KU First fund-raising campaign exceeds expectations
By Charles Higginson, program associate

It started ambitiously, proceeded confidently and ended more successfully than anyone could have anticipated.

KU First: Invest in Excellence – the largest fund-raising campaign in the history of the University of Kansas – concluded at the end of December. Having hit the original $500 million goal more than a year early, organizers at the KU Endowment Association set a new goal of $600 million in December of 2003, and reached it with room to spare. The final total raised was $653 million.

In similar fashion, the School of Journalism reached its original goal of $5 million, then set and met a new mark of $6 million. Gifts and pledges contributed on the School’s behalf will provide support for scholarships, equipment, internships, professorships, graduate fellowships and more for years to come.

Between July 1, 1998, and Dec. 31, 2004, more than 100 corporate donors joined more than 2,800 individual contributors in support of the School. Many made more than one contribution during the campaign. All donors are listed in the KU First Roll of Honor distributed with this issue of J-Links.

The success of KU First is impressive, especially considering the size of its goals and its somewhat inauspicious start. Although the campaign’s “quiet phase” began in July 1998, the active phase was launched publicly just a few days before the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

(Dean’s Letter – continued on page 2)

Letter from the Dean

One of my favorite roles as dean is thanking people on behalf of the J-School. This issue of J-Links is a tribute to the many friends, alumni, faculty members and others who have helped us with their gifts. We have an impressive list of donors who contributed to the School’s KU First Campaign. We could not have done this without the leadership of the Campaign committee appointed by former dean Jimmy Gentry. This group of dedicated volunteers was led by Mal Applegate (1959 journalism grad). Mal has had many successes in his journalism career and he brought that same sense of hard work, creativity and dedication to this campaign. Thanks, Mal!

Just as impressive are the stories of why people contribute to the School. You’ll read some of those stories in the supplement to this issue. As I’ve come to know many of our alumni and donors, I am inspired by their high regard and memories of the J-School. They look back on their time here with gratitude for the skills, knowledge – and yes, occasional fear – that faculty members instilled in them.

(Dean’s Letter – continued on page 2)
Much of the eventual success on the School’s behalf is due to the efforts of the Journalism Campaign Committee for KU First. These eight individuals gave financial gifts as well as their commitment to raise money for the School. They worked closely with KU Endowment and with deans Jimmy Gentry and Ann Brill.

Campaign Committee members were: Malcolm W. Applegate, committee chair (Journalism ’59, former president and general manager, The Indianapolis Star); Danforth W. Austin (Journalism ’68, chairman and CEO, Ottaway Newspapers, Inc.); Richard C. Clarkson (Journalism ’55, owner, Rich Clarkson and Associates, Denver); Ralph D. Gage Jr. (Journalism ’64, chief operating officer, The World Company); Larry Kanter (Communications ’74, MBA ’83, news anchor, 1010 WINS Radio, New York); Dana A. Leibengood (Journalism ’55, MS Journalism ’69, retired Journalism School administrator); Shelly J. London (Journalism ’74, MBA ’81, vice president-communications, American Standard Companies); and Terry K. Shockley (MS Journalism ’66, president, Shockley Group).

The campaign may be over, but you still can put “KU Journalism First.” For information about ways you can support the J-School, please contact Patrick Mikesic, development director at the KU Endowment Association, at (785) 832-7461 or pmikesic@kuendowment.org.

KU Endowment is an independent non-profit organization serving as the official fund-raising and fund-management organization for the University of Kansas. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment is the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university and one of the largest.

Stauffer-Flint Hall gets a mini facelift

The wood floors on the first and second floors of Stauffer-Flint were refinished over the holiday break. They had dulled over the years and were badly in need of repair. The ceiling tiles on the first and second floors also were replaced. To further beautify the J-School, a distinguished alumni display case and photography display on the second floor were added. Julie Jacobson’s photos are currently on display. She is a 1992 graduate and an Associated Press photographer (see page 9 for her profile).

Dean’s Letter – continued from page 1

It was very special to hear Jerry Seib, this year’s William Allen White citation award recipient, recall his J-School days with so much admiration and gratitude for his teachers and mentors. You will read more memories from alumni throughout this issue.

Another one of my favorite roles as dean is talking with the many recruiters who visit the J-School. Many of them are alumni, but all of them have some connection with KU and the J-School. Recruiters tell me how our students are doing – both the ones they are interviewing here and the ones now working for their companies. I ask questions about the various industries they represent – not just about hiring plans, but about the future of their companies and what they think we should be doing to prepare students for careers. Our Career Fair in early March drew more than 175 students who talked with recruiters from an impressive list of 23 companies.

We have had an impressive list of visitors this year. Last fall, 300 people joined us on Kansas Editor’s Day to hear former AP political reporter Walter Mears. Also in fall, Deric Gilliard, author, activist and public affairs director at the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Office of Secretary-Region IV, spent three days here talking with students. We had a great turn-out for the William Allen White dinner, meetings and presentation. And, we’re making sure our visitors spend a lot of time in classes and meeting with students and faculty. One of those visitors, 2004 Pulitzer Prize winner Kevin Helliker, even got introduced at half time during a basketball game! Our goal is as much visibility as possible for all our guests.

Also among recent visitors were representatives of ACEJMC, the journalism accreditation council. We very much appreciated their time and comments when they spent three days here evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the School. The team will recommend full reaccreditation when the council meets next month in Chicago. You’ll read more about their review and recommendations in the next issue of J-Links.

So, THANK YOU!

Ann M. Brill, Dean
A Jayhawk Journalist goes to Washington
By Jennifer Byrd, graduate student

I’ve become a C-SPAN addict. I used to watch the public affairs network sporadically, but after spending last fall interning at the National Journal’s CongressDaily in Washington, D.C., the programming means more now.

