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Listed from Ulysses is Katelyn N. Deckert, Senior, daughter of Jerry Jo Deckert who is an undergraduate studying Liberal Arts.
“Turn Around Day” (when House and Senate bills must be passed out of their respective chambers) is right around the corner which means that the session is at the half point. Amazing to be at this point and seemingly not making much progress on many issues. This may lead to an extended session to find consensus on issues.

**Budget Progress**

The House voted 74-48 on its version of a revised 2009 budget. The proposal uses spending cuts and some one-time funding to reduce the budget by about $305 million. I was one of two Republicans who voted against the bill.

This is my “Explanation of Vote on SB23” I submitted to be published in the House Journal:

“Kansas is in an extra ordinary difficult situation and as a legislator, we don’t have any good options. We can’t deal with this budget without dealing with K-12 because it is more than half of the budget. However SB23 hurts small rural schools significantly greater than many of our suburban counterparts. The smaller they are, the harder they are hurt. While cuts are required it is important that we balance the pain fairly. For this reason, I vote no on SB23.”

While the cut reduces per pupil funding by an average of $66/pupil statewide, it is really more than $200/pupil cut for several of the districts in my district.

The Senate version cut average $33/pupil. Negotiators from the two chambers have already begun meeting to work out the differences.

But the budget debate doesn’t end with the revised 2009 budget. We must now begin working on the Fiscal Year 2010 budget. We expect to need to cut nearly a billion dollars from it. As a fellow legislator put it – there are no good options, only bad ones.

**Legal Notices on the Internet**

The Senate introduced a bill that would give cities, counties and school districts the option to publish official legal notices in the governmental unit’s Internet website – instead of requiring them to publish the notices in a local newspaper.

I will not be supporting this bill. In rural areas where the majority of citizens do not spend many hours a day on the internet, they would never be read.

**Smoking Ban Bill Advances**

The Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee passed what many consider a pretty tough ban on smoking in indoor public places to the full Senate for debate.

The bill basically prohibits indoor smoking except in closed, walled-to-the-ceiling rooms in restaurants, bars and other places to which the public has access.

It would override local anti-smoking ordinances except for those stricter than the proposed state ban.

If this bill makes it over to the House, I will not support it. I believe that a smoking ban is a local issue that should be decided locally.

**Bond interest hike OK’d**

The Senate passed, 35-5, a bill that would allow a temporary increase in the interest that municipalities could accept for bonds.

The new numbers are predicted to make it easier to sell municipal bonds. The new rate caps are 5% above the daily yield for 10-year Treasury bonds on issues that are not taxable, 6% above that Treasury rate for taxable issues.

The higher rates would be available only through June 20, 2010.

The bill has been referred to the House Local Government Committee which I chair. I plan to hold hearings on the bill in early March as February 17th is the last day for my committee to hold hearings before Turn Around Day.

**Graduated Drivers Licenses**

The House Transportation Committee is again talking about graduated drivers license bill (HB2143). The provisions being discussed appear to be much more workable than earlier versions.

Although the focus of the bill is obviously on the safety of our young drivers, it now provides for more structured ways of providing young drivers opportunities to gain experience rather than simply limiting driving opportunities.

**KU proposing tuition ‘legacy’ program**

The University of Kansas wants to create a new tuition-and-fee waiver for “legacy” out-of-state students.

Under House Bill 2007, the “Jayhawk Generations Tuition Plan”, KU would offer the break
to out-of-state children or grandchildren of someone who earned a diploma at KU. It also would be extended to nonresident children with a legal guardian who graduated from KU.

Currently, nonresidents pay 140 percent of the cost of a KU education, while resident students pay 45 percent. KU legacy students would pay a minimum of 100 percent of the cost of a KU education.

KU officials claimed the plan would be revenue neutral, because it would target students who would have decided to attend college elsewhere.

**Truth in Musical Advertising**

The House Judiciary heard some sweet notes from Jon “Bowsers”—Bauman, Los Angeles, of the musical group Sha Na Na. He testified on behalf of House Bill 2082, the Truth in Musical Performance Advertising Act.

The bill would deter “look-alike” or “sound-alike” bands from advertising themselves as the genuine article without permission of the original band. It also would protect Kansans from being taken by imposter bands.

