Richelle Beckman earns coveted honor

Richelle Beckman, a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Allied Health and a Louisburg High School graduate, has received the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions' Scholarship of Excellence.

Only eight students across the country receive the award each year.

“The Scholarship of Excellence program is one of our most prized activities,” said Thomas Elwood, executive director of the ASAHP. “To qualify, students must stand out among their peers.”

The program recognizes outstanding allied health students who are achieving academic excellence and have significant potential to assume future leadership roles in the allied health professions.

To be considered, students must be nominated by their school's dean.

“As an undergraduate, Richelle embodied excellence in her every endeavor,” said Karen Miller, dean of the KU School of Allied Health.

Before being accepted as a master's candidate in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the KU School of Medicine, Beckman earned a bachelor's degree in health information management.
Molly Sailors was among 62 University of Kansas students to graduate from the LeaderShape Institute, a six-day program to develop leadership abilities held last month. She is the daughter of Paula Kellogg and Gordon Sailors, Perry, and majoring in social work.
Wichita Lecture focuses on Harlem Renaissance artist with Kansas roots

Art historian Susan Earle will present a lecture on native Kansan Aaron Douglas, the foremost visual artist of the Harlem Renaissance, on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 7:30 pm at the Wichita Art Museum.

Earle’s illustrated presentation will trace the artist’s roots, his collaborations with luminaries in Harlem in the 1920s and 30s, his role as a graphic designer and mural painter of the “New Negro,” and his lasting impact on the art and cultural heritage of the nation.

Earle, curator of European and Modern Art at the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas, organized the first-ever touring retrospective of the artist’s work, “Aaron Douglas: African American Modernist,” which opened at the Spencer Museum in 2007 and has traveled to museums in Nashville, Washington, D.C., and New York.

Earle’s lecture in Wichita is sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities with support of the Lattner Family Foundation, the KU Alumni Association and its Wichita Chapter and the Wichita Public
Sebelius for Human Services?

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius is doing little to dampen speculation that she's a potential candidate for U.S. health and human services secretary.

Spokeswoman Beth Martino said Wednesday that Sebelius remains focused on her duties in Kansas, which is facing a serious budget crisis. But Martino declined to go farther and issue a definitive statement that Sebelius doesn't want President Barack Obama to consider her.

A Democratic pollster said Sebelius is regarded highly enough in Washington that she'd be a serious candidate for any Cabinet job. And Ron Pollack, the executive director of the health advocacy group Families USA called the health and human services post "a natural fit" for the Kansas governor.

"I think she should be on a short, short, short list," Pollack said during a telephone interview from Washington. "I certainly will be talking to and have been talking to people in the White House."

Speculation about Sebelius as a potential HHS secretary began immediately after former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle withdrew Tuesday over questions about his failure to fully pay his taxes in recent years.

Sebelius is not only a two-term governor, but she previously served as Kansas' insurance commissioner for eight years. Pollack and other supporters said the commissioner's job allowed her to develop expertise that would be valuable for a health and human services secretary.

"This was a job that wasn't available when she withdrew initially," said Burdett Loomis, a University of Kansas political scientist who served on Sebelius' gubernatorial staff for a year. "There's terrific logic there."

Shortly after Daschle's withdrawal Tuesday, Martino was asked whether Sebelius was interested in the HHS job. Martino replied in an e-mail to The Associated Press: "The governor is focused on working through the economic challenges facing our state."

When asked twice to clarify whether that meant Sebelius was not interested in the job, Martino declined to elaborate.

Later, the governor's office issued a statement that Sebelius remained focused on Kansas but "continues to believe reforming health care is absolutely vital to our economic recovery."

The statement added: "She will continue to do what she can to help President Obama fix our economy, improve our health care system and get America back on track."

When asked again Wednesday where Sebelius was interested in the HHS job, Martino said: "Everything we said (Tuesday) stands."

Speculation about Sebelius is not new. She endorsed Obama relatively early in his campaign for president and was among four finalists for vice president before Obama picked Joe Biden. After the election, Sebelius was mentioned most often as a potential secretary of energy, education or labor.

