Volume 8 - Issue 1

KENT STATE MAGAZINE

Eisfor Clephant Education/ Elephant

Teaching teachers and creating opportunity in Kenya

Test Your Honors Aptitude

75 Years of Kent State's 'best and brightest' taking on the world

EXCELLENCE in Action



PRESIDENT LESTER A. LEFTON



A UNIVERSITY "WITHOUT WALLS"

author Thomas Friedman wrote that the biggest policy issue facing the world is education. In this

few years ago, influential columnist and

time of globalization, Friedman challenged that "we need to get smarter to survive in a world without walls."

As this issue of *Kent State Magazine* reaches you, the university is taking that message to heart. Working tirelessly to expand Kent State's global footprint at home and abroad, many members of our faculty and staff are at the forefront of making the world a little smaller — and a lot better.

You will see how the efforts of Dr. Kenneth Cushner,

Photo courtesy of Dr. Ken Cushner

professor of education and former director of international affairs, to help save the magnificent elephants of Kenya flourished into life-altering experiences,

not only for Kenyan school children, but also for some Kent State faculty, staff and our nation's future educators. Cushner's sabbatical work in a wall-less classroom is now helping the university provide a living laboratory of firsthand experiences that improve the opportunities and proficiencies of school-age students at home and abroad.

While Kent State's numerous excellent programs keep



Dr. Donald R. Williams, dean, Kent State Honors College

us at the front of the world's agenda, the Honors College in particular has a long tradition of active engagement near and far. Celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, our Honors College is one of the nation's oldest, notable for its rich history and distinguished legacy. Efforts of nearly a century of dedicated honors

students, alumni, faculty and staff — including the newly appointed dean, Dr. **Donald R. Williams** — make our state and our world a little richer, thanks to the vision of the college founders and the diverse opportunities encountered by these talented students.

We hope this issue of *Kent State Magazine* will inspire you to remain engaged in a world without walls.

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TEST YOUR Honors aptitudel



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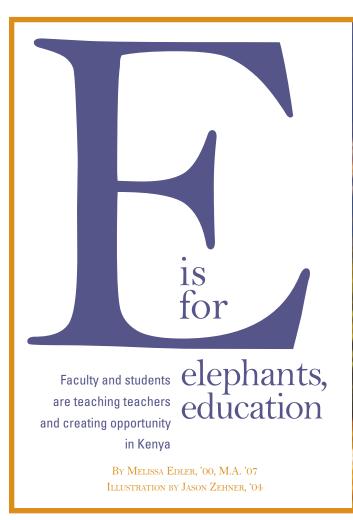
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As I began writing this story, I wondered what a "typical American" might think when he or she hears the word "Africa." After asking a colleague that same question and hearing her simple reply of "elephants or giraffes," I questioned whether poverty, AIDS, malaria or ethnic conflict also came to mind. My co-worker replied, "I prefer not to know what is going on in Africa, because it's out of my control and I have no power to help." Her response was not surprising, as many Americans likely feel the same way.

"We have a lack of knowledge about severe global issues. We also don't expose American teachers who, in turn, will teach American children about the lives of Africans and the experience in Africa," says Dr. **Kenneth Cushner**, Kent State professor of education and former executive director of international affairs. "The most effective way to get people to communicate with and to teach others is by allowing them to have meaningful, first-hand experiences; then issues become real, and they become connected with real people whom they care about."

Cushner has direct knowledge that this works: During the past six years, he has made it possible for Kent State faculty and students to become involved in a unique project that improves schools and educational opportunities for hundreds of people living in small Kenyan villages.

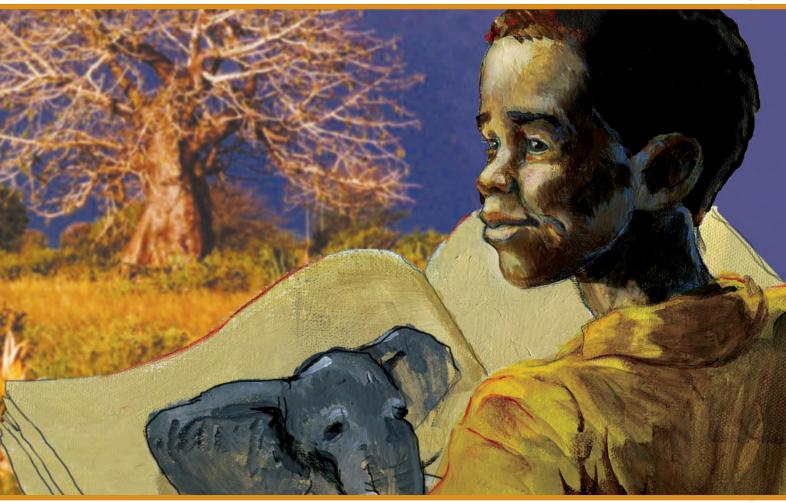
A is for Africa

The initiative sprang out of a month Cushner spent in Kenya during his first sabbatical from teaching in early 2002. His interest in wildlife took him to the Taita Discovery Centre, a field study hub in the heart of one of Africa's largest untouched wilderness tracts located between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks, Kenya's two largest preserves.

The Tsavo region once was home to almost 50,000 elephants during the 1960s and '70s, but their numbers have dwindled to a few thousand as a result of massive poaching and extermination. At the time of Cushner's initial visit, the elephants were migrating between the two parks on nearly one million acres of land divided into 15 to 20 cattle-raising ranches and a number of small villages. The migration of the elephants and a few hundred lions caused constant conflict with ranchers and villagers. When the meat industry shut down due to high competition and sparse water, many ranchers began leaving the area. The Taita Discovery Centre then began to convert as much of the land as possible into a conservation zone to preserve the migrating elephants.

When Cushner arrived at the centre, his goal was to assist with the centre's research efforts by studying and photographing elephants to identify and differentiate the animals by trunk size and tusk and ear patterns. But when the rains came, he and his colleagues were forced out of the field, so they went into the local communities and started working with teachers in schools, he says. That is when he saw some real opportunities for Kent State, and thus began the university's involvement with the elephant conservation project and schools in the region.

In July 2002, Cushner escorted the first group of Kent State faculty and Northeast Ohio teachers to Kenya, and to date, groups



of Kent State faculty and students have visited the Mount Kasigau area at least seven times, typically for two to three weeks each trip. They worked primarily in five villages around Mount Kasigau—Rukanga, Kiteghe, Jora, Bungule and Makwasinyi.

C ulture and curriculum

Although the primary goal of the project through the Taita Discovery Centre originally was the conservation of elephants, it quickly evolved into much more. "While we were in Kenya as teacher educators building trust among local communities and conservationists, we also began crafting curriculum about the local people and helping to improve their schools," Cushner says.

Initially, Kent State faculty began offering a series of professional development workshops for village teachers on Saturdays. "The teachers had very limited resources and virtually no professional development opportunities," Cushner says. Typically, a number of workshops were offered throughout the day; then during the week, Kent State faculty and students would enter the schools either to model what had been discussed during the workshops or to observe and teach the children. On the next Saturday, they would hold a second, follow-up series of workshops. Workshop subjects focused on literacy and science education, administrative skill training, identifying children with special needs, and even alternatives to caning as a form of punishment.

In 2001, Kenya's government banned the use of caning and all forms of corporal punishment in schools. Many

teachers in the Kasigau region asked: "If we can't cane the children, how will they listen?" Dr. Richard Ambrose, Kent State associate professor of teaching, leadership and curriculum studies, developed a workshop that highlighted relationship and community building within classrooms and focused on both unintended and intended consequences of teacher-child interactions. "Once the teachers learned, through conversations with us, that most places in the United States no longer allowed corporal punishment, they were interested in other forms of discipline," he says.

"Teachers at the Kasigau schools have the same hopes and expectations of their students as the teachers in Ohio do," says Will Harper, a 2005 Kent State alumnus who participated in the workshops while earning his bachelor's degree in secondary education. "Witnessing the different means used to achieve the same goals really helps all parties gain a new perspective and a new respect for one another."

In addition to offering workshops, Kent State faculty and students also produced a curriculum focused on the local people and their culture, including such topics as education and schooling, major rites of passage, religion, traditional stories, music and dance, food, and local development and enterprise for the Kasigau region. Previously, the Taita people had no written record of their culture. To create the materials, groups of Kent State faculty and students interviewed village elders, some of whom were in their late 80s or early 90s, and captured some of their stories for the first time on video and in writing. One of the interviewees



was a Kiteghe shaman, or witch doctor, who shared some of his stories and showed the group some of his dances. "None of his children were interested in learning his skills, so it really is a dying art in the region," Cushner says. Since that time, the shaman and his wife have passed away.

"The curriculum's purpose is to teach young people about their own culture and history because there have been tremendous changes with Christianity moving into the region, technologies changing and tourism," Cushner says. Furthermore, the Kent State team taught the local teachers interviewing and storytelling techniques so they could gather stories and recipes on their own.

In a related project, Dr. **Beverly Timmons**, Kent State associate professor of teaching, leadership and curriculum studies, and Kent State graduate student *Jennifer Ferrell* created a set of seven books developed to help primary school children learn about colors, numbers and local culture, using photographs from the area taken by Cushner to illustrate the concepts. "The books were written to support the children's comprehension and provide a local context for them," Timmons says.

E conomics of education

Schools in Kenya suffer from more than the lack of professional development for teachers. Classroom and school infrastructures are sparse as well. The few books they have are extremely old and tattered. At least two or three children share a desk. Floors are dirt, walls are bare and there are no windows in the schools.

Each village has one primary school (kindergarten through eighth grade) with anywhere from 150 to 350 children in each school. Each school has one teacher per grade level, regardless

of how many children are in the classroom, and all the schools have a shortage of qualified teachers. This shortage is, in part, due to a change in government policy.

Prior to 2002, families throughout Kenya were required to pay for their children to attend primary school. Now, children can go for free, so schools suddenly are filled with thousands of children. However, families still must pay to send their children to secondary school (high school), which costs about \$400 per year. "This is a huge

expense, considering that average family incomes are around \$300 per year in these villages," Cushner says.

Only 30 to 50 people out of every 500 in the Kasigau area — which has a total population of 12,000 — are gainfully employed. Those who do not have income-earning jobs rely on subsistence living or farming and will trade or barter what little extra they grow. Drought conditions in recent years, however, mean people cannot grow even what they need to eat. In fact, one reason families send their children to school in this region is that schools provide breakfast and lunch daily.

Despite the hardships families in this region face, many positive changes have taken place recently, including construction of two new school expansions and three new libraries. "When I started in 2002, there wasn't a single library in the community," Cushner says.

Several of the modifications are due, in part, to the assistance of Kent State faculty and students who, for example, donated a number of the books for the new libraries. They also have donated science equipment and helped to establish a loan system for it at the high school. And they built a small workshop with tools for carpentry, so villagers can construct more desks or library shelves when they're needed.

"We've also seen more effective literacy education occurring within the classrooms, as well as teachers feeling more respected and a part of the profession because of the professional development opportunities," Cushner says.

Another highly important contribution from several Kent State faculty members is monetary support for a half dozen students to attend high school. Cushner and his wife, Hyla, personally have supported two students. One, a 21-year-old named Joseph Kalume from Buguta village, graduated from high school last year and is only the second student from his school to be accepted to a university.

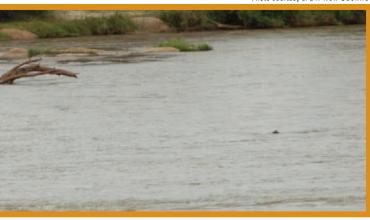
"It's a huge accomplishment," Cushner says. "These kids are competing with children from Nairobi and Mombasa who have electricity, computer technology and science equipment available on a regular basis." Children from the villages he works with have no electricity or running water. A lone generator at the high school provides light in the evenings for the children to study, and each village has a single water tap from the mountain.

Cushner and his wife met Kalume when they visited his high school, Moi, in 2003. "They

selected the top student in the list of freshmen to be admitted into school, and I happened to be that student," Kalume says. "I felt



Photo courtesy of Dr. Ken Cushner



very happy and promised them to work hard so as to achieve my positive-set goals."

Kalume comes from a family of 13 children. His parents are peasant farmers, and when his father feels well enough, he works in the local mines earning \$50 a month. They live on a seven-acre shamba, or farm, and water is a major issue making their subsistence living very difficult. Kalume says his life would have been miserable, characterized by doing casual jobs or being unemployed, had he not met the American couple. "If Dr. Ken Cushner and his wife had not chosen me, I would never have had the chance for a high school education, and now a university education," he says.

This year, Kalume was accepted to the University of Nairobi's medical school and is applying for government-sponsored support. Cushner's family has agreed to pay the \$2,000-per-year tuition. "Another option is bringing Joseph to Kent State; he would bring great value to the university," Cushner says. He is in the process of searching for scholarship support and would provide housing for Kalume.

Kalume would love to take pre-medicine courses at Kent State and hopes to become a renowned neurosurgeon in the future. "I would also like to assist a poor child to realize his or her potential through education," he adds.