I see reporters I met asking questions during the televised briefings. I see rooms in the Capitol and nearby office buildings where I’ve been. I laugh when I see a briefing in the House electronic media gallery because I know the title of one of the fake books behind the podium has something to do with treating gastrointestinal diseases.

And, most important, I know that what is shown on the network is both real and important. Before, the issues the federal government dealt with seemed distant. Now, I feel obligated to pay much closer attention.

I was selected, along with 13 other students from various universities, to spend a semester interning at a news bureau and attending seminars to learn about politics.

The program is sponsored by the Washington Center for Politics and Journalism, an organization run by Terry Michael, a former press secretary for Sen. Paul Simon and the Democratic National Committee. Michael, also a former journalist, established the program in 1988 to improve young reporters’ knowledge of politics by having them learn from actual political insiders, not books. A dozen students from KU have participated in the program through the years. Graduate student Deron Lee is there this semester.

We met twice a week for an hour and a half for the seminars. Some of our speakers included Walter Mears, formerly of The Associated Press; Jonathan Rauch of the National Journal; former Rep. Bill Frenzel, R-Minn.; Jim Pinkerton, Newsday columnist and Fox News commentator; Robert Samuelson, a columnist for the Washington Post and Newsweek; and Tom Rosentiel, director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism and former Los Angeles Times media critic.

Brock Meeks, the chief Washington correspondent for MSNBC, took us on a tour of the NBC studios in suburban Washington. This is the home of the storied “Studio A,” where Nixon debated Kennedy, where “The Muppets” was first filmed and where “Meet the Press” is taped.

We went to the offices of the Federal Election Commission, the National Republican Congressional Committee, the Democratic National Committee and the CATO Institute.

For my internship at CongressDaily, I went to the Capitol once or twice a week to cover an event or to deliver papers to reporters. On my first day in the Capitol, I passed by Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., and Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, and rode the trolley from the Capitol to the Senate Hart Office Building with Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C.

I went to the National Press Club and listened to Jim Lehrer of PBS speak about the controversy surrounding the CBS story about President Bush’s National Guard service. I stayed up all night on Election Night, watching returns come in. I went to the White House and met legendary Hearst columnist Helen Thomas and President Bush’s press secretary Scott McClellan.

Because of the program, I had the opportunity to have lunch with the incoming president of the National Press Club, Rick Dunham of Business Week. With the help of Lawrence Journal-World senior editor Bill Snead, formerly the photography editor at The Washington Post, I had lunch with Karlyn Barker, a reporter for the newspaper, and went on a tour of the newsroom.

For a political and journalism junkie like me, the semester was a dream experience.
A conversation with Gerald F. Seib, 2005
William Allen White citation recipient
By Jay Senter, graduate student

To call Gerald Seib’s career full would be gross understatement. The winner of the 2005 William Allen White Foundation’s national citation, Seib, has, at various points, covered Mexico City, Dallas, Washington and the Middle East for The Wall Street Journal, the paper for which he is currently Washington bureau chief. The experiences have brought Seib his share of praise (he received the Gerald R. Ford Foundation prize in 1990 for his reporting on the presidency) and predicament (he was accused of spying and held by the Iranian government while covering the Iran-Iraq war in 1987). During his visit to Lawrence to accept the William Allen White award in February, Seib, a Hays native, spoke with J-Links about the most challenging moments of his career, the state of the media, and his time at KU.

J-Links: You were held by the government in Iran in 1987 for several days before being released on your 31st birthday. When you got back, you said you had discovered that “Iran remains a risky place to do business.” You knew it was risky when you went there to cover the Iran-Iraq war, but did you have any notion that as a journalist you were in any danger of being taken?

Gerald Seib: No, not at all. The dangerous place – the place we never went – at that time was Lebanon. There was a civil war under way and journalists were clearly being targeted.

JL: As an editor now, as someone who sends correspondents into war, what goes through your mind when you hear about a journalist being kidnapped? And unfortunately a lot of times they aren’t just being interrogated.

GS: It’s frightening. When the war started, I sent five reporters from my bureau there to be embedded with the U.S. military. We at the Journal have done a lot of thinking, planning, re-thinking and soul-searching about how you can safely send correspondents into Iraq. I encountered some danger [in Iran] in a sort of strange and quirky way. It’s dangerous in Iraq every minute you are there right now as a journalist. And so what we have tried to do is restrict the number of people we send in, and put fairly clear limits on where they can go and what they can do, and we rethink the situation. We bought an armored car, for example. You can’t send your people driving around the streets of Iraq, and do it in good conscience, unless they are in an armored car these days. It sounds absurd, but it is true.

JL: I want to talk a little bit about the current media environment. When you were here at KU in the late ‘70s, you focused on newspapers. Did you have any inkling that the industry would change so much, that you would be appearing on CNBC every day, or that your wife would be running a Web site?

Seib’s citation acceptance speech, titled “Journalism: In Transition, or In Peril?,” is available online at www.journalism.ku.edu.

Our philosophy, I think, was that you have to take some risks to do the job, but don’t take any unreasonable risks. Going to Lebanon seemed like an unreasonable risk. Going to Iran did not seem like an unreasonable risk. The dangerous part of that trip seemed to be that we went to visit the Iran-Iraq warfront. Turns out that was wrong.

Seib and his wife, Barbara Rosewicz, address a journalism class. Rosewicz is managing editor of Stateline.org, an online news site in Washington, D.C., that covers state policy and political trends.
KUJH-TV Station Update
By Staci Wolfe, multimedia coordinator

At the heart of the KUJH-TV newsroom is the news desk, dubbed the amoeba table because of its uniquely flowing shape. The large table provides a central place for TV, radio and online producers to work together.

For students who have never experienced the noise and chaos of a real newsroom, it can be a bit overwhelming. After their first shift, however, most students walk away knowing they will learn a lot in the KUJH-TV newsroom.

