as one of two "promising programs."

Lourdes Snapp, for being named one of the recipients of a 2007 Senior Leadership Award by the School of Education at The University of Kansas.
Students graduate honors program

The University Honors Program at the University of Kansas commended more than 150 graduating students on May 19. Graduates included Mitchell Allan Papish, B.A. in English, son of David and Laura Papish of Clearwater, and Ashlee N. Widler, B.A. in speech-language-hearing, daughter of Todd Widler of Clearwater and Kim Widler of Wichita. Students participating in the honors ceremony include those who graduated in summer and fall 2006 and those who graduated in spring 2007.

University Honors Program students must complete a freshman tutorial and a combination of honors courses and out-of-classroom experiences such as study abroad, internships, community service or undergraduate research to graduate from the program. Students must also maintain a minimum 3.25 grade-point average.
Bishop Carroll Catholic High School won the Kansas Scholastic Press Association state journalism championship in the 5A division for the second consecutive year May 5 at the University of Kansas, Lawrence.

First place in the 4A division went to Andover Central High School.

Derby took second in the 6A division. Kapaun Mount Carmel won third in 5A. The Carroll Flyer received an All-Kansas rating, the highest ranking given.

Places are awarded according to the total points earned by individual students at a school.

Carroll's first-place winners were Allison Pfeifer, newspaper design, for the second consecutive year; Christian Beck, sports writing; and Nathan McMillan, feature photography.

Second place went to Allie Cole, newspaper design; Nick Gerik, advertising design; Lauren Halstead, cutline writing; and Allison Pfeifer, infographics.

Third-place winners from Carroll included Nick Gerik, infographics and sports photography; Allison Pfeifer, advertising design; and Sarah Rajewski, editing.

Honorable mention went to Nick Gerik, news writing; Mary Ohm, headline writing; and Claire Suellentrop, feature writing.

Other winners, listed by schools:

**Andover Central** – Erica Keefer, first, feature writing; Allison Bond, first, layout, double-page spread; Cassie Hatt, second, advertising; Amanda Solter, third, editorial cartoon; Brian Clement, honorable mention, sports photography; Jonathan Knight, honorable mention, sports photography; Alyssa Dietterich, honorable mention, theme graphics; and Danielle Self, honorable mention, theme graphics.

**Andover** – Nate Jiwanlal, second, newspaper sports; Molly Martin, third, advertising; and Amanda Just, honorable mention, yearbook sports.

**Burton** – Shawna Merrill, third, yearbook copy; and Amanda Meacham, honorable mention, newspaper design.

**Derby** – Victoria Beasley, first, editorial cartoon; Rachel Weber, second, feature writing; Sami Housman, third, theme graphics; Trina Gregory, third, theme graphics; Shannon Mosto, honorable mention, broadcast; and Trina Gregory, honorable mention, yearbook copy.

**East** – Jamie Quattlebaum, honorable mention, editorial cartoon; Jamie Wiebe, honorable mention, editorial writing and newspaper design; Pitts Pichtetsumthorn, honorable mention, infographics; and Nina Sudarsan, honorable mention, news writing.

**El Dorado** – Jordan Porter, second, newspaper design; Jennifer Joiner, third, layout, double-page spread; and Melissa Keith, honorable mention, layout, double-page spread.

**Goddard** – Andi Alexander, honorable mention, feature writing; and Travis Richardson, honorable mention, newspaper sports.

**Kapaun Mount Carmel** – McKenzie Snow, third, cutline writing; Lauren Schimming, third, feature writing; Quinn Ayres, third, headline writing; Emily Cook, third, yearbook copy; Pete Heithoff, honorable mention, editorial writing; Courtney Bohm, honorable mention, theme graphics; Rachel Welte, honorable mention, theme graphics; and Maureen Lahey, honorable mention, yearbook sports.

