The USD #430 Board of Education Meeting held Monday, May 12, was full of special awards and recognition for two local teachers. Venice Sloan (Left) presented Judy Dickman (Center) and Joy Lednicky (Right) with Kansas University Awards for 25 Years of Educational Services.

On behalf of the Hiawatha Kiwanis, delegates presented Keith Olson with a check for $10,000 for the Everest Middle School Gym Floor Project. Pictured are: (L to R) Keith Olson, Venice Sloan, and Kiwanis delegates Pat Lloyd and Carl Nelson. Photos by Linda Messer
KU graduation on Sunday

The Capital-Journal
LAWRENCE — More than 4,000 members of the class of 2008 are expected to make the traditional walk down Mount Oread and into Memorial Stadium during The University of Kansas’ 136th commencement Sunday.

Graduates will assemble along Memorial Drive at 2 p.m. and march into the stadium at 2:30 p.m. Chancellor Robert Hemenway will offer remarks and confer degrees beginning about 3:30 p.m.

The commencement ceremony will be shown live at Woodruff Auditorium on the fifth level of the Kansas Union. The broadcast is provided for people for whom the physical conditions in Memorial Stadium would be a barrier to their attendance.

Sign language interpreters will be available in the bowl of the stadium. Reserved seating also will be available for people who need special assistance.

Commencement information and an up-to-date schedule of events are available online at www.commencementku.edu. KU Info can be reached at (785) 864-3506 or kuinfo@ku.edu.

If it rains the morning of commencement, an announcement will be made at 1 p.m. about arrangements for a postponed ceremony.
Jefferson countians complete degrees at KU

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.

Those completing degrees from Jefferson County are:

McLouth—Alexis Doane, daughter of Skip and Fran Doan, master of arts/speech-language pathology; Matthew Foster, bachelor’s in journalism; Erek Garcia, son of Stephen Garcia, bachelor of general studies/sociology; Lisa Smelser, daughter of David and Jean Smelser, bachelor of fine arts/design; Justin Smith, son of John and Tina Smith, bachelor of general studies/environmental studies and geography; Tyler Smith, son of Steve and Amy Smith, bachelor’s in electrical engineering; Mandolin Veerkamp, master’s in education.

Nortonville—Stephanie Oxandale, daughter of Carl and Cathy Nichols, bachelor’s in nursing; Ryanna Whaley, daughter of Roger Whaley, bachelor of arts/English.

Oskaloosa—Jessica Anderson, master of science/nursing; Kelly Bell, daughter of Cheryl Bryant, bachelor of arts/biology; Kimberly Brey, doctor of medicine; Patricia Gaines, bachelor of fine arts/history of art; Tammy Gonzales, daughter of Robert and Donna Trainer, bachelor of general studies/speech-language/hearing; Miriam Lee, daughter of Stuart Shafer and Patti Dickinson, bachelor of social work.

Ozawkie—Dustin Hothan, son of Matt and Halene Hothan, doctor of pharmacy; Elle Pottorf, daughter of Rick Pottorf, bachelor’s in education.

Perry—Erin Easum, master of business administration; Kelsey Gowin, master of public administration; Alphilde Rees, daughter of Gretchen Byer, bachelor of arts/English and Slavic lang and minor in literature; Aaron Swaggerty, son of Robert and Marlene Swaggerty, bachelor’s in journalism.

Winchester—Joshua Pannella, son of Jack and Kim Fine, bachelor’s in business/finance; Kimberly Squire, daughter of Glenn and Beverly Herrman, doctor of physical therapy.
Seven Ottawa High School students competed at the Kansas Scholastic Press Association State contest May 3 at the University of Kansas.

Students by category and place include:
- Editorial writing — Coisa Rakestraw, first.
- Yearbook copy writing — Kari Lutz, third; Katie Reusch, honorable mention.
- Yearbook sports writing — Megan Ketchum, third.
- News writing — Amanda Hinman, honorable mention.
- Newspaper sports writing — Hailie Ray, third.
- Cutline writing — Jena Richardson, third; Schuyler Feuerborn, honorable mention.
- Sports photography — Jena Richardson, first; Schuyler Feuerborn, third.

One hundred eighteen Kansas high schools competed with a total of 1,059 entries.
The Kansas Board of Regents has approved a policy allowing criminal background checks for job applicants at the state's six universities.

The new policy is being adopted after the discovery of several convicted felons working in a department at the University of Kansas. The policy adopted Wednesday makes exceptions for student and temporary workers, but all other new employees are subject to criminal background checks. That includes a review of the sex offender registry.
James Brendan Mitchelson, son of John and Beverly Mitchelson, Pittsburg, recently received an Amsden Book Award at the University of Kansas. KU faculty members and graduate teaching assistants selected winners of this award based on classroom excellence, regardless of class level or major.

Students receive books on subjects in which they excel.

Mitchelson is a KU sophomore working toward a bachelor of arts in human biology.

