth online reporting from the Society of Professional Journalists. Lisa Coble, graduate student, was online producer for the online report.

"Kansas Week" aired Tom Hipp's in-depth report, "Evolution vs. Intelligent Design," in May.

AEJMC NATIONAL STUDENT MAGAZINE COMPETITION RESULTS:

Start-Up Magazine, Individual—Kim Sweet Rubenstein won first place for *Home Front*, a magazine for military spouses; Janette Crawford won second place for *re:design*, a young person's personal creativity magazine; Katie Moyer won third place for *Playbook*, a magazine to help Division 1 student athletes prepare for life beyond the courts and fields of play.



Consumer Magazine Article, Places—Bob Perkins won second place for "Notes from the Underground," a story about do-it-yourself concerts.

Consumer Magazine Article, People—Misty Huber won honorable mention for "All Hail the Queens," a story about a drag queen show in Lawrence.

Service and Information Article—Matt Beat won an honorable mention for his story "Finders Keepers," a story about someone who publishes notes and letters that other people have thrown away.

Single Issue of an Ongoing Magazine, Design—Jayplay, the *Kansan's* lifestyle magazine, won an honorable mention.

NATIONAL ADVERTISING HONORS:

College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers Association, CNBAM, gave first place awards to the *Kansan* for best full color ad and best spot color ad. Danielle Bose placed second for business manager of the year, and Stephanie Graham placed second for sales manager of the year.

(Student Honors – continued on page 7)



Banner photos from around the KU campus.

(Student Honors – continued from page 6)

STATE BROADCASTING AND WEB HONORS:

Kansas Professional Communicators awarded first place to the Web site "Take This Job and Love It." Graduate student Lisa Coble designed and edited the site. Graduate student and multimedia coordinator, Staci Wolfe, built the site.

Kansas Association of Broadcasters awarded KU students five first places, three second places and four honorable mentions in television. First place awards went to Sandra Barry and others for complete newscast; Samantha Horner, Kyle Geiken, Denise Spindle and Jessica Smith, hard news package; Kendra Buscho, enterprise news package; the J694 class for TV station Web site; and Susie Cable for documentary by a graduate student. Other awards were for news packages and features.

Kansas Association of Broadcasters, Radio Awards—Rachel Robson placed first for a public affairs program by a graduate student. Other awards were given for public affairs, complete newscast, entertainment, public service announcements, station promotion and sports play-by-play.

Kansas City Press Club Heart of America best student writing competition—Kendra Buscho placed first; Brooke Wehner, second; Zach Lee, third; and Heather Hopper received honorable mention.

STATE STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS HONOR:

Kansas City Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators Bronze Quill Award of Merit went to a campaign for the Kansas Speedway by members of the Strategic Campaigns class taught by David Guth and Kerry Benson. The winning team was Full Throttle, Inc.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION OF J-SCHOOL STUDENTS:

Truman Scholarship—Emily Howard is one of four students the University has nominated to compete for Truman Scholarships. The national scholarships provide up to \$30,000 for college students preparing for leadership in public service. Truman Scholars are required to work in public service for three of the seven years following completion of a Foundation-funded graduate degree program. Candidates are chosen on the basis of leadership potential, intellectual ability and likelihood of "making a difference."

Morris K. Udall National Scholarship—Rebecca Evanhoe, one of five nominees from KU for the Morris K. Udall National Scholarship, received an honorable mention scholarship. The scholarship program was established by Congress for students planning careers related to the environment.

The Caryl Smith Student Leadership Award, one of the ten Chancellor's student awards given annually, was presented



Members of Full Throttle, Inc. receive a KC IABC Bronze Quill Award of Merit for their campaign for the Kansas Speedway. The recipients are Carl Ray, Lauren Stuckey, Andrea Shores, Nick Durr and Danielle Bose (not shown).

to Anna Clovis in her History of Journalism class. Winners of these awards sat on the Commencement platform with the Chancellor. Anna and Corinne Deuel were among 10 finalists for the two Ex.C.E.L. awards given by student government.

Dole Institute of Politics—Karen Bentley is one of four interns chosen to work with the Fellows of the Dole Institute.

Three of the 19 new University Scholars are journalism students.

Five of the 20 Summer Orientation Assistants are journalism students. They help advise incoming freshmen and transfer students. □

In Memory—Former Dean Warren Agee

Warren K. Agee, of Athens, Ga., died July 5 at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens. He was 88. He was dean of the KU School of Journalism from 1965 to 1969.

Born in 1916, Agee graduated from Texas Christian University in 1937 and spent 11 years at the *Star-Telegram* in Fort Worth, Texas. He joined the journalism faculty at TCU in 1948 and was chairman of the department from 1952 to 1958. He then led the journalism department at West Virginia University from 1958 to 1960. After serving as dean at KU, he became dean of the Grady School of Journalism at the University of Georgia from 1969 to 1975. He retired in 1987.

He was executive officer of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) from 1960 to 1962. SPJ awarded him the Wells Key award in 1973, and in 1987, he received the Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award. He also received a 2001 Distinguished Leadership Award from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). He was president of AEJMC in 1958.