**Maize** – Rhiannon Scharnhorst, honorable mention, cutline writing.

**Complete High School Maize** – Margaret Kowalski, third, feature writing.

**Newton** – Cammi Palmer, third, yearbook sports writing.

**Northwest** – Dorothy Ayon, honorable mention, layout, double-page spread.

**Southeast** – Megan Do, second, feature writing.
Business students at the University of Kansas earned first place in the Redefining Investment Strategy Education portfolio competition.

Team members included Aaron Arnett, master's student in accounting and information systems, son of Mike and Gayle Arnett of El Dorado, and Ryan Patton, senior in finance, son of James and Mary Patton of Wichita.

KU students won in the Hybrid category which is defined as portfolios that include short securities and/or invest in derivative securities, such as options.
Gas gouging starts in D.C.

On Feb. 28, the Federal Price Gouging Prevention Act, H.R. 1252, was introduced in Congress to protect consumers from price gouging of gasoline and other fuels. Nobody is in favor of consumer price gouging, so it's easy to make the mistake of thinking that passage of such a bill is a good idea. In fact, such federal price controls will do nothing to reduce gasoline prices in the long run. By making the production and marketing of gasoline more difficult and risky, passage of H.R. 1252 will hurt consumers and make gasoline more expensive.

Federal price controls for gasoline do nothing to temper consumer demand or increase producer supply. Gasoline demand in the United States grows by roughly 2 to 3 percent per year, primarily as a result of rising economic activity. Supply and demand imbalances can become especially acute when gasoline consumption rises by nearly 10 percent during the summer driving season.

Recent increases in gas prices have been blamed on growing demand from emerging economies such as China and India, and on fears of oil supply restrictions tied to political instability in Iran, Nigeria and Venezuela. It's hard to imagine how gasoline shortages caused by federal price controls will increase political stability around the world.

In addition to restrictions tied to political instability and bad weather, gasoline supplies in the United States have tightened because of scarce refining capacity. Nobody wants a new oil refinery built in his own backyard. Refineries take years and billions of dollars to build. Industry data indicate that refineries were losing money as recently as 2002, providing a disincentive for investments. That's why industry data show there were only 149 U.S. refineries operating at the end of 2006, down from 216 in 1986.

High pump prices are directly tied to the escalating cost of crude. For every $1 increase of the cost of a barrel of oil, there is an average increase of about 2.5 cents per gallon in the price of gasoline. In case you haven't noticed, world crude prices are way up, and federal price controls will do nothing to reduce world crude prices.

Nevertheless, there is something Congress can do about consumer price gouging in the retail gasoline market. The federal tax on gasoline is 18.4 cents per gallon, and the average state gasoline excise tax is 18.2 cents per gallon. Sales taxes, gross receipts taxes, oil inspection fees, underground storage tank fees and other miscellaneous environmental fees add another 9.2 cents per gallon. This means that the nationwide average tax on gasoline is a whopping 45.8 cents per gallon. If Congress really wanted to help consumers, it could stop federal price gouging and roll back gasoline taxes. Unfortunately, that's the type of gouging that remains highly popular in Washington, D.C.

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Kevin Klinkenberg and Brian Hendrickson developed an interest in the New Urbanism model of development as architecture students at the University of Kansas. The more they learned, the more they liked it. In 2000, as their interest in New Urbanism turned to passion, the former college roommates launched 180 Degrees Design Studio, a firm devoted exclusively to New Urbanism projects.

“We came to the conclusion that New Urbanism is the right way for cities to be developed, and we wanted to focus on New Urbanism full time,” Klinkenberg said in a book-cluttered conference room at their office in the Screenland building, 1656 Washington St. Many in Kansas City’s development community did not share the duo’s passion for New Urbanism development when the firm was founded in 2000, and their first years were spent on projects outside their home market.