"Governor Sebelius would be on a list of serious candidates that almost anybody would put together for almost any job in the Cabinet," said Mark Mollman, a Democratic strategist and pollster in Washington.

Sebelius' departure for Washington automatically would elevate Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson to the governor's office.
LCC brings KU Dole Institute Lincoln series to Parsons

Labette Community College is partnering with University of Kansas Continuing Education, the KU Alumni Association, and the Dole Institute of Politics to present broadcasts of a series of four free broadcast programs to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

The series will begin on Sunday, Feb. 8, and conclude on Tuesday, March 10, and will feature four of the nation's leading experts on our nation's 16th president. All programs are free and open to the public.

Richard Norton Smith, the Dole Institute's first permanent director and former director of the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill., will kick off the series Sunday, Feb. 8, at 4 p.m. with "Abraham Lincoln: 200 Years." It will be held in the Student Union Conference Room 1.

Michael Burlingame, a professor emeritus at Connecticut College, will discuss his long-awaited two-volume biography "Lincoln: A Life" on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. It will be held in the Student Union Conference Room 1.

Los Angeles-based historian Ron White, author of the newly published "A. Lincoln," will speak Monday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m., also in the Student Union Conference Room 1.

For more information about the series or the speakers, visit http://www.doleinstitute.org/programs-presidential-lecture.shtml, or contact Sara Harris, Associate Dean of General Education, Labette Community College, at sarah@labette.edu or (620) 820-1255.

Lincoln at Parsons

KU's own assistant professor of history Jennifer Weber will conclude the series Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m., with a discussion of Lincoln's challenging 1864 campaign for re-election, again in the Student Union Conference Room 1.
KU To Honor Students

Students from ten Kansas high schools will be honored Monday, February 9 by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment.

A total of 33 seniors from high schools in Cloud, Jewell, Mitchell and Republic Counties will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars at a 6:30 p.m. dinner program at Belleville Country Club, Belleville.

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. Honorees are listed below.

During the ceremony, each student will receive an American Heritage Dictionary in hardcover and CD versions, presented by Jennifer Sanner, senior vice president for communications at the KU Alumni Association.

David Johnston, director of marketing and internet services for the alumni association, will speak to the students and their parents and guests.

Honored students will be guests of the alumni association and KU Endowment; parents and area alumni are welcome to attend at a cost of $12 each.

Community volunteers collected reservations, coordinate details and serve as local contacts for the event. Marilyn Haase of Belleville is site coordinator and county coordinator for Mitchell County. Michele Heidrick of Beloit is county coordinator for Cloud County, and Cathy Daun of Mankato is county coordinator for Jewell County.

The Kansas Honors Program is made possible through KU Endowment and proceeds from the Jayhawk license plate program.

Pike Valley High School: Kelsey Anderson, Rebecca Bohling, Mollie Carlson, and Breonna Lindberg.

Republic County High School: Jessica Barnett, Austin Brown, Lynsey Hergott, Logan Mutz and Gary Roberts.
Bergmann signs with KU

Bergmann placed second at state last season with a best of 157-1 in helping Concordia to a fourth straight team title.

Roxie Grizzel, Tonganoxie, won the event with a meet record toss of 165-5.

“My goal is to keep improving, so I can go into college motivated, and I really want that state record,” Bergmann said.

Bergmann finished third at state as a sophomore and fifth as a freshman.

Throwing 160-2 at the Concordia Invitational as a sophomore placed Bergmann among the elite throwers in state history, and made her realize she had a future in the event.

“My sophomore year, when I threw 160-0, I realized it was something I could do in the future,” Bergmann said.

Bergmann was set on attending KU, but decided to take a look at other schools.

“When I started out, I knew I wanted to go to KU, but I wanted to go through the entire process,” Bergmann said.

Bergmann visited Duke University, but opted to stick with her original plan and sign with KU.

As a junior, Bergmann also placed third at state in the shot put with a personal best of 41-8. She also qualified for state in the discus.