The Agee family suggests that contributions be made to the American Heart Association or to the Schieffer School of Journalism at TCU. □



Banner photos from the KJI Summer Institute.



Kansas Journalism Institute brings high school students to campus

The Kansas Journalism Institute (KJI) is one of the nation's best-known summer journalism programs for secondary school students. Each year, it draws participants from across the country to the University of Kansas campus.

This year, the 42nd year, 155 students from 50 high schools in seven states attended the summer camp June 19-23. KU Journalism lecturer John Hudnall is the director of KJI, which is housed in Stauffer-Flint Hall.

KJI blends hard work and laughs as student journalists convene on the KU campus for four days of intense instruction and enjoyment. The winners in all these activities are the school publications and broadcast outlets that these student journalists will return to for the 2005-06 academic year.

KJI is led by a faculty of nationally recognized high school journalism instructors from across the country. The instructors are pictured above.

KJI takes pride in preparing scholastic journalists to better meet the needs of their school publications and broadcast outlets. Eleven academic sections are offered to students and advisers, including Publications Practicum, Leadership Seminar, Broadcasting, Newspaper Design, Yearbook Design, Feature Writing, Page Editors, Section Editors, Photojournalism, Journalistic Writing and Sports Writing.

For more on KJI, visit: www.journalism.ku.edu/kji □



Scott Winter, KJI instructor, teaches the Publications Practicum section.

There's no place like home: Alumni return to KU

Our graduates know there's more to Kansas than just wide open spaces and the Wizard of Oz. It's home to one of the nation's great journalism schools, with a tradition of excellence.

We are proud of our many distinguished alumni. We count Pulitzer Prize winners, editors of major newspapers and magazines, leaders in business, communications, education and law among our alumni. Our graduates are loyal, successful and return often to the School.

We salute your dedication and accomplishments. Here are just a few of you who came home to visit us this year:

Gerald Seib, Washington bureau chief, *The Wall Street Journal*; 2005 William Allen White national citation recipient
Alison Gwinn, deputy editor, *InStyle Magazine*, New York
Julie Jacobson, photographer, Associated Press, New York
Deric Gilliard, author, activist, public affairs director of the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Office of Secretary-Region IV, Atlanta

Steve Frazier, vice president, *Amazon.com*, Seattle
Barbara Rosewicz, managing editor, *Stateline.org*, Washington, D.C.

Mark Ziemann, editor, *The Kansas City Star*
Mike Swenson, president, Barkley Evergreen & Partners Public Relations, Kansas City

Grey Montgomery, editor, *The Junction City Daily Union*, Junction City, Kansas

Kevin Helliker, Chicago bureau chief, *The Wall Street Journal*; winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism (English, journalism student)

John Holt, news anchor, WDAF-TV, Kansas City
Janet Murguia, executive director, National Council of La Raza, Washington, D.C.

Dan Austin, chairman and CEO, Ottaway Newspapers, Inc.
Sharon Polk, vice president, Fleishman-Hillard Public Relations, Kansas City

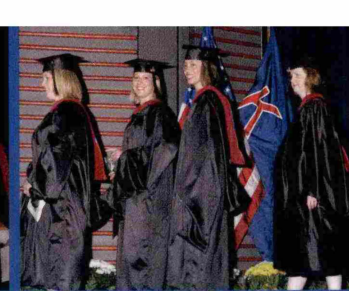
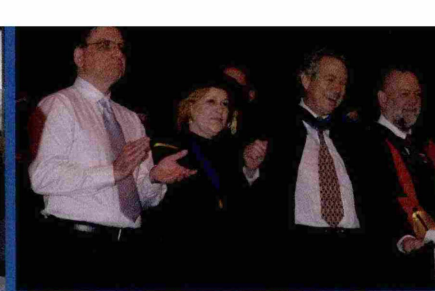
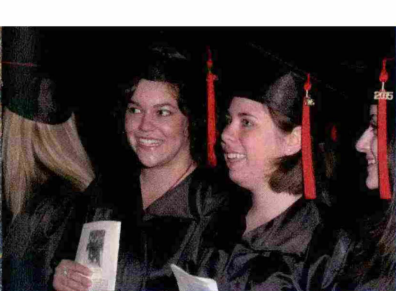
Beth Reber, travel writer, Frommer's Guides to Japan, Germany

Joel Thornton, copy desk chief, *The Dallas Morning News*
Rich Clarkson, photojournalist/owner, Rich Clarkson and Associates, Denver

Dan Fogarty, national marketing director, Chipotle restaurant chain

Malcolm Applegate, former president and general manager, *The Indianapolis Star*

Joy Benedict, reporter, WKYC-TV, Cleveland, Ohio
Doug Ward, former *New York Times* copyeditor. Doug came home this year to become one of our new assistant professors of journalism.



Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Where are they now?

2005

Shaunte Abernathy is an independent beauty consultant for Mary Kay in Kansas City, Kan.

Ashley Bechard works for *InStyle* magazine in New York.

Danielle Bose is a sales representative for *the Statesman-Journal*, Salem, Ore.

Eric Braem is a photographer for *the Owatonna (Minn.) People's Press* newspaper.

Kara Breitenstein is promotion manager for Highwoods Properties.

Julie R. Brown is a public relations assistant for the Kansas Speedway.