He is a graduate of St. Mary's-Colgan High School.
Student recognized as member of Sigma Alpha Lambda

Michael J. Mattivi, Overland Park, has recently become recognized as a member of Sigma Alpha Lambda, national leadership and honors organization, at the University of Kansas.

Sigma Alpha Lambda is a national leadership and honors organization dedicated to promoting and rewarding academic achievement and providing members with opportunities for community service, personal development and lifelong professional fulfillment.

He is the son of Scott and Brenda Mattivi, Overland Park, and grandson of Yvonne Robertson, Pittsburg.
KU announces more than 4,450 candidates for degrees

LAWRENCE – The names of more than 4,450 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring representing 95 Kansas counties, 48 other states (excluding Maine), the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico 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 at 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.

Graduation candidates include the following area students:

Sabetha/Sabetha High School: Anna Aberle, daughter of Michael and Kelly Aberle, Economics, Senior, Business minor and Bachelor of Arts/Economics; Tyler Cook, son of Gale and Kendra Cook, Strategic Communications, Senior, Film Studies minor and Bachelor of Science in Journalism, Decatur Community HS; Bradley Girton, son of Kelly and Elaine Girton, Sport Science, Senior, Bachelor of Science in Education; Rachel Huber, daughter of Robert and Marcia Huber, Occupational Therapy, Graduate, Master of Occupational Therapy; Richard Kidwell, son of Dick Kidwell and Sara Clements, Physical Therapy, Graduate, Doctor of Physical Therapy; Samantha Remmers, daughter of David and Cindy Remmers, Psychology, Senior, Bachelor of General Studies/Psychology; Erin Ross, daughter of Allan and Margi Ross, History of Art, Senior, Bachelor of Fine Arts/History of Art; Tyler Simpson, son of William Simpson, Human Biology, Senior, Bachelor of Music/Voice.

Seneca/Nemaha Valley HS: Jamie Bergman, daughter of Diane Brown and Francis Bergman, Psychology, Senior, Bachelor of Arts/Psychology, Bachelor of Social Work; Austin Carr, son of Harold Carr, Health and Physical Education, Senior, Bachelor of Science in Education; Maggie Jones, daughter of Sherton and Pat Jones, Latin American Studies, Senior Bachelor of Arts/Latin American Studies and Bachelor of Arts/Spanish; Julie Lueger, daughter of David and Margie Calderwood, Educ-SpecEd, Graduate, Master of Science in Education; Maggie Taylor, daughter of Steve and Jane Taylor, Communication Studies, Senior, Business minor and Bachelor of General Studies/Communication Studies and Sociology minor.

Hiawatha/HHS: Blake Barrett, son of Gene and Kathryn Barrett, Psychology, Senior, Bachelor of General Studies/Psychology and Bachelor of General Studies/Sociology; Todd Barrett, son of John and Marcia Barrett, Medicine, Prof I, Doctor of Medicine; Clarence Hall of Robinson, son of Shella Erdley, Psychology, Senior, Bachelor of Arts/Psychology, HHS.

Horton/HS: Whitney Ryan, daughter of James and Lois Ryan, Athletic Training, Senior, Bachelor of Science in Education.

Baileyville, Laura Rottinghaus daughter of Bob and Annette Rottinghaus, Design, Senior, Bachelor of Fine Arts/Design B&B High School. She also received the Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger Scholarship.

Centralia/Centralia High School: Rachel Feldkamp, Occupational Studies, Senior, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Studies; Carl Nordhus, son of Velma Nordhus, Biology, Senior, Bachelor of Science in Biology.

Candidates are 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.
University of Kansas design students took home several awards at the 2008 Dallas Society of Visual Communications National Student Show and Conference held April 3-5. The student show is an annual exhibition and competition created to showcase student graphic design works from all over the country.

Chi Hiu Yim, a senior from Centralia and Hong Kong, won $125 for Best in Photography and an additional $250 for Judge’s Choice. She was one of four design students who won a $125 award for their Kiosk magazine design.

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Laura A. Rottinghaus, senior in design, daughter of Bob and Annette Rottinghaus of Baileyville, was a Group Project category winner for Kiosk magazine design. She is a graduate of B&B High School.

Chi Hiu Yim, senior in design, daughter of Chun and Si-Kuk Yim of Hong Kong, a former Centralia High School student, won the Best in Photography for her showcase of photos from a study abroad trip to China; Judge’s Choice for her photo “The Abandoned Goal”; and Group Project category winner for Kiosk magazine design.
Recipients of United Bank and Trust Scholarships are Susan Todd and Jeff Vondemkamp, graduates of Nemaha Valley High School.

Susan Todd, daughter of Doug and Karen Todd, will attend the University of Kansas, majoring in strategic communications and minor in music. Jeff Vondemkamp, son of Beth Erwin and Dennis Vondemkamp, will attend Pittsburg State University, majoring in automotive technology.

While United Bank and Trust provides the two $500 scholarships, a committee at the school selects the recipients each year. The scholarships have been awarded to Nemaha Valley High School graduates since 1984.