Ten finalists have been selected for the 17th annual Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership Awards at the University of Kansas.

The finalists will be recognized during a private reception Friday at the Adams Alumni Center and will participate in the homecoming parade at 9 a.m. Saturday along Jayhawk Boulevard.

Two winners, one male and one female, will be announced during halftime of the KU-Texas Tech homecoming football game Oct. 25 at Memorial Stadium. Kickoff is at 11 a.m.

The ExCEL Award provides an annual $500 scholarship to two students. The winners will plan a leadership conference during the spring semester in conjunction with KU's Student Involvement and Leadership Center.

Nominees were selected on the basis of leadership, effective communication skills, involvement at KU and in the Lawrence community, academic scholarship and ability to work with a variety of students and organizations. The selection committee included representatives from Student Union Activities, the Board of

Class Officers, the Student Involvement and Leadership Center and the homecoming steering committee.

The award was established in 1991 to recognize one male and one female student for achievement and to add student interest to annual homecoming festivities.

To be eligible, applicants must be full-time undergraduate students with an overall grade-point average of 3.0 or higher. Each finalist completed an application and participated in an interview.

Among the finalists is Elizabeth Bartkoski of Basehor, daughter of John and DeAnn Bartkoski. She is a senior in business management and leadership with concentrations in human development and applied behavioral science. She is a graduate of Bishop Ward High School in Kansas City, Kan. She has been treasurer, programming chair and community service chair for Douthart Scholarship Hall and this year is vice president of the All Scholarship Hall Council. While Bartkoski was community service chair, Douthart received the Scholarship Hall of the Year Award with particular recognition for 846 hours of community service.

She has been a volunteer and site leader for Give Kids the World and Mountain Housing Opportunities through KU's Alternative Breaks program.

She has also been a new student orientation assistant for two years and a KU student ambassador. Bartkoski's goals include working in community development in a large metropolitan area, earning a master's degree in higher education administration and joining AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps.
Area students receive KU awards

LAWRENCE — Taylor Montgomery Stevenson, Winfield, and Lynsey Marie Metz, Oxford, are among 138 students who have received prestigious Summerfield and Watkins-Berger scholarships for fall 2008, according to an announcement from the University of Kansas Office of Admissions and Scholarships.

Stevenson son of Martha Stevenson and Brad Stevenson, both of Winfield, is a freshman political science major. He graduated from Winfield High School.

Metz, daughter of Dan and Justina Metz, is a freshman pre-journalism major. She graduated from Oxford High School.

The scholarships provide $4,500 per year for four years to each student.

About 40 more students received the scholarships this year than in previous years.

All Summerfield and Watkins-Berger scholarship recipients will be recognized as part of Scholars Day on Nov. 15 at halftime of the KU-Texas football game in Memorial Stadium.

The scholarships are awarded to top students graduating from Kansas high schools in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements, records of community service and leadership.
LAWRENCE — Tobias Parks Wright, Arkansas City, a freshman at the University of Kansas, has been named a resident assistant at Ellsworth Hall. Wright, son of Russell and Nancy Wright, is studying voice at KU. He graduated from Arkansas City High School.

He is among 145 students chosen as live-in resident assistants, proctors, desk managers and food board managers. Their duties include serving as role models, handling administrative and programming duties and performing paraprofessional advisory functions for residents.

“We are grateful to these students for their outstanding leadership,” said Diana Robertson, director of the Department of Student Housing.

“That indicative of their character and personal achievement, but they truly make a difference in the lives of their fellow students.”
LAWRENCE — Joel Thomas Finney, freshman in biochemistry, has been named a National Merit Scholar at the University of Kansas.

Finney, son of Susan and James Finney, graduated from Winfield High School. He is one of 53 students in three national scholarship programs — National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic — named by the KU Office of Admissions.

For fall 2008, the National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic scholars each received $10,000 scholarships. The scholarships are renewable.

With these 53 new scholars, KU enrolls more than 200 National Merit scholars, 20 National Hispanic scholars and nine National Achievement scholars. All will be recognized as part of Scholars Day at halftime in the KU-Texas football game Nov. 15 in Memorial Stadium.

The National Merit scholarship is widely regarded as the most prestigious national award bestowed upon high school seniors. Fewer than 10,000 students of the 1.2 million who compete for the award, or less than 1 percent, receive National Merit scholarships. Recipients are chosen based on their academic abilities and records and extracurricular activities.

KU enrolls more Kansas students than any other university or college in the state and encourages the state’s top scholars to come to KU and stay in Kansas as they begin their careers.
KU Department of Student Housing announces student leaders

LAWRENCE — The University of Kansas Department of Student Housing has named its 2008-09 student leaders, including resident assistants for KU’s eight residence halls, proctors and food board managers for 12 scholarship halls and top officers for the five university housing organizations.