The Stan and Madeline Stauffer Multimedia Newsroom in Dole is a new state-of-the-art facility that is also the new home of the KUJH-TV newsroom. The space provides KUJH-TV News with a “live from the newsroom” CNN-like studio, as well as a new computer-training lab.

Prof. Rick Musser’s fall 2004 Online Writing, Editing and Production class spent much of the semester planning the new KUJH-TV News Web site. The online students researched and wrote a project plan, which included a map for the Web site’s content and information on how and who would manage the site.

Over winter break, students and staff members developed the new site, at http://tv.ku.edu, which was unveiled in January.

The Web site serves as an educational tool and a reflection of the J-School’s convergence efforts. Online producers work closely with the TV news staff to explore new ways to present television news online.

“Adapting and adopting a style guide is necessary because it gives us more credibility when other professionals visit our site,” Stairrett said.

In addition to the new Web site, KUJH-TV has recently added the Research Channel to its programming. The Research Channel is a consortium of research universities and corporations that broadcasts research presentations via cable, satellite and the Internet all over the world. For more information about programming, visit the Research Channel online at www.researchchannel.org.

KUJH-TV also is adding other programming, such as the speech by Gerald F. Seib, 2005 William Allen White citation recipient and The Wall Street Journal Washington bureau chief. The station is working with the Dole Institute of Politics to broadcast its upcoming events.

This spring, Dick Nelson was appointed as the new general manager for KUJH-TV. He will continue working with TV reporting students and directing the news, in addition to managing the television station’s programming. Gary Hawke, former general manager, is retiring after 11 years of service to the J-School.

GS: No, I had no idea. The big division in those days was between print and broadcast journalism. There was no new media. There was only old media. Nobody had any inkling what was going to happen. When you think back on my career, there was a lot of concern in the print world that newspapers and print journalism would be overtaken by broadcast, which never really happened actually. The Internet is what has really changed the way the industry looks, because it has created a whole different price structure. The problem is that no one has figured out the appropriate business model for making money on it. That’s the real struggle right now. But I think you can’t be afraid of change. You have to just deal with it. The way you deal with it, in my mind, is you tell yourself, “I’m not in the newspaper business. I’m not in the cable TV business. I’m in the news business.”

JL: Is there anything from your time here at KU that you look back on and think, “That was extremely helpful”?  

GS: There were two sort of legendary professors then, and they gave me the two things I think were most important. One was John Bremner, who taught editing. Basically, he taught love of, and intelligent use of, language. Nominally he taught editing, but he really taught use of the language. He gave you a set of skills that were the most important building block for journalism in whatever form. The other professor was Calder Pickett, who taught journalism history. But he really taught journalism history in a way that wasn’t journalism history. It was more American history – world history, to a certain extent – as it should be seen by someone who wants to practice journalism. Calder Pickett taught you how to understand where everything fit. Those two guys really personified everything I learned at the University of Kansas.
Scholastic Press Association: Serving Kansas High Schools

Many of the world’s great journalists started their careers toiling away late nights on their high school newspapers and yearbooks. The Kansas Scholastic Press Association (KSPA) is dedicated to helping those students and their teachers achieve excellence in journalism education.

Housed in the School of Journalism, KSPA is a non-profit organization run by John Hudnall, KSPA executive director and lecturer in the J-School.

“Scholastic journalism has been the start for most professionals,” Hudnall said. “It becomes a proving ground of sorts.”

The association’s members, high school students and teachers, receive leadership and direction from KSPA through conferences, contests, critique services and newsletters. It is financed by conference, contest and membership fees. KSPA has 205 member schools.

To better aid its members, KSPA has five districts, with teachers elected as district representatives.

“The area representatives are liaisons,” Hudnall said. “Some of the schools west of Topeka are far from the KSPA headquarters. The representatives are there to make sure those districts have access to KSPA resources.”

As the executive director, Hudnall is in charge of publishing the Courier newsletter five times a year. The newsletter recognizes journalism students and educators for accomplishments throughout the year. It contains articles on student press law and other issues of interest to students and teachers, tips to improve publications, lists of contest winners and entries, news from member schools and conference and contest announcements.

KSPA sponsors conferences at Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University and the University of Kansas every fall. During these events, members hear from top high school journalism teachers, college professors and area journalists.

The regional contests are held in Hays, Pittsburg, Manhattan, Wichita, Emporia and Lawrence. The regional contests at KU on Feb. 18 brought 578 students from 31 northeast Kansas high schools. State contests will be held at KU this May.

For more information about KSPA services and membership fees, contact 785-864-0605 or visit KSPA online at www.ku.edu/~kspa. Photos in the top banner are from the contest Feb. 18.
New faces in the classroom
By Lindsey Scott, senior

The J-School welcomed two new journalism lecturers, Eric Adler and Marilyn Rausch, to Stauffer-Flint Hall this spring. They both bring many interesting professional experiences to share with students.

Adler is teaching research and writing. He has been a reporter at The Kansas City Star for 20 years. He first reported science stories and now he writes feature and human-interest stories. He said he was happy to be at the J-School teaching future journalists.

“I like everything about working with them,” he said. “They’re eager. They’re interested. They’re kind. They all have amazing raw talent. My job is to help give it form, allow them to turn it loose in the right direction.”

Rausch teaches the print and online design class. She is a former card designer for Hallmark and now owns a freelance design business. She also has a background in sales and marketing as a former account executive for Adobe Systems. She said she was excited to be at the J-School helping students learn to put visual content with their words.

“I am helping students combine their words with design to create the visual voice. It helps engage the readers and keep them engaged in the piece,” she said.
2004

Brian Douglas is assistant media strategist on the McDonald’s campaign for Ogilvy Mather in Chicago.

Anna Gregg works at Platform Advertising in Kansas City.

