AUGUSTA HIGH’S TOP 10 PERCENT - The senior students above were among those saluted Monday night in El Dorado by the University of Kansas Alumni Association. From left on the front row are Cammie Christner, Kelsee Farmer, Kaitlyn Borden, Elizabeth Myers, Kristen Constance, and C.J. Langrehr. In the second row are Allison Berner, Lauren Crawford, Casey MacNicol, Mitchell Pickett, Erin Meyer, Jessica Smith and Aaron Doudna. Also in this scholarly group, but not pictured, are Tiffany Spann, and William Wright IV.

Courtesy photo from Robert Jabara of Augusta High School
Vaughn named KU peer

The University of Kansas' Learning Communities program announced its 23 peer educators for fall 2007. The peer educators, including Christopher Vaughn, sophomore in aerospace engineering from Andale, are KU students who serve as academic resources and mentors to help first-year KU students adjust to campus life.

Among the benefits of Learning Communities are key interaction with faculty, as well as a supportive network of other students, peer educators and professors and supplemental learning opportunities in the classroom and the Lawrence community.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>FTE Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
<td>2,831</td>
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<td>Newman University</td>
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<td>Bethany College</td>
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Source: Surveyed colleges

Notes:
1. Total calculated for full-time equivalent (FTE) = full-time equivalent. FTE is calculated by dividing the total undergraduate credit hours by the total number of undergraduate students, then adding the total number of graduate credit hours by the total number of graduate students.
2. Credit hours are calculated by classifying credit hours into full-time and part-time. The total number of credit hours is then divided by the number of students to arrive at the FTE.
3. FTE values are rounded to the nearest whole number.
4. Data for some institutions may not be available.

Another look...

How the Colleges and Universities Listed Are Ranked by Number of FTE Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students:

1. The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students is calculated by dividing the total number of undergraduate and graduate credit hours by the total number of undergraduate and graduate students, respectively.
2. For full-time students, credit hours are counted as full-time hours, while for part-time students, credit hours are counted as part-time hours. The total number of credit hours is then divided by the number of students to arrive at the FTE.
3. FTE values are rounded to the nearest whole number.
4. Data for some institutions may not be available.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University/College</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<th>2007 full-time equivalency enrollment</th>
<th>2007 full-time resident per credit hour</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:matt.heimbach@bethel.edu">matt.heimbach@bethel.edu</a></td>
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</table>
By JAN BILES
For The Associated Press

LAWRENCE — University of Kansas graduate student Jake Esselstyn was collecting bat species in 2006 with a research team in the forests of the Philippines when a guide told him about an unusual fruit bat he’d seen.

The man described a bat with orange fur, white stripes on its face and a black beard on its throat. Its facial features resembled that of a fox, and its wing span was about two feet.

“I didn’t believe his description. I thought he was a prankster,” Esselstyn, 33, said. “And then a few days later we caught one.”

Although the “flying fox” bat had been known to Filipinos and bat hunters for a long time, he said, a specimen had never been captured.

Esselstyn said the Filipino government announced the discovery of the bat and “word spread.” Since then, he has been interviewed by National Geographic and other media.

“It’s a nice example of how little we know about the animals in the world,” he said.

Esselstyn, who grew up in Oregon, moved to Lawrence in the fall of 2004 to work on his Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology. His dissertation, he said, explores genetic variations across geography.

In the past three years, Esselstyn has made six trips to the Philippines to collect specimens. The island country already was familiar to him because he had served as a Peace Corps volunteer there from 1998 to 2001, doing biodiversity and inventory.

He said little is known about the flora and fauna on the island, so finding a new mammal species is “not as uncommon as you might believe.”

Esselstyn said the researchers set up nets on farms, in forests and over streams to catch the bats while they were flying. Sometimes, they sought out the bats in caves.

“They get tangled up in the nets and getting them out is time-consuming,” he said.

The researchers have caught as many as a thousand bats in one night, he said.

“There are 75 to 80 (known) species of bats in the Philippines,” he said. “Some are common and then there’s others that are rare.”

The researchers determine which bats they want to euthanize and export to KU to study. Once the animals are at KU, he cleans some of the skulls and skeletons and preserves some of the bat bodies in jars filled with a preservative. The specimens are then catalogued in order to secure the data.

“I’m interested in how animals diversify, colonize a new area and evolve into a new species,” he said.

When the KU researchers are done studying the specimens, one-half is sent to the Philippine National Museum in Manila; the other half remains in the collection at KU’s Natural History Museum.