Cushner and his wife continue to support Kalume by giving money to his local primary school, where he has been hired as a teacher's aide. Kalume teaches math, science, English and social studies, and receives a monthly salary.

Timmons, who also supported a young Kenyan man through high school in the Mount Kasigau region, says, "We have so much, and the small amount that it takes to provide a student with a high school education has the potential to make a difference in a student's life and the life of his or her future family." The young man also was accepted into Kenyatta University recently.

In addition to helping students, Kent State faculty also support Kenyan teachers, most of whom only have two-year degrees, by providing funding for them to attend a university for four-year degrees. The result has been the formation of a new partnership with Kenyatta University in Nairobi, where Kent State co-sponsored a three-day conference on early literacies in 2004.

F rom obligation to opportunity

While many changes occur and growth continues in the Kasigau area, one item that remains the same is the commitment of Kent State faculty and students to the region. Cushner recalls what one of the Kenyan teachers said to him the first time he returned: "You did come back. Most people say they'd love to come back, but you did come back."

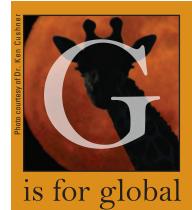
"The educational experience of having a long-term relationship with committed Americans really goes a long way, rather than just passing through as tourists," Cushner says. "Kenyans are accustomed to seeing vanloads of tourists move through, but we're connecting with people on a much different, deeper level. These long-term relationships are critical."

Unfortunately, with the current crisis of ethnic conflict in Kenya, a Kent State contingent did not travel to the country this past summer. "But the relationship certainly has not stopped," Cushner says. He keeps in contact with a few of the teachers and Kalume through e-mail once a month.

"Africa has long been ignored and forgotten. It is not a big source of income for the United States like China or India might be, but it is critical that we understand the experiences of many people across the planet," Cushner says. "We have an obligation and responsibility to address those in Africa and understand the continent more effectively."

Those who believe they cannot make a difference a continent away, or even in their own backyards, need only read about a small project that has made so much impact, thanks to a few determined people who realize they do have the power to help.

For more information and other stories about Kent State's international programs, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.



Kent State formed its earliest relationships in eastern Africa during the 1960s, when College of Education faculty became part of a development effort in Tanzania, building schools and bringing Tanzanian students back to the United States for their studies. Since then, many other departments have formed African relationships. Today, faculty from the Department of Pan-African Studies and the Faculty Professional Development Center are working on a project to digitize primary resources for the purpose of building a library in Senegal, and Pan-African Studies recently signed an agreement with the University of Ghana. In addition, the university has sent student teachers to South Africa for the last seven years, and the College of Nursing is currently hosting a Zambian doctoral student at Kent State. Read about these and more at www.kent.edu/magazine.

Honors aptitude

years of Kent State's 'best and brightest' taking on the world

ounded in 1933, Kent State's honors program is a venerable elder in the national honors tradition. The first student graduated with individual honors in 1934, when Kent, the university, was just beginning to emerge from Kent, the Normal School. A universitywide honors program, with more formal admissions standards and expectations of its students, began in 1960. And in 1965, the honors program became one of the earliest honors colleges in the country.

In all those 75 years, this may be the first multiple choice test administered in an honors context. But it doesn't take an essay to analyze or predict what honors people will do in response to certain stimuli. Here's a quick scan to test your honors aptitude.

Honors College students receive carnations during the annual Honors College brunch.



You are 18 years old. Everyone thinks you have potential, but your high school grades weren't great. (You were too bored with your homework to finish it.) On your first day of freshman English at Kent State, the professor begins writing on the board in what seems to be Hebrew. After a few minutes, he turns to the class and says, "Would any of you like to comment on this?" What do you do?

- Run for the door. It's either the wrong class, or the guy is nuts. And what does that have to do with your computer science major anyway?
- Sit still and hear the call of a million things you don't know, from the mouth of a person who can teach you.

Jim Rohrer, '82, did stay in Dr. Lew Fried's freshman colloquium, though there were times he knew he was in over his head. He says by the end of the first semester, "Whatever bar Lew set, I was determined to reach it." Because of that class and that teacher, Rohrer is now a college professor himself,



Dr. Lew Fried

with an outsider's perspective on honors at Kent State.

"College is purely utilitarian to so many people," he acknowledges, "but honors is not vocational. It's about learning to think and analyze. You don't know where it's going to take you.

"Not every institution is willing to invest in creating space for that. In a state university, it requires an unusual amount of commitment to create something that is, by nature, not for the masses."

Next question:

After college and a few years practicing your chosen profession, you realize that you've exhausted the possibilities of your culture, your job and your town (even though you already left Kent for a city on the West Coast known to be a mecca for cool people like you). It's time to make a change. What do you do?

- Stick to your career path. Seek a bigger salary or a more impressive title. At least move out of that tiny apartment and find a real house.
- Make a new path. Take your skills to the people who need them, even it means you won't be settling down for a long time.

Journalist *Lisa Schnellinger*, '80, moved to Seattle a few years after graduation to work for the *Post-Intelligencer*. And then, she says, "I just ran out of things to do.

"I loved my Chinese history and language courses at Kent State, and the *Post-Intelligencer* had a relationship with *China Daily*. When they needed editors, I said, 'I'm there.'"

During the next 16 years, she trained journalists in 18 countries, including Afghanistan and many other places where she didn't speak the language, or the country was at war, or the people didn't exactly trust Americans. "When those opportunities came up," she says, "I just kept taking them. It

was a way to bring together everything I loved — the highest ideals of journalism.

"The biggest thing the Honors College taught me was how to find smaller communities within the larger community. I get overwhelmed easily, but I'm really compelled to explore the world. You have to find ways to make yourself at home wherever you are."



Lisa Schnellinger, '80, and the Pajhwok Afghan News staff in Afghanistan.

For extra credit:

You've earned a national reputation as an innovative manager, and you agree to lead a promising start-up organization. All is going well until, on a beautiful spring day two years into your tenure, an unthinkable tragedy threatens the future of the enterprise. What do you do?

- O Lock it down. Expect the worst, and divert all resources to prepare for it.
- Open it up. Hope for the best, and design an organization that can create it.

Dr. *Mike Lunine* served as dean of the Honors College from 1968 to 1971, the years that bridged the wild expansion of the baby boom and the agonized contraction following the events surrounding May 4, 1970. The tower he helped to build on that bridge was tall enough to look forward, but it was not made of ivory.

"May 4 gave me a bit of a platform in the national honors community," he says, "and I advocated dropping the emphasis on IQ in favor of HQ — humanity quotient. At Kent State, we tried to enlarge the notion of what a so-called honors student is. An honors program should enable people called 'students' and people called 'professors' to work together to confront very large questions. What would be a good society? How do war and race and poverty affect that? All people have the capability to think about these questions, and all people need to think about them."

The honors response to those large questions, and even to the small questions posed here, is not always the easy or safe response. If there's one thing that honors people have in common, it's the ability to rise to a challenge, and perhaps to find a challenge when there's none in the immediate vicinity.

Lunine saw the Honors College as a place where everyone involved could do a lot of "self-designing." It's a liberal concept, impractically interdisciplinary, possibly elitist and costly to maintain. But the 75 years of economic and social flux that provide context for Kent State's honors experiment suggest that the well-designed self may be the most durable product of all.

"Honors," Lunine still insists, "is about performance. What matters is not how you came in, but how you look when you come out."

Read more about honors people making a difference in the world, as well as plans for the Honors College's 75th anniversary, at www.kent.edu/magazine.

all over



Urban Design Center's 'Pop-Up' projects are way outside the box

Much like the legend of Pandora and her mythical box, Terry Schwarz can allow perceptions of evils to fly past, even as she holds on to the **hope** that remains. A performance artist at Leap Night

🕇 chwarz, a senior planner with the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, has embarked on an ambitious set of projects to prove, in a playful and whimsical way, that shrinking cities can retain expansive hope.

The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) is the combined home of Kent State's graduate program in urban design and the public service activities of the Urban Design Center of Northeast Ohio (UDC). Through a grant from the Civic Innovation Lab of the Cleveland Foundation, Schwarz is realizing her vision of creating now-you-see-them, now-youdon't Pop-Up events throughout Cleveland.

A Pop-Up event is, as Schwarz explains, a temporary use of vacant land or buildings. The intent is to highlight the different kinds of potential in vacant sites in Cleveland, and to develop a sustainable business model for others who want to try their hands at similar festivities. The events, or installations as they are sometimes called, are envisioned to include outdoor markets, restaurants and shops, art installations, concerts, landscape interventions and other fun, yet thought-provoking events.

Schwarz even floated the idea of a Pop-Up dog park, to showcase the idea that people conduct their daily lives within the boundaries of the city.

The idea was the immediate result of a Shrinking Cities Exhibition Tour, which the CUDC brought to Cleveland in collaboration with SPACES Gallery on the city's near west side. Shrinking Cities is a project of the German Federal Cultural Foundation.

The exhibition examines the worldwide phenomenon of urban population decline, bringing to light the consequences of suburbanization, deindustrialization and a number of other factors contributing to the growing issue of shrinking cities.

As a result of the tour's stop in Cleveland last year, Schwarz began to ponder the other side of the dour predictions of Shrinking Cities. She left that experience not so much feeling that something was missing, but that potential was unrealized.

SOMETHING FROM NOTHING

"I thought more about vacancy as opportunity," she says. "Can we perhaps push back against what could easily be depressing in the Shrinking Cities message?

"In several conversations after the event, we dreamed up hopeful, playful interventions to the plight of the post-industrial city."

The Pop-Up concept was born. The Civic Innovation Lab was the perfect partner in the endeavor. Since its founding in 2003, the lab has fueled innovation through \$1 million in funding to 37 entrepreneurs who were willing to stretch the boundaries of the possible. The lab provides mentorship





Festival goers enjoy Leap Night activities.

and training, as well as \$30,000 to visionaries who present ideas that have a measurable economic impact on the Greater Cleveland community.

"Pop-Up City and Terry Schwarz are addressing one of the lab's economic development focus areas — enhancing downtown vibrancy," says Civic Innovation Lab Executive Director Jennifer Thomas. "Pop-Up City shines a light on downtown vacant space as a possibility rather than a liability, and by presenting creative events gives the public a new vision on the city's potential."

Christopher Diehl, director of the Urban Design Collaborative, wholeheartedly supports Schwarz's concept of constructive projects to highlight the opportunity theme.

"A dilemma for urban designers," Diehl explains, "is that we've always planned for a lot of growth — it's the American way."

NOT YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S CRAFT SHOW

In December, the project launched with a temporary alternative craft show, aptly named "Bazaar Bizarre," which



Terry Schwarz, a senior planner with the Urban Design Center in downtown Cleveland.

Schwarz describes as "an art show with an alternative sensibility." Vendors occupied the Sincere Building on East 4th Street and Prospect for one day, selling a variety of wares, from jewelry and pottery to what Schwarz described as "traditional crafts - with a twist."

"It wasn't your grandma's craft fair," Schwarz recalls, as she related the story of one vendor who sold samplers cross-stitched with off-color messages.

This was not the first gathering of the vendors, which totaled about 45, but was the first time many of them set up

shop in downtown Cleveland. A few of the participants came from as far away as Pittsburgh.

Now you see it ...

Pop-Up events, by nature, abhor standard boundaries, even those of the notorious Cleveland winters. On Feb. 29, Pop-Up City ventured outdoors to Cleveland's Flats to celebrate the bonus day the calendar grants once every four years with Leap Night.

Most would think that February in Cleveland, especially at night, means deserted streets only animated by the howl of the wind.

Schwarz, instead, dreamed up a winter festival, complete with bonfires and snowboarding. Guerilla marketing hyped the event with promoters walking around in bear costumes handing out fliers.

Her idea was so compelling that Flats East Development LLC committed \$5,000 to the event and provided access to the vacant areas required to stage the winter festival.

Diehl put it succinctly when he said that drawing people out of their cars and offices into downtown Cleveland in the winter is not exactly a completely foreign concept.

"If one can go to a Browns' game," he says, "one can attend an outdoor Leap Night event."

CONTINUING TO CHALLENGE THE BOUNDARIES

Hope will continue popping up all over, since the \$30,000 Civic Innovation Lab award will allow Schwarz to assemble events and partnerships throughout the year.

The lab funding, according to Thomas, not only provides a financial headwind for the recipients, but also recognizes and supports creative, grassroots efforts to counteract just the negativity Pop-Up City addresses.

"Terry is what the lab calls a 'champion' — an individual with a great idea who is passionate, dedicated and knowledgeable about their space," Thomas says. "In addition, Terry is a risk taker, taking on three kinds of risks to drive her project forward: career risk — this is a second job; financial risk — putting in her own time and money; and reputation risk - knowing that failure is a possibility."

Ideas for the future include the dog park, a Pop-Up rooftop restaurant, an art installation in an underserved neighborhood (complete with inflatable wading pools in a vacant lot), and partnerships with neighborhood organizations to help sustain the energy and momentum of Schwarz's work. Schwarz also may draw graduate students into projects this fall.