Michelle Burhenn is a reporter for *the Joplin (Mo.) Globe*.

Carrie Burton is a property administrator with Colliers Turley Martin Tucker commercial real estate, Kansas City, Mo.

Megan Clifford is online marketing coordinator for MMG Worldwide, Kansas City, Mo.

Shannon Cline is with Platform Advertising, Olathe, Kan.

Ashley Cobbel is a media associate at Starcom Worldwide, Chicago.

Amy Cox is the director of communications for the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce.

Chris Crawford is interning at PRIMEDIA, Overland Park, Kan.

Janette Crawford is an account coordinator/copy writer at the Strategic Branding Design Studio in Kansas City.

Christine Davidson is a sales rep. for *the Kansas City Star*.

Miranda Davison, is with Bernstein-Rein Advertising, Kansas City, Mo.

Meredith Desmond is with the *American Family Physician* magazine, Kansas City.

Corinne Deuel is pursuing a post graduate education.

Jill Dorsey is in public relations for the Bohle Co., Los Angeles.

Ashleigh Dyck is an account executive for *the Statesman-Journal*, Salem, Ore.

Stephanie Farley is a reporter, editor and photographer for *the Pittsburg Morning Sun*.

Rebecca Field is an account executive in advertising sales for *the Arizona Republic*.

Lauren Foremsky is an account executive for *People Newspapers*, Dallas.

Lindsey Fowler is a media analyst for Platform Advertising, Olathe, Kan.

Laura Francoviglia is a copy editor with *the Dispatch Tribune* in Gladstone, Mo.

Stephanie Graham is in advertising sales for *the Fort Collins Coloradoan*.

Courtney Grams is a marketing manager intern with Game Day Guides Publishing Company in Lawrence, Kan.

Peter Granitz will serve in the Peace Corps in Africa beginning in September.

Rebecca Green is a media planner for Barkley Evergreen & Partners, Kansas City, Mo.

Samantha Horner is a reporter for WIBW-TV, Topeka, Kan.

J-School graduate crowned Miss Kansas

Adrienne Rosel, 2005 graduate, was crowned Miss Kansas 2005 on June 11 in Pratt. She competed for the title as Miss Wichita.

Rosel's platform is Financial Literacy. Her duties in the upcoming year will include appearances, a journey to the Miss America pageant, and a statewide speaking tour, which will reach over 20,000 students and adults throughout Kansas. Her presentations will focus on how to set and achieve goals, the importance of financial literacy, and the freedom connected with managing and understanding finances.

"As graduation approached, I realized I had no financial knowledge," Rosel said. "I started discussing this issue with my friends, and to my surprise, they had no financial knowledge either. Financial literacy isn't just a college graduate's concerns; it affects citizens on a daily basis."

Two other J-School alumni have recently been crowned Miss Kansas. Angelea Busby, Dec. 2004, was Miss Kansas 2003. Jennifer Vannatta, May 1996, was Miss Kansas 1998. □



Stan Reimer Photography

Andrew Hyland is a reporter for *the Junction City Daily Union*.

Daniel Karen is an assistant account executive for Trinity Public Relations.

Meagan Kelleher is the Internet director for KPLC in Lake Charles, La.

LeAnna Kemp is with Young Life ministry, Jacksonville, Fla.

Leslie Kimmel is a manager at The Buckle.

Jodie Krafft is the education and entertainment reporter for *the Ottawa Herald*.

Kristen Landes is a pharmacy sales rep. for Merck & Co.

Stephanie LeClaire is corporate brand management intern with Sprint in Overland Park, Kan.

Justin Lueger is in public relations at the KU Business School.

Mary Kathryn (Katie) Means is with Morningstar Communications, in Overland Park, Kan.

Kathleen (Katie) Miller is with Starcom Worldwide, Chicago.

Neil Mulka is a page designer/infographics builder/copy editor at the *Yuma (Ariz.) Sun*.

Laura Phillips is a producer for WIBW-TV, Topeka.

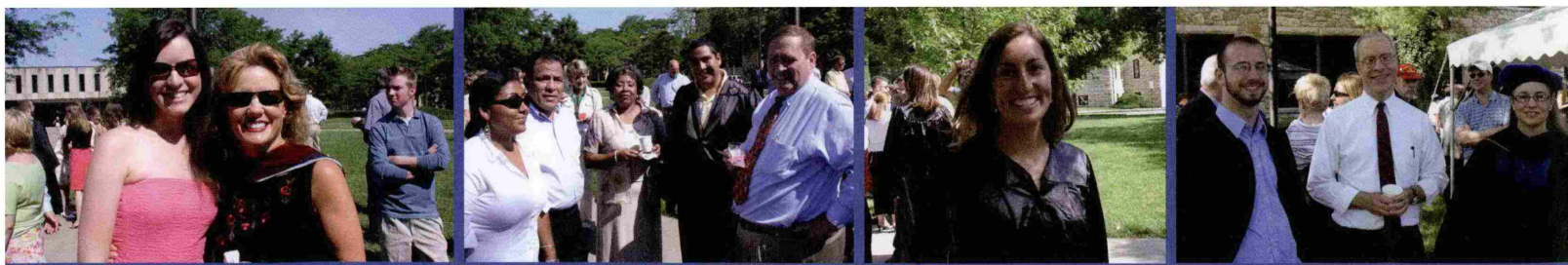
Ismael Groves Pinett is with Platform Advertising, Olathe, Kan.

