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Senior 2007

The USD 506 Board of Education, faculty, and staff of Labette County High School would like to congratulate the Class of 2007 who were honored at the Senior Award Program, May 9, 2007, in Harrison Auditorium.

Estimates of scholarships offered to LCHS students totaled over the $900,000.00 mark. The amount of local scholarships continues to increase. This year, including LCHS Alumni contributions, Labette County High School seniors received in excess of $62,000.00 local scholarship contributions.

As well as the many memorial scholarships presented, LCHS clubs awarding scholarships included Sigma Mu, Future Farmers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Literary Club, Spanish Club, Health Occupations Students of America, Student Council, Future Business Leaders of America and Honor Society. There were 46 presenters at the program including LCHS faculty, alumni, local community members and businessmen, representatives from the United States Military and local church pastors.

A special segment of this year’s award program was set aside to honor the memory of Andrew Harpstrite and Jessica Pierce, who would have graduated with the Class of 2007, Danielle Tongier who graduated last year and Spanish teacher Mr. Brett Carlson who tragically lost their lives in Costa Rica last June while on a trip to Costa Rica. Numerous awards and scholarships were offered to celebrate their lives and contributions to Labette County High School.

Additionally, many seniors received recognition for their outstanding academic, athletic, and citizenship achievements. Miss Amber Quin was honored as a National Merit Finalist. Bethany Bohnenblust and Jordan Swanwick were nominated by their teachers to receive the Kansas State High School Activities Association (Citizenship) Award.

Students recognized as University of Kansas Honor Scholars were as follows: Spence Allison, Ethan Bogner, Bethany Bohnenblust, Sarah Cornell, Heather Frazier, Amelia Garrett, Jordon Golouth, Katherine Myers, Amber Quin, Beth Shipp, Tieg Tullis, Bailey Waugh and Benjamin Webster.

Nineteen Kansas Scholars Curriculum Completers were honored during the award program: Marissa Blevins, Ethan Bogner, Bethany Bohnenblust, Victoria Butts, Jason Clark, Heather Frazier, Jordon Golouth, Tyler Green, Skyley Jones, Mandy Kinsch, Hannah Martin, Karen Mowder, Katherine Myers, Lauren Omahkai, Amber Quin, Jacob Smith, Phillip Stachelski, Tieg Tullis and Emily Vanderford.

We are extremely proud of our seniors’ achievements and wish to thank the parents, community members, churches, and LCHS Alumni who faithfully support and contribute to the success of the Labette County High School Grizzlies.
KU graduation candidates announced

By BARBARA PROFFITT
Linn County News Reporter
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LAWRENCE, Kan. - The University of Kansas has announced the names of the graduation candidates for spring of 2007 representing 97 Kansas counties, 44 other states and 52 countries. Among the more than 6,400 named are several with Linn County ties.

Devin P. Shea of La Cygne will be graduating with a master of architecture. Shea is a graduate of Louisburg High School in Louisburg, Kan.

Ashley A. Auten of Fontana will graduate with a bachelor of general studies/human biology. Auten is a graduate of Osawatomie High School in Osawatomie, Kan.

Ryan W. Vancura of La Cygne will graduate with a doctor of medicine. Vancura is a graduate of Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Shawnee Mission, Kan.

Colt L. Schafer of Easton will be graduating with a bachelor of arts/anthropology and bachelor of arts/English. Schafer is a graduate of Immaculata High School in Leavenworth, Kan.
Kansas University will recognize more than 200 students, including six from Leavenworth County, as the Class of 2007's top scholars at commencement Sunday in Lawrence.

The area students are:

- **Andrew R. Becker**, Tonganoxie, son of Debbie and Gene Becker, who will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering.
- **Philip Douglas Hickson**, Lansing, son of Wayne and Pat Hickson, who received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in summer 2006.
- **Andrew Michael Duncan**, Leavenworth, son of Thomas and Jennie Duncan, who will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering.
- **Lindsey Anne Norris**, Leavenworth, daughter of Mark and Chris Norris, who will receive a doctorate in physical therapy.
- **Michael Lynn Seebeck**, Leavenworth, son of Lanny and Myong Seebeck, who received a Bachelor of Arts degree in human biology in summer 2006.
- **Micheal Andrew Young**, Leavenworth, son of David and Janet Young, who will be a Professional Master of Architecture graduate.

