Lawrence Journal-World, on KU's football coach

Kansas University alumni everywhere should be embarrassed by football coach Mark Mangino's profane tirade that's displayed for all the world to see on YouTube.

Mangino also gets physical with Raymond Pendleton in the videotaped incident, triggered when Pendleton capped a touchdown run with a dive into the end zone, bringing a penalty flag. Woody Hayes would've been proud of Mangino's outburst, that's uglier than the big gouge in the Campanile hillside.

It is disappointing that neither Athletic Director Lew Perkins nor Chancellor Robert Hemenway has publicly addressed this shameful reflection on the university.

Apparently, anything goes.
Students to be honored

Students from 10 Kansas high schools will be honored Thursday, Sept. 27, by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment.

A total of 54 seniors from area high schools will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars at a 6:30 p.m. dinner program at Hays High School, 2300 E. 13th St.

Students to be honored include: Nathan Ellis, Lucas-Luray High School; Brianna Berens, Jake Brown, Margarita Caulfield, Rena Detrixhe, Stephanie Nuss, Kelli Cgle, Kyla Reinhardt, and Rex Soldan, all from Russell High School; Rachel Bunner, and Jaelyn McLaren, both from Victoria High School.

The Kansas Honors Program began in 1971 and has honored more than 100,000 students. Scholars rank in the top 10 percent of their high school senior classes and are selected regardless of curricula, majors, occupational plans or higher-education goals.

During the ceremony, each student will receive an American Heritage Dictionary in hardback and CD versions, presented by Sarah Blaney, assistant director of Kansas programs for the KU Alumni Association.

David Johnston, director of marketing and internet services for the KU Alumni Association, will speak to the students and their parents and guests.
The University of Kansas Army ROTC program's Wall of Fame ceremony is from 9-11 a.m. Nov. 3 at the KU ROTC building before the Kansas-Nebraska homecoming football game. All former Army ROTC graduates from KU or any of its extension centers are invited to see military demonstrations by cadets and listen to the 312th Army Reserve Band. Contact David Pendleton at (913) 684-5320 or henry.david.pendleton@us.army.mil for information.
TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Records discarded at the University of Kansas were mailed anonymously to three newspapers, prompting a campus investigation Wednesday. It was the second report in two months of such a breach of students' privacy.

The records included what appeared to be graded exams, job applications, change-of-grade forms, class rosters, seating charts and copies of health insurance cards and immigration forms, according to editors at the newspapers. Some of the documents contained credit card numbers, Social Security numbers and student identification numbers, they said.

The records were mailed in manila envelopes, with a letter in each packet. Each letter said the papers had come from the university’s math department or its recycling center. The letter’s writers claimed to be former math teaching assistants or current employees of the recycling center, and they were critical of how the math department handled its records.

“Our No. 1 concern is protecting these individuals from any compounded exposure and launching an investigation,” university spokeswoman Lynn Bretz said.
"Winter Wheat" Second Book In T.A.L.K. Series

Winter Wheat, written by Mildred Walker, will be the second book in the Talk About Literature in Kansas (T.A.L.K.) series, Coming of Age in Rural America. The book discussion, at 7 p.m., next Monday, at the Council Grove Public Library, will be led by Dr. Steven Foulke.

Copies of the book are available at the library.

Dr. Foulke is a professor of history at Ottawa University. He received his Ph.D. in geography from the University of Kansas in 1998, and also has a master's degree in American studies from the University of Wyoming.

He has taught geography courses at Emporia State University and the University of Kansas, and has been an English instructor at Baker University. Dr. Foulke created and taught a special course on the literature of the Great Plains for the University of Oldenburg, Germany.

His research specialties include Mennonites in south-central Kansas, and the literature and geography of the American West.

He has just returned from Skopje, Macedonia where he was teaching at a university as a part of the Fulbright program.

The T.A.L.K. program is provided by the Kansas Humanities Council. The Friends of the Library organization also provides funding for the program, as well as refreshments.
KU Investigating Unauthorized Mailing

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Bretz also issued a statement asking news organizations that had received the documents to return them.
Trustees discuss impact of radio management agreement on students

BY ASHLEY NIETFELD
Dodge City Daily Globe

The Dodge City Community College Board of Trustees discussed on Monday the impact that a limited management agreement with High Plains Public Radio would have on the students who work at the DCCC radio station, KONQ 91.9 FM.

The board did not take any action or give any direction on the matter.

"If I, as a professor on this campus, if I can’t stand up for students and speak before this board and say, ‘I believe in what this does for students,’” said John Ewy, professor and coordinator of communications services. "Because that’s why low-power FM was designed, for students to get a chance. They’re not going to get a chance, folks, to walk in the door for a big-time station."