Sarah Rexroad is serving in the Peace Corps in Mongolia.

Kyle Rohde is with ER Marketing, Kansas City, Mo.

Kathryn (Katie) Scott is interning at J. Walter Thompson advertising in Chicago.

(News & Notes – cont. on page 11)



Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Kansas alumnus gives the gift of a lifetime to the School of Journalism

By Erika Bentson, senior

University of Kansas graduate David Olson has pledged his estate, worth more than \$1 million, to the School of Journalism. After working in journalism for several decades, Olson recognizes that KU produces students with first-rate knowledge and skills.

"Private giving plays a large role in the support of higher education. I believe it is important for the Journalism School to invest in high-quality faculty, students and facilities, which requires significant resources beyond which public funding can meet," Olson said.

He and his wife, Bobbi, finalized their gift last October. Dean Ann Brill impressed the couple during the KU First: Invest in Excellence fund-raising campaign.

The Olsons have no children and want their inheritance to go to a good cause. Essentially, under the circum-

stance that both David and Bobbi pass away at the same time, all their estate will go to KU, a decision the donors had little trouble making.

"Our biggest decision was to determine what non-profit organizations or institutions we wanted to support. We've given to KU for years and because of my husband's interest in the Journalism School, we decided our estate should go directly to the school," Bobbi Olson said.

David Olson has worked in the journalism field since studying at KU. After he graduated in 1976, he went to work at the *Ottawa Herald* and the *Lawrence Journal-World* before joining the



David and Bobbi Olson

Olympian, of Olympia, Wash., in 1981.

Since 2000, Olson has worked as information technology director at the *Idaho Statesman* in Boise, Idaho. The newspaper is owned by Gannett Company, Inc., the nation's largest newspaper company and publisher of *USA TODAY*. The *Idaho Statesman* is the state capital newspaper, with a daily circulation of 68,000. Its online Web site, *Idahostatesman.com*, is the state's leading media Web site.

"The Olsons are very generous people; in addition to their gift, they established a scholarship in honor of one of David's classmates and friends," Brill said.

The J-School awards this scholarship in honor of Allen Quakenbush, Olson's former roommate, classmate and co-worker. Quakenbush was a beat writer and sports columnist, who died in April 1999, while working as a sports editor for the *Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal*. The scholarship will go to a student studying news and information.

The Olsons have shared with the School year after year by becoming members of the Deans Club. Members of the club support individual schools or divisions of KU with annual contributions of \$1,000 or more to KU Endowment. □

Recent grad "soars" in Hutchinson

Sarah Hill, May 2003 graduate, is a reporter for *The Hutchinson News*, in Hutchinson, Kan. She reported on the recent launch of Steve Fossett's Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer from Salina, Kan., for the *Hutchinson News*.

She met Sir Richard Branson, founder of Virgin Atlantic Airways, and the sponsor of Fossett's flight, the first solo nonstop flight around the world. She is pictured above with Branson. □





Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

(News & Notes – cont. from page 9)

Katie Serrone is a media account executive at MMG Worldwide, Kansas City, Mo.

Calli Smith is a management trainee for Nebraska Book Co., Tempe, Ariz.

Jessica Smith is interning with U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska in Washington, D.C.

Morgan Smith is a reporter for KSNT-TV, Topeka, Kan.

Jessica Solander is a sales representative in Milwaukee, Wis.

Peter Van Auken is teaching English on the island of Reunion, French territory.

Steven Vockrodt is a reporter for the *Dispatch Tribune Newspapers*, Kansas City.

Erica Wells is a consultant with Megan Neher Public Relations in Overland Park, Kan.

D.J. Whetter is a sports reporter-anchor for 6News, Lawrence, Kan.

Ann Wiley is with Teach for America.

Laci Wright is a production assistant at KMBC-TV in Kansas City, Mo.

Elisa Zahn is in multimedia sales at the World Company, Lawrence, Kan.

2004

Brittanny Bublitz is an account executive for Star 102 Radio in Kansas City, Mo.

Frances Gorman, MSJ, is communications director for the Kansas Democratic Party.

Ryan Greene is a sports reporter for the *Olathe Daily News*, in Olathe, Kan.

Andrea Hughey works for Sprint, Overland Park, Kan., writing and designing promotional materials that go to lobbyists and legislators.

Amy Lee is an assistant media planner at OMD, Chicago.

Johanna Maska has joined the staff of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, in the press department and with constituent services.

Megan McKenzie has moved from Nicholson Kovac to Barkley Evergreen and Partners Public Relations as an account executive with Sonic as a client.

Nikki Overfelt is a copy editor at the *Duluth News Tribune*.

Mary Ann Porch is a public relations account coordinator at Euro RSOG Magnet, New York.

Elizabeth Springer works for Good Morning America as an associate producer in development and assistant to the executive producer in development.

Jennifer Lynne Wilson sells advertising for San Francisco's *East Bay Express*.