Christina A. Hass works at Platform Advertising in Kansas City.

Dorothy Sarah “Sally” Kay is working in Bratislava, Slovakia, for Delta E.S., an IT company. She is researching the IT market in the United Kingdom to help her company expand there.

Eric Kelting is vendor/member relations coordinator for the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association.

Vonna Keomanyvong is on a one-year online internship at the Lawrence Journal–World. She helps update LJWorld.com, 6NewsLawrence.com and KUISports.com nightly.

Barbara Kullbom is conference/seminar coordinator for the National Arbor Day Foundation in Lincoln, Neb. She plans 16 regional seminars each year.

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

Ehren Meditz is a copy editor at the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Nathan Miles is in sales for KTPK 106.9 in Topeka.

Sarah Robinson is employed as a receptionist/public relations professional at Craghead & Harold, Inc., an advertising agency in downtown Wichita.

Meka White is working for the Cleveland Cavaliers of the NBA. After a year there, she will move to a higher position with a different NBA team, and the following year, she hopes to begin doing international marketing for the league.

Jenni Wilson sells advertising for The East Bay Express in San Francisco. The Express is a weekly owned by the company that also publishes Pitch Weekly in Kansas City and The Riverfront Times in St. Louis.

Abby (Tillery) Young is a photographer for The Daily Union in Junction City.

2003

Mike Alzamora is a sports reporter and assignment editor for the Univision affiliate in Amarillo. He is responsible for the station’s Web site at www.univision-amarillo.com.

Ashley Anstaett has been promoted by Kansas Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley to be communications director for his office and Democratic senators. She had been policy director for the minority leader’s office.

Tawnya Bach is the weekend and night assignment editor at KCTV Channel 5 in Kansas City. In her free time, she has taken up the sport of boxing.

Erin Beatty has joined Priority Advantage, a business consulting firm in Kansas City, in its communications department.

Barbara Berry-Rodriguez works at DRAFT in Chicago as a corporate communications associate, assisting with PR efforts for its global network.

Amanda Denning is public relations specialist with the University of Missouri-Kansas City Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing. She traveled to Cameroon with Dr. Carole McArthur of UMKC, who is doing HIV/AIDS research in the African nation. Amanda tutored a native woman and edited the woman’s thesis on the stigmatization of HIV/AIDS during three weeks there.

Katie Glatz co-hosts a morning show on 102.3 BXR in Columbia, Mo.

Samantha (Mangino) Hardy is research/marketing assistant at Grubb & Ellis/The Winbury Group in Kansas City, Mo.

Patrick Norman does graphic design and marketing for K-Bob’s Steakhouse. He also is a swimming coach for Duke City Aquatics.

John Nowak has joined The Ottawa Herald as a photographer. He recently completed an eight-month internship at The Topeka Capital-Journal.

Elizabeth Schnieders will complete an MBA degree at the University of Denver in June. She is a graduate teaching assistant for the marketing course there. She plans to work in the Kansas City area.

2002

Christina (Nef) Daughterty is a photographer at the Liberty Tribune, one of the five Dispatch-Tribune papers. She and Matt Daughterty, 2001, were married in 2003.

Mark Hansen is project coordinator at Thomas Nieman, Inc. in Wilmette, Ill. He researches, edits and develops new books for the company.

Kursten Phelps is the new education reporter for The Garden City Telegram. She is completing a master’s degree in Latin American Studies at the Univ. of California, San Diego.

Kyle Ramsey has been a page designer at The Wichita Eagle since November. He designs the Metro and Sports sections daily and Page One several times a month.

Kerry Tubbs is a marketing coordinator at Ferrellgas in Overland Park.

Brett Wiese works in marketing and advertising for the Lawrence Paper Company.

2001

Matt Daughterty is managing editor for the five Dispatch Tribune newspapers in Kansas City, North. The newspapers are owned by NPG, the St. Joseph News Press Group.

Sarah Hansen is a production coordinator at PageCaptain Pagination, Universal Press Syndicate/Andrews McMeel Universal.

Derek Helms has joined Kansas Wildscape as the OKKids/event coordinator/public relations manager. The non-profit organization is in Lawrence.

Chris Hopkins is an online reporter at The Olympian in Olympia, Wash. He had been a copy editor at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

Addie Schroder is training as a Foreign Services Officer. She will work at the U.S. Embassy in Athens this year.

2000

Valerie Bauman is director of programming at KTWU-TV, the PBS affiliate in Topeka.
Standing five-foot-two, Julie Jacobson is anything but diminutive when it comes to competing for a photo.

Jacobson, a 1992 J-School graduate, works as an Associated Press photographer based in New York City, where she rarely minces words and doesn’t lack in creative stealth capabilities.

“This is such a physical job, and I’m surrounded by big guys and heavy equipment,” Jacobson said. “I’m not afraid to say, ‘If you mess with me one more time, I’ll knock your teeth out.’”

Jacobson, 35, is primarily a sports photographer. She recently returned from covering Super Bowl XXXIX in Jacksonville, Fla. In the past, she has captured images at the Olympic Games in Athens, the U.S. Open golf and tennis tournaments and the World Series.

“At the Super Bowl this year, the sidelines were roped off to keep the photographers from rushing the field at the end of the game,” Jacobson said. “But when they lifted the rope to let the cheerleaders through, I snuck in with them and made it onto the field.”

Jacobson’s pom-pom euphoria was short-lived, however: A large security guard quickly caught up with her and escorted her off the field.

“So close,” she said, laughing.

Jacobson’s scrappy nature also served her well in 2003 and 2004 when she worked as an embedded journalist during two tours of Iraq. The first tour began in Kuwait, where she prepped to embed with the Marines for the invasion. She then spent nine weeks in Iraq with the military. On her second tour, she entered through Jordan – an overnight stop – before going with hired drivers for a seven-week stay in Iraq.