Honored students are recipients of one or more of the university's top scholarships.
State’s students given a hand
Legislation extends time for Kansans to return, receive in-state tuition

By James Carlson
THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

With the swish of a pen last week, the governor lopped at least $15,000 off Kelly Summers’ student loans.

The bill, signed by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, will extend the window from one year to five years in which Kansans can return to the state and still receive in-state tuition.

For Summers, a nursing student at The University of Kansas, that will mean thousands of dollars she won’t have to repay.

“I’m so thankful that the legislators cared about recruiting Kansans back to the state,” she said.

Summers left Kansas State University a few years back with a 3.7 grade point average. Upon graduation, she won a prestigious fellowship at a Dallas hospital. When she wanted to return from Texas a little more than a year later, her family was shocked to learn she would have to pay out-of-state tuition.

“She still had a Kansas driver’s license, still voted here,” said Summers’ mother, Carole.

Kelly Summers appealed the tuition decision a number of times, but the committee also came back with the same answer: Pay out-of-state tuition or don’t come. With a loan from her grand-

mother, Summers came anyway.

But with this law, which is retroactive for students enrolled in classes this year, people like Summers can lower the high cost of higher education a bit. After her daughter started classes, Carole Summers sent a letter to every state legislator complaining about the policy.

Rep. Brenda Landwehr, R-Wichita, got the letter and was surprised at the rule.

“If we don’t have something like this (new law), what’s to bring them back?” Landwehr asked about Kansas students.

Rep. Ann Mah, D-Topeka, said a neighbor of hers went out of state for a few years, then wanted to return for a graduate degree at KU but was denied in-state tuition, which she said is just bad policy.

“We’re going to have a shortage of degreed workers, and that wasn’t helping,” she said.

Mah said five years was the best length of time because that is how long it takes average students to obtain a bachelor’s degree. If those people then want to come back to Kansas, they should be able to do so with in-state rates, she said.

Mah added that if the state wants to keep
Students must ask for refund

Continued from Page 1A

workers within its borders, it needs to offer incentives for people to return.

Diane Duffy, vice president of finance and administration for the Kansas Board of Regents, cautioned a Senate committee in March against thinking this law would drastically increase the work force in Kansas.

“It must be noted that residency policies only assist work force goals if students remain in Kansas after graduation,” she said.

A 2004 study by the National Center for Higher Education showed that while Kansas is a net importer of students, the state is a net exporter of college-educated residents.

Mah said with the biotechnology sector in the state growing, students should find plenty of jobs in Kansas. The law doesn’t require schools to notify current students of the potential refunds. Students will have to apply to get back the difference between the in-state and out-of-state rates.

Kip Peterson, spokesman for the regents, said there is no way to know what the fiscal impact of this law will be. But according to a December 2006 report by the Legislative Division of Post Audit, 46 percent of the nearly 27,000 out-of-state students at Kansas schools receive some sort of tuition reduction.

Those rate discounts amounted to $26 million of lost revenue for the state schools, said the report.

For Carole Summers, the cost of not doing it is too much. She said the state will have to pay if it wants to retain the “best and brightest.”

“Instead of saying, ‘We don’t care if you return,’ they’re now saying, ‘Come on back,’ ” she said. “And that’s what they should be saying.”

James Carlson can be reached at (785) 233-7470 or james.carlson@cjonline.com.
Spending hours on end taking notes for a senator may sound boring, but it’s a thrill-packed, fast-paced adventure to students eager to learn about the legislative process. Two KU interns share their story.

Legislative learning

When people asked Patrick Brown what he might do with the political science degree he was pursuing, he decided the answer didn’t lie entirely in a book. A University of Kansas senior from Holton,

Brown spent this semester running between classes and the Legislature. He was assigned to the staff of Sen. Donald Bets Jr., D-Wichita, through KU’s internship program. With three credit hours spent in a class seminar and another three in the field, the program emphasizes hands-on learning.