2003

Stephanie Aenchbacher is an assistant account executive at Edelman Public Relations Worldwide in Chicago.

Katherine (Katie) Glatz is co-hosting a morning show on KOQL in Columbia, Mo.

Daniel (Dan) Harriman is the advancement-marketing coordinator for the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia.

Brooke Hesler is a communications officer for Youthville, a non-profit foster care agency in Wichita. She and Kyle Ramsey, 2002 graduate, will be married in August and both will begin law school later that month.

Shawn Linenberger reports for the *Tonganoxie Mirror*.

Kara Ryckman works as a marketing product manager/business-to-business marketing coordinator within the credit card division of First National Bank in Omaha. She will receive her MBA from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in May 2006.

A. Elizabeth Taylor is editorial promotions coordinator for *The Oklahoman* newspaper in Oklahoma City.

Brett Wiard is a newscast director for KNWA in Fayetteville, Ark.

Melissa Williams is an account executive at Buona Catering, Chicago.

2002

Amber Huntzinger has been promoted to manuscript editor at *American Family Physician* magazine, a publication of the American Academy of Family Physicians. She has been an editorial assistant.

Aimee Martinez completed a three-year career dancing for the Los Angeles Laker Girls. She currently consults high school, college and professional dance teams on choreography and performance skills through her own company, Dance Team Designs. Her Web site is www.DanceTeamDesigns.com.

Jennifer Meghan (Jenni) Jones was recently promoted to account executive, partnership marketing, at MMG Worldwide, a Kansas City-based advertising agency where she has worked for two years.

Chantel Keys received her law degree from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Va., in May.

Kyle Ramsey has been with the *Wichita Eagle* since November 2003. Since November 2004, he

has been the 1A designer, responsible for designing the cover daily, as well as breaking news packages and special sections.

Marlina Robertson works as a marketing assistant for the Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange.

2001

Kylie Colgan is a coordinator on the Toyota account for Saatchi & Saatchi, Kansas City.

Josh Scofield is a recruiter for Express Personnel in Vernon Hills, Ill.

2000

Rich Bennett, MSJ, 1992 BS, is director of integrated campaign services for Focus on the Family in Colorado Springs, Colo. Previously he was a senior manager of planning and integration at Sprint in Overland Park, Kan.

Molly McNearney is a writers' assistant at Jimmy Kimmel Live on ABC. Previously she produced music acts and interviews for the show.

Carrie Petree finished fashion design school in December 2004. She is currently working as an assistant merchandiser for Nautica Swimwear and occasionally as a freelancer copy-editor for a travel guide series.

1999

Anna Attkisson is associate editor at Time Inc. in the custom publishing division.

Colleen (Devaney) LeCount is president of the Kansas City Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators. The chapter recently won the International Chapter of the Year award for a record-tying fifth time.

(News & Notes – cont. on page 13)



Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Grad battles back from near-fatal disease

Editor's Note: Andy Marso is a 2004 J-School graduate with highest distinction and a former University Daily Kansan staff member. He contracted bacterial meningitis his last semester at KU and nearly died from his ordeal. The disease destroyed much of the tissue in his hands and feet, which resulted in partial amputation of them. After a year of grueling surgeries, rehabilitation and fittings for prosthetics, Andy is beginning a new chapter in his life. He spoke at the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony. We asked him to talk about his experiences in J-Links. Following is a tale of one man's journey.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

—Confucius

My battle with meningitis and its aftereffects is, as Dick Cheney would say, "in its last throes" (though in my case he might be more accurate). I had my last surgery on May 2 and was cleared to begin walking on July 1.

In the past I had viewed this milestone as the point at which my life would pretty much return to normal. But, as with most everything that has happened to me because of this disease, it's not nearly that simple. After more than a year without walking, the process oddly no longer feels natural and, with the front half of both feet missing, and the tender grafted skin on the bottom not used to bearing weight, it's almost as though I'm starting over as a tiny toddler, trying to stumble ahead a few feet before collapsing.

Yes, I am walking now, but not in the normal situations I used to walk in. Right now my time on my feet occurs mainly in rehab. I shuffle slowly down the slim, carpeted hallway, steadying myself with a platform walker and leaning heavily on my arms when the weight seems too hard on my feet.

Sometimes I stand in between two parallel metal bars and work on balance, just trying to stand upright without the benefit of toes to help catch myself when my weight shifts. I must learn to sway at the knees; if I lock them straight, I inevitably begin to tip backwards. Yet another reason I'll never be fit for military duty: I can't stand at attention. Every exercise in rehab is done under the watchful eyes of my physical therapist, who offers tips sometimes, but is mostly there to make sure I don't fall over and break my hip. This makes me a little self-conscious. I'm only 24, after all.

So, my wheelchair is still my main means of transportation, and it is creaky now from more than 13 months of use without any maintenance. I guess we are both getting sick of each other. It will be awhile yet before I can ditch it completely. In the meantime I face a long progression from walker to crutches to cane to independent motion. Once I am walking on my own, I don't plan for that to be the end of the journey. I want to run



Andy Marso, center, is surrounded by his family at the May 2005 journalism graduation ceremony. From left, his brother Josh, father Harry, mother Virginia, grandmother Dorothy, and brother Dan, who walked down the "hill" in Andy's place in May 2004.

again, at least jog, and be able to kick a soccer ball around. All that will take a lot of hard work, and it's not even on the radar screen yet.