Jacobson was asked to cover the war after she expressed an interest in doing so months earlier. She completed a U.S. Department of Defense training program with other embedded journalists in November 2002.

“They took us up in helicopters and tossed us around pretty good, and I got seasick on a ship in front of all these sailors,” she said. “We were the first journalists to go through the training, and I heard they made it easier after us.”

Jacobson’s photographs from the war ran in both national and international publications, including The New York Times.

“The thing that struck me most during my time in Iraq was the people – they’re just in a really bad fix,” said Jacobson, who would like to return to the embattled country at some point.

Before joining the AP in New York in August 2003 – the city’s infamous blackout happened during her first week on the job – Jacobson worked for the AP in San Francisco and for The Kansas City Star. She said her first job working on the Star’s community pages remained her most valuable work experience because it taught her everything about the paper and how it all related.

Jacobson was born in Chicago and lived in Los Angeles and the Philippines before her family moved to Kansas City after her fifth-grade year. After graduating from high school and enrolling at the University of Kansas, she considered becoming a doctor like her dad and also toyed with a career in anthropology.

“Late in the spring of my sophomore year, I had enrolled in field work, and I was looking at National Geographic and photos of a site in Egypt,” Jacobson said. “I had a (camera) I liked, and I thought, ‘Hey, wait a minute – someone had to be there to take those pictures.’”

Soon after, Jacobson declared a major in journalism and never looked back. She went on to serve as photo editor at The University Daily Kansan for two years.

“Everything I learned at the J-School in my classes, I use every day,” she said.

A collection of Jacobson’s photos is currently on display in Stauffer-Flint.
Hilary (Evans) Berg is the head graphic designer for a small production company in Portland, producing coffee table magazines for home building associations across the United States. She also designs wine labels for the Oregon market.

Danner Evans has moved from reporter at WBMA-TV, Lake Charles, La., to reporter/weekend anchor at WSET, Lynchburg-Roanoke, Va.

Lindsay (Shipman) Holliday is the managing editor of five scientific journals at Allen Press, Inc., in Lawrence.

Stephanie (Tweito) Jacob is a beauty assistant at O, The Oprah Magazine.

Emilie Chapin-Patch is working in sales at Network Appliance in Schaumburg, Ill.

Dana (Hazels) Seith is a producer for CNN’s “NewsNight with Aaron Brown.” She joined the network after graduation.

Sarah K. Starr is the vice president of public affairs for the Washington Legal Foundation, in Washington, D.C.

Tiffany Lynn Akers is an account coordinator at John Lambert Associates in Virginia.

Daniel Boresow is a marketing consultant for Entercom Radio.

Anne (Ferraro) Bowling is an account supervisor at Cramer-Krasselt, Chicago.

Joy Benedict has moved from reporter at WBMA-TV, Birmingham, Ala., to WKYC-TV in Cleveland, Ohio.

Lindsay (Willis) Cosimano was promoted to vice president of marketing for Cassling Diagnostic Imaging, a full-line sales and service dealer for Siemens Medical Solutions, based in Omaha, Neb. She was previously the director of marketing.

Brian Flink is production manager/production designer for four magazines of the Parenting Group of Time, Inc. The magazines include Parenting and Child magazines. He had been with the Conde Nast Bridal Group, working on Brides and Modern Bride magazines.

Christie Humphries is an account executive for KVUE-TV (ABC) in Austin, Texas. She was named one of AWR Top 20 sales and marketing women in radio, television, and cable. She will be recognized in the fourth quarter issue of Making Waves magazine.

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

Erin Veazey is the director of firm and corporate relations for the Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago.

Ann Weishaar, producer of 12 News Upfront at KPNX in Phoenix, helped create and launch a show in Sept. 2004 that won an Emmy Award for Best Newscast.

Ranita Wilks has been appointed to the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns. It provides technical assistance and referrals to services, and training about legislative advocacy, disability awareness, civil rights laws and accessibility. She works for Independence, Inc. in Lawrence.

Brock Bowling has joined ISP Sports in Winston-Salem, N.C. as studio host and play-by-play announcer.

Konan Hauser, who took classes in the J-School, is the advertising director of the print and Web versions of the Visalia Times-Delta and the Tulare Advance-Register in California. He had been retail advertising manager at the Statesman-Journal in Salem, Ore.

Jennifer Hong is an editorial assistant on the veterinary medicine team at Elsevier, a science textbook publisher.

Keri Russell recently joined the University of Nevada Las Vegas as Employer & Outreach Coordinator in the Career Services Center after completing her Master’s degree in Higher Education from the University of Missouri. She is responsible for developing and strengthening long-term relationships with employers and assessing the effectiveness of university-wide career experience initiatives.

David L. Teska, MSJ, works for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a disaster operations specialist. He is deployed to disaster sites after they are declared by the President. He and his wife Kristy have two children.

Cory Flahaven is PPM product manager at Arbitron, where she oversees development of client software that involves Portable People Meter technology. She also recently received her M.B.A. from Loyola University Chicago.

T.J. Clark has joined Baum, Arensmeier & Talent, Inc. advertising agency in Denver as senior media planner for high tech industry accounts.

Jennifer Lynn Stevens, director of public relations for Madison Square Garden Networks and Sports Properties, a unit of Cablevision, was married in the Bahamas to George Volanakis, chief operating officer of Zingy Inc., a media company that creates, licenses and distributes ring tones for cell users. She is the daughter of Associated Press vice president Paul and Linda Stevens of Kansas City.

David Wilson is an attorney for the City of New York. He has been writing for Vdare.com and the Occidental Quarterly.

Angela (Letts) Kiani was promoted to director of sales marketing by Professional Business Products, after eight years as an account rep. The Lincoln, Neb., company provides printing solutions and promotional products, as well as services including “just in time” delivery.