HPPR has proposed a limited management agreement with the college’s FM station that would allow HPPR to provide its entire programming schedule to Dodge City listeners.

The college also owns an AM station, 1550, which provides programming mainly for the Spanish-speaking population, including National Weather Service updates in Spanish. The station was purchased mainly for that specific purpose, Ewy said.

Keeping the station under DCCC ownership could also be beneficial in other ways. Radio stations are a valuable commodity, and the opportunity to purchase another would be rare, Ewy said.

In other business, the trustees:

- Unanimously agreed to appoint Shane Bangerter to fill the position vacated by former trustee Carol Strobel. Seven people interviewed for the position before the meeting.

"Every single one of them would be an asset to the board,” said Trustee Floris Jean Hampton. "I was so pleased that we had that caliber and number of people from the community who would be willing to come out and make an offer to use their services to better the college."

- Voted 5-0 to approve an affiliation agreement with the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy to house up to 12 students in the dormitories during June and July 2008. The students will be participating in a new initiative called "Introductory Pharmacy Practices Experiences," which would allow pharmacy students to stay at community colleges around the state while interning at local pharmacies.

"It’s a wonderful experience for us,” said Beverly Temaat, assoc-
TRUSTEES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ate dean of students. "We’re going to try
to do some things that would get them
interested in Dodge City and the sur-
rounding area and perhaps returning out
here for a career in pharmacy."

Temaat said community colleges in
Independence, Hutchinson and Colby
would also participate in the program.
• Approved the purchase of a 2000
Bluebird LTC40 motor coach bus for
$140,000, as well as an iSeries mainframe
computer for $69,658.

Approximately $30,000 — received
from Title III grant funds — will go toward
the cost of the computer, along with an
additional $4,700 from the general fund.

The board approved a five-year lease
purchase agreement with Ranson
Financial to cover the cost of the purchas-
es for a total of $175,000 at a 4.18 percent
interest rate.

Reach Ashley Nietfeld at (620) 408-9931 or e-mail her at
ashley.nietfeld@dodgeglobe.com.
Back to the Plains

Former Kansan returns to home state as a published author

BY SCOTT ROCHE
rochat@emporiagazette.com

When he was 18, Richard Uhlig couldn’t wait to get out of Kansas. Nineteen years later, he’s eager to return, at least for a little while.

Uhlig, who writes young adult novels, lives in New York these days. But he’ll be the first to acknowledge his writing roots are sunk deeply in his old hometown of Herington and his college days at Emporia State University. And on Oct. 2, Uhlig will return to Emporia to visit classes at ESU and read from his works.

“I’m excited to get back,” said Uhlig, who last came to Emporia in 1994 for his wife’s graduation. “It’s been a long time.”

In a real sense, though, Uhlig never left the plains. His first published novel “Last Dance at the Frosty Queen” was set in a small Kansas town. So is his second book, “Boy Minus Girl,” due out next year. Even his first screenplay to see the light of day, the darkly comic “Viva Las Nowhere” was set at a Kansas motel.

“I found I like to write about Kansas, its goods and its bads,” Uhlig said. “In very small towns, everyone knows your business, but at the same time it gives you a strong sense of belonging. Everyone has their own niche, in a way.”

Growing up, Uhlig was sure he knew what his niche would be — movie director. But the writing bug got planted early on by another Herington resident, novelist and writing teacher — Leonard Bishop.

“He was a fascinating guy,” said Uhlig, who credits Bishop with teaching him the value of discipline in writing. “It was amazing that this seasoned writer ended up in a town of 2,000 people.”

But even so, Uhlig still found himself drawn to the silver screen. After graduating from high school in 1988, he took off for Los Angeles looking for his big break.

It broke.

Uhlig was 18, had never lived in a big city and had no connections. Not the ideal combination for scaling the Hollywood heights.

“I was too young,” he admitted. “I couldn’t figure out the freeways, I was used to having everything close at hand. I decided I had to go home and get a real education.”

When he came back to Herington, his sister Jerri (now Jerri Kemble) had a suggestion. She had transferred from the University of Kansas, to Emporia State University and loved having the more personalized attention of a smaller school. He might benefit the same way, she told her brother.

So in 1989, he enrolled and met his second major influence — English professor John Somer.

“His class was the first time I had ever seriously read in my life,” Uhlig said.

“It was so intense. He really taught you not just how to read a book, but how to REALLY read a book. I almost thought I was going to have to drop the class. It was very intellectual and I thought I was going to be lost.”

No fear. As the class continued, he quickly fell in love with the bizarre world of Kurt Vonnegut’s “Slaughterhouse-Five,” which pulls the main character between World War II Dresden, an alien world and several points in between. Uhlig began to see how much power words had and how compelling they could be.

