East graduate is KU award winner

Ellen Stolle, Prairie Village, Shawnee Mission East graduate, received the Agnes Wright Strickland Award at the University of Kansas.

The award annually goes to graduating seniors in recognition of academic records, demonstrated leadership in matters of university concern, respect among fellow students and indications of future dedication to service in the university.

Stolle is majoring in biochemistry and genetics in preparation to study medicine. Her long-term goals include exploring the frontiers in medical treatment.
Hill Completes KU Honors Program

The University Honors Program at the University of Kansas commended more than 150 graduating students, including Kathryn L. Hill, of Andover, at a ceremony Saturday, May 17, at the Crafton-Proctor Theatre in Murphy Hall. A reception in the courtyard of Murphy Hall followed.

The ceremony recognizes KU seniors who have completed the University Honors Program and the University Scholars Program, in which students participate during their sophomore year. During the ceremony, students received gold cords to wear during commencement activities.

Joseph Steinmetz, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Mary Lee Hummert, senior vice provost for faculty development, welcomed the students and their guests.


Students participating in the ceremony include those who graduated in summer and fall 2007 and those who will graduate in spring 2008. The university’s formal commencement takes place at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 18, in Memorial Stadium.

University Honors Program students must complete a freshman tutorial and a combination of honors courses and out-of-classroom experiences such as study abroad, internships, community service or undergraduate research to graduate from the program. Students must also maintain a minimum 3.25 grade-point average.

Located in Nunnemaker Center, the program has provided academic advising and information regarding the many opportunities at KU. Honors students might enroll in honors courses, which are small, discussion-based and emphasize writing and research. Honors students are encouraged to participate in cultural and social activities as well as community service.

Honors students also are encouraged to work on research projects and to apply for scholarships, internships or fellowships. Each year, undergraduate awards are available through the University Honors Program, providing funds for research projects conducted with a faculty mentor. Students compete twice a year for these undergraduate research grants.
Local Student To Help
With KU Peer Adviser Team

Twenty University of Kansas students, including Briana Saunders, a junior majoring in African Studies from Andover, have been chosen as members of the 2008 Peer Adviser Team.

Peer advisers will work throughout the summer to assist new, transfer and readmitted students with their academic transitions to KU, particularly with the advising and enrollment process. Five of the students are returning for their second year as a peer adviser, and one student, Ann Giessel of Larned, is returning for her third summer.

The Peer Adviser Team will assist faculty, staff, students, parents and guests with the advising and enrollment processes; act as a resource for incoming students; assist with placement testing during new student orientation; and help prepare materials and provide other help as needed for the success of orientation activities.

In addition to strong knowledge of their own and other academic areas and demonstrated leadership and communication skills, Peer advisers complete more than 70 hours of training to help prepare them to work with incoming students, parents and KU faculty and staff.

The daughter of Floyd and Jane Saunders, Briana came to KU from the Maxwell International Baha’i School, in Canada.
Adrienne Samia, a 2008 Valley Center High School graduate, has received a $1,200 Miller Black and Gold Academic Award and a $900 Award of Excellence in the College of Business and Leadership at Fort Hays State University. She received the awards from Fort Hays president Edward Hammond and Dr. Mical Maughan, chair of the department of management and marketing, during a FHSU Student Recognition Program in Wichita.

While at Valley Center, Samia was involved in National Honor Society, Drama Club, Distributive Education Clubs of America and golf. She was vice president of the French Club and on the A Honor Roll. The daughter of Joseph and Theresa Samia of Wichita, she plans a double major in graphic design and marketing and management.

Stacy Ward graduated May 17 from Fort Hays State University with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in leadership.

Morgan Leigh Fulmer, daughter of Britt and Brenda Fulmer of Wichita, was initiated April 13 into Mortar Board, a senior honor society at the University of Kansas. Members are selected based on distinguished ability and achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. Students must have a 3.0 grade-point average and hold senior status during some or all of the academic year. She was on of 48 students initiated.

Fulmer is a graduate of Trinity Academy and majored in human biology.