Manny Lopez, the J-School’s first coordinator of recruitment and retention, is an editorial writer specializing in business news for The Detroit News. He was previously with The Business Journal of Kansas City.

(News & Notes – cont. from page 8)

1996

1997

1999

1998

1995

1994
A Jayhawk among the Amazons
By Lindsey Scott, senior

Steve Frazier, 1977 grad and vice president of Amazon.com, has never been one to shy away from new technology.

During his time on The University Daily Kansan, he used the first computers in the newsroom. At The Wall Street Journal, he participated in the high-tech distribution system of a worldwide newspaper. He helped launch Payless ShoeSource Inc.'s first retail Web site, and now he develops new categories for one of the largest online retailers.

“I was always an early adopter of new technology, and at all my jobs I’ve been in the position of trying to figure out how technology could help me work better and accomplish more,” Frazier said.

After reporting for The Wall Street Journal in the Dallas bureau, and spending three years as a foreign correspondent in Mexico and Central America, he decided it was time to prepare for another career.

“I covered the oil industry in the mid-1980s when it went through a giant downturn and got the idea that one needed to be prepared for several careers,” Frazier said.

He decided a business degree would be the best preparation for his next career. He graduated with a master’s degree in management from Northwestern University and joined a consulting firm. As a consultant, he worked with a few retail clients. This sparked an interest in the retail industry. In 1994, he returned to Kansas to work for Payless ShoeSource Inc. The experience of launching the company’s Web site and his interest in online retailing directed him toward Amazon.com.

“It’s a company really driven around innovation and using technology to create an experience for the customer that’s never been created before. The way we use technology to do things is really an exciting environment,” Frazier said.

Frazier has been with Amazon.com for five and a half years. He spent his first two years working outside London as the managing director of Amazon.co.uk. While there, he served as a media contact for interviews about the e-commerce boom in the United Kingdom. His background in journalism helped him.

“In the year 2000, I did 170 interviews. Certainly having the journalism experience helped me through. I had to do a lot of training to learn how to avoid Americanisms when I spoke to the British audience,” Frazier said.

His journalism background has helped in other ways in his career and he has fond memories of his time at the J-School. He said that his background as a writer helped him on a daily basis and that lessons he learned in the classroom and newsroom were still with him at the Amazon.com office in Seattle.

“To this day, I quote John Bremner to people I work with all the time. It’s not debatable. Bremner said it’s true, so we’re going to do it the way Bremner said,” Frazier said.

Frazier credits both Susanne Shaw and Dana Leibengood for their help and guidance in his education and career. He said that they made the Journalism School feel like a second home. He also worked closely with Rick Musser, who was the Kansan general manager at the time, and former professor Paul Jess.

“Steve was a wonderful student and did very well at The Wall Street Journal. It was just a pleasure to have helped him,” Leibengood said.

“Steve was a wonderful student and did very well at The Wall Street Journal. It was just a pleasure to have helped him,” Leibengood said.
Successful alumna draws from her KU roots
by Marissa Stephenson, senior

A

At times, Alison Gwinn asks herself, “How did I end up in New York?” Gwinn is a deputy editor there for *InStyle* magazine. She helps decide which writer fits with which star, she top-edits the magazine for errors and style, and she makes sure *InStyle* has clarity, consistency and continuity.

Gwinn, a 1977 J-School grad, answers her question by remembering where she started – the late nights working on *The University Daily Kansan*, the inspirational professors whose style and grammar guidance she still uses today, and the experience and know-how from the J-School that led her to four major newspapers and two top magazines.

Gwinn started out as a reporter at the *Kansan*, covering the administration beat and running back and forth between Stauffer-Flint and Strong Hall to interview the vice chancellor. She worked her way up to *Kansan* entertainment editor, copy chief and campus editor, closing the paper at 2 a.m. and joining her colleagues – “my best friends” – for breakfast at Denny’s to wind the night down. With a job at the KU information center and a full class load, Gwinn’s schedule then was more hectic than her daily routine today.

“Working at the *Kansan* consumed your life. It was tough and intense and I basically never slept, but I loved that job,” Gwinn says. “It was sink or swim, and the people who were swimming were loving it.”

Gwinn vividly remembers professors John Bremner, Susanne Shaw and Lee Young as the gems of her time at the University, providing her with the journalism savvy that would later prompt her husband (who worked on the Stanford paper and became a journalist himself) to say, “Man, you got a great education.” Gwinn still uses Prof. Bremner’s grammar lessons and finds herself correcting her daughter Caitlin’s teachers when it comes to matters like when to use “who” or “whom.” She says the lessons were invaluable and a tremendous leg-up in the work-world; what she learned, she never had to relearn.

Recalling her college days, Gwinn described herself as “timid, meek, and shy.” She readily admits that those were hard traits for a reporter. Susanne Shaw, however, remembers a different Alison Gwinn. “I don’t remember her being shy,” Shaw says. “I remember a bright, passionate student who took courses to learn, not just to get an ‘A.’”

After her graduation, Gwinn took a job as a copy editor at *The Kansas City Times*. She stayed in Kansas City for three years, and went on to work for the *Chicago Tribune*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, and the *New York Times*. While working at *The Examiner*, Gwinn met her future husband, Glenn Kramon, who is now an associate managing editor at *The New York Times*. At *The Times*, Gwinn worked on the metro and features desks. But when she got a call from Jeff Jarvis, a friend of her husband’s at *The Examiner*, asking her to take a gamble on a start-up magazine, *Entertainment Weekly*, Gwinn took the chance, and threw herself into the new job. She says the staff practically killed themselves, working almost every night until after midnight to produce issues during the first year. The start-up wasn’t “mainstream” enough (one early cover featured a book on Vietnam) and wasn’t received well. With a re-focus on Hollywood stars, movies, TV and music, *EW* eventually found its niche, as did Gwinn, who climbed her way up the masthead to a top position.