“We got some experience working outside Kansas City that was unique in this marketplace,” Hendrickson said. As their professional education

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Kevin Klinkenberg (left) and Brian Hendrickson, partners at 180 Degrees Design Studio, say New Urbanism — with its emphasis on walkable, self-contained neighborhoods — is “the right way for cities to be developed.”
in New Urbanism continued, the development model began spreading in Kansas City. In the fall of 2001, Klinkenberg and Hendrickson landed their first local client, David Gale of Gale Communities Inc.

“Master-planning the New Longview project was our first significant project in the Kansas City market,” Klinkenberg said.

New Longview presented a singularly challenging project. It was proposed on the old R.A. Long Estate in Lee’s Summit, and the large property was dotted with old buildings, some with historical relevance. Further complicating the project was the fact that neighbors had in the past managed to unite and block several redevelopment efforts.

Rather than penning a plan behind closed doors and rolling it out publicly before planning commissioners in a chamber that probably would be packed by opponents, the two decided to use a process they had learned working in other markets. David Gale, developer of the New Longview project, enthusiastically agreed, and the process—called a charrette—was launched in the fall of 2001.

Klinkenberg and Hendrickson assembled a design team of about 20 professionals, all reported to a mobile office on the project site. “We sat down with neighbors and the client and city officials and a blank paper and worked through until the end of the week to develop the plan,” Klinkenberg said.

Hendrickson said they embarked on the design process with just two premises: that the project would be mixed-use and that it would be walkable, both concepts inherent in the New Urbanism development model.

“With the charrette process, we involve the public directly in what we’re doing with a site,” Klinkenberg said. “It gives them an honest opportunity to help shape a project, and it allows the developer to engage the people before the plan arrives at a planning commission hearing.”

The plan that would emerge after a week of intense discussion included 1,100 residences of all types, 600,000 square feet of office and retail space, parkland and an elementary school suggested by Gale’s wife, Jeanne Marshall. When it was approved by the City Council, an audience of interested neighbors, many of whom had helped kill previous redevelopment at the site, erupted with a standing ovation.

The success of the charrette process made a believer out of Gale.

“The charrette is the only way to manage complicated projects like this one,” he said. “It’s different than the closed-door model—everything’s out in the public, and everyone gets a chance to share their viewpoints, and we got a number of insights from the public that were quite helpful.”

Gale, who is developing other projects in the area—including the Gateway West project in Mission—said the charrette process now is standard operating procedure in his projects.

“We refuse to do a project that doesn’t include a charrette,” he said.

After that initial foray into the Kansas City market, Klinkenberg and Hendrickson began picking up other Kansas City clients. Now, rather than conducting nearly all their business outside their home turf, “about half our work is here,” Klinkenberg said.

The firm’s revenue has grown along with the rising popularity of New Urbanism projects.

“Each of the last three years, revenue has increased between 50 and 100 percent,” Klinkenberg said.

And as the New Urbanism concept becomes more accepted in Kansas City and throughout the country, the nature of the firm’s clientele also has changed. “Up until the last couple of years, 95 percent of our business was with private-sector developers wanting to do walkable mixed-use projects,” Klinkenberg said. “Now, you have more cities interested in New Urbanism projects who are interested in being proactive, and they’re coming to us to do master plans or write new zoning codes.”

Kansas City, Kan., and Blue Springs are among the cities that have had their zoning codes rewritten by 180 Degrees Design Studio. The zoning designation that allows walkable, mixed-use projects—Traditional Neighborhood Design (TND)—refers to what was a bygone era in development.

Gale said New Urbanism creates projects that have the look and feel of projects from that “bygone era,” such as the Country Club Plaza.

“If you look at the Plaza and at Prairie Village, really J.C. Nichols was a New Urbanism guru,” Gale said.

Klinkenberg said the development model that has prevailed throughout the past half-century or so “made peo-
There's nothing wrong with mobility, but people like having choices," he added.