Two of those student leaders are from this area.

Kassidy Leann Spring of Garnett has been selected as a Resident Assistant at Gertrude Sellards Pearson Hall. She is a pre-law sophomore and is the daughter of

Steve and Marcia Spring. Kassidy is a 2007 graduate of Anderson County High School.

Whitney Mariah Kimball of Richmond is Desk Manager at Lewis Hall Desk. She is a junior majoring in Elementary Education. Whitney is the daughter of Kevin and Terri Kimball and is a 2006 graduate of Central Heights High School.

“We are grateful to these student for their outstanding leadership,” said Diana Robertson, director of the Department of Student Housing. “At a time when KU housing has received national and regional attention for its increased occupancy — and KU has experienced record enrollments — these students have stepped up to fill important leadership roles. Not only is that indicative of their character and personal achievement, but they truly make a difference in the lives of their fellow students.”

For the 145 students chosen as live-in resident assistants, proctors, desk managers and food board managers, duties include serving as role models, handling administrative and programming duties and performing paraprofessional advisory functions for residents. Food board managers also coordinate menu planning and food purchasing for their assigned halls.

Housing organization officers are elected to represent their fellow student residents and organize and facilitate shared social, intellectual and cultural concerns and activities.

About 5,000 people live in KU student housing facilities, Robertson said. The top 1 percent of these students, based on community leadership, are eligible for membership in the KU chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary.

Other student housing groups include:

— The Association of University Residence Halls includes representatives from Corbin,
Gertrude Sellards Pearson, Ellsworth, Hashinger, Lewis, McCollum, Oliver and Templin residence halls, which house single male and female students.

— The All Scholarship Hall Council comprises representatives from Douthart, Margaret Amini, Miller, Dennis E. Rieger, Sellards and Watkins scholarship halls for women and Battenfeld, Grace Pearson, Krehbiel, K.K. Amini, Pearson and Stephenson scholarship halls for men.

— Jayhawker Towers Tenants Association includes representatives from KU's four single-student apartment buildings.

— The Stouffer Neighborhood Association represents residents Stouffer Place Apartments, which are designed to house students who are married and/or have children. Students or nonstudent spouses are eligible to hold office in the association.
Judge highly rated

By SUSAN BERG

Staff writer

We see the name on the ballot every four years — Michael F. Powers, chief judge, Eighth Judicial District. It's one political position that is not necessarily based on politics.

So, how should a voter make the decision to vote for a judge?

One way is to read evaluations provided by the Kansas Commission on Judicial Performance.

As part of the performance evaluation, attorney and non-attorneys were surveyed regarding their experiences with the judge, typically including those who have been in the judge's courtroom during proceedings.

The questionnaire asks attorneys and non-attorneys to rate the judge on various aspects of the job that includes legal ability, integrity, impartiality, communication skills, professionalism, temperament, bias in favor of the prosecution or defense, and then asks them to rate whether the judge should be retained, ranging from strong retained to not retain.

Of the attorneys surveyed, Powers was strongly recommended to be retained at 100 percent. Of the non-attorney people surveyed, 90 percent strongly recommended that Powers be retained.

The overall rating by attorneys for Powers was 3.9 with the average of other judges in the district being 3.5. The overall rating by non-attorneys was 3.4 with the average being 3.3. Survey results are available at www.kansajudicialperformance.org.

About Powers

The judge was appointed as a district judge in 1991, handling both civil and criminal cases in Marion and Morris counties.

He also serves as chief judge of the Eighth Judicial District.

Before his appointment to the bench, Powers served 11 years in private law practice and as Morris County Attorney from 1980 to 1991.

He is a graduate of Emporia State University and the University of Kansas School of Law.

Powers is a member of Kansas Bar Association, American Judges Association, and American Judicature Society, serving on an executive committee of Kansas District Judges Association. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for Exemplary and Distinguished Service to Children and Families.

He is a member of Marion Kiwanis Club, Chingawassa Days Steering Committee, Boy Scouts, Marion Advancement Campaign, and ESU Alumni Association.

He and his wife, Judy, live in Marion.
Department of Student Housing announces 2008-09 student leaders

More than 160 KU students have been selected as resident assistants, scholarship hall proctors, food board managers and housing organization officers.

Katie Nicole Hobson daughter of Bonnie and Jon Hobson, a junior seeking an English BA, was named Oliver Hall Senior Staff Resident Assistant at Oliver Hall. Hobson is a graduate of Prairie View High School.