After 10 years at *Entertainment Weekly*, Gwinn was ready for a change. When an *EW* colleague moved to *InStyle*, Gwinn followed, attracted to the new material, the steadier work pace the magazine offered and the opportunity to spend more time with her daughter.

Gwinn has worked at *InStyle* for five years, and says that while she’s not a fashionista, she loves the job and the people. She may not be closing papers at 2 a.m. these days, but she does wake up at 5:20 each morning to go jogging with her husband and their dog, and she uses her free time for hiking, skiing, kayaking and travel.

Gwinn says hard work and a little luck got her to where she is today. And, she says, “I never forgot where I came from.”
Bob Willfong, formerly of News 12 Long Island, now is a correspondent for Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show” hosted by Jon Stewart.

Margaret (Townsend) Graff is a Chicago-based category manager for Good Housekeeping magazine.

Terence Hall is a captain and assistant division commander in the Kansas City, Kan., Police Department.

Shelley (Hansel) LeGrand is executive director of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce. Her career in television news began with an internship at WIBW in Topeka. After graduation, she started at KWCH in Wichita, then moved to KAKE-TV for six years. She was with KPNX, the NBC affiliate in Phoenix, for four years, and then returned to KAKE. She has been reporter, anchor and weather reporter for the stations.

Tai Takahashi is news director of WTVQ in Lexington, Ky.

Elaina (Khouri) Boudreau was honored by Ingram’s magazine as one of Kansas City’s “40 under 40” top professionals. She is director of public relations and marketing for General Electric Insurance Solutions.

Richard Brack, who took classes in the J-School and was the spring 1990 Kansan editor, was named assistant chief of the Associated Press Chicago bureau on Jan. 26. He had been managing editor of the Lawrence Journal-World since 1999, after being promoted from business editor. He had returned to the Journal-World in 1997 from The Des Moines Register where he was an editor on the national and foreign desks, a business writer and legislative editor. He first worked at the Journal-World as city hall reporter.

Michael Fuhlhaege is an assistant professor and news editor on the Columbia Missourian at the Univ. of Missouri. He is researching Mexican immigration for a master’s degree thesis.

Laura (Woodward) Garrison is vice president of strategic business analysis and mergers and acquisitions for Blockbuster.

Col. Gary Patton, MSJ, now is serving in Iraq.

Derek Schmidt is Senate Majority Leader in the Kansas Senate. He earned a master’s degree in 1992 from the University of Leicester in England, and a law degree at Georgetown University in 1996.

Lara Weber is the news editor for the Chicago Tribune’s RedEye, a tabloid publication for younger readers. She spoke to classes in the J-School in early March.

Robyn (Richardson) Caulfield celebrated the 10-year anniversary of her firm, Robin Caulfield Public Relations, in 2004.

Jerry Howard, MSJ, is the news director for KRTV, the Evening Post-owned CBS affiliate in Great Falls, Mont. He had been a news director and professor at four Oklahoma universities and was news operations director for Albritton’s KATV, Little Rock.

George Norton, MSJ, and retired Army lieutenant colonel, is director of corporate development for Kansas Public Radio. He was manager of corporate communications for Westar after retiring from the Army. He has participated in the School’s annual First Amendment, the Media and Democracy conferences for international officers at Fort Leavenworth.

Rob Karwath is the executive editor of The Duluth News Tribune in Minnesota. He went to Duluth after a 19-year career at the Chicago Tribune, where he was associate managing editor for business coverage, overseeing the work of 63 reporters and editors.

Gina B. Kellogg is director of communications for the World Waterpark Association in Overland Park. She previously was editor of Super Floral Retailing magazine in Overland Park.

Jennifer (Gardner) Love is the senior director leading Sprint’s transformation efforts.

Sean M. Wheeler has been a landscape architect/land use planner for local government in Larimer County, Northern Colorado for seven years. He has written a book on landscape design in the arid West, and wrote two books for the Navy. He was a broadcast major.

Diane Luber, MSJ, is city editor of the Tucson Citizen. She moved from the Arizona Daily Star where she was interactive editor and before that, in charge of the weekly Northwest section and Neighbors pages. She first was at the Star from 1992 to 1996 as a copy editor and assistant city editor, and then was a copy editor at The Des Moines Register, before returning to the Star.

Devin Scillian and his wife Corey had a book signing Oct. 8 at the Oread Bookstore for “S is for Sunflower-a Kansas Alphabet,” a children’s book in the Discover America State by State series. Devin is lead anchor for WDIV-TV in Detroit, the NBC affiliate.

(News & Notes – cont. on page 15)
Driven: Grad cruises in dream job at New York Times
By Jennifer Byrd, graduate student

For Jim Cobb, Kansas is never far from his heart.

“We have a Kansas Day barbecue every year on the news desk of The New York Times,” said Cobb, a 1978 Journalism School graduate and the automobile editor at the Times.

Cobb said the prerequisites for attending the celebration, which evolved over the years from an exchange of e-mail greetings each Jan. 29 among Kansans on the Times staff, were pretty simple: “If you’re from Kansas, married someone from Kansas, dated someone from Kansas, if you ever drove across Kansas or flew over Kansas, you’re invited.”

Cobb, who is from Jackson County near Holton, traveled back to his home state in February to watch friend and classmate Gerald Seib, the Washington bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal, receive the William Allen White citation. Cobb was managing editor of The University Daily Kansan when Seib was editor.

When he heard Seib would receive the award, Cobb said he knew he “absolutely” had to come back to Lawrence for the festivities.

“We had a really special group of people at that time,” Cobb said. “There was just amazing energy in the J-School.”

