HEALTH FAIRS, SCREENINGS

CHOLESTEROL & GLUCOSE TESTING: Provided by the American Red Cross. 9-11 a.m. Sept. 11, Vesper Hall, 400 N.W. Vesper, Blue Springs. $5-$8. (816-228-0181)

PROSTATE SCREENING: Includes PSA blood screening and exam by a physician. Sponsored by Health, Happiness, You. 5-6:30 p.m. Sept. 13, Lee’s Summit Medical Center, Outpatient Services, 2100 S.E. Parkway, Lee’s Summit. Free. Registration required. (816-261-4411)

FAMILY HEALTH FESTIVAL: Adult health screenings include heel bone density, hearing, blood glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure. Moonwalk, giant slide, face-painting, mini-hospital and craft for kids. Chair massage and car seat safety checks. Sponsored by St. Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 15, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 11 E. 40th. Free. www.saintlukeshealthsystem.org (816-932-8646)
KU grads are among Forbes' elite women list

Two graduates of the University of Kansas are among the world's 100 most powerful women, according to Forbes magazine.

Cynthia Carroll, chief executive officer of Anglo American PLC, and Linda Zarda Cook, executive director for gas and power at Royal Dutch Shell, made the list in the magazine's most recent issue.

Topping the rankings for the second year in a row: Angela Merkel, chancellor of Germany.

Carroll, who in 1982 received a master's degree in geology at KU, is ranked No. 7, topping notables including No. 20 Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the Supreme Court; No. 21 Oprah Winfrey, chairman of Harpo; and No. 25 U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"Though Carroll is little known on the world stage, she is a powerhouse in the world of commodities, a sector crucial to the world's economy," Forbes said. "And within the corridors of world governments, she is a force to be reckoned with."

Carroll is the first woman and first non-South African to lead Anglo American.

Coming in at No. 44 is Linda Zarda Cook, a Shawnee native who earned her bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering from KU in 1980.

"Watch for her to rise even further," Forbes said. "She's in the running to succeed chief executive Jeroen van der Veer when he retires in 2009, which would make Cook the first woman to lead an international oil company."

Cook received the KU School of Engineering's 2007 Distinguished Engineering Service Award.

To see Forbes' complete list, go to www.forbes.com.

Lawrence Journal-World
Kansas brings out best

While more than 30 bands participated The University of Kansas' 60th annual Band Day on Sept. 8, one band stood out as an inspiration to everyone who took part: the band from Greensburg High School.

Marching with their fellow musicians from Bucklin, the students from Greensburg displayed the resilience and determination that has become a hallmark of their community. They also demonstrated another Kansas value — gratitude — as they marched behind a banner thanking the people of this state for the assistance they've provided as Greensburg rebuilds.

Crowds along the Band Day parade route and in Memorial Stadium rewarded them with the loudest cheers of the day, and KU was honored to have them be a part of this great tradition.

ROBERT E. HEMENWAY,
chancellor, The University of Kansas, Lawrence
Words are what's wrong

I read with interest the "Blue U" editorial Sept. 12 and agreed with much of it. Your rationale for curbing "locker-room language" in public, however, falls short of the mark.

You imply that public officials, including football coaches, should watch their language in public because it might be widely distributed, as University of Kansas football coach Mark Mangino's sideline remarks were, and thus bring embarrassment to the person and institution he or she represents. What's wrong with saying such "obscenity-laced tirades" are wrong, period? That coaches have verbally abused players for years and will continue to do so doesn't make it right. Wouldn't a steely glare into the offending player's eyes, coupled with a measured, "You showboat again and I'll bench you for the next three games," be more effective, especially if that consequence were made known to the entire team?

The fact that the editorial published the content of the e-mail message of Tonganoxie Mayor Mike Vestal, sans the nude photo and actual expletive, offends even more. You made explicit the very behavior you chose to criticize and gave crudeness a much wider audience.

Both the profane sideline tongue-lashing and the inappropriate e-mail served to degrade and/or ridicule a person or class of persons. Therein lies the heart of the problem. To treat these vulgarities as public relations problems misses the point. The ancient wisdom contained in Proverbs reminds us that words can wound or heal, "Rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." (12:18, NRSV)

NEIL WEATHERHOGG, Topeka
Share burden

College shouldn’t be priced out of reach, but taxpayers can’t pick up all the slack

Everybody knows college tuition isn’t cheap.

But as some students know far better than others, base tuition is only part of the bill.

Course fees are jacking up the cost of some degrees by thousands of dollars, leading to concern that some students won’t be able to afford diplomas in the costlier fields of study.