D and Kristi Porter Burchfield of Edmond, Okla., are the parents of a new son, Andrew Michael, born May 7, 2008. He weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces, was 20 1/2 inches long and joins big sister, Rebekah, age 2, in the family. His grandparents are Mike and Pam Porter of Valley Center and Eddie and Thelma Burchfield of Oklahoma City. Great-grandparents are Carl and Reba Porter of Sedgwick and Everett Mulkey of Derby.

Mary Linda Beeny of Andover and Christopher Allan Wright of Valley Center were married May 20, 2008. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Bruce Cargile, and was held in the chapel of the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Wichita.

The bride’s parents are the late Elmer Irving Beeny and the late Marsha Ferguson.

The groom’s parents are Betty Lou Dugan and the late Allan Wish Wright. He is the grandson of Lois Dugan of Wichita, the late Floyd Dugan, the late Wayne Wesley Wright and the late Florence Wish Wright.

Other relatives of the groom are John and Sue Greeley, John Allan and David Benjamin Greeley, Don and Birdie Wright, Margie Wright and Becky Wright, all of Wichita; Stacie Wright of Atlanta, and Clifford and Stephanie Wright of Tulsa, Okla.

Relatives of the bride are Scott and Susie Wilson and their children, Madison Paige and Jacob Ryan Wilson, all of Andover; Steve and Sue Beeny of Wichita, and Steve and Gretchen Chismar and their son, Adam Steve Chismar, of Chandler, Ariz.

Mary is a 1982 graduate of Andover High School and Chris is a 2001 graduate of Valley Center high School. The couple work at Wal-Mart, 53rd North and Meridian, and live in Wichita. No honeymoon is planned.

Jay and Bonnie Hudspeth of Wichita will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m.
May 24 at LifePoint Church in Valley Center. Their children and family will host the celebration. Jay Hudspeth and Bonnie Nungesser were married May 29, 1958. They have three children, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

+++ R.L. and Rose Marie Clifton of Bel Aire will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a reception hosted by their daughters, Cherrie Anderson and Jodi Moss, from 3 to 5 p.m. May 24 at Woodridge Christian (Disciples) Church, 12111 E. 13th in Wichita.

+++ Lindsay Baldwin and Jeff Gulley have announced their engagement. She is the daughter of Greg and Susan Baldwin of Wichita, and the granddaughter of Vance and Pauline Baldwin of Kingsdown and the late Floyd and Marilyn Crary of Marshalltown, Iowa. He is the son of Larry and Pam Bulley of Wichita, and the grandson of the late Sam and Sylvia Gulley and Everett and the late Juanita Hammond of Wichita. Lindsay is a 2002 graduate of Maize High School and a 2006 graduate of Wichita State with a degree in marketing. She is a digital designer with ADR BookPrint.

Jeff is a 2001 graduate of Valley Center High School and a 2007 graduate of the IBEW/ NJATC. He is a journeyman electrician with Linder and Associates.

Their wedding will be June 14, 2008, at Nativity Pines in Benton. The couple will honeymoon in Negril, Jamaica, and reside in Wichita.

+++ The family of George and Janice Naylor, along with Band-Aide of Valley Center High School, will host a retirement reception in their honor from 2 to 4:30 p.m. May 31 at Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, 27th North and Amidon. George Naylor has taught instrumental music for grades five through 12 in Valley Center for the past 32 years after teaching for two years in Garden Plain. Janice Naylor worked for 14 years as a paraeducator at Valley Center High School, primarily in math classes.

Best wishes and/or memories may be sent to the Naylors at 2708 N. Athenian, Wichita, 67204.

+++ The Sedgwick County Area Chapter of TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) had an appreciation meeting April 19 for chapter officers. The theme was “Make Your Own Kind of Music.” Guest of honor was Chris Atchison of Wichita, who lost 105 pounds in 2007. Beverly Bednasek, TOPS Kansas coordinator, also attended. It was reported that Beverly Rummery, area captain for Sedgwick County, will receive special recognition at International Recognition Days. She received the President’s Award for 2007 for dedication and achievements.

+++ Insurance Specialists Group LLC announced last week that Safeco extended a grant of $5,000 to the Kansas African American Museum in Wichita. Kate Jackson of Valley Center presented the check on behalf of Insurance Specialists Group and partners Jeff Dodds and Paul Masterson. Jackson nominated the museum for a grant through Safeco’s Agent Giving Program.