Bowen Tyler Marshall, son of George and Frances Marshall, a senior majoring in Pre-Medicine, has been named Staff Resident Assistant at Hashinger Hall. Marshall is a graduate of Pleasanton High School.
Area students named KU honor scholars

Three Garden City students and one from Lakin all have been awarded Kansas Honor Scholars scholarships from the University of Kansas Alumni Association for their academic achievements.

The awards went to KU freshmen Frances Clifford, Marisa Dugan and Johnathon Fairbanks, all of Garden City, and Taylor Lovelady of Lakin.

The scholarship program recognizes Kansas high school seniors who rank academically in the top 10 percent of their class, and winners are chosen based on academic achievements and experience.
Jayre from Garden City Community College will be here to talk to interested juniors and senior on Thursday during Seminar. GCCC features many transfer and vocational programs, but is best known for its criminal justice program.

Coffeyville Community College will host its Senior Day on November 5. This is a great chance to find out more about this school in southeastern Kansas. CCC has also sent us info about scholarships in its theatre department.

The University of Kansas has scholarships available in Band, Orchestra, Jazz, Piano, Organ, Voice, and Dance. Specific audition dates are available for music and for dance. Go to www.ku.edu/musicdance for details. Deadlines range from November 1 to February 1.

KU will host the Sneak Peek 2008 for students interested in Scholarship Halls on November 8. Each Hall has just 50 residents, which allows for a strong sense of community. Shared duties results in a savings of money. More info is available at www.housing.ku.edu.

The KU Med Center is again sponsoring the photo contest, Images of Aging, which is open to all ages. Several levels of monetary awards are available. Go to www2.kumc.edu/coa for details.

Do you have a 3.5 GPA and a 28 or better on the ACT? Pittsburg State wants you for its Honors College. Twelve Presidential Scholars receive what's nearly a full-ride, while 12 more University Scholars receive about half the cost of school. Both awards are renewable for four years. Go to www.pittstate.edu/academics/honors for details.

Want to write an essay about someone who has made a difference in your life? Enter Hickory Farms Halftime Heroes Contest and your school could win $5000. Go to www.halftime-heroes.com for details.

The American Legion has sent us a copy of 58th annual Need a Lift? The College Financial Aid Handbook.

We have new information from Creighton University. CU is again accepting the Common Application, as well as the Universal Application.

We have new info from The Savannah College of Art and Design. The recommended priority deadline for fall admission and scholarship consideration is February 15.

Rural Telephone is again sponsoring a junior to spend an expense-paid week in Washington DC. We have run off applications, or you can get one at www.fred.org. Applications must be in to Lenora by November 20 for local judging. More on this next week.
Lawrence, KS - The University of Kansas Office of Admissions and Scholarships has announced the 138 students who have received prestigious Summerfield and Watkins-Berger scholarships for fall 2008. Among those students are freshman Brandon Koehn, son of Rick and Mary Koehn of Copeland, and freshman Rebecca Haddican, daughter of Michael and Connie Haddican of Satanta. Koehn received the Summerfield scholarship and Haddican received the Watkins-Berger scholarship.

The scholarships provide $4,500 per year for four years to each student. About 40 more students received the scholarships this year than in previous years.

"Since KU has experienced its largest freshmen class ever, we also saw enrollment increased in this group of student-scholars," said Gail Sherron, associate director of admissions and scholarships. "We are pleased that so many of Kansas' most talented students selected KU as their college of choice."

All Summerfield and Watkins-Berger scholarship recipients will be recognized as part of Scholars Day on Nov. 15 at halftime of the KU-Texas football game in Memorial Stadium.

The scholarships are awarded to top students graduating from Kansas high schools in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements, records of community service and leadership.

KU Endowment administers the scholarship funds and the Office of Admissions and Scholarships coordinates the review and awarding process. The Chancellor's Honor Scholarship Committee selects the recipients.

Summerfield scholarships for men are funded through an endowment established by the late Solon E. Summerfield, a Lawrence native who earned bachelor's and law degrees from KU in 1899 and 1901, respectively, then moved to New York where he founded the Gotham Silk Hosiery Co. He endowed the scholarship program in 1929. Summerfield Hall, home to KU's School of Business, was named for him at its dedication in 1960.

Watkins-Berger scholarships for women are financed by the estate of philanthropist Elizabeth M. Watkins of Lawrence and an endowment in memory of Emily Berger by her younger brother, the late Arthur Berger, and his wife, Marie. Emily Berger, who received a bachelor's from KU in 1914, died in 1920 before receiving a master's in chemistry. What became the Watkins-Berger scholarships were first established by the ...