Bergmann is also a four-year letterwinner in volleyball and basketball.
Sebelius Seen As Serious Candidate For HHS Post

By JOHN HANNA
AP Political Writer

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov. Kathleen Sebelius is doing little to dampen speculation that she's a potential candidate for U.S. health and human services secretary.

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Speculation about Sebelius is not new. She endorsed Obama relatively early in his campaign for president and was among four finalists for vice president before Obama picked Joe Biden. After the election, Sebelius was mentioned most often as a potential secretary of energy, education or labor.

"Governor Sebelius would be on a list of serious candidates that almost anybody would put together for almost any job in the Cabinet," said Mark Mellman, a Democratic strategist and pollster in Washington.

Sebelius' departure for Washington automatically would elevate Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson to the governor's office.

But Sebelius removed herself from consideration for the Cabinet in December because of the state's budget problems. And Parkinson said he doesn't plan to run for governor in 2010, when Sebelius will have to leave office because of term limits.

Last month, when Obama's pick for commerce secretary, Bill Richardson, withdrew, Sebelius' spokeswoman said: "She made the decision to stay in Kansas and work on the challenges ahead and she stands firmly by her decision."

Martino's most recent statements struck Loomis and others as far less definitive.

"She could have stopped all the speculation yesterday by saying, 'I've got a job and I'm sticking to it,'" said Christian Morgan, executive director of the Kansas Republican Party. "The official statement coming from her office didn't end the speculation. If anything, it increased it."

Loomis said the HHS job could be more attractive for Sebelius because of her interest in health care issues. Mellman said Obama's plans to push for reforms make the position espe-

(Continued on Page 4)
ially high-profile.

"I think you can always say that circumstances change, that, The president is imposing upon me to take on this great responsibility," Loomis said. "It's hard to turn a president down. There's always a way to say yes."

But Bob Beatty, a Washburn University political scientist, said Sebelius' success as a Democrat in winning statewide elections in Republican-leaning Kansas also works against her for a Cabinet post.

Republican Sen. Brownback is not seeking a third term next year so that he can run for governor. Democrats consider Sebelius their best potential candidate for Brownback's seat — someone who could give them their first victory in a Senate race in Kansas since 1992.

Dan Watkins, a Lawrence attorney and a Sebelius friend who was a senior adviser to the Obama campaign in Kansas, said personal considerations also come into play.

Prominent Kansas Democrats said previously that Sebelius struggled with taking a job in Washington because her husband is a federal magistrate and could remain in Kansas.

"I think all the same considerations are out there," Watkins said.

But Watkins also said Obama could use a new HHS nominee who's already undergone some background checks and has expertise in health care.

"She'd be great for the position," he said of Sebelius. "She's got an understanding of the health insurance side of things from eight years as insurance commissioner and a strong interest in the whole subject."
By JOHN MILBURN
Associated Press Writer
TOPEKA (AP) — The House
gave first-round approval Wednes-
day to a resolution against bringing
any of the suspected terrorist detain-
ees from Guantanamo Bay to Kan-
sas.
The House's voice vote advanced
the measure to final action, which is
expected Thursday. The Senate al-
ready has adopted it.

Fort Leavenworth is among three
military sites in the United States
under consideration by the Penta-
gon. President Barack Obama has
signed an executive order calling for
the closure of the Guantanamo
prison within a year, requiring the
transfer of some 240 detainees.

Rep. Lee Tafanelli, an Ozawie
Republican and colonel in the Kan-
sas National Guard, said bringing
the detainees to Fort Leavenworth
would require additional personnel
and infrastructure improvements.

Tafanelli said such a transfer
would create unacceptable risks for
the post's soldiers and families, as
well as the surrounding communities
—and perhaps the entire Kansas
City metropolitan area.

Other critics of such a transfer
contend it would hurt the reputation
of the Command and General Staff
College, located at the post, which is
known for educating U.S. and inter-
national officers.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has writ-
ten Defense Secretary Robert Gates
stating her opposition to moving
detainees to Kansas.

Thirty-eight of the Senate's 40
members sponsored the resolution.