The irony of all this is that it could have been over months ago if my surgeon and I hadn't played things so conservatively. I could have opted to have both legs amputated below the knees. Then I could have been fitted with two state-of-the-art prosthetic limbs, as functional as the legs I had before. Using today's prosthetics people can not only walk, but can sprint, jog and jump nearly as well as someone with two perfect legs. In terms of function, this would have been the quick-fix for me. It would have eliminated all kinds of problems with my ankles and the tender flesh on the bottom of my feet. But I just wasn't able to reconcile the idea of losing both my legs.

Another option was given me, and though the road was harder and there was no guarantee it would work, I chose it immediately. I don't know yet if I made the right decision. I've only taken the first steps on a journey of a thousand miles. □

Visit www.journalism.ku.edu to read the University Daily Kansan's in-depth coverage of Andy's story.



Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

(News & Notes – cont. from page 11)

Michael Martin has been nominated for a National Magazine Award for general excellence. He is editor in chief of *nerve.com*. Previously he was an editor at *Gear* magazine.

Anthony Migliazzo is a director at Velocity Sports & Entertainment in Wilton, Conn., consulting on FedEx's sponsorship marketing portfolio. He resides in New York City.

Alex Runner is a senior writer for the Office of Alumni Relations and Development at Northwestern University. He is pursuing graduate work there. Previously he was associate editor at Trade Publishing Corp.

1998

Bridget Mason Hess is assistant vice president and corporate communications manager, UMB Financial Corp., Kansas City.

Corrie Moore has joined the KU Endowment Association as development director for the School of Business. She worked in the editorial department of a small Internet company and in the development department of Continuum Health Partners in New York previously.

Erin Veazey is director of firm and corporate relations, Northwestern University School of Law, in Evanston, Ill.

1997

Erin K. Curtis-Dierks has joined the KU School of Fine Arts as communications coordinator. She worked previously at the American Academy of Family Physicians and in marketing in Chicago.

Ashleigh de la Torre is the director of legislative affairs for Airports Council International.

She had been on the staff of U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts since graduating with degrees in journalism and political science. As a legislative assistant to Roberts, she worked on transportation issues. While at KU, she interned with former Sen. Bob Dole.

Brian James is a photo editor at the *Rocky Mountain News*. He was previously a designer there.

Shannon Schwartz is in customer research for the California State Automobile Association, San Francisco.

1996

Brad Feinberg recently became director of media planning and partnerships at Discovery Communications, Inc. located in Silver Spring, Md. His responsibilities are to manage media support for TLC and Discovery Health Channel.

Caren Gerkin is a regional account executive for Advo, Inc., a national advertising company.

Holden Kushner is weekend host for the MLB Channel on XM Satellite Radio.

Scott Spillman is an e-sales adviser for Gateway, Kansas City.

1995

Cameron Death is senior business development manager for the Branded Entertainment and Experiences Team of Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, Wash. He works with the top 100 brands in the U.S. to develop breakthrough online/offline programs for brand marketing on the Internet. He joined the company seven years ago after two years with Knight-Ridder.

Gerry Fey is the design chief for *USA Today Sports Weekly*, a weekly magazine that covers baseball and football. He and

his wife Stephanie have a one-year-old son, Jacob Benjamin.

1994

Gordon Ho is with Innovative Solutions Consulting Group, with offices in North Kansas City and Merriam, Kan.

Kristine Strain has been promoted to assistant news director from managing editor by KCNC-TV, the CBS affiliate in Denver. She went to Denver in 2000 from WITI-TV, Milwaukee.

1993

Laura Rauch, western regional photographer for the Associated Press, is one of 12 journalists awarded John S. Knight Fellowships at Stanford University for the 2005-06 academic year. The Knight Fellows pursue independent courses of study and participate in special seminars. This is the 40th year Stanford has had the fellowships for professional journalists. She will study how and why the U.S. goes to war. She has been a news photographer in Afghanistan and Iraq.

1992

Virginia (Hunter) Johnson Haggart is an executive hospital representative for Merck & Co., Inc. in Dallas. Haggart has been with Merck since graduation.

Louis Lopez is a senior trial attorney for the U.S. Dept. of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Derek D. Simmons is an attorney practicing business law at Watkinson Laird Rubenstein Baldwin & Burgess, P.C., in Eugene, Ore. He has two children, baby Gabriel and three-year-old Alex.

1991

Melanie Botts is a copy editor for *The Wall Street Journal*, Princeton, N.J.

Courtney Eblen McCain is a field paramedic and preceptor for Montgomery County Hospital District EMS north of Houston. She is also a contributing photographer for the *Journal of Emergency Medical Services*, a trade magazine. She and her husband, Ken, have two children, Megan and Mary.

Lorraine Shearing is senior manager in Internet marketing at Accenture, a global management and technology consulting company.

1990

Patricia L. Rupert, MSJ, BS 1976, is a chiropractor and an acupuncturist in Palo Alto and Los Altos, Calif. Her business, Advanced Wholistic Health Care, combines chiropractic and acupuncture to provide positive results in the shortest time.