After graduating from KU, Cobb took a job as a copy editor on the news desk at the Detroit Free Press. He worked in a variety of positions at the paper, including copy chief for the business and feature sections. He ran the sports copy desk for three years and ended up as associate editor of the Free Press’s Sunday Magazine before moving to the Times in 1986.

“He was an excellent copy editor, one of the best we’ve ever had,” said Susanne Shaw, Cobb’s adviser at KU. “He’s a very bright guy.”

While working on the Business Day copy desk at the Times, Cobb was tapped in 1994 to start a freestanding automobile section.

“My secret ambition since I was a kid was to work for a car magazine,” Cobb said.

One of the challenges in starting the section was to make sure editorial content would not be influenced by advertisers and would be done in the “Times Way” with the newspaper’s ethical standards in place.

“All too often there are very cozy relationships between people who are covered and people who are covering,” Cobb said. “We wanted to avoid the pitfalls.”

Cobb said the Times always pays manufacturers a rental fee for cars that it tests, something that was not being done at that time and is still not mainstream. Cobb now oversees the Sunday auto section and the Monday auto page. He also provides content to the newspaper’s Web site.

“The Web, I’m finding, is an insatiable beast: It wants to be fed constantly,” Cobb said.

Most of his writers are freelancers with whom he has worked for years. One of those former freelancers, Dan Neil of the Los Angeles Times, won the Pulitzer Prize for criticism in 2004.

Cobb’s main piece of advice to future journalists is to be flexible.

“You never know quite where life will lead you,” he said, adding that when he left KU he never thought he would eventually work for The New York Times or fulfill his childhood dream of testing cars and directing coverage of the auto industry.
1984

Jon Howard is the new station manager of 88.1 WVPE. The station is an affiliate of Public Radio International, a member-supported service of the Elkhart Area Career Center and community schools. Howard has more than 18 years experience in education-based public radio, 14 of those in management. He has been an engineer, announcer, fund-raiser and administrator, has taught broadcasting and worked with students.


1983

Chris Courtwright is a principal economist with the Kansas Legislature. He also writes a weekly column for the State Tax Notes magazine.

1982

Regina M. Beard is a humanities librarian at Kansas State University.

A book by Steve Koppes, MSJ, “Killer Rocks from Outer Space: Asteroids, Comets and Meteorites” (2004), was named to the 2004 Nonfiction Honor List of the Voice of Youth Advocates magazine. The book also was named a 2003 Outstanding Science Trade Book jointly by the National Science Teachers Association and the Children’s Book Council.

1980

Kathleen Conkey is vice president and senior counsel of business and law affairs at MTV Networks.

Barbara Kinney has taken a new position as features picture editor at The Seattle Times.

Deb Riechmann is a White House reporter for The Associated Press.

1978

Theresa Larson is the director of development for the School of Computing & Engineering at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, having previously worked in various marketing and communications positions at Sprint Corporation and American Century in Kansas City.

Linda (Marquis) Maness is a media director at Integer QSR satellite office in Wichita. Her clients are Mid-Kansas McDonald’s Co-Op and Ne-Kon McDonald’s Co-Op.

Eric Morgenstern founded Morningstar Communications Company in 1997. It is one of the fastest growing IMC and PR firms. Morgenstern is the only practicing PRSA Fellow in the Kansas City Area.

1977

Jerri (Reyner) Corgiat has published her second novel, “Follow Me Home,” the second in a series set in the Missouri Ozarks. The first, “Sing Me Home,” was published last year.

1976

Tim Watson owns and operates Virginia Textbook Exchange, buying and selling used texts, and Watson Associates, representing multiple education and literacy product lines.

1974

Richard Bailey is the associate director of philanthropy for the Kansas Chapter of The Nature Conservancy in Topeka.

Margie Cook is a school psychologist.

1973

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

David R. Bliss is a partner with Olson Cichy Bliss Attorneys, P.C. in Bismark, N.D. He is the president-elect of the North Dakota Trial Lawyers Association.

Bruce Efron is an independent representative with ACN, an international telecom-utilities company and an independent associate with Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.

1971

Jeffrey Ann Goudie was named the 2004 “Communicator of Achievement” by the Kansas Professional Communicators. Goudie’s freelance work has appeared in the Kansas City Star, the Topeka Capital-Journal, the Topeka Metro News, the Women’s Review of Books, and the New York Times Book Review.

1959

A book of John Husar’s Chicago Tribune columns on the outdoors and preservation, “A Voice in Our Wilderness,” has been published by Triumph Books. A 1959 journalism graduate, Husar first covered sports and then outdoors stories for the Tribune for more than 30 years. He died July 20, 2000. Royalties will support outdoor opportunities for urban children.

1955

Stan Hamilton retired in October 2004 after four years as copy editor for Transport Topics, the national weekly newspaper covering the trucking and related industries. He was previously the principal public affairs spokesman for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and predecessor agencies in the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C., for 14 years. He resides in Lawrence.

1953

Dana (Hudkins) Crawford was honored in October for her 50 years of historic preservation efforts in downtown Denver. A principal of Urban Neighborhoods, she is credited with saving Larimer Square from being razed in the mid-1960s, starting the loft redevelopment in 1989 in lower downtown and renovating or developing more than a million square feet of space, including the Oxford Hotel that opened in 1891.

And Andy Marso Fund-raising Effort

A fund-raising effort is currently underway to benefit Andy Marso, 2004 KU graduate and former University Daily Kansan staff member, who contracted bacterial meningitis his last semester at the J-School. For more information about Andy Marso and his battle with bacterial meningitis, please visit www.caringbridge.org/mn/marso.

Donations can be sent to:

The Marso Fund
P.O. Box 44-2111
Lawrence, KS  66044-8932

Kansan

Voice of Youth Advocates

New York Times Book Review

Topeka Metro News

Topeka Capital-Journal

The Oxford Hotel that opened in 1891.
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ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

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