Aside from instilling hope, Schwarz's ultimate goal is to create projects that are not only sustainable, but also those that will inspire neighborhoods and other groups to take ownership of their city.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

Online exclusive

URBAN DESIGN STUDENTS ENVISION WAYS TO REINVENT PARMA

A Kent State University urban design studio class applied theoretical concepts and a healthy dose of imagination into a new vision for Parma, Ohio, an inner-ring suburb of 80,000 largely blue-collar residents.

Visit www.kent.edu/magazine to read about it.

Technology erases boundaries between students, other

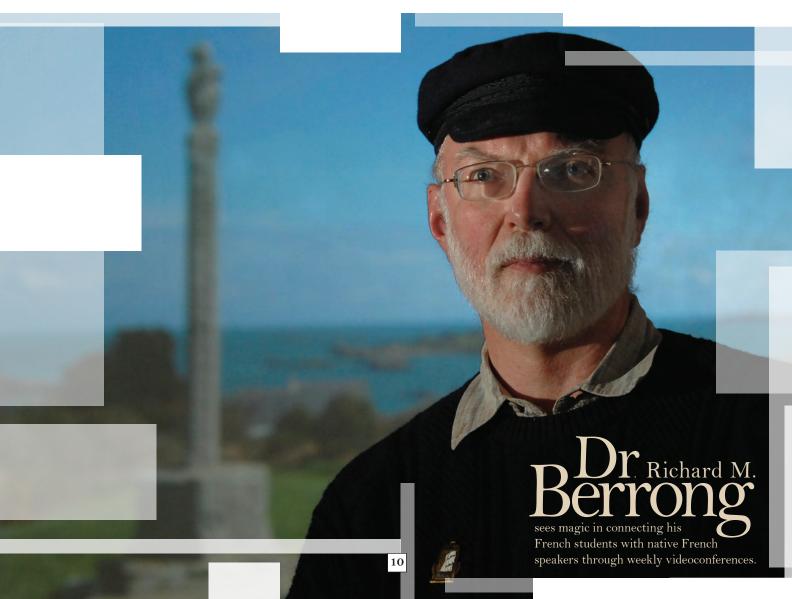
A relatively inexpensive piece of software, Web camera, microphone and high-speed Internet connection: These common tools are the building blocks for a unique partnership of education and technology that is bringing together students in Kent, Ohio, with residents, business representatives and cultural leaders in the small town of Paimpol, France.

countries

Thanks to the use of modern videoconferencing equipment, participants in Dr. Richard M. Berrong's French composition and conversation classes at Kent State University are not simply studying foreign language. Instead, they are regularly practicing their dialogue and listening skills with

native French speakers in Paimpol through a series of cyber meetings scheduled in the course syllabus.

Paimpol, the adopted home of Berrong, a professor of French in the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies, is located on the northwest coast of the country, in Bretagne, or Brittany. With strong Celtic ties, Paimpol has a culture and language that is unique from other parts of France, although Berrong's students carry on conversations strictly in French. Once the center of a very successful cod fishing industry, 19th-century Paimpol was immortalized by author Pierre Loti in his popular French novel *Pêcheur d'Islande (Island Fisherman)*, which students read in the composition class.





Paimpol is located on the northwest coast of France, in Bretagne, or Brittany.

avid Cunningham, '99, manager for educational technology and distance learning in the university's Division of Information Services, knew of Berrong's connection to Paimpol and his interest in using technology for instruction. James Raber, '02, a senior information technology support analyst, had previously coordinated multiple international videoconferences with locations including Australia, England and Taiwan. The two spoke with Berrong about the possibilities of using new technologies to connect his Kent State students to France.

"When we first started doing videoconferencing roughly 10 years ago, getting out of Kent State was difficult, expensive or both," says Raber. "We were still learning the technology, and the technology itself was in its infancy, so it got a bad reputation. Now, the platform is more robust, more flexible and more reliable."

The equipment expenses have dropped significantly as well. Cameras that once cost more than \$9,000 are now only \$700.

The trio admits to hurdles at the beginning. The Cybercommune in Paimpol is funded by the government, so resources were limited. The six-hour time difference was also a consideration.

But trials Berrong conducted while in Paimpol during the summer of 2007 resolved these challenges. The videoconferencing project was piloted during Fall Semester 2007 with the French composition class, and then incorporated into the core curriculum for the spring 2008 French conversation course.

The result is an unqualified success, Berrong says. "Brittany is a completely different world from Kent. And the more real I can make it, the better," he explains. "If I were to make huge generalizations, the college generation today is far more visual than the college generation of my era. This technology lets me make a text visual."

In the conversation course, the rewards are even more apparent. "This is going to be a huge change in the way my French conversation classes are conducted," he adds. "Students actually sit there and talk to French people in the class rather than practicing conversation with other Americans, which is artificial."

Berrong's students agree. "For my part, it's a different atmosphere to be able to hear real French being spoken, to have a conversation with someone who comes from the area that you're studying," Dolores Elder, a French major, says. "The more we speak with individuals from the town, the more it enriches the learning process."

"I can feel myself getting stronger at French," says Melissa Teel, also a French major. "I feel more confident each time we talk to them. I love it."

"From my perspective — I'm a future teacher — this just opens all kinds of windows for me ... and doors," Elder adds. "This is a really good way to learn. I wish when I was going through university the first time that this opportunity had been available."

Berrong admits that the time and planning required for projects of this type might be reasons more educators have not embraced the opportunities technology offers for an enhanced classroom experience. "It takes work. I could teach this course the way I first started to teach it - you came to class, you had a book. I could still be doing that.

"I teach completely differently from the way I did when I started," Berrong says. "I've been a college professor for 30 years now. This is why I get up in the morning, because I can do new things."

Raber and Cunningham concur that the technology is underutilized. "From an educational point of view, connecting to France weekly is one of our most venturous projects to date," says Raber. "Primarily, the technology has been used to allow students on Regional Campuses to take classes offered on other Kent State campuses. I could see this being used more, not just in foreign studies, but in physics, to allow students to take a virtual field trip to a lab in Switzerland to see the world's largest superconducting magnet, or to allow departments to form relationships with international schools."

"I don't see a discipline where this couldn't be used," Cunningham adds. "At its simplest, anyone could bring a guest speaker into his or her classroom when previously it may not have been viable. I think you could find an application for this technology in every field. And because of advances in the technology, we are more likely to find others with this capability.

"Since we upgraded the system two years ago, we've connected to 15 different countries, and sometimes multiple locations within a country."

While Berrong appreciates the effort and ongoing maintenance needed, to him the outcome is greater than the sum of its technical parts. "For me, this is still bordering on magic. To be able to let my students talk to people in France and see them — it's not just electricity and computer chips. There's an element of magic about it."

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

A Stitch History

Royal-made carpet weaves many historical lessons

On March 15, 1950, the RMS Queen Mary, one of the grandest ocean liners ever built, left port in Southampton, England, bound for New York with nearly 3,000 passengers and crew and a very unique piece of cargo aboard — a 12-panel gros point carpet in an 18th-century design of flowers and birds — stitched by Oueen Mary herself.

"The little-known story of Queen Mary's carpet deserves to be told, for it sheds light on a number of important historical issues such as post-war women's activism, Britain's international role in the post-World War II era, and Anglo-Canadian and Anglo-American relations," says Dr. Mary Ann Heiss, Kent State University associate professor of history. Over the past few years, Heiss has researched the historical background of the royalmade carpet.

In 1941, Queen Mary, widow of George V, began needle-pointing the nearly one million stitches that would compose the 10-foot by 6-foot, 113-pound carpet. The project took nine years

of daily work; she was 83 years old when she finished.

Originally, the majestic carpet was intended to grace one of the royal residences, joining the royal family's other treasured heirlooms. Instead, Queen Mary donated the carpet to Great Britain, where it crossed the Atlantic in 1950 to begin a 12-week transcontinental tour through the United States and Canada before being sold. The money was used to boost Britain's foreign exchange coffers at a time when the nation

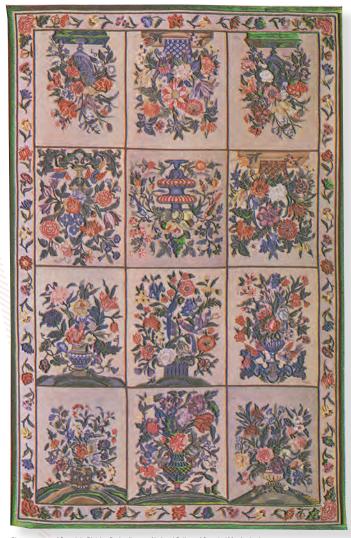


Photo courtesy of Copyright Division Droits d'auteur, National Gallery of Canada / Musée des beauxarts du Canada, 380 Sussex Drive, P.O. Box 427 Station A, Ottawa, ON K1N 9N4

Her Majesty Queen Mary's Carpet is housed at the National Gallery of Canada today.

was experiencing a serious dollar crisis. (More dollars were leaving the country than entering it.)

Normally a carpet of its quality and size would sell for about \$3,000, but this special needlework was purchased for \$100,000 by a patriotic Canadian women's organization, the Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire. By sponsoring a nationwide fundraising effort to buy the carpet, the IODE provided a vehicle for hundreds of thousands of Canadians to solidify their own and their country's ties to Britain.

In addition to generating much-needed dollars for British coffers, the carpet generated U.S. interest in British needlework, leading to additional sales of manufactured products from the island country. According to Heiss' research, the carpet campaign also encouraged British women to work in textile mills, which were operating greatly below capacity due to a shortage of workers.

Today, Queen Mary's carpet is housed at the

National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. It was last on display in 2001-02 for the IODE's centennial celebration.

"At first glance, the story of Queen Mary's carpet may seem to merit only a footnote in the history books," says Heiss, "but it also reminds historians that sometimes the story of one simple object can open valuable windows for research, investigation and discovery."

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.



BY RACHEL WENGER-PELOSI, '00

Headed in the Right Direction

Emens assists nonprofit with strategic planning process



Patricia Porter, director of Someplace Safe, Susan Emens, assistant professor in the business management related technology program at Kent State's Trumbull Campus, and Charlie Jackson, board member for Someplace Safe.

An average of 56 women are victimized by an intimate partner every hour, and one in four women experience domestic violence during their lifetime, according to 2006 National Center for Victim's of Crime U.S. statistics.

Someplace Safe, the only domestic violence agency in Trumbull County, is all too familiar with the faces and stories behind the numbers.

The agency provides victims of domestic violence, mostly women and children, with a place to stay, a legal advocate who helps victims fill out judicial orders, and support for clients during difficult times.

Similar to many social service agencies, the organization deals with the sometimes "ugly side" of society, says **Susan Emens**, assistant professor in the business management related technology program at Kent State's Trumbull Campus. "Typically, the agency doesn't gain attention because its services fly under the radar."

Emens, who is in her eighth year of teaching, spent the last year lending her business expertise to the efforts of Someplace Safe's board of directors. The board requested her assistance with developing a strategic plan, including evaluation of goals, review of how the agency educates and serves the community, and creation of new fundraising strategies.

"Fundraising can be a challenge because there is a stigma associated with domestic violence," says Patricia Porter, director of Someplace Safe. "People like to donate money to 'touchy, feely' nonprofits. Domestic violence is an issue that most of us would prefer not to discuss."

The Kent State Trumbull and Someplace Safe partnership began when one of the organization's board members, Harry Hoskins, requested help from Marie DaBelko, coordinator of Continuing Studies at the campus. DaBelko connected the agency with Emens, who conducts most of her research and study with nonprofit organizations, looking at business models in nontraditional and nonprofit settings, including the education and health care sectors.

Emens met with the organization's executive planning committee, a subset of its board of directors, including eight to 10 volunteers, and led the group through multiple sessions and the planning process.

Group discussion identified existing gaps of social service in Trumbull County and helped the agency evaluate the kinds of support it could provide to fill these holes. Additionally, the group analyzed agency strengths and weaknesses. Emens says that members weren't surprised when fundraising surfaced as an area in need of improvement.

"Someplace Safe provides a great service, and it does take funding to make it happen. The problem is, most people don't notice the agency unless they are involved with the organization or find themselves in a domestic violence situation," Emens says. "Awareness is a key theme. We need to make the community aware of what Someplace Safe does — what it is and what services it offers."

Emens' work with the organization has resulted in further partnerships between the Trumbull Campus and Someplace Safe. In October 2007, the Kent State Trumbull's Amnesty International student group sponsored Focus on Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Porter led several educational presentations on campus for students, addressing relationship-related topics. During the holidays, the campus organized a drive to provide personal necessities for Someplace Safe clients.

Emens says that she continues work with Someplace Safe as it moves forward with implementation of the plan.

"This project allowed us to become a part of — rather than apart from — the community, which is critical for a Regional Campus to be demonstrating. We need to serve as a significant resource for the community," Emens says.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.



BY MICHAEL BELLO, KENT STATE GRADUATE STUDENT

Look Who's 40

Dix Stadium gets hi-def scoreboard as part of a \$4 million facelift



South End Zone Model

Come this fall, visitors to Dix Stadium will have a whole new experience at the game, thanks to the \$4 million renovations that are currently underway at the home of Kent State football, soon to host its 40th year of play.