Monica (Hayde) Schreiber is a public relations and marketing manager in the Silicon Valley office of Dechert LLP, an international law firm. Previously she spent seven years in community journalism in the San Francisco Bay area, followed by law school and two-years as a media lawyer in San Francisco.

1989

Chris Halsne is a member of the KIRO-TV team, Seattle, Wash., that won the National Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting from the Radio-Television News Directors Association. The award-winning report titled "Close Proximity," exposed how Washington State violated the law in assigning housing to convicted sex offenders. As a result of the investigation, state prison officials began using the same computer mapping software used by the station to avoid placing sex offenders by licensed daycare centers.

(News & Notes – cont. on page 14)



Banner photos from the May 2005 Journalism graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

(News & Notes – cont. from page 13)

Chris Horan is the commercial producer for KCTV and KSMO-TV in Kansas City.

1988

Jody Dickson Becker is public relations coordinator for the Kansas City Public Library.

Marion Joseph (Joe) Bollig, Jr., MSJ, a senior reporter/photographer at *The Leaven* newspaper of the Catholic Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kan., won five individual awards and shared another at the 2005 Catholic Press Association convention. The newspaper won nine awards totals.

T. Darren Richards is the news director for WTSP-TV, the

Gannett-owned CBS affiliate in St. Petersburg, Fla. He moved from the same position at Gannett's WFMY-TV in Greensboro, N.C. He also has worked for Gannett stations in Phoenix, Denver and Jacksonville.

1987

Patrick Sturgeon is director of operations for NASN in Dublin, Ireland. NASN is the national sports network of Ireland. One of his duties is to decide which American sports events to carry. So far he has scheduled six KU basketball games, with three more to come.

1986

Todd Tilford has been named executive creative director and

director of visual communications for BBDO, New York. The firm is one of the top advertising agencies in the world.

Marty Wall is the new afternoon host on KCSP Radio, 61 Sports, Kansas City.

1984

Mark Mears is chief marketing officer of Blimpie International. He was Prof. Tim Bengtson's Strategic Campaigns client for spring 2005.

1982

Jacquie Hill is in marketing communications for Assurant Employee Benefits, Kansas City.

1981

Amy Hollowell is the editor of the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris, where she has worked since 1982. She has held various positions at the paper, which is owned by the *New York Times*.

1980

Gail Scott works for the Tribune Company, a division of Tribune Media Net, as a sales manager for the Florida office. She sells cross media campaigns for the *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Newsday* and eight other Tribune properties.

William Buzbee is a researcher for Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, Palo Alto, Calif.

1977

Deborah Gump is the Knight Professor of News Editing at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

Patricia Eliot Tobias is editor, member news, for the Writers Guild of America, west. She is a freelance editor of special publications for *Variety*, including

issues on Cary Grant, James Dean, and the Golden Globes program. She wrote a book, *Behind the Silver Screen*.

1975

Ann Gardner, editorial page editor of the *Lawrence Journal-World*, received the 2005 Communicator of Achievement Award from Kansas Professional Communicators.

1973

Vicki Ferrell Buening is director of constituent services for Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

Barbara Moffet is director of communications for the National Geographic Society in Washington. The communications include magazines, television broadcasts in 150 countries, online publications and special classroom programs such as a National Geographic Bee that awards scholarships annually.

1972

Thomas E. Slaughter has been promoted to vice president of the Associated Press Newspaper Market Unit to oversee headquarters activities related to the AP's business relationships with its 1,550 newspaper members. He had served since 2003 as vice president of New Media Markets in the department, responsible for products and sales to the online operations of AP's newspaper members. Slaughter joined the AP in Topeka in 1973, and reported from Sioux Falls, Denver, Cheyenne, Tallahassee, Dallas, Newark and Seattle, before becoming a general executive at New York headquarters in 1989. He was director of strategic planning and of AP Digital before joining his present department.

(News & Notes – cont. on page 15)

Graduate awarded prestigious Nieman Fellowship

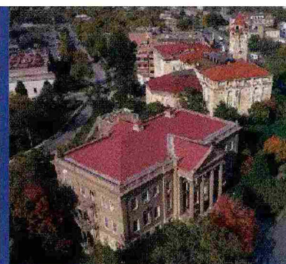
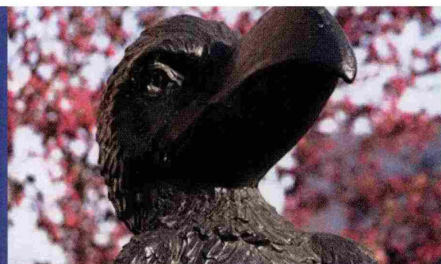
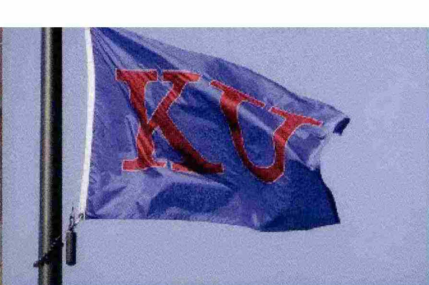
Chris Cobler, 1982 alumnus and editor of the *Greeley (Colo.) Tribune*, is one of twelve U.S. journalists selected for the 68th class of Nieman Fellows at Harvard University.