Klinkenberg and Hendrickson are bullish about New Urbanism's future. "Changing demographics is driving a lot of the interest, and you know, there's a saying that demographics is destiny," Hendrickson said. "Less than one-quarter of households include two parents and kids, and developers are still building homes like they're 80 percent of the market."

Klinkenberg said the rise of New Urbanism "is still in its infancy as a development movement."

"New Urbanism offers people the opportunity to live in a walkable neighborhood, and it gives them the flexibility to move to another type of residence in response to changing circumstances, without leaving their neighborhood," he said. "We haven't built any of that for 50 years. I'm confident our focus will continue to be on New Urbanism indefinitely."

Phil LaCerte | LaCerte is a freelance writer in the Kansas City area.
The University of Kansas has proposed freezing tuition for four years for first-time freshmen, beginning this fall. Freshmen also would have the option of paying a fixed rate for student housing for two years. And they would get a schedule showing annual increases in course and campus fees. They would know in advance about 80 percent of their college costs. Other student fee increases would be determined each year by a vote of the student body.

KU officials proposed the idea to the Kansas Board of Regents on Thursday as part of the annual process of setting tuition at the state Regents institutions. The Board will vote on tuition proposals next month.

The idea behind the KU proposal is to make the cost of getting a KU education as consistent and predictable from year to year as possible, according to KU Provost Richard Lariviere.

The program also is expected to be an incentive to complete degrees in four years.

"Completing four-year academic programs in four years is a high priority," Chancellor Robert Hemenway said. "By offering no tuition increases for four years, we are giving students a powerful incentive to finish their degrees on time."

In four years, a full-time student can complete a bachelor's degree in all but four areas — architectural engineering, industrial design, music therapy and visual arts education.

A spokeswoman with the Association of American Colleges and Universities, based in Washington, said she knows of only a handful of institutions with a similar guaranteed tuition plan.

Under the KU proposal, freshmen would pay more for tuition than other KU students at first. That is because an expected 6 percent annual tuition increase is factored into the freshman tuition.

If students are still in undergraduate study in the fifth year, they would pay tuition at whatever the rate is for that year.

In the last 30 years, tuition has increased an average of 9 percent a year. But those increases have varied widely from year to year. In some years, tuition remained unchanged. In others, it went up by as much as 25 percent.

Meanwhile, officials at Kansas State University proposed a more straightforward tuition increase of $455 a year, roughly $15 a credit hour for the typical student who takes a full course load. The increase is less than the average over the last five years, and it is designed to ease the burden on out-of-state students, who have seen the largest increases in recent years.

In the last five years, the average increase for an in-state student taking 30 credit hours was $590. For out-of-state students, it was $1,240.

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NEWLY COMMISSIONED Army 2nd Lts. John Cook, Springfield, Va., left, Ryan Thomas Dittmer, Tribune, Taylor Gillespie, Canon City, Colo., Raymond Hanson, Leavenworth, and Judee Sara Marie Herring, Winchester celebrate their military commissions. Thirty-one ROTC cadets and midshipmen were commissioned into rank Monday morning before friends and family during the ceremony in the Grand Ballroom of the Kansas Union at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.
TOPEKA — In an effort to make the cost of getting an education predictable, the University of Kansas has proposed a plan that would freeze tuition rates for incoming freshmen for four years.

If the plan is approved by the Kansas Board of Regents, first-time freshmen also would have the option of paying a fixed rate for student housing for two years.

The "Four-Year Tuition Compact" was presented Thursday to the regents, who will vote on tuition proposals next month.

Kansas State on Thursday proposed a 7.9 percent increase in tuition and fees for resident students; Wichita State, 6.4 percent; Emporia State, 9.5 percent; Pittsburg State, 7.1 percent; and Fort Hays State, 5.1 percent.

The University of Kansas plan, which would begin next fall for incoming freshmen, would increase tuition rates at the university nearly 16 percent over current levels but keep that rate the same for four years.