Once completed, the new south end will feature a plaza, concessions area and, perhaps most strikingly, a new Daktronics scoreboard that includes a state-of-the-art, high-definition video board and sound system. Dix will be one of only five stadiums in the Mid-American Conference with a video board capable of showing instant replays.

The scoreboard, which will measure 72 feet by 44 feet, originally did not include high definition, but Daktronics offered an upgrade at no extra charge so the company could use the scoreboard as a marketing showpiece.

DSV Builders of Niles, Ohio, is doing all of the work for Phase II of the Dix Stadium renovations, which also include a new entrance, ticket and concession areas on the west side and a new fence line with brick pillars around the stadium.

"Phase II's completion will give us a truly outstanding Division I stadium," Kent State Athletic Director **Laing Kennedy** says. "This meshes perfectly with our ongoing philosophy of upgrading our facilities and will be a source of pride for our football team, members of the university community and our fans."

In addition, Phase II renovations feature entryways with decorative bricks, new graphics around the stadium, HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) improvements to the President's and Blue & Gold loges and 30 new parking spots in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The cost of the renovations is being covered through

a collaborative effort of university funding and corporate advertising sales. The work is complementary to the \$2 million Phase I renovations, which were completed before the start of the 2007 season. Those included new entryways into the east and west stands, improvements to the north stands, a new roadway leading to the Field House, a canopied, arch-style roof over the press box and stadium graphics.



An architect's rendering of the proposed Dix Stadium video display.

All in all, the renovations will help create a new identity for Dix, giving fans the feeling of walking into a whole new stadium. One of the most important aspects of the overhaul of Dix is that it will help distinguish it from several other stadiums in the MAC that were built around the same time and had similar, basic designs.

Work on Phase II began in January 2008 when the south

stands were torn down so crews could begin working on the underground base of the scoreboard. That work began in April with an expected completion date of early August for all of Phase II.

To help celebrate all of the hard work that has gone into making both phases of the Dix Stadium renovations a reality, Kent State will unveil the completed project at the football team's home opener against Delaware State on **Sept. 13**. The game will serve as Heroes Day, Band Day and Parents' Day, and will showcase a post-game fireworks display.

The stadium improvement is one of many recent projects that have significantly upgraded Kent State's athletic facilities, including the construction of Murphy-Mellis Field for field hockey and the renovation of baseball's Schoonover Stadium with a new turf field, new dugouts and the addition of a clubhouse.

Since 2000, the department has maintained "excellence in action" through such projects as the \$2.2 million Ferrara and Page Golf Training and Learning Center; upgraded locker facilities for wrestling, men's and women's basketball, volleyball and football; and new turf for both Dix Stadium and the Field House. In addition, the track inside the Field House will be replaced in May.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.



Kent State to participate in second annual Patriot Bowl

FIRSTMERF

As the Kent State football team gets ready to begin its 2008 season, excitement is building for the Golden Flashes' season opener against Boston

College on **Aug. 30**, and not just because they will be going up against a team that finished the 2007 season 11-3 and No. 10 in the final AP poll.

The Flashes and Eagles will battle at Cleveland Browns Stadium in the FirstMerit Patriot Bowl (www.patriotbowl. com), organized in conjunction with the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission (GCSC).

"We're happy to work with the Sports Commission on an event that will bring a marquee Division I football opponent to Cleveland," Kent State Athletic Director **Laing Kennedy** says. "We're proud that our game will be the continuation of an annual event." The match-up will mark the second year of the Patriot Bowl at Cleveland Browns Stadium. A portion of proceeds will be donated to benefit military-related charities.

Date: Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008
Tailgate Party: 4 p.m.

Game Time: 7:30 p.m., (ESPNU)

Location: Cleveland Browns Stadium

Match-up: Kent State Golden Flashes v.

Boston College Eagles

Tickets: \$15 to \$45 (discounted group tickets are available)

To order your tickets, contact the Kent State University
Ticket Office at 330-672-2244.

Your ticket includes a tailgate party on West 6th Street in downtown Cleveland, entertainment at tailgate and post-game and half-time show entertainment.



BY RACHEL WENGER-PELOSI, '00

Power In The Polls

Study looks at how election administration affects voter confidence

The 2000 presidential election had Americans sitting on the edge of their sofas until the wee hours of the morning. A television graphic of the United States flickered red and blue, with the exception of the state of Florida, which at some news stations blinked undecidedly and at others appeared void of color.

It was on this evening, and in the following days, that the electorate learned of the "hanging chad." The chad, or the dangling paper produced when a ballot is punched incompletely, reportedly contributed to the election debacle. In the razor-close race between George W. Bush and Al Gore, the hanging or dimpled chads on ballots were scrutinized.

In the wake of that election, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act of 2002, a comprehensive law enacted to guide states' election reform efforts. The act inspired a massive movement to replace punch-card and lever voting machines with electronic ones. Punch cards were the most widespread method of voting in 2000, while electronic voting machines were rare at that time.

"The nation wanted to reform the way elections were conducted, to increase or at least maintain voter confidence that votes would be counted accurately. The 2000 election eroded that confidence," says Dr. Ryan L. Claassen, assistant professor of political science. "People think, 'If they can't count ballots accurately enough to figure out who won, why should I bother participating?' That was the main impetus behind the voting reform."

Six years later, punch-card voting had been all but erased from the electoral map. In 2006, Ohio voters cast ballots using touch-screen devices, a method instituted by many states to eliminate the possibility of hanging chads. Little was known about how voters would respond to the new technology.

As problems encountered during the 2000 election shook the nation's confidence in its electoral system, and with reforms designed to bolster voter confidence, Claassen and his colleagues undertook a study to look at ways in which the objective conditions in polling places and citizens' experiences shape their overall confidence in the electoral system.

These and other questions are explored in "At Your Service: Voter Evaluations of Poll Worker Performance," a study to be published in a 2008 issue of *American Politics Research*, co-authored by Claassen, along with David B. Magleby, Quin Monson and Kelly D. Patterson, all from Brigham Young University. The article describes the results of an exit poll sponsored by BYU's Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy, as well as polls conducted locally

by students from Kent State and the University of Akron.

"As political scientists, we usually ask broad questions about why people do or do not vote," says Classen. "In this study, the question was narrow. We focused on a policycentric aspect of the way elections are run, looking at election administration, including the role of poll workers who are basically volunteers and who serve as 'street-level bureaucrats."

One hundred precincts in Franklin and Summit counties in Ohio and 104 locations statewide in Utah (BYU) were randomly selected for study. The 50 locations in Summit County were split, with 25 each assigned to Kent State and University of Akron students. Polling locations in Franklin County were assigned to researchers at Ohio State University.

Dr. Ryan L. Claassen



Photo by Jeff Glidden, '





On Election Day 2006, students asked voters exiting polls to fill out a survey and respond to such questions as, "How confident are you that your vote will be counted accurately?" and "How would you compare the (new) voting system to the system that had been used previously at your polling place?"

In some instances, poll workers were concerned about the exercise and asked students to leave the premises, even though exit polling is allowed by state law.

"Which goes to show how much power volunteer poll workers have," Claassen says. "More importantly, they can accept your ID or not accept your ID; they can give you a ballot or not give you a ballot; and they can allow you to do a provisional ballot if an error was made. Poll workers are surprisingly powerful in the way an election unfolds."

The research uncovered that voter confidence in the two Ohio counties was highly similar, suggesting that even though different types of voting machinery were used —touch-screen or optical-scan methods — this difference was not strongly related to voters' confidence that their vote would be counted accurately, says Claassen.

On the other hand, poll workers appear to play a more central role shaping voters' confidence than the type of voting machine used.

Based on earlier studies supporting that notion, the Claassen survey included a series of questions designed to study the determinants of the public's reaction to poll workers. If poll workers are an important part of predicting confidence, what factors affect positive versus negative interactions?

In general, when voters feel good about their interactions with poll workers, they feel better about their voting experience and more confident about the electoral system, the study says.

The group was pleased to find that demographics weren't a major factor in the way voters reacted to poll workers. Although age was a significant predictor, with older people responding more positively to poll workers than younger people, race, for example, wasn't significant, nor was income or education.

"In general, poll workers are treating people in a similar fashion, which is good news," he says.

On average, poll workers are older people, and this shared demographic could explain the results; or, it is possible that poll workers treated older people differently from young people, Claassen says. Another explanation could be that older people are likely to have voted many times. They need the poll worker less because they are

familiar with the process, as opposed to a young person who is voting for the first time.

Another finding was that the longer a voter waits in line to cast a ballot, the less happy he or she is with the poll worker.

"This is not an entirely surprising finding, but is one that has policy implications. There are things that boards of elections can do to reduce waiting time. These, in turn, can affect reactions to poll workers, which can cause voters to feel more or less confident about their votes being counted accurately," Claassen says.

In addition to the exit poll research, graduate students went to polling locations to gather objective measures of physical conditions. Results revealed that almost none of the physical conditions of a polling place affected how voters felt about their experience.

Claassen says this feedback is striking because research shows that when a consumer goes into a store to buy something, for example, every physical aspect of the location has a bearing on feelings about customer service. Smell, appearance and the layout of the store impact customer service ratings, he says.

In terms of voting, the physical aspects of poll locations had no impact, even though the locations where people cast their ballots vary widely, from churches to schools and community centers, or even in garages, he says.

"People are pretty tolerant of physical condition variations when voting," Claassen says. "The interaction is different in that if you are going to the store to buy a lawnmower, you feel like the store owes you an experience. But if you are going out to do your civic duty, you feel less like someone owes you. Instead, you are a participant."

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

Online exclusives

Alumna *Elizabeth (Liza) Bartz-Chames* is supporting local election coverage with a \$25,000 gift to WKSU-FM.

Alumni are making a difference behind the scenes in key political positions.

Visit www.kent.edu/magazine to read these stories.



By Brian Thornton, '07

Life's Been Good to Joe Walsh

Famed alumnus supports students with musical promise



Amber Soika, a senior at Solon High School, auditions for Kent State's first talent-based scholarship.

than the entranceway to a vibrant performing

The atmosphere in the lobby of Kent State's Wright-

. Curtis Theatre felt more like a hospital waiting room

Loudon, a dancer from Paris, Ohio, claimed to be more excited than worried. Trombonist John Eric Johnston huddled with his father and admitted his nerves were on edge. Pianist David Jaramillo stood alone in the corner, the language and smalltown Ohio environment surely a change for the Ecuadorian.

Nine students would pass through the lobby doors into the theatre, where they would find a lone chair on the empty stage washed in a pale, white light. For 18 minutes, they would face a panel of six university judges who were crowded behind a small table piled with papers. After an eight-minute audition followed by a 10-minute question-and-answer session, they could exit to the reassuring arms of their parents and families.

At the end of the day, one would emerge with the golden ticket — the school's first talent-based scholarship, a fulltuition award renewable for his or her entire Kent State career. But the pressure of the day was amplified by the students' benefactor: not an anonymous donor, but one of the university's most famous alumni — Eagles guitarist and rock 'n' roll superstar Joe Walsh.

Then Joe Walsh arrived at the Kent Campus in 1965, it was like returning home. Walsh's family had lived in fields, vacant lots to play in and great rock 'n' roll — a time of life that formed who he would be as an adult.

arts space. On this late March day, the sun beamed brightly through the large Columbus in the mid-'50s, a period he remembers as full of big windows onto chairs arranged in typical fashion around the perimeter of the room. An uncomfortable silence filled the But after three years, the family packed up and room, interrupted only by footsteps, moved to a third-floor apartment in New York City, the far-off voices of boisterous and life took on a much faster pace. students and the occasional whispers of anxious conversations. Former Kent State University student The occupants of and Eagles lead guitarist Joe Walsh the chairs included performs in the Memorial Gym high school seniors, during a concert in the 1980s. parents and siblings. Kallie Photo by Gary Harwood, '83



Dancer Kallie Loudon says she plans to attend Kent State regardless of the outcome of the scholarship auditions.

"Thank God for Ohio," Walsh says, "because I had enough grasp on the real world from living in Ohio not to judge everything on living in New York City."

He picked Kent State as an escape from New York and New Jersey, places he found claustrophobic. Like so many freshmen, he settled in to his residence hall.

"Everybody wants to know if that's my room on the third floor of Manchester Hall," he says, laughing. "And yes, it is."

Despite his smooth transition back to Ohio, the Vietnam War and the threat of being drafted hung over Walsh's head.

"During my freshman year, my exemption came through," he says, "so I didn't really have to worry about going full time after my freshman year. And much to my amazement, I got active in music."

The draft deferment allowed Walsh to focus on the School of Music, and in downtown Kent, he found a thriving arts and music scene. He began playing gigs at various clubs, but didn't see a need to major in music because, for the most part, he was teaching himself.

Still, he was excelling at his music theory courses, and found a mentor in Dr. **Hugh A. Glauser**, 1967 Distinguished Teaching Award recipient for whom the school is now named.