Esselstyn said the “flying fox” fruit bat is “the flagship species for conservation in the Philippines” because its appearance is so appealing it has the potential to change the way people think about bats.

On the island, many legends about bats flourish, he said. A popular legend involves a half-man who has wings and enters people’s homes to drink their blood and steal their bodies.

“It’s difficult for one species to overcome that legend,” he said, “but if we give the government a reason to protect a patch of forest it’s found in, that’s great.”

Esselstyn’s research is supported by small grants from the KU Natural History Museum Endowment Fund, American Philosophical Society, Society of Systematic Biologists, American Society of Mammalogists and National Science Foundation.

Esselstyn and a herpetology student from KU returned to the Philippines earlier this month. At some point, he hopes to collect samples from Malaysia.

Eventually, Esselstyn would like to work as a curator at a university-based museum.
Heart of Public Health

Flint Hills Community Health Center nurse honored by KU hospital

BY BOBBI MLYNAR
mlynar@emporiagazette.com

A registered nurse in Emporia has been chosen to receive a “Nursing: The Heart of Healthcare” award given by the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City.

Lori Torres of the Flint Hills Community Health Center and Lyon County Health Department is one of 10 nurses statewide who will be honored on Nov. 2 at an awards dinner in Kansas City. Torres was chosen from among more than 300 people nominated for the award.

Torres is tuberculosis coordinator for the health department, where she has worked for three and a half years.

“I don’t know a whole lot about the award,” Torres said on Monday. “I’m still in shock myself.”

A crew from Kansas University was at the health department Monday morning to film Torres for a documentary about this year’s award-winners.

Torres’ nomination for the award came from a colleague at the health center, Sandra Rees, who wrote about Torres’ work with refugees, immigrants and international students since taking over as TB coordinator.

“The initial caseload of 30 patients has increased to approximately 300,” Rees wrote in the nomination letter submitted in late August. “Mrs. Torres performs refugee physicals, TB screenings and vaccinations as well as the transfer of medical records between Lyon County and other state health departments. She serves as the liaison to Tyson Foods locally, where many foreign-born (workers) are employed.”

Torres is responsible for following up on clients taking medications for latent or active TB, for handling serious side-effects from medication and for dealing with non-compliance.

“She assists the nurses at Emporia State University with TB consultation and with foreign students who are diagnosed with latent TB,” Rees wrote.

Torres was chosen to present an incident summary at the World TB Day Conference in Kansas City, and was speaker at the Kansas Public Health Association conference this fall. She will represent the Department of Health and Environment to attend the National TB Controller conference in Atlanta, Ga. Torres also is involved in her church’s annual blood drive and health fair, Rees wrote to the nominations committee at KU.

Please see Torres, Page 3
Lori Torres introduces her Somali translator, Najma Sheikh, to a film crew doing a documentary on Torres, who works at the Flint Hills Community Health Center.
Torres was a little unsure about when she had been notified that she had won.

"Let’s see. What was the day I almost fainted?" she asked, laughing. "I think it was around the 10th or 11th."

Torres said her job in public health encompasses her favorite type of nursing. While nursing individuals in a hospital setting is good, dealing with entire populations in public health is especially satisfying for her.

"If you could just get more emphasis on public health — health promotion, prevention, and protection," she said, "it’s a lot easier to fix an illness before it happens."

Torres also enjoys the opportunity to learn about other cultures and make friends along the way. Some days, none of her patients speak English, so she uses the services of the center’s in-house Spanish and Somali interpreters.

"I’ve definitely gotten to meet a lot of new people," she said. "I try to help them with what they need beyond health care, by recommending the Emporia Public Library and the school district’s Learning Center to the Somalis who want to expand their educations.

"They’re very friendly, very open," she said. "They definitely have a hunger to learn as much as possible because they know that’s what they need to succeed in America."

Torres also is part of the Emporia Refugee Resettlement Alliance, which helps the refugees adjust to the new community and become educated in its customs.

On Monday, she was a little embarrassed about taking time from work to be filmed, photographed and interviewed.

"I’m not used to this attention," she said. "I’m just used to doing my thing, taking care of my people."

Torres, who is married to the center’s primary care clinic manager, Chuck Torres, received her bachelor of nursing degree from Pittsburg State University. She received her certification in public health from the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, KU, and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
Jennifer Schmidt named as a Dole Institute Fellow

Jennifer Schmidt has been named a 2007-08 Senior Fellow at the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas.