Freshmen also would get a schedule showing annual increases in course and campus fees, meaning they would know about 80 percent of their college costs in advance.

Under the plan, resident freshmen would pay $213 per credit hour, which is 15.9 percent more than the current rate of $183.75. For full-time, resident freshmen, tuition would be $3,408 per semester, $468 more than this year.

A full-time, out-of-state resident would pay $8,960 a semester.

"We want to get away from the whipsaw effect of tuition increases over the past 30 years," university Provost Richard Lariviere said.

The program has another goal: increasing the number of students who complete degrees in four years.

"Completing four-year academic programs in four years is a high priority," Chancellor Robert Hemenway said. "By offering no tuition increases for four years, we are giving students a powerful incentive to finish their degrees on time."

Lariviere estimated it would cost students who take more than four years to complete a degree an extra $1,000 per semester.

To protect against inflation, Lariviere said the university would ask for a new tuition rate for each incoming freshman class.

Although expressing some hesitations, regents generally liked the idea, which sets the tuition for incoming freshmen by averaging an anticipated 6 percent annual tuition increase over four years.

In the last 30 years, tuition has increased an average of 9 percent a year. But those increases have varied widely, ranging from no change one year to increases of up to 25 percent.

Hannah Love, student body president, said she supported the proposal.

"I think it is a solution to help stabilize those numbers and curb those increases that we continue to see," said Love, a junior from Dodge City.
TOPEKA (HNS) — The cost of an education at state universities could significantly increase again next school year.

With that in mind, one institution unveiled a plan to the state Board of Regents Thursday to make college costs more predictable for students and their families.

University of Kansas officials proposed hiking tuition charges by about 16 percent for all incoming freshmen next year in return for freezing their rate for four years.

The board will vote on the plan and all universities’ tuition increases at a June meeting. Proposed hikes for Kansas residents at other institutions ranged from a 5.1 percent jump in tuition and fees at Fort Hays State to 9.5 percent at Emporia State.

At KU, a mandatory “four-year tuition compact” with each incoming group of freshmen would prevent year-to-year tuition spikes for that class of students, Provost Richard Lariviere said.

Over the past 30 years, the university’s tuition has increased by an average of 9 percent a year but has seen some yearly jumps as high as 25 percent.

“We are looking at something more predictable and regular, I think,” Lariviere said of the new proposal.

KU officials also want to set out a four-year schedule for fees and allow all students to fix their on-campus housing costs for two years.

But the tuition compact would only be for new freshmen this fall. Returning and transfer students would see a 6 percent increase in tuition next year and would be subject to future yearly increases approved by the Board of Regents.

Resident incoming freshmen would pay a single tuition rate of $213 per credit hour for four years while non-residents would pay $560. Those figures are averages of the rates students would pay if the university increased tuition by 6 percent every year for four years.

Each subsequent year’s freshmen would be required to enter into the four-year compact with the university, which could be based on different tuition rates.

However, students lose their compact rate once they’ve completed four years.

KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway said in a written statement that allowing students to earn a degree in four years is a top priority.

“By offering no tuition increases for four years, we are giving students a powerful incentive to finish their degrees on time,” he said.

Tuition and fees for in-state residents attending KU and Kansas State University have more than doubled since 2002 as the percentage of state support has waned. Still, state officials argue their institutions remain a bargain compared to others schools around the country.

Officials have covered rising costs, enhanced technology, provided additional financial aid and increased faculty and staff salaries with the new tuition revenue.

Hannah Love, KU student body president, said she supported the compact proposal because it could help hold down large year-to-year increases students have been facing.

“I think it is a good response,” said Love, a Dodge City junior. “It’s one way, I hope, of correcting the increases.”

Board of Regents Vice Chairwoman Christine Downey-Schmidt of Inman said she didn’t know if the state’s other institutions would develop similar programs.

“I think every university will be looking to see how this works and if it fits in with their needs,” Downey-Schmidt said.

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