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, a Kan-
sas Republican, has introduced a bill
requiring that a study and 90-day
notice be given to Congress before
detainees are moved. Oklahoma
Sen. Jim Inhofe introduced a bill
Tuesday to prohibit the transfer of
detainees at Guantanamo Bay to any
facility in the United States.

Inhofe, also a Republican, is a
member of the Senate Armed Ser-
vice Committee and toured Guan-
tamano's facilities on Monday.

MUSICAL MISDEEDS: When
musical groups perform in Kansas,
they would have to be who they say
they are under a bill before the
House Judiciary Committee.

"For many years these impostor
groups have been duping the public
and cheating the older groups," Jon

"Bowzer" Bauman, former member
of Sha Na Na, told the committee
Wednesday. It took no action on the
bill.

Bauman, of Los Angeles, is
chairman of the Truth in Music
Committee at the Vocal Group Hall
of Fame. He said 27 other states
have enacted similar legislation.

Bauman said the bill would require
at least one person performing to
have the legal rights to the group's
name or else call it a tribute band.
He said the problem is when musi-
cians take the name of a group with
which they were never associated
and claim to be that group.

"The problem has been going on
for too long. The public is entitled to
get what it pays for," he said.

COAL FIGHT: The House Energy
and Utilities Committee expects to
vote next week on a bill inspired by
the ongoing dispute over two pro-
posed coal-fired power plants in
southwest Kansas.

Chairman Carl Dean Holmes said
Wednesday after a hearing that the
bill will be among several consid-
ered by the panel next week.

The bill would limit the power of
the Kansas secretary of health and
environment. It would prevent him
from imposing emissions standards
that are tougher than federal re-
quirements, unless legislators ap-
prove, and it would check his
authority to deny air-quality permits.

The bill doesn't name Sunflower
Electric Power Corp., which wants
to build two coal-fired plants in Fin-
ney County. But opponents believe
the measure would force Secretary
Rod Bremby to approve a permit for
them.

Bremby denied such a permit in
October 2007, citing the plants' po-
tential carbon dioxide emissions.

"It is time to develop an energy
plan that decreases the production of
carbon dioxide and increases the
production of clean, renewable en-
ergy," Tom Thompson, a Sierra
Club lobbyist, said in his testimony.

Critics of Bremby's decision con-
tend he exceeded his power and note
that Kansas still has no written stan-
dards on CO2 emissions.

"This legislation will prevent sub-
jective and unprecedented decisions
that jeopardize investment and inno-
vation in the state and our workers," said Amy Blankenbiller, president
and chief executive officer of the
Kansas Chamber of Commerce.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius vetoed
three bills in 2008 aimed at over-
turning Bremby's decision. Supporters failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majorities in both chambers to override her decision.

TUITION PROPOSAL: The University of Kansas wants to give a tuition break to the children and grandchildren of out-of-state alumni. Its officials are asking the Legislature for help.

They're backing a bill to give the state Board of Regents more flexibility in setting tuition. The regents could then permit universities to give groups of out-of-state students the lower tuition rates reserved for Kansans.

The House Higher Education Committee had a hearing Tuesday on the bill but took no action.

Provost Richard Lariviére said the University of Kansas wants to adopt a "legacy" plan to help attract students from families of graduates living outside Kansas.

Kansas State University's student body president also spoke in favor of the measure.

UNDER THE DOME: Wednesday was the 24th day of the Legislature's annual session, out of 90 scheduled.

... The House adopted, 124-0, a resolution congratulating Greeley County and the city of Tribune for consolidating their governments at the beginning of the year.
LINCOLN SCHOLAR TALKS ABOUT HABEAS CORPUS

BY RUSS MORGAN
morgan@emporiagazette.com

President Abraham Lincoln’s methods of dealing with anti-war Democrats during the Civil War was the topic of the first Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Symposium event Wednesday night at the Granada Theatre.

The symposium was put together to celebrate Lincoln’s 200th birthday anniversary.

The night’s featured speaker was Jennifer Weber, assistant professor of history at the University of Kansas, giving a talk entitled “The Rise and Fall of the Copperheads.”