Schmidt will be in residence at KU’s Dole Institute this year where she will conduct two study groups, one each semester. Additionally, she will assume increased responsibilities during the absence of Dole Institute Director Bill Lacy. Lacy is on leave to run Sen. Fred Thompson’s presidential campaign.

This fall, Schmidt’s study group is “Women in Politics: Career Stories.” Her study group meets Wednesdays at 4 p.m. during the first half of the fall semester and is open to the public. The study group features interviews and discussions with women political leaders from around the country, including Jo Ann Davidson, Co-Chair of the Republican National Committee, Jackie Cottrell, Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Pat Roberts, and Connie Schultz, Pulitzer-prize winning syndicated columnist and author.

Each semester, the fellows program brings to campus one Republican and one Democrat Fellow to lead a study group on a specific topic. Last spring, the Fellows were former Missouri Governor Bob Holden, who led a study group on gubernatorial decision-making, and Scott Morris, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s long-term recovery program in Florida, who led a study group on the politics of disasters.

Schmidt, a lawyer, is a former law and government instructor at Pittsburg State University and Independence Community College. She previously was a senior staff member in the Kansas House of Representatives and in the United States Senate in Washington, D.C.

Schmidt resides in Independence with her husband, Derek, and their two daughters.
University leaders get higher salaries

TOPEKA (HNS) — The president and chief executive officer of the Kansas Board of Regents will receive a 13.1 percent salary boost this year, members decided Thursday.

Reggie Robinson, who was selected to be the board's top executive in 2002, will see his salary rise from $160,000 last year to $181,000 in fiscal year 2008, which began in July.

All the leaders of the state's six four-year universities all received salary increases of 4 percent in both their base salary, funded by taxpayers, and the maximum salary they can receive with the help of private funding.

Fort Hays State University President Edward Hammond is set to receive a base salary of $197,652 this year and a maximum salary of $218,400, should his pay be supplemented by private donors. Other salaries: Robert E. Hemenway, University of Kansas, $260,660 taxpayer-funded base; $332,051 maximum with private supplement.
Lawrence — A Douglas County judge has refused to lower the $850,000 bond for a University of Kansas student charged with severely beating a Lawrence woman.

Carl Cornwell on Friday asked Judge Robert Fairchild to reduce the bond for Matthew P. Jaeger, 22, to $50,000.

Cornwell said Jaeger’s parents, who attended the hearing, would pay the entire bond amount to get their son out of jail and then place him in a Minnesota facility, where he could receive treatment for substance abuse and mental health care until his trial started.

He also said Jaeger, who is trained in a Brazilian form of jiu-jitsu, could be monitored with a global positioning system device.

But assistant District Attorney Dave Melton said that Jaeger was a flight risk and posed a danger to the community and the victim.
Debate over coal plants also debate about power needs

By John Hanna
Associated Press Writer

LAWRENCE (AP) — Timothy Carr delivered his message with a matter-of-fact tone: The world is going to consume more energy; little of the electricity it will need will come from renewable resources, and much of that power will come from coal.

Carr, a senior Kansas Geological Survey scientist, spoke last week at a University of Kansas conference. His remarks came a day before former Vice President Al Gore received a Nobel Prize for his campaign on global warming and a day after environmentalists had denounced Sunflower Electric Power Corp.'s plan for two coal-fired power plants in southwest Kansas.

Some of the loudest criticism of Sunflower's proposal is heard from the city of Lawrence, and Carr seemed to sense that some audience members wouldn't like his assessment.

"Shoot the messenger," he said.

Sunflower's $3.6 billion proposal has put it at the center of a debate over carbon dioxide emissions and global warming. But another question is part of the discussion: whether Kansas needs as much capacity to generate electricity as Sunflower plans to build.

"When you combine the benefits of both conservation and wind and look at the current coal plants and nuclear plant that we have, my view is that there is a very limited need for additional coal plants in the future," Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson, co-chairman of an energy policy council, said during a recent interview.

Sunflower is seeking an air-quality permit from the Department of Health and Environment, and Secretary Rod Bremby has said he will decide whether to grant it by the end of this month.

Environmentalists want Bremby to reject the permit over the plants' CO2 emissions, even though the state doesn't regulate the greenhouse gas, which most scientists see as a major contributor to global warming. Many legislators, including Senate President Steve Morris and House Speaker Melvin Neufeld, are pressuring him to approve a permit, seeing the project as vital economic development.