Twenty-seven other states have passed similar legislation.

**Resolution against bring terrorist detainees to Kansas**

The House voted 122-0 for a resolution against bringing any of the suspected terrorist detainees from Guantanamo Bay to Kansas.

Fort Leavenworth is among three military sites in the United States under consideration by the Pentagon. President 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, R-Ozawkgie, a colonel in the Kansas National Guard, said bringing the detainees to Fort Leavenworth 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.

The Senate also passed the resolution.

**Upcoming Events**

Please join me at one of my upcoming district meetings:

• 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 14 at KSDS in Washington.
• 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Marysville City Building

As always, I am honored to serve as your state representative in Topeka and dedicate myself to serving you. I sincerely value your opinion. Your ideas count! Please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Rep. Sharon Schwartz
785/296-7663
Sharon.Schwartz@house.ks.gov
Sheriff finishes training course

Thirty-seven sheriffs and sheriffs-elect, including newly elected Cherokee County Sheriff David Groves recently completed a two-week orientation course required by state law at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training center in Hutchinson.

The 80 hour orientation course provided sheriffs and under-sheriffs with training topics such as laws governing the office of the sheriff with training on topics such as laws governing the office of the sheriff, operating a detention facility and handling Kansas open-record requests.

Sheriffs participating in the training were either appointed by the governor to fill an unexpired term, elected in a special election during the previous four years, officially elected for the first time or re-elected during the 2008 general election.

"The legislature has given sheriffs myriad duties beyond law enforcement," said Ed Pavey, director of KLETC. "This training gives new sheriffs and under sheriffs an opportunity to gain additional knowledge about the role of the sheriff and to get advice from experienced veteran sheriffs from across Kansas who serve as their class counselors.

Established by the Kansas Legislature in 1968 KLETC serves as headquarters for all law enforcement training in Kansas.

KLETC, a unit of University of Kansas Continuing Education, is located at a former naval air station south of Hutchinson. It's mission is "the promotion and development of..."
Sheriff Continued from Page 1

improved law enforcement personnel and procedures throughout the state, and the training center shall offer to qualified applicants such programs and courses of instruction designed to fulfill this end.”

KLETC trains the majority of municipal, county and state law enforcement officers in Kansas and oversees, supervises and monitors the training of the remain officers at state authorized and certified academy programs operated by local law enforcement agencies and the Kansas Highway Patrol.

No municipal, county or state law enforcement agency pays fees or costs in connection with training and/or room and board furnished to their officers by KLETC during the mandated basic training.

KLETC trains more than 400 officers annually. Last year, KLETC provided continuing education, specialized training and distance learning programs to nearly 4,700 Kansas officers.

Any officer in Kansas must, by state law, attend 80 hours of training classes at the center within one year of his becoming a police officer, sheriff or other law enforcement officer. The police powers are contingent upon the completion of the 80 hour course.
KU announces students named to fall 2008 honor roll

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.

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.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university’s academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum GPA for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

Local students included on the honor roll:

From Erie: Matthew Madison Reed, son of Doug and Laurie Reed, a Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. He is a graduate of Erie High School. Neil F. Young, son of Frank and Sharon Young, a Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. He also is a graduate of Erie High School.

From St. Paul: Tressa Rene Newberry, daughter of Darren and Leanna Newberry, an Allied Health Undergraduate, Senior, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. She graduated from St. Paul High School. Darin William Treiber, son of Don and Kathy Treiber, a Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. He graduated from St. Paul High School.

From Thayer: Mary Frances Callarman, a Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, 2008 Fall Honor Roll. She is a graduate of Erie High School. Richard Lane Floersch, son of Annette Thomas, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Senior, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. He graduated from the Thayer Attendance Center. Garrett Allen Welch, son of Sherry and Jeff Welch, a Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Senior, is on the 2008 Fall Honor Roll. He received a GED, from the State of Kansas.
KU Announces Fall 2008 Honor Roll

http://www.news.ku.edu/2009/february/5/fall08honor.shtml

Contact: Mary Jane Dunlap, University Relations,
(785) 864-8853, mdunlap@ku.edu

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Information is in this order: Parent/Guardian ZIP Code P/G County P/G City Student Name Gender Parent Name Program(School) Stndt Level HS Name HS City HS State