According to Weber, “Copperheads” was a term used by Republicans to refer to northern Democrats who opposed the war and what they considered Lincoln’s violation of civil liberties, particularly in the wake of his suspension of habeas corpus. The Copperheads feared that Lincoln was on his way to becoming a tyrant, and they objected to everything he did.

The talk also addressed how the outcome of the war affected Lincoln’s legacy.

Weber said that by the summer of 1864, Lincoln was facing what was essentially a two-front war: the fight against the Confederacy and the fight against northerners in fierce opposition to the war.

“In his message, (Lincoln) told Congress that the laws were not being enforced in a third of the states,” Weber said, “and he had to impose federal authority. The administration could not protect habeas corpus if the government were overthrown, he said, and it should not protect habeas corpus if doing so would threaten the government’s continued existence.”

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LINCOLN

From PAGE 1

This established the pattern for Lincoln's dealings with the peace Democrats, Weber said.

"Lincoln addressed their complaints, but he never mentioned them by name, either as a group or as individuals."

Weber said Lincoln's response to the peace Democrats demonstrated the traits that made him a good president.

"But these same traits could just as easily have ended Lincoln's presidency and resulted in historians dismissing him as a failed president," she said. "Contingency, it turns out, is as important a factor in Lincoln's enduring legacy as are his own immense gifts as a politician and a leader."

"While he may not have been responsible for the most egregious violations of civil liberties during the Civil War, Lincoln endorsed many of the actions that were taken on behalf of his administration," she said, adding that he claimed they were in the best interest of public safety during a rebellion.

Weber went on to discuss the unpopularity of the Emancipation Proclamation with the peace Democrats.

"They thought Lincoln had reached far beyond his Constitutional limits, and frankly they did not want a bunch of freedmen flooding across the Mason-Dixon line into the north," she said.

The proclamation pointed to a number of Lincoln's qualities, she said, including his habit of not moving too quickly on anything, of deliberating his moves and waiting for the right moment to make them. He didn't act on the proclamation until over a year into the war.

"He wrote out the proclamation and stuck it in a desk drawer for two months," Weber said, "while he waited for something he could at least claim to be a Union victory, which was the Battle of Antietam."

When his political allies encouraged him to drop the proclamation because of its "political toxicity," Lincoln insisted it was the only way to win the war because it denied the South its labor force and gave the North moral authority.

Weber said that by the summer of 1864, the public was growing ever more tired of the war. In fact, Lincoln almost dropped the Emancipation Proclamation, going so far as to write a memo to Jefferson Davis offering concessions. He then tucked the memo into a drawer and never acted on it.

"He told the party chairman that if he compromised on this issue, if he abandoned the freedmen, if he went back on his promise to them, he would be damned for all time in eternity," she said. "And so he made his peace with losing the election in November (1864), as he felt he was sure to do."

As it happened, Gen. Sherman took Atlanta in September of that year, and the war came to an end soon after.

"Any evaluation of Lincoln's leadership has to account for contingency," Weber said. "Lincoln and his presidency came close to being a failure in the summer of 1864. ... If Sherman had not taken Atlanta before the election of 1864, ... Lincoln most probably would have lost. Emancipation for sure would have been the first thing off the table had the Democrats returned to power."

In that case, Weber contended, historians would have blamed Lincoln's leadership style for the Union's defeat.

"Many of the leadership characteristics that we credit Lincoln for, that we argue made him great, could equally have been blamed for his downfall had Atlanta not fallen in September," Weber said.

And with his death just a few months later, Lincoln became a martyred president.

"As a historical figure, he was the beneficiary of contingency and timing," Weber said. "He was re-elected because election day came after important Union victories in the fall of 1864. ... His death, by any measure a tragedy, ... sealed his legacy."

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Symposium series will continue with events each Wednesday for the next three weeks at 7 p.m. at the Granada Theatre.
Jennifer Weber of the University of Kansas talks about “The Rise and Fall of the Copperheads” Wednesday night at the Granada Theatre as part of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Symposium.