KU cracking down on ticket scalpers

The University of Kansas is using plain-clothes officers at basketball games to crack down on ticket scalpers.

This basketball season, university public safety officers have been mingling with fans looking for people wanting to buy or sell tickets. In recent weeks outside Kansas basketball games, officers have given three citations for criminal trespassing to people suspected of scalping tickets.

Capt. Schuyler Bailey said officers tend to be busier during the more high-profile basketball games, especially since Big 12 play started in January. Officers concentrate on educating people first.

“We notify them of university policy and tell them if you are seen again doing this, you could be subject to an arrest,” Bailey said.

Before the Kansas State University game Jan. 13, a man — whom police said they warned previously — was issued a notice to appear in Lawrence Municipal Court after he solicited game tickets to an undercover officer.

Also, before the Texas A&M game Jan. 19, officers in plain clothes issued criminal trespassing citations to two men for soliciting the officers for tickets.

City prosecutor Jerry Little said a conviction in these trespassing cases can carry a maximum fine of $1,000 and up to six months in jail.

The three citations in the last month are probably a little bit higher than what officers normally issue, Bailey said.

“We’re not going to keep warning the same people,” he said.

Kansas officials began asking public safety officers to crack down on scalpers outside sporting events in 2005.

Associate athletic director Jim Marchiony said the athletics department had received complaints before about scalpers approaching fans.

“We’ve gotten fewer complaints from our patrons certainly the last couple of years,” he said.

Officers wait to observe a transaction

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KU cracking down on ticket scalpers

before they approach someone on the street, Bailey said.

Officers sometimes hear from people who don’t understand why they can’t just sell a ticket one time, he said. That’s why officers try to make it an educational effort that includes a warning.

“It doesn’t matter. You cannot sell anything on university property,” Bailey said. –AP
KU Alumni Association to honor 19 students here Thursday night

Students from six Kansas high schools will be honored here Thursday by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment.

A total of 19 seniors from high schools in Edwards, Pawnee and Stafford counties will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars at a 6:30 p.m. dinner program at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Scenic Drive in southwest Larned.

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 were listed in Sunday’s Tribune.

During the ceremony, each student will receive an American Heritage Dictionary in hardcover and CD versions, presented by Heath Peterson, director of Kansas programs for the KU Alumni Association.

KU Provost Richard Lariviere 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 $15 each.
Local students on KU fall 2008 honor roll

Sixteen undergraduate students from Liberal and the surrounding communities were listed on the University of Kansas' in Lawrence fall 2008 honor roll which was recently released. The seven Liberal students on the honor roll are: Katelyn N. Deckert, Hongthanh Le Do, Elsa M. Fraire, Alexis C. Kruse, Cambrey Bao-Phuong Nguyen, Suong T. Nguyen and KeNdal Ryan Reed.

Three Hugoton students were listed: Brandi Laura Broaddus, Chelsie Dawn Harper and Jurrell Jesse Medina. Other students from surrounding communities include: Rebecca Haddican, of Satanta; Hope E. Lucas, of Sublette; Alison Ashley Edwards, of Fowler; Karen Mae Kobs, of Meade; Tai B. Houtz, of Elkhart; and Katelyn N. Deckert, of Ulysses.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university's academic units. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

To see the complete list, visit www.news.ku.edu/2008/february/5/fall08honor.shtml.
Donald M. Stewart
Scholarship Applications due by
April 15, 2009

Four Donald M. Stewart Scholarships, each in the amount of $3,000.00, are available to be awarded this May. These scholarships are now available to any person who is presently, or has in the past graduated from any Dickinson County High School, and is presently attending or plans to attend the University of Kansas, to pursue a health-related career. These annual scholarships are made possible by endowment funds provided by the Kansas Health Foundation in honor of Donald M. Stewart. Applications may be obtained at any Dickinson County High School or at the law offices of Royer & Royer, in Abilene, Kansas. Completed applications must be returned to Royer & Royer law offices by April 15, 2009.
KU to honor high school seniors from area counties

LAWRENCE — Students from six Kansas high schools will be honored Monday, Feb. 9, by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment. A total of 33 seniors from high schools in Allen, Bourbon and Woodson counties will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars at a 6:30 p.m. dinner program at Iola High School, 300 E. Jackson St., Iola.