Atchison - Gregory Edmund Arnold II son of Libbi and Greg Arnold Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Maur Hill -Mount Academy Atchison KS

Atchison - Rong Chen daughter of Xiu Zhu and Lida Chen Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Atchison High School Atchison KS

Atchison - Kenneth Wayne Compton son of Kenneth and Corrina Compton Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Atchison High School Atchison KS

Atchison - Kyle Joseph Eichelberger son of Kevin and Brenda Eichelberger Pharmacy Professional Senior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Atchison High School Atchison KS

Atchison - Joel Andrew Haug son of James and Aleda Haug Liberal Arts Undergraduate Sophomore 2008 Fall Honor Roll Maur Hill -Mount Academy Atchison KS

Atchison - Dustin Michael Pickman son of Melissa Schulz Liberal Arts Undergraduate Senior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Maur Hill -Mount Academy Atchison KS

Atchison - Clare Colette Prohaska daughter of Nancy and Larry Prohaska Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Maur Hill -Mount Academy Atchison KS

Atchison - Emily Susan Prohaska daughter of Nancy and Larry Prohaska Pharmacy Professional Prof 1 2008 Fall Honor Roll Mt St Scholastica Academy Atchison KS

Atchison - Sharon Anne Roeder daughter of Bruce and Suzy Roeder Engineering Undergraduate Freshman 2008 Fall Honor Roll Leavenworth Senior High School Leavenworth KS

Atchison - Eric Michael Trompeter son of Ed and Debbie Trompeter Pharmacy Professional Prof 1 2008 Fall Honor Roll Maur Hill -Mount Academy Atchison KS

Muscatah - Carl Allen Schwarzer son of Kent and Phyllis Schwarzer Engineering Undergraduate Senior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Atchison County Community HS Effingham KS

Potter - Jessica A Morris daughter of Deania Roland Fine Arts Undergraduate Senior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Atchison County Community H S Effingham KS
Fairview - James David Reynolds
son of James and Carol Reynolds
Fine Arts Undergraduate Sopho-
more 2008 Fall Honor Roll Hiawatha
High School Hiawatha KS

Hiawatha - Ryan Michael Olson
son of Theresa Olson Liberal Arts
Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall
Honor Roll Hiawatha High School
Hiawatha KS

Hiawatha - Chelsea Marie
Rosenberger daughter of Kristin
and Bradley Rosenberger Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall
Honor Roll Hiawatha High School
Hiawatha KS

Hiawatha - Jeremy Michael Vitt
son of Christopher and Michelle Vitt
Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll Hiawatha High School Hiawatha KS

Hiawatha - Elizabeth Marie
Weingart daughter of John and
Nancy Weingart Liberal Arts Under-
graduate Junior 2008 Fall Honor Roll
Hiawatha High School Hiawatha KS

Horton - Nicole Ann McReeves
daughter of Cheryl Simon Liberal Arts Undergraduate Senior 2008 Fall
Honor Roll Horton High School
Horton KS

Powhattan - Brianna Rae Barnes
daughter of Joey Barnes Pharmacy Professional Prof I 2008 Fall Honor Roll Hiawatha High School
Hiawatha KS

Robinson - Clinton Gary Merkel
son of Gary and Virginia Merkel Phar-
macy Professional Junior 2008 Fall
Honor Roll Doniphan West High
School Highland KS
Students in the News

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

Honor roll criteria vary among the university's academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum GPA for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

Included on the list are:

from Neodesha - Ryan Thomas Carpenter, son of Floretta Carpenter, Education Undergraduate Senior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Rachel Elizabeth Marie Hare, daughter of Laurel and Clifford Hare, Liberal Arts Undergraduate Senior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; and Bryan Lewis Schuessler, son of Jim and Judy Schuessler, Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, 2008 Fall Honor Roll.

From Altoona - Hailey Jo Harding, daughter of James and Mary Harding, Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, 2008 Fall Honor Roll.