“The Kansas African American Museum is the only museum of its kind in our local...
and extended community,” Jackson said. “Its exhibits and programs promote cultural understanding, preserve and present art of all types, and educate community members of all ages about African American life and culture.”

Jackson said she was made aware of the museum’s needs through Sedgwick County Commissioner Kelly Parks.

The Safeco program provides grants to nonprofits that support and enrich inclusive communities and work in the areas of arts and culture, youth enrichment, economic inclusion and the environment.

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Beau Williams of Valley Center won $5,000 through the Kansas Lottery’s Cash in the Box scratch game.

Williams was working at the CSC convenience store at 12728 E. Central in Wichita when he decided to kill some time by playing a few instant scratch tickets. He purchased three $1 tickets and won the top prize.

“Sunday was a very slow day since it was Mother’s Day,” Williams said. “I was bored and decided out of the blue to buy a few Cash in the Box tickets. The very first ticket I scratched was a $5,000 winner.”

Williams said he started jumping when he discovered the win.

“A customer walked in as I was jumping up and down,” he said. “He said I was way too happy to be working on Mother’s Day.”

After finishing his shift, Williams called his family and friends to share the news.

“I think I called everyone I knew,” he said.

Williams said he plans to pay bills with his prize money.
KU art history department announces awards

The Kress Foundation Department of Art History at the University of Kansas announced its awards for excellence for the 2007-08 academic year during the 33rd annual Amsden Awards Ceremony on May 2.

Derby native Jennifer Renee Wadas was one such recipient.

Wadas is the daughter of Michael and Denise Wadas.

She is a junior in applied behavioral science. Wadas received the Junior Amsden Award.

Terry L. Oldham, director of the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art in St. Joseph, Mo., was the guest speaker at the ceremony in the Spencer Museum of Art. KU Endowment administers funds for the awards, which were presented by art history faculty members to outstanding students.

The Amsden Book Awards were established in 1976 by the late Floyd and Barbara Amsden of Wichita. Faculty members and graduate teaching assistants selected winners based on classroom excellence regardless of class level or major. More than 45 students received books on subjects in which they excelled. Art history faculty members presented the awards.

KU Endowment is the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fundraising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment is the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.
The names of more than 4,450 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring — representing 95 Kansas counties, 48 other states and the District of Columbia and 44 other countries — have been announced by the University Registrar.

KU’s Class of 2008 numbers more than 7,000, including 2,555 who completed degree work in summer and fall 2007. Because KU conducts only one formal commencement ceremony each year, many of these candidates for degrees will return Sunday, May 18, for the university’s 136th commencement procession into Memorial Stadium. More than 4,000 members of the Class of 2008 are expected to participate.

Faculty and candidates for degrees will assemble about 2 p.m. along Memorial Drive for the procession, which begins at 2:30 p.m. The program begins about 3:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, participants should call KU Info, (785) 864-3506, or listen to local radio and television stations to learn the exact time of the commencement ceremony. Commencement information and an up-to-date schedule of events are available online at www.commencement.ku.edu.

Candidates are also listed online by home county, state or country; degree; major; level in school; gender; parents’ names; and high school (when available) at www.news.ku.edu/2008/may/8/gradspring08.shtml.

Of 105 Kansas counties, 95 are represented. There are no degree candidates from Chautauqua, Cheyenne, Clark, Hodgeman, Logan, Morton, Norton, Rush, Wallace or Wichita counties.

Haysville: Eric Alan Anderson son of Leroy and Kay Anderson Business Administration BSB Senior Bachelor of Science in Business/Business Adminstr Campus High School of Wichita KS and Nicole Dawn Carroll daughter of Robert and Michelle Carroll Civil Engineering BS Senior Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering of Campus High School.
Deeds is KU graduate

Rebecca Deeds, daughter of Doug and Rita Deeds of Little River, was among more than 150 graduating students at the University of Kansas to be honored by the University Honors Program at a ceremony Saturday, May 17, at the Crafton-Preyer Theatre in Murphy Hall.