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 David Ochoa, coordinator of member relations for the KU Alumni Association.

William J. Crowe, special assistant to the dean of libraries, 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 $15 each.

Community volunteers collect reservations, coordinate details and serve as local contacts for the event. Jim and Karen Gilpin are site coordinators. County coordinators are Gary and Sally Cullor of Fort Scott and Susy Hammons of Pittsburg for Bourbon County; and Sharon Suske of Yates Center for Woodson County.

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


Humboldt High School: Todd Hauser, Shelley Herder, Bailey Myers, Kelci Owens and David Setter

Iola High School: Morgan Buchholz, Kyle Carswell, Morgan Dieker, Jacob Heffern, Kelsey Knisley, Michelle Kretzmeier, Kyle McRae, Drew Mueller, Preeya Patel, Lauren Porter and Joel Tidd

Uniontown High School: Kaylan Colgin, Robert McEwan and Jessica Roach

Yates Center High School: Michael Bettega, Taylor Heffern, Jordan Hughes, Jacob Pennuto and Brent Matile
KU lists students on fall 2008 honor roll

LAWRENCE — More than 4,600 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the fall 2008 semester. These students, from KU’s Lawrence campus and the schools of allied health and nursing in Kansas City, Kan., represent 99 of 105 Kansas counties, 40 other states and more than 40 other countries.

Humboldt: Matthew Zachary Hudson, senior; Peter William Meier, senior; Melanie Suzanhe Weilert, senior.

Chanute: Aaryn Alise McComb, junior; Natalie Alexandra Mildfelt, sophomore; Austin Lea Oder, senior; Whitney Ryanye Tabares, sophomore; Laura Jean Tripp, senior; Garrett R Vangotten, senior; Christian Lesta Marie Watkins, senior; Lindsay Ann Winder, senior.

Erie: Matthew Madison Reed, Pharmacy Professional 1; Neil F Young, Pharmacy Professional 1.

St. Paul: Tressa Rene Newberry, senior; Darin William Treiber, Pharmacy Professional 1.

Thayer: Mary Frances Callarman, Pharmacy Professional Prof 1; Richard Lane Floersch, senior; Garrett Allen Welch, senior.

Altoona: Hailey Jo Harding, Pharmacy Professional 1.
Area students named to KU honor roll

LAWRENCE — More than 4,600 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the fall 2008 semester. The honor roll comprises undergraduates who meet requirements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the schools of allied health; architecture and urban design; business; education; engineering; fine arts; journalism; nursing; and social welfare.

Students from the area named to the honor roll are:

Burlington:
Joseph Beyer, son of Philip and Patricia Beyer;
Jennifer Hoover, daughter of Roger and Sherry Wallace;
Jessica Menard, daughter of Jamie and Christopher Menard;
Wyatt Meriwether;
Lacie Reed, daughter of Debbie and Stacy Reed;

Lebo:
Eric Gourley, son of Doyle and Lori Gourley;

LeRoy:
Scott Bird, son of Tammi and Brian Hanson;

New Strawn:
Lucas Culbertson, son of Robert and Carol Culbertson;

Waverly:
Jayme Hoag, daughter of Mike and Kim Hoag;

Olpe:
Amanda Cole, daughter of Michael and Lisa Cole;
Megan Cole, daughter of Dave and Debbie Cole;
Dustin Crook, son of Todd Crook;
Matthew Torres, son of Charles and Lor Torres.
Neufeld criticized for nominating himself for bioscience board

Former House Speaker Melvin Neufeld is defending his decision late last year to name himself to a key board overseeing the state’s biotechnology industry.

Neufeld, R-Ingalls, set a precedent in December when he nominated himself to the Kansas Bioscience Authority’s board. He did it shortly before giving up his appointment powers as House leader.

Now, he’s working on legislation that would require give the Legislature greater power over the independent body’s spending.

He said both his bill and his nomination are intended to remove political influence from the bioscience authority and other agencies in state government that support job creation. He also said neither move is linked to his claims that the authority is biased in favor of the University of Kansas and against Wichita State University.