Established in 1938, the Nieman program is the oldest midcareer fellowship for journalists in the world. The fellowships are awarded to working journalists of accomplishment and promise for an academic year of study in any part of the university. More than 1,100 U.S. and international journalists from 79 countries have studied at Harvard as Nieman Fellows.

Cobler's area of interest is how a community newspaper can use the Web to guide new and younger readers back to the paper, and how it can foster a constructive conversation about changing demographics.

Cobler is the Donald W. Reynolds Nieman Fellow in community journalism. His fellowship is sponsored by a grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. □





Banner photos from around the KU campus.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

(News & Notes – cont. from page 14)

1971

Lewis (Lew) Ketcham covers Capitol Hill as a producer for C-Span, the public affairs cable network he joined in 1986. He started his career at WIBW-TV in Topeka and later was on the staff of former Congressman Dan Glickman of Wichita.

1969

Kent Whealy is executive director of the Seed Savers Exchange of Decorah, Iowa. He has made several presentations on heirloom seeds and produce in Lawrence. The non-profit exchange has 7,500 members, and sells seeds via catalog.

1962

Harold (Cotton) Smith is an author. He just released his novel, *Death Rides a Red Horse*. He has written nine western novels, with his tenth, *Stands a Ranger*, due in 2006. His books include *Winter Kill*, 2004; *the Thirteenth Bullet*, 2004; *Sons of Thunder*, 2003; *Spirit Rider*, 2002; *Brothers of the Gun*, 2001; *Behold a Red Horse*, 2000; *Pray for Texas*, 1999; and *Dark Trail to Dodge*, 1998. His Web site is cottonsmithbooks.com. Before, he worked as a marketing consultant with his own agency and as a senior vice president for Corporate Communications Group in Overland Park, Kan.

1958

Nancy Landess Hayden has been the community editor since 1986 for the *Tahoe Daily Tribune* in South Lake Tahoe, Calif.

1932

Maurine Miller Welch is retired. She resides in Clearwater, Fla. She celebrated her 98th birthday on May 5. □

It's "Showtime" for this grad

by Susie Cable, August graduate of master's program

Penny Reiss, a 1993 J-School graduate, traveled far from Kansas, but found herself right at home in Los Angeles with other KU alumni. "It's the best thing about this city — my friends from KU," she said. "I'm lucky to have found them in a city that is so demanding."

Reiss moved to LA in 1997 and carved out a career in marketing, sales, advertising and publicity. She's done publicity for celebrities including David Bowie and Dwight Yoakum, and created global marketing strategies for companies like Activision and Mercedes-Benz. She works in the newest form of advertising: branded entertainment.

"Merging films, musicians and television shows with brands is having the best of both worlds," Reiss said.

Reiss, who grew up in Illinois, was drawn to the "picture-perfect" campus and friendly people she saw when she toured KU. Her time at KU was "outrageous," particularly when she worked with SUA to bring The Pixies, Nirvana, and Pearl Jam to town. She had a lot of fun — more than she was willing to talk about for this profile — but she was also preparing for her career.

As a KU student, Reiss did several internships to see what she liked and disliked about various industries. She worked in advertising for *The University Daily Kansan*, a Kansas City television station, and an underground record label.

Reiss remembers Prof. Tim Bengtson encouraging her to test her interests and skills through internships. She credits Bengtson's creative teaching methods, including holding open forums and bringing in professionals as guest speakers, with inspiring her career.

"I would go there in a heartbeat," she said, when asked if she would consider traveling to Lawrence to be a guest speaker in his class.

Bengtson remembers Reiss as an energetic student who was a gifted presenter and quick thinker.

"She always had lots and lots of ideas on how to solve problems. The ideas often bubbled over as soon as she got the problem, not weeks later," Bengtson said.

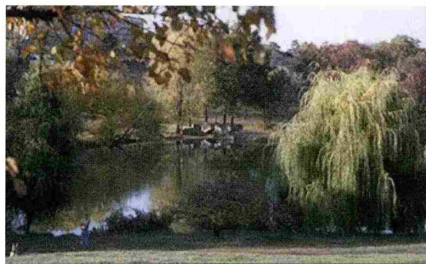
Her enthusiasm bubbles over, too, when she talks about her career path. Reiss worked as a publicist for restaurants and musicians; as a marketing manager for RPMC, a global marketing company; and as Worldwide Marketing Partnerships Director for Paramount Pictures. In 2003, she started her own entertainment marketing company, R Brand. Her clients included Miramax Films, Paramount Home Entertainment, and Game Show Network.

In February 2005, Reiss became the first Vice President of Product Integration at Showtime Networks. She is responsible for developing marketing partnerships with Fortune 500 companies and corporate strategy on product integration. Showtime is an unbelievably exciting place to work, Reiss said.

"Showtime is one of the last bastions of places you can go to for tell-it-like-it-is-content," she said. "The shows are thought-provoking and unlike any other television out there."

She is indeed a talented promoter. When she talks about Showtime's shows and the influx of new creative energy, she makes this writer (who doesn't even have basic cable) want to subscribe right away. □





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