The ceremony recognizes KU seniors who have completed the University Honors Program and the University Scholars Program, in which students participate during their sophomore year. During the ceremony, students received gold cords to wear during commencement activities.

Rebecca received her BS degree in Chemical Engineering.
KU announces candidates for degrees

Kent A. Pearce, son of Elmer Pearce, was one of more than 4,450 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring. Kent received a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing.

He is a graduate of Haven High School, Haven, KS.
KU announces candidates for degrees

Emily Elizabeth McCurry, daughter of Andy and Mary McCurry was one of more than 4,450 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring. Emily received a degree in Human Biology/BGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Human Biology.

She is a graduate of Haven High School, Haven, KS.
KU announces
candidates for degrees

The following Maize High School graduates were among the more than 4,450 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring.

Meghann D. Curry, daughter of Kenneth and Brenda Curry, Science BA, French, International Studies & Bachelor of Arts/Political Science.

Shea D. Fairchild, daughter of Don and Pam Fairchild, Sport Science, BSE, Bachelor of Science in Education.

Kasper Christensen Schirer, son of Dana and Karen Schirer, Linguistics, MA, Master of Arts/Linguistics.

Luke Andrew Bettis, son of Walter and Julie Bettis, Bachelor of General Studies/English.

Christopher D. Gorney, son of Charles and Denise Gorney, Strategic Communications, BSJ, Bachelor of Science in Journalism.

Nicole Elizabeth Hofmann, daughter of Philip and Marcie Hofmann, Nursing, BSN, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

John Everett King III, son of Judith King, Germanic Language and Literature, BA, Bachelor of Arts. Germanic Languages and Literature.

Travis Allen Koehring, son of Mark and Brenda Koehring, Architectural Engineering, BS, Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering.

Drew Nicolas Mountain, son of Michael and Susan Mountain, English, BA, Bachelor of Arts/English.

Jonathan V. Nguyen, son of Tam and Thuy Nguyen, Biochemistry, BA, Bachelor of Arts/Biochemistry.

Michael David Olson, son of David and Paula Olson, BS, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.

Ryan W. Staub, son of Randy and Robin Staub, BSB, Bachelor of Science in Business/Accounting.

Celeste Susanne Fenwick, daughter of Susan Luthi, MSW, Master of Social Work.

Allison A. Friend, daughter of Debra Friend, BSJ, Bachelor of Science in Journalism. Meredith Frances Hauck, daughter of Steven and Theresa Hauck, MPA, Master of Public Administration.

John Kenneth Jacobs, son of Rita Jacobs, BGS, Bachelor of General Studies/History.


Scott A. Pruyne, son of Clinton and Gail Pruyne, BSE, Bachelor of Science in Education.

Jessica Megan Rawlings, daughter of Kelly Rawlings, MS, Master of Science in Counseling Psychology.

Shelby Nicole Rawlings, daughter of Kelly Rawlings, BADECL, Business (minor) Bachelor of Arts/Communication Studies.

Nicole M. Richardson, daughter of Les and Claudia Richardson, BA, English (minor) Bachelor of Arts/Speech-Language-Hearing.

Jared Tyler Silsbey, son of Dennis and Jackie Silsbey, BSB, Bachelor of Science in Business/Business Admin.

Kristal A. Werth, daughter of Kellyt Mar, BSJ, English (minor) Bachelor of Science in Journalism.

Erica Michelle Brand, daughter of Mary Jo Brand, BSN, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Abbey A. Campbell, daughter of Robert and Judy Campbell, BA DECL, Applied Behavioral Science (minor) Bachelor of Arts Psychology.

Mitchell Allen Evans, son of Mark and Stacey Evans, BSB, Bachelor of Science in Business/Finance.

Christine Lynn Froggatt, daughter of Carla Froggatt, BFA, Bachelor of Fine Arts/History of Art.

Blake M. Harris, son of David Harris, BGS, Bachelor of General Studies/Economics. Kassandra Kay Shelton, daughter of Shirley and Stan Mamoth, BS, Bachelor of Science in Geography.

Molly Ann McDuffie, BSE, Bachelor of Science in Education.