That’s what attracted senior Matthew Bryant, of Silver Lake, to enroll.

“I wanted to do something more interesting than sitting in a classroom, to try to apply what I’ve learned in school,” Bryant said.

DIFFERENT DUTIES

Paired with Topeka lobbyist Dick Carter, Bryant spent Tuesday through Thursday afternoons attending meetings and taking notes.

Brown’s duties included grabbing the phone, running copies and coordinating news releases and newsletters. At least once per week, he said, he’d go to the Senate floor to watch lawmakers in action.

“I don’t think there is such a thing as an average day at the Statehouse,” he said.

“It’s fast-paced. If you’ve ever seen the show ‘West Wing,’ it’s very much like that. Everybody is walking and talking.

“I’ve learned the process. It’s a people-person game. It’s who you know, opening communications. There’s a level of stability most people don’t get to see. They just get to see the political backbiting.”

IN THE THICK OF IT

While Bryant’s routine was a little less hectic, he felt lucky to have undergone a unique experience. Of the roughly two dozen interns this semester, most have gone the traditional route and served with a legislator. Bryant said working for a lobbyist gave him an opportunity to take on more responsibility than other interns.

“I ended up going to meetings (Carter) couldn’t be at,” he said.

“Eventually, I got down to where I knew what he was looking for, what specific issues to hit on, what the different legislators’ roles were and what he wanted to know.”

It all involved sitting in on various committee meetings, jotting notes and discussing things later with the lobbyist. Bryant said he got a good taste of governmental work, one that left him considering a post-graduation return to the job.

So why get a political science degree? Now Brown can answer from experience.

“I love the process. I really do,” he said. “I don’t care if people think it’s a broken system. It’s how somebody can put their aspirations aside for a constituency they don’t even know on a first-name basis.”
Political science students Patrick Brown, left, and Matthew Bryant confer with Burdett Loomis, a professor and director of the Internship program in political science at The University of Kansas.
KU announces spring graduates

LAWRENCE — The names of more than 4,280 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring — representing 97 Kansas counties, 44 other states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and 52 countries — were announced by the KU registrar.

KU's Class of 2007 numbers more than 6,400, including 2,125 who completed degree work in summer and fall 2006. Because KU conducts only one formal commencement ceremony each year, many of these candidates for degrees will return Sunday, May 20, for the university's 135th commencement procession into Memorial Stadium. More than 4,000 members of the class of 2007 are expected to participate.

Faculty and candidates for degrees will assemble about 2 p.m. Sunday along Memorial Drive for the procession, which begins at 2:30 p.m. The program begins about 3:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, participants should call KU Info at (785) 864-3506 or listen to local radio and television stations to learn the exact time of the commencement ceremony. Commencement information and an up-to-date schedule of events are available online at www.commencement.ku.edu.

Local and area graduates include:

- Hesston — Ryan Douglas Hall, doctor of medicine; Arthur Bennett Unruh, bachelor of science in biochemistry.
- Newton — Catherine Lee Bergman, doctor of musical arts; John Christian Birky, doctor of medicine; Allison Jill Blough, master of social work; Kyle Martin Bonewitz, bachelor of science in business/marketing; Cody D. Buller, bachelor of science in geology; Brittany Noel Claassen, bachelor of science in business/accounting; Ryan Sol Funk, doctor of pharmacy; Adam T. Gregg, doctor of medicine; Angela Suzanne Holdeman, doctor of medicine; Luke Harrison Metzler, bachelor of general studies/philosophy and bachelor of general studies/sociology; Nathan Andrew Navrat, bachelor of arts/English; Rebecca Jane Palmer, bachelor of arts/anthropology and French minor; Michael Robert Parks, bachelor of general studies/economics; Ashley Laura Pugh, bachelor of general studies/applied behavioral science; Susan M. Rohr, master of social work; Randy Lou Rucker, bachelor of science in computer engineering; Alissa Rae Smet, bachelor of social work; Jared M. Smith, master of social work; Lourdes Andrea Snapp, bachelor of science in education; Lesley Ann Tongish, bachelor of science in nursing; and Jennifer Marie Wiens, bachelor of science in business/marketing.
- North Newton — Matthew Scott Steinmetz, master of social work.
- Sedgwick — Nicholas R. Degner, bachelor of science in biochemistry.
- Burns — Shelby L. Plummer, bachelor of science in education.
- Goessel — Amanda G. Voth, juris doctor.
- Hillsboro — Adam Wade Driggers, bachelor of fine arts/art.
- Marion — Jared M. Beeton, doctor of philosophy/geography; and Ashlee K Moore, bachelor of science in nursing.
- Peabody — Jeremy Keith Carroll, bachelor of science in physics; Tina Marie Hardin, juris doctor; and Sarah Lynn McLeod, bachelor of social work.
- Moundridge — Elizabeth Marie Hafoka, juris doctor.
- Others who graduated from Newton High School — Jessica Lauren Cox of Valley Center, bachelor of science in journalism and bachelor of arts/communication studies; Robert Jonathan Mitchell of Valley Center, bachelor of general studies/sociology; and Sarah B. Roberts of Wichita, bachelor of science in business/accounting.
Aric Aldrich was awarded a $300 Max Barlow Book Award scholarship in general chemistry during the recent 52nd annual University of Kansas Department of Chemistry awards presentation and honors reception. The Council Grove High School graduate was one of six students receiving the scholarship that is awarded to undergraduates for outstanding achievements. There were approximately 950 students in first semester general chemistry at KU.
KU Graduates Named

The names of more than 4,280 candidates for degrees at the University of Kansas this spring - representing 97 Kansas counties, 44 other states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and 52 countries - have been announced by the KU registrar.

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Among the graduates are Melvyn Beltran, JoMarie Caga-anan, Andrea Iman, and Kelisha White (all 2003 graduates of Elkhart High School) and Rachael Raugewitz (2004 graduate of Elkhart High School).

Melvyn D Beltran, son of Mindano and Pompeia Beltran, is graduating with a B.S. in Health Info Management.

JoMarie Espera Caga-anan is graduating with a B.S. in Biology. She is the daughter of Manuel and Cande Caga-anan.

Andrea M Iman, daughter of Douglas and Barbara Iman, is graduating with a B.S. degree in Strategic Communications, Journalism.

Kelisha Ann White is graduating with a B.S. in Occupational Studies. She is the daughter of Tim and Connie White.

Rachael Megan Raugewitz is the daughter of Richard and Kathryn Raugewitz of Dodge City. She is graduating with a B.S. degree in Nursing.
The University of Kansas will recognize more than 200 students as the Class of 2007’s top scholars at commencement Sunday, May 20.

Each year, KU awards its most prized four-year scholarships to students whose academic records and other qualifications make them eligible for selection. These students are Chancellors Club scholars, Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger scholars, Solon E. Summerfield scholars, Endowment Meritorious scholars, National Merit scholars, National Hispanic scholars and National Achievement scholars. KU Endowment manages the funds for these scholarships.

Among the recipients are Rachael Megan Raugewitz and JoMarie Espera Cag-anan.

Rachel is the daughter of Richard and Kathryn Raugewitz of Dodge City and is a 2004 graduate of Elkhart High School. She is a Nursing BSN Senior and an Elizabeth M. Watkins-Berger Scholar.

JoMarie is the daughter of Manuel and Cande Caga-anan and is a 2003 graduate of Elkhart High School. She a Biology BS Senior and an Endowment Meritorious Scholar.

Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger and Solon E. Summerfield scholarships provide $2,500 per year for four years to 100 Kansas high school graduates in recognition of their outstanding high school academic achievements and records of community service and leadership. Watkins-Berger scholarships for women are financed by the estate of Elizabeth M. Watkins of Lawrence and an endowment in memory of Emily Berger, a KU graduate, by her brother, the late Arthur Berger of Dallas.

Endowment Meritorious scholarships provide $500 to $2,500 a year for four years to high-achieving students who enhance the diversity of the student body.