"He came down one time and heard us play and said it was the biggest goddamn bunch of noise he'd ever heard," Walsh says. "But he really liked it."

The group was improvising and creating a free-expression sound of its own.

"In terms of composing and writing, [Glauser] saw that I had a lot of promise," Walsh says. "And he forgave us for the noise ... and the long hair."

Outside of music classes (where Walsh was getting straight A's), Glauser gave the young performer additional theory training and became an inspiration.

"He still is a role model for me," Walsh says, "in the way he worked a class, the way he taught, and his patience and care with everybody in the classroom."

Walsh's career was taking off, and he began getting national attention when he hooked up with the James Gang. They recorded an album that sold well, but their follow-up release was on the charts for nearly a year. By 1970, they were touring across the major cities of the Midwest — from Detroit to Cincinnati, from Chicago to Philadelphia.

"We achieved an amount of success that I never dreamed would happen," Walsh says.

Soon thereafter, he moved to Colorado to pursue a solo career. Five years later, The Eagles came calling, and the rest is rock 'n' roll history.

"In terms of a career, I got one," Walsh says. "And that was a direct result of my time at Kent State."

Over the years, Kent State has honored its member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In 1986, Walsh was the school's homecoming grand marshal, and in 2001, he received an honorary doctorate and spoke at commencement.

Walsh also has continued his connection to the university with support for the Hugh A. Glauser School of Music. In 2003, he endowed his first scholarship at the school. This year, he decided to become the first contributor to a new kind of student aid — one that's not based on need or academic achievement, but talent.

"I couldn't have gotten a scholarship based on my academic ability, but I blossomed at Kent State," Walsh says. "And I just think there may be some other people at Kent I could help. I'm looking for people with a born gift at something ...

"And if they're in a creative community like Kent and Kent State, and I can help them stay there until they blossom, that's what I'm trying to do."

A t Wright-Curtis Theatre, the auditions were over, but the judges were just beginning their work. The committee acknowledged the difficulty in making a decision among multiple disciplines.

"We talked a lot about how we were comparing apples to oranges and pears to grapes and everything else," says Dr. **John Crawford**, associate dean of the College of the Arts.

(Continued on page 20)

"When you're surrounded by people of high technical ability and artistry, it really inspires everyone else to reach their potential as performers."

(Continued from page 19)

"Because this is a performing scholarship, we paid attention to the connection to the audience and how the student communicated and expressed the art."

To aid their selection, judges picked the top student in each of the three disciplines of dance, music and theater. From there, they compared performances and interview answers, and weighed each contender's ability to achieve his or her educational goals.

Ultimately, the judges selected David Jaramillo, the pianist who traveled all the way from Ecuador to audition, and whose goals include starting the first music college in his home country.

"It was a really tremendous performance that he gave,"

Crawford says. "He played some selections by Prokofiev, and it was so clear to everyone on the committee that he had talent and commitment to his art. He really drew you into his playing."

Jaramillo will attend Kent State this fall as the first recipient of the Joe Walsh Scholarship for the Performing Arts. But Crawford sees the talent-based grant as having an effect far beyond Jaramillo's academic career.

"When you're surrounded by people of high technical ability and artistry, it really inspires everyone else to reach their potential as performers," he says. "I think these scholarships bring the standard of the college up even higher."

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

Arts take center stage



Artist's rendering of the Kent State University Tuscarawas Performing Arts Center.

Construction of the Kent State University
Tuscarawas Performing Arts Center began with a dramatic groundbreaking ceremony in May, featuring the All Star High School Marching Band playing Stars and Stripes Forever and the launch of blue and gold confetti out of four cannons. The \$16.5 million, 50,000-square-foot center will allow for enhanced and expanded programming in music, theatre and dance, and a new associate degree in Entertainment Design Technology. It will also enable the campus to accommodate larger audiences for existing

Artist/Lecture and Voices of Distinction Featured Speaker events, broaden cultural programs and strengthen community partnerships. The center will be available for use by local K-12 school districts, community cultural organizations and business and professional organizations. Construction is expected to be completed by December 2009.

On the Kent Campus, construction is set to begin on the Roe Green Center, made possible through a gift of \$6.5 million from the Roe Green Foundation. The estimated

\$12 million, 70,000-square-foot project will unite theatre and dance under one roof for the first time since the two programs merged in 1994. It will allow both dance and theatre students in the school to collaborate in new and exciting ways in a performance space dedicated to student creative projects and new works.

Visit www.kent.edu/magazine to read more about these and other arts activities at Kent State University.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MEMBER PROFILE

Linda Neiheiser, M.Ed. '90, Ph.D. '00

Linda Neiheiser earned both degrees in school psychology from
Kent State University. She is president-elect of the Ohio School
Psychologists Association and is a practitioner in the Cleveland
Metropolitan School District. Neiheiser stays active with Kent
State by serving on both the Foundation Board of Directors and
the School Psychology Advisory Committee; as an adjunct professor in the school psychology program; and as a field supervisor of
Kent State intern and practicum students. She resides in
Gates Mills, Ohio, with her husband and children.



Why Kent State

I chose Kent State because of its reputation as the finest Ph.D. school psychology program (APA accredited) in the state.

What Kent State means to me

Opportunity, not only for professional growth, but also for lasting friendships.

Favorite Kent State Professor

Dr. John Guidubaldi. He is generous in sharing his nationally based research data with his doctoral students, and he is a source of boundless wisdom, wit and charm.

Favorite campus memory

The many parties at the professors' houses. Sing-a-longs aside the piano in Dr. Guidubaldi's rec room, and poolside parties at the home of Dr. Joseph Murray.

Why I joined the Alumni Association

It is imperative to give back to organizations that support you. I appreciate all that Kent State has to offer, and I want to help continue its excellence in action for others.

Members support programs that:

- Build and sustain lifelong relationships;
- Encourage learning and professional growth;
- Celebrate the successes of alumni, faculty and students;
- Share the excitement of university accomplishments.



EXCELLENCE in Action



By Sarah Colvin, Kent State Public Relations Student

Kimberly Keenan-Kirkpatrick, '89 Orin Richburg, '70

A Kent State reunion across the globe

Kimberly Keenan-Kirkpatrick, '89, and her former Kent State cross-country and track coach, *Orin Richburg*, '70, have reunited twice while serving on coaching staffs of international track and field competitions. In August, they will work together again — this time, at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China.

"I have been very fortunate that Orin and I have been [selected for] three staffs together," says Keenan-Kirkpatrick. "It is great to work with him."

In 2004, they both were on the World Indoor track and field staff in Budapest, Hungary. She was the athlete liaison, and Richburg was the relay coach. In 2005, they were on the staff for the Outdoor World Championship in Helsinki, Finland. She was the women's distance coach, and Richburg was the relay coach.

Richburg recalls recruiting Keenan-Kirkpatrick when she was a prospective student out of New Jersey. Although he was only her coach during her first year, they developed a close relationship, and she has kept in touch with him ever since.

"It is a pleasure and an honor to have one of your former athletes become a coach, and then to have someone come along and become a National Team Coach — it's great to feel you have influenced them somewhat," he says.

Richburg says he is proud of Keenan-Kirkpatrick's accomplishments and has enjoyed being able to meet up with her periodically at various competitions.

In turn, Keenan-Kirkpatrick says Richburg has influenced her coaching style because he is a "people coach."

"He was very caring and understanding with his athletes, and I have always believed that it is important to demand a lot — but treating athletes as people first is most important," says Keenan-Kirkpatrick. "If they don't know that you care about them, they won't perform for you."

A psychology major, Keenan-Kirkpatrick says it was her positive experience as a student athlete that motivated her to think about working with college-level athletes as a career. After 12 years in the field, she now serves as a full-time athletic administrator at Seton Hall University. She also earned a law degree along the way, which has enhanced her perspective as an athletic administrator.

She says it is unusual for a sport administrator to hold the role she has as the assistant coach for the 2008 Olympics. However, Richburg, as a former coach, has regularly served in these types of dual capacities throughout his coaching career.

"I was excited and thrilled that the people who select the staffing felt that I was qualified and capable of handling the position," Keenan-Kirkpatrick says. "I'm looking forward to being able to have a positive impact upon our U.S. athletes, and hope the work I do will contribute to their success."

Richburg adds to her sentiments. "For Kim to have been chosen by her peers to be a National Team Coach, that's to her credit, and for me to have the opportunity to work with her again now; well, you couldn't ask for a better reunion than that," he says.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

Kimberly Keenan-Kirkpatrick, '89, and her former Kent State cross-country and track coach, Orin Richburg, '70, have reunited twice while serving on coaching staffs of international track and field competitions. In August, they will work together again — this time, at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China.



C L A S S N O T E S

Bob Parsons, M.Ed., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, is a retired high school principal from Cuyahoga Falls Board of Education. Mary Lou A. Robertson, Warren, Ohio, is a retired school teacher from Warren, Lordstown and Southington school districts.

Roger L. Suddleson, *Havertown*, *Pa.*, is semi-retired and currently works part-time with Sandy Typewriter Co. in Upper Darby, Pa.

James R. Vine, Fairview Park, Ohio, is vice president at Card, Palmer, Sibbison & Co. in Cleveland, Ohio.

Sandra A. (Sandor) Athens, *Medina, Ohio*, recently wrote a children's book and is now in the process of self-publishing it. Richard J. Sauer, *Fountain Hills, Ariz*, is an aerospace engineering consultant and is semi-retired. **Stephen E. Simon**, *Rockford, Tenn.*, is the owner of Flexwatt Industrial Sales. Simon was also re-elected as mayor of Rockford in February 2008.

Jane G. Birch, Crownsville, Md., wrote an award-winning book titled They Flew Proud. Dorothy J. Topie, M.Ed. '70, Lisbon, Iowa, is celebrating 25 years as an instructor at the Dance Place in Mount Vernon, Iowa.

Nancy J. (Kruse) Wintrup, Forestville, Calif., is an instructor at Revere Academy of Jewelry Arts, and for 27 years, she has had her own studio specializing as a custom order and restoration jeweler.

Margaret C. (Roe) Cortright, M.Ed. '67, Park Forest, III., is retired after 35 years of social work and teaching and is now a special education substitute teacher. Martha M. Giffen, Barnesville, *Ohio*, is retired after 37 years of teaching gifted education in various Ohio elementary schools. Karen B. (Benya) Greene, *Inman, S.C.*, retired after teaching art for 33 years and is currently a career specialist at Mabry Middle School in Spartanburg, S.C. Richard F. Peterson, Mikanda, III., is an editor for the Kent State University Press Writing Sports Series. Peterson's memoir, Growing Up With Clemente, will be published by Kent State University Press. **Danny R. Reed**, *Amherst, Ohio*, recently retired from Lorain County Health District. Bob Skierski, B.S., Brooklyn, Ohio, is a senior medical representative for AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP. Skierski is a member of Circle of Excellence for pharmaceutical achievement and is a certified medical representative from CMR Institute in Roanoke, Va.

Henry C. Brinager, Junction City, Ore., is a retired as teacher for Johnston City Public Schools. Diana L. (Tennill) Colucci, Navarre, Ohio, is a retired teacher of 33 years in the Fairless Local School District. Marilyn A. (Strom) Crock, Blue Ridge, Ga., recently retired after 25 years of working with mostly primary special needs children. Jim Kistler, Warren, Ohio, recently retired after 40 years with General Mills-Pillsbury Division as a national accounts manager. Margaret Widmar, M.A. '75, Westlake, Ohio, retired after dedicating nearly 40 years to art education in Cleveland. She spent the last seven years as an adjunct professor at Lorain County Community College. Widmar is also on the board of the Red Brick Center for the Arts.

Frederic G. Peiffer, *Colorado Springs*, *Colo.*, retired in 2002 after 32 years of federal service. **Shirley Snyder**, *Decatur*, *Ind.*, retired in 2007 after 36 years as a teacher and administrator with the Fort Wayne County Schools in Fort Wayne, Ind. **Steff (Bennett)**

Alumni Association Annual Member Life Member

Starnes, M.Ed., *The Villages*, *Fla.*, retired from Utica Community Schools in Sterling Heights, Mich., after 34 years of teaching. **Robert M. Works**, *Bloomington*, *Minn.*, retired in 2007 after a long career in the Minnesota Department of Transportation as a section director.

Sheila J. Brown, M.Ed. '80, Cincinnati, Ohio, recently retired after 35 years as a coordinator for the gifted for Hamilton County Educational Center. Linda C. Ferraro, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., will retire after 34 years teaching in the Broward County School System in Cooper City, Fla. Jim Jackson, Arlington, Va., retired as the commanding general for the U.S. Army Military District of Washington. Major General Jackson is currently a marketing manager with Battelle's Office of Homeland Security. Robert L. Koller, B.S. '78, Lakewood, Colo., is a quality engineer III for United Launch Alliance. Helen A. (Laggeris) Meder, North Canton, Ohio, is a retired teacher from Plain Local School District in Canton, Ohio, and has also been involved in a church outreach program.