The project would add two, 700-megawatt plants next to Sunflower's existing 360-megawatt plant outside Holcomb, in Finney County. Construction on the second plant would be finished in 2013.

How big is the project? The total generating capacity of 1,400 megawatts would be enough to supply all of the households in Denver, Oklahoma City and Albuquerque, N.M., combined. Sunflower and a sister company, Mid-Kansas Electric Co., have 400,000 customers; together, the two have 1,200 megawatts of generating capacity.

Sunflower would export much of the new power into other states and argues the new plants will lead to bigger transmission lines that could hook up to wind farms. Sunflower

executives — and many legislators — have no doubt the power will be needed, both in rural Kansas and points well beyond.

"We're entering into a time frame where energy growth is phenomenal," said Sunflower spokesman Steve Miller. "It's probably going to be a once-in-a-generation time when rural
Kansas is going to benefit."

The same growth in energy consumption is expected worldwide, something Carr noted in his conference presentation. The International Energy Agency projects that energy consumption will be 52 percent higher in 2030 than it was in 2004.

And, as Carr also noted, coal is expected to remain a big source, particularly as China, India and other developing nations attempt to catch up to an American or European standard of living.

Of course, that prospect raises fears about climate change. Bill Downey, president and chief executive officer of Kansas City Power & Light Co., said after his own conference speech, "We have to find a way to clean up coal."

But at least a few environmentalists don't accept Carr's assessment of energy needs over the next few decades and believe conservation efforts can significantly slow any growth in energy demand.

Dan Nagengast, executive director of the Kansas Rural Center, said Americans shouldn't assume that other nations will emulate the "gluttonous" U.S. lifestyle. And, he said, legislators, utility executives and analysts aren't considering the potential of homes and farms generating their own, "off-grid" power from solar panels or windmills.

"Everybody's defending a system," Nagengast said. "There's no thought in there that there's other ways to be, other than, you know, a giant utility with giant coal plants and giant wind-turbine arrays."

Even participants in the debate who aren't contemplating such a future question Sunflower's desire to build so much coal-fired generating capacity and sell most of the electricity outside the state.

"Do we want western Kansas to be the place where every other state builds their coal-fired plants?" Parkinson said.

Miller said such arguments make him "almost livid," adding that Sunflower wants to export power for the same reason Kansans export other products, such as aircraft.

And Jim Owen, a spokesman for the Edison Electric Institute, a trade group for investor-owned utilities, said assuming that a company will generate power only for customers within an assigned territory is an old business model.

"Increasingly, we're moving to regional electricity markets," he said. "Distinctions of this nature will become less important."

Owen, Sunflower and others accept projections that Americans' demand for electricity will grow enough that new coal-fired power plants must be built to keep up with it. Environmentalists aren't likely to concede the point.
Dole Institute event to focus on third party politics

LAWRENCE – The Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas will host two events examining third party politics on Thursday, Oct. 25. The afternoon event will begin at 3 p.m. in the Simons media room and feature several academic experts discussing the history and potential for third-party success in coming elections. Among the panelists will be Lisa Disch, professor of political science at the University of Minnesota and author of “The Tyranny of the Two-Party System.” Other panelists include professors John H. Aldrich, J. David Gillespie and Bob Beatty. Moderating the discussion will be Jonathan Earle, interim director of the institute.

The evening event features a roundtable discussion moderated by Bill Kurtis and begins at 7:30 p.m. in Hansen Hall. The panel at the roundtable discussion includes David Boaz, executive vice president of the Cato Institute, and long-time Libertarian activist. The panel will also include Richard Winger, who has been a prominent national activist for Libertarian and third party ballot access. “I’ve been struck by how many visitors to the Dole Institute comment on their feelings of alienation from the two major parties,” said Jonathan Earle, “I sense there is a lot of frustration out there that could lead to openings for alternative parties in the coming election cycles.”

The Libertarian Party of Kansas (LPKS) applauds KU and the Dole Institute for providing a forum for alternate political party solutions. The LPKS has increased outreach activity and expects to step up local activity over the next year. Recently two members of the party were elected to positions in their hometowns “We are gaining momentum across Kansas,” says Rob Hodgkinson, State Chair of the LPKS. “Kansans are ready for real change and we are ready to give them a viable third party option.”

For more information contact Rob Hodgkinson, LPKS Chair at (913) 851-4863.