But he still wanted to make movies. After two years, Uhlig transferred to New York University to major in film and television. He did well and through a friend, got cast as an extra in several productions, including “Law and Order” and “Scent of a Woman.”

“It was kind of crazy,” Uhlig said. “I’d sit in class all day and in the evening, I’d be in a scene with Robert De Niro.”

It was fantastic. But his sister had been right, too.

“I love New York City,” Uhlig said. “But NYU is a big school. I missed the connection to the professors that I had at Emporia. But it was worth coming to the city.”

Back to LA

He also found he was enjoying the writing side of movies more and more, and enrolled at the American Film Institute’s screenwriting program in Los Angeles after graduating NTU. Uhlig fell in love with the idea of creating his own stuff and then directing it.

He got the chance with “Viva Las Nowhere.” The producers liked it and he was all set to direct — until somebody came along who had $1.5 million and a father who was a top Beverly Hills entertainment attorney. Bye-bye, directorship.

“When I sold my first screenplay, I saw that unless you grow up in Beverly Hills and you’re born into the film business, it’s hard to break in as a Hollywood director,” Uhlig said. “And when you come from Kansas, it’s a real uphill
battle to end up in the director's seat."

The film was released directly to video as "Dead Simple," with Daniel Stern, Patricia Richardson and James Caan. But it didn't feel like his film anymore. As he watched, Uhlig found himself saying "That's not what he's supposed to say" or "This starts out wrong."

Suddenly, being in the movies became less important than telling the story he wanted to tell. And he knew just how he wanted to do it.

"When that film came out, I thought, 'If I write a novel and it fails, it's my fault,'" Uhlig said. "In a film, there are so many uncertainties — the director could misinterpret it, the actors could do it wrong and you don't have any control over it."

He eventually returned to New York. But his mind returned to Kansas.

**No place like home**

"I went home one Christmas after I was living in New York and I was amazed at how, in a small town, how tightly-knit it is," Uhlig said. "There's an economy to the place. It's like a play — all your characters live within a stage."

He started thinking about the teenager he had been, eager to leave small-town life and take on the world. He wondered what would have happened if that teen had been able to encounter some of the world before leaving home and learning a few lessons.

The result was "Last Dance at the Frosty Queen," published in August. The book centers on Arthur Flood, who just wants to graduate high school and get out of Harker City before his dad makes him take over the mortuary business.

But life gets complicated. There's the "pub date" who claims she's pregnant, the rumor that he's sleeping with the drama teacher — and the girl he meets at a lake and falls in love with even though she's just visiting.

If it sounds a little wild, it should. Uhlig has a deep love of comic plots and bizarre situations. His upcoming "Boy Minus Girl" follows in the same vein, returning to Harker City and into the life of an eighth-grader who's lusting after a girl in his class who's curiously uninterested. His "ladies' man" uncle offers advice, but may actually know less about handling a relationship than his nephew does.

"I think I just love to laugh," Uhlig said. "I like to make people laugh. I like drama, but I like to see people's reactions. I think anyone who's a writer is on some level starved for attention. What else can you do?"

**At ESU**

Uhlig will give a free public reading from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 2 at Plumb Hall in Room 309. During the day, he will also visit Professor Amy Sarge Webb's fiction writing class at 2 p.m. and will meet with the student literary group Quivira sometime between 3:30 and 5 p.m.

Uhlig also will have dinner with ESU faculty and students at 7 p.m. that night, but the place has not yet been announced.

And what's next? For now, he has two proposals in the works. One is a comic novel for adults about a female Kansas cattle rancher who finds an unlikely relationship with a Jewish dentist. The other is a little strange, even for him.

"I want to write a young adult novel about Auntie Mame as a teenager," Uhlig laughed, referring to the eccentric fictional madcap who loses a fortune in the Crash but continues to live with gusto.

"I don't know if Random House will feel like 'This isn't something that should ever happen,' but I love the character."
Richard Uhlig’s “Last Dance at the Frosty Queen,” a humorous young adult novel about a teenager who dreams of escaping small-town Kansas life, hit bookshelves just last month. Like his hero, Uhlig grew up in a small Kansas town — Herington — but now lives in New York. He will visit Emporia on Oct. 2 to talk with students and faculty at Emporia State University and read from his work.
Whether from sweets or kickbacks, students need protecting

By CHRIS GREEN and SARAH KESSINGER  
Harris News Service

One of the state’s greatest challenges as officials seek to lower health-care costs is encouraging Kansans to make healthy lifestyle choices.  

Andy Allison, deputy director of the Kansas Health Policy Authority, told an audience at a health conference Friday that there are places where Kansans can look for simple ideas.

He cited the Auburn-Washburn school district, southwest of Topeka, which this year asked teachers not to reward children with candy.