Bob Harrison, M.Ed., Charleston, W.Va., was recently promoted to dean of the College of Professional Studies at West Virginia State University in Institute, W.Va. Susan Kershner, M.Ed. '77, Columbiana, Ohio, is currently a teacher for Crestview Board of Education and is also a Martha Holden Jennings master teacher and scholar grant winner. Andrew A. Rezin, Westerville, Ohio, is a department chairman of Automotive and Applied Technologies at Columbus State Community College. Rezin recently published Automotive Service Management: Principles Into Practice. Frank P. Vazzano, Ph.D., Canton, Ohio, is a professor of history at Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio. He recently had a biography published titled Politician Extraordinaire.

Jack Janosik, Lorain, Ohio, helped create the Liberian Tennis Federation in Africa to help improve the quality of life for the Liberian youth.

Albert J. Dispenza, B.B.A. '89, Cleveland, Ohio, is currently director of planning for Ashtabula County, Ohio. Lynn D. (Mitchell) Duerr, B.S. '74, Ph.D., Terre Haute, Ind., recently received tenure as an associate professor at Indiana State University. A. Gregory Moore, M.A., Ph.D. '78, Wadsworth, Ohio, is currently the chair of the Department of History and Political Science and director of intelligence studies at Notre Dame College in Cleveland, Ohio. He recently authored a book titled The War Came to Me, an account of a Holocaust survivor, and edited The Encyclopedia of U.S. Intelligence, which is scheduled for publication in 2010. Julene A. (Sippola) Schwarz, Ashtabula, Ohio, retired as an art teacher from Ashtabula Area City Schools.

Tracey D. (Ritchie) Crawley, Newport News, Va., has been actively serving the military and their families for five years as a mental health professional and clinical counselor for Fleet and Family Support Center in Norfolk, Va. Gayle R. Hahn, New Philadelphia, Ohio, will receive an Adoption Excellence Award, which recognizes outstanding accomplishments in achieving permanency for children waiting in foster care. Hahn has worked as an adoption worker and supervisor for public and private foster care agencies in Ohio for 27 years. William T. Hoover, M.B.A. '84, Kent, Ohio, recently became executive director of the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce. Dave C. Uitto, New Riegel, Ohio, recently retired from New Riegel High School. He is currently teaching part time at Tiffin University.



'76

Donald B. Holp, *Tucson*, *Ariz*, recently retired after a 30-year teaching career in Ohio and Arizona. He now is working part time serving as a math teacher and an assistant baseball coach at Amphitheater High School. **David R. Krajec**, *Menomonee Falls*, *Wis.*, formerly with Cardinal Stritch University, is a system sales specialist with Mainstage Theatrical Supply Inc. Krajec was recently re-elected to the Board of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. **Robert K. Scharp**, *Greenville*, *Ill.*, recently retired after 30 years of being a pilot for Capital International Airways, Ozark Air Lines, Trans World Airlines and, most recently, as a captain for American Airlines. **John A. Teeple**, *Rubicon*, *Wis.*, is the owner of Genetti's Garden, and is currently undertaking the development and marketing of Purple Cow Organic Activated Compost with Microlife as a consumer product.

'77

Bill Blair, Burbank, Calif., is an actor and is currently working on the TNT show Saving Grace. His past credits include Blades of Glory, The Showbiz Show and Star Trek: Phase Two. Sue Brightman, Boulder, Colo., is currently president of Brightman Glover International, a global corporate consulting and coaching firm. Jack Kiser, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, is currently the outdoors editor and host for the TV show Buckeye Angler on SportsTime Ohio. Constance J. Korosec, M.A. '78, Chesterland, Ohio, is chair of fashion design and merchandising at Ursuline College.

'78

Vicky L. Conder, Cambridge, Ohio, is a retired park manager for Dillon State Park, and is currently a school commander and instructor at the Zane State College-Cambridge Police Academy. Michael C. Heaton, Cleveland, Ohio, wrote a book titled Truth

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

ARE INVITED TO REMEMBER, REMINISCE AND TO TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF KENT STATE WITH OUR 11TH PRESIDENT

LESTER A. LEFTON





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and Justice for Fun and Profit. Heaton is a columnist and reporter with the Cleveland Plain Dealer. **Sharon L. (Latteman) Queen**, M.A., Canfield, Ohio, is a specific learning disabilities tutor and inclusion teacher for Canfield Village Middle School. **Pamela L. Rollins**, Athens, Ohio, has been a flight attendant for United Airlines since 1978. She recently purchased a gift shop in Athens, Ohio. **Janice P. Williams**, Pickerington, Ohio, is a book designer and author for Janice Phelps LLC.

Joseph A. Baldassarre, M.A., Boise, Idaho, has been a professor of music at Boise State University since 1975. He is also the director of guitar studies and music history. Since 2001, he has produced two folk music CDs, a medieval CD and a rock CD.

Stephen D. Hambley, Ph.D., Brunswick, Ohio, is a commissioner for Medina County, Ohio, and was the recipient of Northeast Ohio Regional Vision Award in 2008. Rick Hawksley, M.Arch. '86, Kent, Ohio, is a self-employed principle of Design with a Vision where he is an architect. He also is an at-large councilman in the city of Kent. Hawksley serves on the boards of Kent Natural Foods Cooperative and the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Vivian D. (Robinson) Wynn, M.L.S., Hermitage, Tenn., recently retired as the assistant director of the Nashville Public Library. Wynn served as the project manager in the capital improvement project of building a main library and five regional branches.

Margaret A. (Wickmiller) Draper, J.D., Ashtabula, Ohio, recently became an assistant county prosecutor for Ashtabula County.

Susan A. Bobey, M.Ed., Cleveland, Ohio, was awarded an OBTA — An Association for Business Technology Educators 2007 Distinguished Secondary Teacher award. She has taught in the Cleveland municipal school district for 33 years. Pamela J. (Smith) Harhager, North Canton, Ohio, is a social worker for Aultman Health Foundation, and was a 2007 winner of the Aultman Health Foundation's You Make a Difference award, which recognizes employees who exhibit honesty and integrity, excel at customer service, and positively represent the Aultman Organization. Greta G. (Gatterdam) Henry, Benton, Ky., recently received a "top 10" early childhood program ranking in the state of Kentucky as an adjunct professor at West Kentucky Community and Technical College.

Cynthia R. (Lang) Goossen, *Tracy, Calif.*, is a licensed and credentialed speech pathologist/supervisor for the Tracy Unified School District.

Mark A. Demuth, Reno, Nev., is the principal with CDM, a consulting, engineering, construction and operations firm. He is also an adjunct faculty member for the University of Nevada. Michael D. Linn, Cleveland, Ohio, has merged his law practice into a new firm of Powers Friedman Linn PLL, providing counsel to residential and commercial real estate management companies, developers and businesses throughout Ohio. Constance L. Russ, Westlake, Ohio, is the director of marketing and communications for Visconsi Companies.

Wayne W. Barger, Coppell, Texas, was promoted to senior vice president at RTKL Associates Inc., a Dallas-based international architectural and planning firm. Kathryn D. Krause, Cordova, Tenn., recently became vice president, patient care, chief nursing officer at LeBonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis. Jari A. Villanueva, M.M., Catonsville, Md., retired from the U.S. Air Force. After 23 years with the USAF Band in Washington, D.C., he is considered the country's foremost expert on military bugle calls,

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Reception/tour in Stewart Hall

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particularly the calls at military funerals. Villanueva was recently selected as the director of veterans affairs, Maryland National Guard Honor Guard.

- Mary E. (Feick) Jenkins, M.L.S., *Cincinnati, Ohio*, is library director and law librarian at Cincinnati Law Library Association. Sally A. Jones, *Indian Trail, N.C.*, is currently the director of insurance at Synergy Investment Group LLC.
- Mark D. Fehrenbach, Woodland Hills, Calif., is the president and CEO of Fehrenbach Design & Advertising. Susan L. Kapela, Delray Beach, Fla., has owned a slipcover business, Susan Kapela Slipcovers, for 15 years.
- Cindy Daniell, Kennesaw, Ga., is a registered nurse and the director of clinical operations at Atlanta Cancer Care. Monica C. Pintur, B.S., Mentor, Ohio, is currently working for the Cleveland Cavaliers as office/mail supply clerk. Diane E. Welsch, M.Ed., Mulberry, Fla., is currently a professor at Polk Community College and a tutor at a Christian school.
- Tim R. Breen, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, is a graphic designer with the Merrick Design Group in Barberton, Ohio, and was recently awarded a Ben Franklin Award for "Best of Show for Design."

 H. Marie (Fleming) Drum, M.Ed., Shaween Mission, Kan., recently retired as a career coordinator with Blue Valley Schools in Overland Park, Kan. Darla K. (Campbell) Shar, Leetonia, Ohio, is a nurse educator for Hannah E. Mullins School of Practical Nursing and has her own business in which she counsels families who have children with life-threatening food allergies. Tony Trigilio, Chicago, Ill., is an associate professor of English and director of the undergraduate poetry program at Columbia College. Trigilio recently edited a book titled Visions and Divisions.
- **Janice L. Mallory**, *Uniontown*, *Ohio*, works in the advertising and printing industries.
- Sandra L. (Griffin) Doak, Austin, Texas, is a partner at Old Oaks
 Ranch in Wimberly, Texas. Joseph R. French, Canton, Ohio, is
 a member of the Ohio Department of Education's delegation that
 went to Reggio Emilia, Italy, to study early childhood education.
- Aimee K. Downing, *Bradfordwoods, Pa.*, is the creative director at Steelcoast Creative in Pittsburgh, Pa. **Gene A. Mothersbaugh**, *Ravenna, Ohio*, is the owner of Akron Glass Tinting.
- Sheri L. Gestring, Streetsboro, Ohio, recently received her Customs Brokers License and is currently an analyst for global compliance and trade at Jo-Ann Stores. Jeffrey G. Martin, Phoenix, Ariz,

was recently named as an associate for Westlake Reed Leskosky, a Cleveland-based architecture and engineering firm.

Matt Bartel, Cleveland, Ohio, was recently named to the Board of Directors of Independent Pictures and was also a presenter at the Ohio Independent Film Festival. Bartel is a graphic designer at Sherwin-Williams Co. Beth A. Fuciu, Canton, Ohio, owns Paper Daisy, a fine stationery/invitation shop. Germano S. lannacchione, Ph.D., Worcester, Mass., is the department head and associate professor of physics at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Christina Largey, M.A., M.A. '94, University Heights, Ohio, has worked for Marymount Hospital for five years as a certified athletic trainer and was recently employee of the month. Rebecca G. (Davis) Stoneman-Washee, B.A. '95, M.A. '97, Blanding, Utah, is the curator of education and an archeologist for Edge of the Cedars Museum.

Karen A. Droscoski, Honolulu, Hawaii, is a deputy attorney general in the criminal justice division of the Department of the Attorney General for the state of Hawaii. Richard E. Fabritius, Smyrna, Ga., was promoted to vice president, managing director for the Atlanta-based advertising firm Blattner Brunner. **Domenic A.** Ferrante, B.S., Canton, Ohio, was named as a partner at Harris/ Day Architecture. **Thomas J. Hrdy**, M.A., *Garrettsville, Ohio*, was recently appointed to the position of habilitation manager at the Beachwood Adult Activity Center. Evelyn N. (Bonds) Robinson, Maumee, Ohio, is the owner of School Matters in Toledo and Northwood, Ohio. Carol V. (Voltmer) Schaffer, M.Ed., Lock Haven, Pa., has been a Catholic campus minister along with her spouse at Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania since 2003. **Denise L. Scott**, Fort Myers, Fla., recently joined Gulfshore Life Magazine in Naples, Fla. as a senior editor after 10 years as a reporter for The News-Press in Fort Myers, Fla.

Tad R. Boetcher, New York, N.Y., started his private design label, "tad b." His clothing is expected to be carried in major department and specialty stores across the United States, Mexico and Canada. Alisa M. (Coccari) Bowen, Andover, Mass., is pursuing her master's candidacy degree in dramatic arts at Harvard University in Boston, Mass. Marty Drexler, B.S.E. '97, Canton, Ohio, is currently a math teacher at Buchtel High School in Akron, Ohio. Drexler is a two-time winner of Who's Who Among American High School Teachers, and has written and published a joke book titled *Almost* Joke Book. Cara L. Gilgenbach, M.L.S., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, is the head of special collections and archives at Kent State University Libraries. She recently co-authored Kent State University Athletics, which spotlights the outstanding athletes, teams and coaches who have been at the university. **Gina M. Gornik**, New York, N.Y., is a wardrobe supervisor, designer and dresser for the Broadway show Legally Blonde. Mary E. (Fowler) Joseph, Canton, Ohio, has been a senior graphic designer and professional photographer for more than 10 years at Media Dimensions Inc., and has recently begun a freelance photography business. Jane M. (Butler) Smith, Copley, Ohio, is the author of a new book titled Giving Him the Blues.

- Margaret A. Elliott, M.L.S., *Eliot, Maine*, is a librarian for William Fogg Library and had her book, *Images of America*, published by Arcadia Publishing in 2005.
 - Matthew J. Adorni, Mogadore, Ohio, a teacher, just completed his fourth season as head football coach at Mogadore High School and was named 2007 Northeast Ohio Division VI coach of the year.