From Fredonia - Mary Kaitlin Dozier, daughter of Mary Elmore, Liberal Arts Undergraduate Sophomore, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Jill Ranee Ethridge Female - Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Megan A Fowler, daughter of Doug and Nina Fowler, Liberal Arts Undergraduate Senior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Aaron David Joy, son of Kathleen Richardson, Engineering Undergraduate Junior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Jennifer Irene Powers, daughter of Mary Dold, Pharmacy Professional Prof 1, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; Whitney Lyn Runer, daughter of Victor and Terri Runer, Education Undergraduate Senior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll; and Tiffany Marie Wambsganss, daughter of Roger and Betty Wambsganss, Education Undergraduate Senior, 2008 Fall Honor Roll.
Area Students Name On K.U. Honor Roll

Three former Onaga High School students, Timothy Flattery, Alison McCourt and Joel Schmelze are among more than 4,600 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas who 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.

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Flattery a Fine Arts Undergraduate Junior is a son of Chris and Vicki Flattery; McCourt a Liberal Arts Sophomore is a daughter of Pat and Marilyn McCourt; and Schmelze an Undergraduate Engineering Junior is a son of Greg and Debbie Schmelze.
Area students earn grade honors at KU

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The following Pottawatomie County students earned KU honor roll distinction for the fall semester of 2008.

Onaga: Timothy Flattery, junior in fine arts; Alison McCourt, sophomore in liberal arts; Joel Schmelzle, junior in engineering.

St. George: Audrey Peterson, freshman in liberal arts.

Wamego: Anna Bailey, junior in social welfare; Megan Brooks, pharmacy professional; Amber Markey, senior in engineering; Katelyn Sackrider, senior in liberal arts; Brandon Tackett, senior in liberal arts.
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.

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The following students named to the honor roll are from the Linn County area:

- Christina Renee Graham, daughter of Barbara Brotker; Fontana, Pharmacy Professional 1 Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Paola High School.
- Kellen Thomas Bolt, son of Ken Bolt, La Cygne, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Iola Senior High School.
- Katie Nicole Hobson, daughter of Bonnie and Jon Hobson, La Cygne, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Prairie View High School.
- Emily Juchser Wagner, daughter of Jana Wagner, La Cygne, and Rodney Wagner, La Cygne, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Prairie View High School.
- Miles Levi Spencer, son of Steven and Sherri Spencer, Mound City, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Jayhawk Linn High School.
- Bowen Tyler Marshall, son of George and Frances Marshall, Pleasanton, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, graduate of Pleasanton High School.
- Taylor Matthew Murray, son of Kirby and Karen Murray, Pleasanton, Liberal Arts Undergraduate, Fall Honor Roll, Pleasanton High School.
Lawrence Journal-World
(Tuition for out-of-state students)

Why would one assume that out-of-state students who follow their parents to Kansas University won’t leave Kansas after graduation?

That’s what their parents did.

The assumption that KU students who have some family ties to the state are more likely to stay here after they graduate and contribute to the Kansas economy is one of the primary selling points KU administrators are using for legislation that would clear the way for a “legacy tuition” program. The program would reduce tuition for out-of-state students who have a parent, grandparent or legal guardian who graduated from KU...

Standard out-of-state tuition is significantly higher than the actual cost of educating these students, and the legacy program would only work with the margin between that tuition and actual cost.

The legislation under consideration (House Bill 2007) actually grants broad authority for the Kansas Board of Regents to approve programs that not only offer fellowships and scholarships but waive tuition and fees for certain students. The bill doesn’t specifically mention legacy tuition programs, but that is one way it could be used.

It makes sense that waiving tuition, especially tuition that exceeds the cost of educating a student, puts less financial strain on universities than coming up with additional financial aid to offset the cost of tuition. A special program that applies that principle only to offspring of KU graduates, however, seems odd.

If universities are trying to attract top students in hopes they’ll stay in Kansas after graduation, it makes more sense to offer tuition waivers to students based on their academic potential rather than their parentage. Is there any evidence that the “legacy” angle actually increases the chances that graduates will remain in Kansas?...

Students paying out-of-state tuition always have helped subsidize the education of Kansas students, so regents and legislators should be careful how much of that money they give away in tuition waivers.

It’s also interesting that university officials want to add tuition waivers to their “tool box” to attract students to KU.

Perhaps this is the first step in university administrators actually admitting that the rising cost of tuition is creating barriers not only for out-of-state students but for worthy Kansas students as well.