"I’m trying to protect the economic development side because it’s being attacked severely by the governor," Neufeld said.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has recommended closing down the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corp. and Kansas Inc. and transferring some of their duties to the state Department of Commerce. She also wants to cut the Kansas Bioscience Authority’s funding by $32 million as a way to help balance the state budget.

Democrats are skeptical of Neufeld and have floated an unsigned legal brief suggesting the self-nomination is against state statutes. Even fellow Republicans have their doubts with the Senate failing to act on his nomination.

"If it were me, I would never appoint myself," said Senate President Steve Morris, R-Hugoton. "It puts people in a difficult position."

Officials with the bioscience authority are more concerned about lawmakers being given greater power over their purse strings, second-guessing the board’s decisions on investing in biotechnology research, development and commercialization.

"Why fix what’s not broken?" said Tom Thornton, president and chief executive officer of the bioscience authority.

The Legislature created the authority five years ago, charging it with helping companies, university researchers, inventors, entrepreneurs and members of the investment community involved in biotechnology. The authority, and its 11-member board, were recently credited with helping attract the $650 million National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility.

Thornton said the authority’s investments have yielded 1,100 jobs, $100 million in capital expenditures and investment and $37 million in new research funding.

"With this success, the Legislature has voiced strong support for the KBA approach, and I have every reason to believe that will continue," he said.

While Neufeld would be the only elected official on the board, three former Democratic officials already serve, including former state Rep. Ed McKechnie, former Congressman Dan Glickman and former Gov. John Carlin.

The governor and legislative leaders appointment people to the authority’s board.

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, R-Topeka, introduced a bill last month that would prohibit lawmakers from serving on the board, although it wouldn’t apply to Neufeld.
Editor's note: Editorial roundups are excerpts from recent editorials in Kansas newspapers.

Jan. 31.
Lawrence Journal-World, on universities in Kansas working together:

There is no doubt that having the state’s two largest universities working together greatly enhances all kinds of research and commercial activities in Kansas.

It seems a bit odd, though, that the top administrators at Kansas State University and Kansas University had to sign a formal agreement this week to work together on obtaining a National Cancer Institute designation for the KU Cancer Center.

If such an agreement was necessary, why hadn’t it been signed long ago? And was the memorandum of understanding broad enough to ensure cooperation between the two universities on other research and projects? All those involved seemed in high spirits when the agreement was signed. KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway called it “an important day,” and KSU President Jon Wefald joked that “When Wildcats and Jayhawks get together, good things happen.”

Dr. Roy Jensen, director of the KU Cancer Center, said the agreement “synergies” the KU Cancer Center and Kansas State’s Terry Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research, making it easier for researchers at the two centers to work together on projects.

This is, indeed, a positive development, but one has to wonder why it took the two schools so long to take this step. It is known that KSU leaders did not think the KU administration was as helpful as they had hoped. In fact there were concerns that KU didn’t want to give its full support to the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility at Kansas State for fear that project would handicap KU’s drive for an NCI Cancer Center designation.

The rivalry between the schools has always been lively, especially in athletic competition. Most people who grew up in Kansas have at least some emotional attachment to one school over the other, but that shouldn’t stand in the way of the two schools working together on projects of importance to the physical and economic health of Kansas and its residents.

Oh, well. Better late than never. The benefits of having the state pull together on projects like the NCI designation for KU and the NBAF at Kansas State are obvious. Much will depend on the new chancellor and president chosen for KU and KSU, but, hopefully, the agreement signed this week will solidify the kind of cooperation between KU and Kansas State on these and many other initiatives in the years to come.
KU fall honor roll

More than 4,600 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the fall 2008 semester.

Students from the area include: Jamie Nicole Albers daughter of Ellen & Donald Albers of Grinnell, is a sophomore Liberal Arts Undergraduate. Michaela Dawn Bird daughter of Scott & Sheryl Bird of Quinter, is a senior Nursing Undergraduate. Benjamin Schirmer Machen son of Mike & Sue Machen of Quinter, is a senior business undergraduate.