 Carla W. Buss, M.L.S., Watkinsville, Ga., was recently promoted

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to curriculum materials and education librarian at the University of Georgia. **Kelli M. Hansen**, *Plattsmouth*, *Neb.*, who works at Medico Insurance Group as an RN case manager, has obtained certification as a managed care nurse (CMCN). **Erin M. O'Brien**, *Philadelphia*, *Pa.*, is currently employed by Aetna.

'98

Elizabeth A. Bauman, M.F.A., Lakewood, Ohio, is a professor and serves as chair of the Department of Theatre Arts at Hiram College. Amanda S. Hecker, M.A., Bellefontaine, Ohio, is currently a speech language pathologist for Bellefontaine City Schools. Margaret A. Hunter, B.S.E. '01, Lancaster, Ohio, is a gifted intervention specialist in grades four and five at Bloom-Carroll Local Schools in Carroll, Ohio. Kent J. McDonald, M.B.A., Prole, lowa, is business systems coach for Knowledge Bridge Partners. Stephen C. Needham, Chicago, Ill., was admitted to practice law in the state of Illinois and is currently an associate at Codilis & Associates PC, a Chicago-based law firm. Robert B. Somers, Shelbyville, Ind., is the owner of Top 5 LLC.

,99

Heidi L. Baker, Tuscarawas, Ohio, was recently hired at BCG Systems Inc. as an administrative assistant. Merv Baumgardner, Coshocton, Ohio, is the owner and operator of Coshocton Creamery, and also does project work for Pearson Education Measurement in Westerville, Ohio. Cynthia M. Long, M.M., Louisville, Ohio, opened Mozart Music Studio and teaches piano lessons and early childhood music classes. Robert A. Schultz, M.Ed., Ph.D. '99, Waterville, Ohio, is an associate professor at University of Toledo and the author of two books titled Growing up Gifted and Smart Talk.

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1100 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, USA 44115 Tel: 216-658-6400 • Fax: 216-658-6401 Kenneth E. Adamic, Wickliffe, Ohio, is the vice president of sales for Flipseek LLC, an interactive Internet company. Jennifer L. Banks, Wintersville, Ohio, has been appointed to managing director of the Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF). Lacie M. Clark, Parma, Ohio, is a student service specialist at Cleveland State University. Clark's poetry has appeared in numerous publications. Matthew A. Janiak, B.S., Garfield Heights, Ohio, was recently named as an associate for Westlake Reed Leskosky, a Cleveland-based architect and engineering firm. Jonathan C. Kurtz, B.S., Cleveland Heights., Ohio, was recently named an associate for Westlake Reed Leskosky, a Cleveland-based architect and engineering firm. Linda M. Wise, M.Ed., Painesville, Ohio, is the executive director for The Fine Arts Association of Willoughby.

William E. Bridenthal, B.S.E. '03, Canton, Ohio, is currently an assistant principal at Indian River School. Carly R. Sachs, Washington, D.C., recently edited an anthology of poems about rape and sexual abuse titled The Why and Later.

Jennifer L. Charlton, *Twinsburg, Ohio,* is a television news producer at FOX 8 in Cleveland, Ohio. Torrey G. Nyborg, M.S., *Loma Linda, Calif.*, is working towards his Ph.D. in geology at Loma Linda University. Sarah C. Stierman, *Columbus, Ohio,* is currently a resident physician at Riverside Methodist Hospital. She is pursuing a career in dermatology.

Charita R. Boseman, Rolling Meadows, Ill., is the assistant director of wellness at Health Solutions in Chicago. Vesselin D. Dimitrov, M.Arch. '04, Seattle, Wash., was recently added as an intern architect at NAC/Architecture. Karen E. Graves, M.Ed. '06, Pittsburgh, Pa., is a family bases senior clinician at Every Child Inc. Sarah E. (Schwendeman) Jutte, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is the master admissions representative at Bryant & Stratton College. Robin N. Koch, B.A., Lakewood, Ohio, works for The Cleveland Museum of Art as the curatorial assistant for the departments of photography and contemporary art.

Jill Duba, Bowling Green, Ky., recently published The Role of Religion in Marriage and Family Counseling. Duba was also awarded the Journal Award for Outstanding Publication in the Adultspan Journal. She is employed with the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky. Timothy R. Hollister, Akron, Ohio, has a record label called Listen to Records and is also a member of a music group, the Academic Challenge Team. Brian A. Mitchell, Olathe, Kan., was recently promoted to nursery production manager/section head for Loma Vista Nursery Inc. Gina M. Montwori, Myrtle Beach, S.C., owns a restaurant. She is also employed as an area sales manager for Belk Inc.

Dalia M. Colon, M.A.T., Brandon, Fla., is working as a reporter for Tampa Bay Times, a publication of the St. Petersburg Times.

Tonya L. Davis, M.L.I.S., Euclid, Ohio, is a reference librarian in the General Reference Department for the Cleveland Public Library.

Fernando A. Pacheco, Tampa, Fla., is a senior international sales executive for FedEx Services.

Brian P. Joyce, M.B.A. '07, *Cleveland, Ohio*, is a technology and security risk services representative for Ernst & Young. **Gretchen M. Kreinbihl**, *Elizabethtown, Ky.*, is a math teacher for North Hardin High School.



BY ANNA RIGGENBACH, '08

Homecoming Changes With the Times

School Spirit Remains Constant

Homecoming has long been a tradition at Kent State University. While the themes, activities and football scores have changed over the years, school spirit has remained constant.

Kent State celebrated its first homecoming in February 1918. At that time, homecoming resembled a spring social and was set around the school's baseball games. The senior class staged *As You Like It*, and 72 alumni attended the weekend festivities.

Then, in 1929, homecoming was officially recognized as a fall event coinciding with the homecoming football game. As enrollment kept rising in the 1930s, so did the homecoming activities. House decorating contests and dances took place in and around campus. During the 1942 homecoming, the motto was "There will always be a homecoming." Later that decade, in 1946, homecoming was included a fashion controversy among students: blue jeans. Groups for and against the wearing of denim debated the dress code, as the biggest homecoming celebration of that time brought 7,500 fans to the football stadium for the homecoming game.

The 1950s homecoming celebration brought big bands and orchestras to campus, while the 1960s made sound waves by having the first homecoming concert. The concerts continued though the '60s, bringing such performers as folksinger Odetta, and jazz legends Della Reese, Nancy Wilson, Ray Charles and Louis Armstrong.

Although we might think every coed dreamed of being crowned homecoming queen, former queen, Kathleen (Bamberger) Whitmer, '59, said she wasn't seeking the honor when she was crowned in 1958, but her sorority sisters had encouraged her to try out. Even though Whitmer was modestly not seeking the limelight, she was ultimately happy to be crowned.

"It's the kind of thing that stands out in your life as being special," she says. "Being crowned out on that football field, you get a sense of appreciation. Every now and then we need the encouragement of others."

In the early decades, the homecoming queen candidates were required to have a certain GPA before they went in front

of the judges. Candidates were then judged on poise, carriage, enthusiasm, beauty and grooming.

The 1970s went retro as Kent State celebrated the 1950s

with a sock hop in '73, a Grease Ball dance in '75 and a big band in '78. It was during the 1977 homecoming that no queen was chosen due to the Kent Women Against Coalition (KWAC) saying the crowning was a "sexist thing," and they would not permit it, according to the 1977 *Chestnut Burr.* As times have changed, so too has the selection criteria for queen. Now the candidates are judged on their academic abilities, extracurricular activities and community and university service.

(Above) Homecoming Queen Peg Carter rides in the parade in 1940. (Below) Queen Kathleen "Boo" Bamberger was crowned during halftime ceremonies by Social Committee Chairman David Rausch. (Photo from 1958 Chestnut Burr)

Returning to past decades seemed to be a theme for Kent State as 1982 looked back once again to the good old days with a '50s dance in the Rathskeller and a bee-bop and blues semiformal dance. The 1985 homecoming theme was "1975 and Still in Fashion," and 1989 celebrated "Cruisin' the '50s."

The '90s kept it current with themes like "Showcase '92," and "Party Like It's 1999."

Celebrating Kent State seemed to be a common theme throughout the '00s. "Imagine," "Get Your Gold On" and "Viva Kent State" were all themes during this decade.

A s Kent State nears its Centennial year in 2008, the homecoming parade returns as part of the scheduled

festivities. Reflecting changing times, this year's homecoming parade theme is "Salute to Service." The weekend of **Oct. 11** will offer the popular homecoming traditions: fraternity and sorority alumni cookouts, the Bowman Cup 5K, a pep rally, tailgating and, of course, the homecoming game where the Golden Flashes face off against Ohio University. As in years past, alumni, students, faculty and staff will join members of the Kent city community to share in a day of celebration and fun.

Visit www.ksualumni.org for the complete schedule of homecoming events.

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ELIZABETH SLANINA, M.L.I.S., '07

All in the Family

Higgins Family Boasts Three Generations of Kent State Graduates



Cora May Bullard, '23



LuWanda Higgins, '06



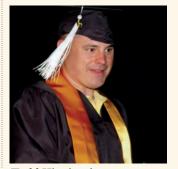
(Left to right) Timothy Williams, Rev. Dr. Eugene Higgins, LuWanda Higgins, '06, Dr. Lester Lefton and Chad Higgins, '02



Carla Pyle Higgins, BBA '91, BSN '95



Chad Higgins, '02



Todd Higgins, '07



Kristopher Higgins, '95

Cora May (Bullard) Pyle scored the highest grades in Ashtabula County and earned a full scholarship to attend Kent Normal School for a two-year teaching certificate. She graduated from Kent Normal in 1923 and returned to Ashtabula County to marry, raise a family and teach. She taught for many years.

Her granddaughter, *Carla Faye (Pyle) Higgins*, graduated from Kent State University with a degree in business administration in 1991. She then re-enrolled to get her nursing degree, which she earned in 1995. While a student, Carla met *Kristopher Higgins*, whom she later married.

Kristopher Higgins also studied in the Kent State University College of Nursing and earned a degree in 1995. He and his wife reside in Lakeland, Fla. Carla teaches and Kristopher is an administrator for hospice.

Kristopher's brother, *Chad Higgins*, was inspired to try Kent State after his brother's experience. Chad earned a general studies degree in 2002 and followed in Kris's footsteps, as he relocated to Lakeland, Fla., after graduating. He owns a Webbased business there.

Kristopher and Chad's mother, *LuWanda Higgins*, decided it was her turn to go back to school. After having attended

Indiana University several years earlier, she enrolled and earned a bachelor's degree in 2006 (in preparation for graduate studies). LuWanda is employed as the program coordinator of the Adult Student Center at Kent State University.

Encouraged by all of his family's positive experiences at Kent State University, *Todd Higgins* also followed in family footsteps and added a Kent State degree to his life's accomplishments. He graduated in May 2007 with a justice studies degree from the College of Arts and Sciences. He is now a lieutenant with the Mogadore Police Department.

LuWanda decided to go back for her master's degree in liberal studies (counseling and educational administration) with a minor in gerontology certification. She expects to complete her program in the near future, which will make a total of eight Kent State degrees over three generations of her extended family.

LuWanda's husband, and Kristopher, Chad and Todd's father, the Rev. Dr. Eugene Higgins, has remained supportive through all of his family's Kent State experiences.

How many degrees does your family have? Share your generations in an alumni story at the "Hub" at www.ksualumni.org.



homecoming

Kent State University 1000109

Oct. 11, 2008

Main Street will come alive to celebrate

Kent State's 2008 Homecoming

• A Salute to Service •

with the return of the Homecoming parade followed by a variety of fun-filled activities for alumni, friends and family



Connect with former classmates. Relive treasured memories. See how campus has changed and grown. Join us on Oct. 11!

Homecoming Parade

10 - 11:30 a.m. down Main Street

Alumni Continental Breakfast and Parade Viewing

10 – 11:30 a.m.

Hosted by the Kent State Alumni Association Williamson Alumni Center at 1100 E. Main Street

Tailgate Alley

11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Dix Stadium

Football

Kent State Golden Flashes vs. Ohio Bobcats Kick-off at 2 p.m.

Other Activities

Honors College 75th anniversary celebration College of Technology Vision 21 celebration JMC awards brunch at the newly-renovated Franklin Hall

Class of 1958 Reunion luncheon

Motorized campus tours

Bowman Cup 5K race

Planetarium show

Open houses at the Ice Arena, Student Recreation and Wellness Center and Fashion Museum

Story time at Alumni Center following parade



Updated information regarding the parade, schedule of events and more is available at

www.ksualumni.org/homecoming

1-888-320-KENT

"And the Pulitzer goes to..."

Kent State grads honored with journalism's highest awards

Kent State University alumni continued a proud tradition of success this year in the highly regarded Pulitzer Prize awards competition for journalism.