Instead, the district gave educators a list of healthy snacks they could substitute as prizes.

“That’s the kind of change that really does contribute to health,” Allison said.

Lending code

Leaders of the state’s six universities told the state Board of Regents Thursday that they want it to adopt a code of conduct to protect students borrowing money for college.

Kansas Attorney General Paul Morrison recommended that institutions take the precaution after investigating lending referral practices at the state’s colleges and universities.

The probe came in response to reports of cozy relationships between lenders and educational institutions in other states, which reportedly included kickbacks.

Although Morrison found no wrongdoing in Kansas, he recommended that colleges establish procedures to protect students and their families from deceptive practices.

The code includes a prohibition on school officials accepting gifts, trips or kickbacks from lending companies or serve on their advisory boards.

Emporia State University President Michael Lane said the state’s schools already meet those requirements but university leaders believe adopting the code is a good idea, anyway.

“We believe we are all in excess of that code of conduct,” Lane said.

Going statewide

With the power of technology, statewide events are actually becoming more statewide in their reach.

This year’s Kansas Economic Policy Conference, set for Oct. 11 at the University of Kansas, will also have links for participants at two satellite locations.

They include Ulysses, which has been connected to past KU conferences through a video link, and Norton, which is a new addition this year.

Norton will utilize the video conference facilities at the Northwest Kansas Library System, 2 Washington Square.

Pioneer Communications will serve as host of the conference in Ulysses at the video conference room, 129 W Kansas Ave. This year’s conference, entitled “Kansas E3: Energy, the Environment and Economics” will be a day of panel discussions and speakers focusing on the state's economy and new energy challenges.

Registration is available at www.ipsr.ku.edu/conference/kepc07/ or call 785-864-3701.

Rural retail

As for the Kansas economy, there’s more in store for those seeking to learn about rural retail.

The Small Town and Rural Community Retailers’ Summit has been slated for Nov 5 at the Courtyard by Marriott Convention Center in Junction City. Organizers say they’ll have a “unique educational opportunity for rural retailers, to discover, develop and implement strategies to address the negative trends that have confronted the rural retail industry in recent years.”

Vincent Amanor-Boadu, executive director of Innovative Solutions, will speak about how to rebuild wealth in small communities.

A limited number of $25 scholarships are available to offset the $50 registration fee through NetWork Kansas and the Kansas Department of Commerce.

To apply for a scholarship or register for the Summit, contact Erik Pedersen, operations manager of NetWork Kansas at (316) 978-7310 or email epedersen@networkkansas.com.
Norton added as site for economic conference

Norton will be one of two satellite locations broadcasting this year's Kansas Economic Policy Conference on Thursday, Oct. 11. The conference will be held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence; the other satellite location is in Ulysses.

Norton was just recently added as a satellite location and will be using the video conference facilities at the Northwest Kansas Library System, 2 Washington Square.

Pioneer Communications will host the conference in Ulysses in their Video Conference Room, 129 W. Kansas Avenue. For more information about the conference or to register online, visit www.ipsr.ku.edu/conference/kepc07/ or call (785) 864-3701.

The conference will emphasize Kansas E3: Energy, the Environment and Economics, which addresses the Kansas E3 challenge: How do we meet the often competing demands of our energy and environmental needs while growing and maintaining a healthy economy? The program includes keynote speeches from regional and national leaders, a panel assessing the impact of energy demands, resources, and climate on Kansas agriculture, the population and environment, and a panel focusing on energy and environmental policy affecting the Kansas economic and business climate, now and in the future.

The morning keynote address, "The Increasing National Emphasis on Making Energy Efficient and Renewable," will be given by James L. Spigarelli, president and chief executive officer of Midwest Research Institute, Kansas City, Mo. It will be followed by an assessment of the state of the State with presentations on "Kansas Energy Systems and the Future in a Global Environment," by Tim Carr, formerly with the Kansas Geological Survey and now at the University of West Virginia; "Environmental Impact of Global Warming on the State of Kansas," by Johannes Feddema and Nathaniel Brunsell of the University of Kansas; and "The Impact of Demands for Energy and Environmental Services on Kansas Agriculture," by Charles Rice, Kansas State University.

The luncheon address, "Energy Efficiency: Driving America toward a Healthier Economy, a Cleaner Environment, and Greater Energy Security," will be delivered by Kateri Callahan, president of the Alliance to Save Energy, Washington, D.C. This will be followed by an afternoon panel discussion, "Kansas Energy and Environmental Policy Realities," with discussants at the Ulysses site. Panelists include Richard Brewer, BP America; Clare Gustin, Sunflower Electric Power Cooperative; and Nick Hatcher, Conestoga Energy Partners, LLC.