Sam Roe, '83, was part of a team from the Chicago Tribune that landed the honor for investigative reporting for a series on government regulation of children's products. Roe was a member of a six-person team that wrote "Hidden Hazards," a series of articles that documented faulty cribs, dangerous car seats and lead-tainted toys. The stories prompted the nation's largest recall of cribs and spurred toymakers to pull products from shelves across the country. The articles also led Congress to pass the most sweeping reform of the nation's consumer safety system in a generation.

The investigative team was "thoroughly thrilled to win the Pulitzer," according to Roe. "Like most newspapers, the *Chicago Tribune* has been facing difficult financial times. But our editors supported us every step of the way. — the largest study of lead in toys ever conducted outside the government. Needless to say, this was not cheap to do.

"For me," Roe continues, "these stories serve as a reminder of how important newspapers are to a community. People who

"For one story, we tested 800 children's products for lead

"For me," Roe continues, "these stories serve as a reminder of how important newspapers are to a community. People who think newspapers are dead simply aren't living in the real world. Newspapers often set the political agenda in their communities — and sometimes for the country as a whole."

Tom Batiuk, '69, who pens the continuing story of Funky Winkerbean and his pals in a comic strip of the same name, was recognized as a finalist in the editorial cartooning category for his series of strips that chronicled the death of long-time character Lisa Moore. Moore succumbed to breast cancer on Oct. 4, 2007, after a second bout with the disease.

Batiuk shared his character's experiences with cancer in two books, *Lisa's Story* and *Lisa's Story*: The Other Shoe. The

latter title was published by Kent
State University Press, which saw a
sellout of the first press run of 10,000
copies within two months of the fall
2007 publication. (Look for more
information about Batiuk and his
books in an upcoming issue of *Kent*State Magazine.)

Also named as a finalist this year was *Regina Brett*, '86, who was recognized for her commentary in the *Plain Dealer*.



Regina Brett

Excellence in action — right from the start

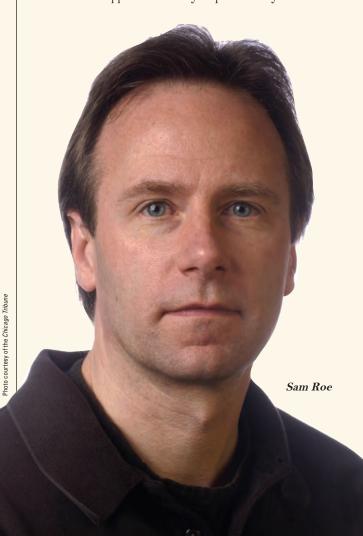
Dr. **James Gaudino**, dean of the College of Communication and Information, says that the continued recognition by the Pulitzer committees over time proves that Kent State prepares its graduates for success at the highest levels.

"I am very proud of the Pulitzer Prize winners from Kent State," comments Gaudino. "I believe they are examples of what is produced when highly talented students are provided the excellent learning experience we offer in our School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

"The result is work that exceeds the highest professional standards."

Roe acknowledges a debt of gratitude for his success to Kent State faculty. "I went to Kent State because it had one of the best journalism schools in the country and still does," Roe says. "I will be forever indebted to the first-rate faculty, including professors **Evan Smith**, **Judy Myrick**, **Fred**

Endres and **Bruce Larrick**, who just passed away recently. I hear their voices in my head all the time."









Copyright 2007 BATOM, Inc. Used by permission of King Features Syndicate - From Lisa's Story: The Other Shoe (The Kent State University Press, 2007)







Cartoonist Tom Batiuk, '69, was a finalist for a Pulitzer for his true-to-life storyline in his daily comic strip, Funky Winkerbean.

As a student, Roe cut his investigative journalism teeth while working on the Daily Kent Stater.

"My classmates were also a talented, driven bunch," Roe adds, echoing Gaudino. "Many worked around the clock at the Daily Kent Stater or the Chestnut Burr and thought nothing of it."

A winning tradition continues

For alumni of Kent State, the Pulitzer-winning tradition dates back to at least the early 1970s, and covers wins in multiple categories, including the public service honor. Kent State grads landed six awards for coverage of the events of May 4, 1970. Five of those medals were for journalism; one was for

spot news photography.

Since then, two more photography awards and one award for graphics went to alumni, and team-writing honors in public service went to three more graduates for two stories on controversies in Akron.

One of those public service winners was Chuck Ayers, '71, a collaborator with Batiuk on the comic strip Crankshaft.

Most recently, Connie Schultz, '80, landed a Pulitzer in 2005 for her columns

on child prostitution in Cambodia.

"Never let anything stand in your way ..."

Roe says that intellectual curiosity, passion and dedication to exposing and righting wrongs are critical to success in journalism. He encourages students to nurture these qualities and to learn to trust their own gut reactions when pursuing a story.

"Follow your instincts," Roe says. "If something bothers you, it probably bothers others and is a good story. Journalists have tremendous power, so they have a moral obligation to right wrongs and expose injustices. Never let anything stand in your way in this mission, whether it be bad bosses, crummy salaries or an industry in turmoil. It doesn't take much to do great work — just a good idea and some commitment.

"Be passionate about the world. Read everything you can, from newspapers to classical literature to the backs of shampoo bottles. Reading helps you spot patterns and trends others might be missing."

Roe concludes with the advice that an inclusive nature is a key to success. "Be generous. Share ideas, sources and tips with your coworkers. Compliment writers whose work you like. Encourage those just starting out."

For more information, including a list of other Pulitzerwinning alumni, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

Connie Schultz

Courtesy of the Cleveland Plain Deale



LIFE MEMBERS

Of the Kent State University Alumni Association

The Kent State University Alumni Association strives to support the mission of Kent State University and provides its members with benefits and services. As space permits, *Kent State Magazine* will acknowledge new and current life members of the association. A partial list has appeared in each issue since spring 2004; additional names will appear in future issues. A complete list of life members can be found at www.ksualumni.org. For more information on becoming a life member of the alumni association, call 330-672-KENT or toll free at 1-888-320-KENT.

Ruth Adler, Kent, Ohio Bradley Allison, Ravenna, Ohio Virginia Arnold, Richmond, Va. Christopher Bennett, Kent, Ohio Donna Bennett, Bolivar, Ohio David Bigler, Kent, Ohio Betsy Blankenship MLS, Marion, Ohio Susan Bobey, Cleveland, Ohio Brian Boehmer, Newark, Ohio Trisha Boehmer, Newark, Ohio Donald Booth Jr., Kent, Ohio Jean Booth, Kent, Ohio Jay Brixey, Falls Church, Va. Shirley Brown, Montgomery, Ala. Robert Call, Montgomery Village, Md. Edward Canda, Ph.D., Lawrence, Kan. Joseph Casagrande, Cortland, Ohio Mark Case, Williamsburg, Va. Dale Cassidy, Maryville, Tenn. Parke Cooley, Stow, Ohio Janis Corredo, Niles, Mich. Bertha Coulas, North Canton, Ohio Cynthia Daniell, Kennesaw, Ga. Maureen Depenbrok, Chardon, Ohio Richard Depenbrok, Chardon, Ohio Jennifer DiMare, Great Falls, Va. Terry Doan, Elyria, Ohio Jennifer Dolejs, Phoenix, Ariz. Bill Douglass, Newton Falls, Ohio Michelle Doutrich, Centennial, Colo. Samuel Doutrich III, Centennial, Colo. Nancy Duns, Mayfield Heights, Ohio Okey Ekechi, Munroe Falls, Ohio Marie Ezzo, Hubbard, Ohio Katherine Feeman, Akron, Ohio Wesley Gaab, Independence, Ohio Donna Gillis, Brunswick, Ohio Jason Gillis, Brunswick, Ohio Brenda Guzman, Bronx, N.Y. Barbara Hartz, Kent, Ohio Steven Hayes, Stow, Ohio Julie Heddens-Egan, Charlotte, N.C. Corv Helm, Astoria, N.Y. Kenneth Henderson, Sacramento, Calif. Linda lannicca-Sharma, Oxnard, Calif. Nancy Israel Mahoney, Mechanicsville, Va. Michael Kamauf, Houston, Texas Peter Kost, Meadville, Pa. Gav Krankovich, Mentor, Ohio Gerald Kujala, Ashtabula, Ohio Joseph La Rocca, Jeffersonville, Ind. John Lacy, Warren, Ohio Teri Lacy, Warren, Ohio Rena Large, Akron, Ohio David Larson, AIA, Birmingham, Mich. Tina Larson, Birmingham, Mich. Desadre Lawson-Bullock. Highland Hills, Ohio

Desadre Lawson-Bullock,
Highland Hills, Ohio
James Littlefield, Blacksburg, Va.
Nelson Madden, Kent, Ohio
Karen Mc Michael, Newark, Ohio
Ernest McKee, Tulsa, Okla.
Judith McKee, Tulsa, Okla.
Brenda McKenzie, Stow, Ohio
Maureen Milicia, Leesburg, Fla.
Diane Moffett, North Ridgeville, Ohio
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Charles Wright, Geneva, Ohio

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Marvin Zychick, Ridgefield, N.J.

L O S S E S in the Kent State Family

'36

Edgar L. McCormick, B.A., M.A.T. '50, Ph.D., Kent, Ohio, February 2008.

'49

Jerry Dantzic, Brooklyn, N.Y., December 2006.

'56

Richard M. Hungerford, M.Ed., Sebastian, Fla., September 2004.

'59

George A. Jones, Syracuse, N.Y., December 2007. **Alice M. (Degler) Smith**, M.Ed., Elkins, W.Va., July 2006.

'63

Randy Giffen, M.Ed., Barnesville, Ohio, January 2008.

'65

Ronald V. Coppolino, Naperville, III., September 2006.

. . .

Lois E. (Scott) Hale, Tucson, Ariz., February 1998.

'70

James A. Parcell, Mesa, Ariz., November 2007. Marian M. Stephans, Stone Mountain, Ga., March 2007.

71

Katherine A. Kishton, Kent, Ohio, November 2007. **James Uhler**, Rocky River, Ohio, November 2005.

'72

William M. Frase, M.Ed., Ph.D. '72, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 2007. **Robert Stamps**, June 2008, Tallahassee, Fla.

′73

Pam D. Purses, M.Ed., Cleveland, Ohio, September 2007.

777

David B. Chiles, Bel Air, Md., August 2007.

'83

Marjorie J. Harkabus, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., July 2006. **Robert D. Mack**, Salem, Ohio, May 2007.

Friends of Kent State

Willie Boston, director, Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action, June 2008, Ravenna, Ohio • Susan Taylor Dooley, April 2008, Kill Devil Hills, N.C. • Olga Mural, major university benefactor, May 2008, Akron, Ohio • Dr. Robert Zuckerman, "Doc Whiz," May 2008, Kent, Ohio





Intellectual challenges. Mentorship. Encouragement of curious minds.

For 75 years, the Honors College at Kent State has offered a unique experience to students seeking more from their education. The 1,300 honors students benefit from smaller classes, access to award-winning professors and opportunities for independent study — which help them build a map to their future.

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Tuan wanted to develop her own map: one for
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the next generation of scientists by endowing a
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It could. Now Debbie is experiencing the satisfaction of meeting her life goals, while making students' dreams become reality.

Does your vision of changing the world include Kent State? The Center for Gift and Estate Planning can help you develop a personal philanthropic plan. Call 330-672-0421 or visit www.kent.edu/advancement to begin a conversation today.

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KENT STATE

Honors College







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Kent State University is committed to attaining excellence through the recruitment and retention of a diverse student body and workforce

Fall 2008

For a complete listing of concerts, lectures, performances, exhibits and other events at Kent State's eight campuses, visit www.kent.edu/ecalendar.

Sept. 18

Classical Concert Series Auditorium Kent State Ashtabula 440-964-4312

Sept. 20

Guest Artist, Ariana Kim, violin Ludwig Recital Hall, Music and Speech Center 330-672-4741

Sept. 25

State of the University Address President Lester A. Lefton Kiva, Kent Student Center

Oct. 3-12

A New Brain Stump Theatre, Music and Speech Center 330-672-2497

Oct. 6

Altar Boyz

Founders Hall Auditorium Kent State Tuscarawas 330-339-3391

Oct. 15

Wick Poetry Reading
Toi Derricotte and Djelloul Marbrook
Kiva, Kent Student Center
330-672-2067

Oct. 25

Excellence in Nursing Award Dinner and Celebration Room 306, Kent Student Center 330-672-7930

Oct. 31

The Man Who Came to Dinner Fine Arts Theatre Kent State Stark www.stark.kent.edu 330-244-3348

Nov. 1

Founders Scholars Ball Ballroom, Kent Student Center 330-672-8577

Nov. TBA

42nd Kent State Folk Festival Venues on campus and around town www.kentstatefolkfestival.org 330-672-3114

Nov. 20

Entrepreneurship Extravaganza Solomon Entrepreneurship Speaker Series Kiva, Kent Student Center 330-672-9430

Dec. 7

Kent Chorus Holiday Concert University Auditorium, Cartwright Hall 330-672-4802



Oct. 11

Homecoming Activities for alumni, family and friends www.ksualumni.org 1-888-320-KENT