At the University of Kansas, for instance, a student pursuing a master’s degree in business is charged an extra $156.80 per credit hour in course fees. A pharmacy student pays an extra $140.25.

In many cases, the extra fees are needed to provide special equipment and materials for students. Since pharmacy students need labs and lab materials, for example, it stands to reason that the field would require more expenditures than, say, philosophy.

But the extra fees create a dilemma for leaders in higher education.

Should the fees be balanced out by spreading them across the entire student body? Is it fair, for example, to ask a philosophy student to pay more for his or her degree in order to decrease the burden on a pharmacy student?

And if students shouldn’t have to pay extra, who should?

The latter question is one that Kansas lawmakers may field in the upcoming legislative session.

Their answer shouldn’t be state taxpayers — at least not entirely.
Granted, Kansans should support the state’s colleges and universities. Tax dollars invested in the institutions yield not only educational opportunities for state residents but jobs, support for state commerce in the form of research and development and many other types of economic development.

So far, there’s no hard evidence to prove how many, if any, students are shying away from majors with high logged maintenance on state college campuses.

To help shield taxpayers from future bills for upkeep, the Kansas Board of Regents adopted a policy requiring universities to set aside existing funding or obtain donations to provide for maintenance of all new buildings.

Here’s hoping lawmakers keep that arrangement in mind when tackling the issue of high course fees.
AREA EVENTS

**Constitution Day** program — The Roberts Court, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Hansen Hall, Dole Institute of Politics, Lawrence. Free and open to the public. Information: 864-4900.

**Women in Politics** Career Stories Study Group with Fellow Jennifer Schmidt, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dole Institute of Politics, Lawrence. Guest: Sheila Frahm, former U.S. senator and executive director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. Free and open to the public. Information: 864-4900.

**“World Hot Spots: What Google Earth and Geography tell us about war, peace and the environment,”** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Hansen Hall, Dole Institute of Politics, Lawrence. Speakers: Jerome Dobson, professor of geography, University of Kansas; Brian McClendon, vice president of engineering, Google Earth; and Alexander Murphy, professor of geography, University of Oregon. Free and open to the public. Information: 864-4900.
REVIEWS

Lied season opens with family rock show

By Chuck Berg
SPECIAL TO THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

'The Lied Center's 2007-08 season opened with a rock-driven
surge on Saturday night courtesy
of the wife-husband duo of Irene
Bedard and Deni Wilson.

Better known to fans by their
marquee name of "Irene Bedard
and Deni," the emerging power
couple offered a program of origi-
nal vocals set to pulsing beats laid
down by Deni's slashing guitar,
Scott Reed's throbbing bass and
Rod Bradley's muscular drum-
ming.

If there was an overarching
theme, it was family. In fact, the
band was established four years
ago so that Bedard, best known as
the voice and model for Disney's
animated "Pocahontas," and Deni,
a veteran of the New York rock and
off-Broadway scenes, could keep
their family, including 5-year-old
son Quinn, together both at home
and on the road.

In anthems to the healing pow-
er of understanding and love such
as "Human Nation," Bedard and
Deni's ear-grabbing voices traded
calls and responses that seam-
lessly co-mingled Bedard's Native
American chant-like inflections
and Deni's impassioned wails.

It was an arresting amalgam
further steeled by Deni's amped-
up guitar and the granite under-
pinnings of Reed's from-the-heels
up bass lines and Bradley's
stick-savvy grooves. When Deni
shared that he, Reed and Bradley
had grown up in Ohio playing in
bands as kids, it was clear why this
extended musical family shared
musical lines as thick as blood.

Bedard was a vision to behold.

With waist-length jet-black hair
waving with her every movement,
and attired in a sleeveless pink
tunic, black pants and boots, and,
most tellingly, a luminous smile
that lit up the Lied, Bedard was
the visual as well as aural eye of
this sonic hurricane. Even when
prancing, she possessed an aura
of serenity even as the gale-like
winds whipped up by Deni, Reed
and Bradley crashed about her.

The sense of family was invoked
effectively in the Bedard originals
"Wolverine's Secret" and "Arctic
Fox," the singer-actress's poignant
rettellings of Grimm-like tales
passed down through the ages
by her Inupiat Eskimo and Cree
ancestors.

The evening opened with
Stormy Story, the raw and edgy
trio of keyboardist-singer Jim
Dandy, drummer Curt Yazzra
and guitarist Jason Koontz, from
Haskell Indian Nations Univer-
sity. Dandy's quavering yet still
appealing falsetto and the band's
funky enthusiasm was studded
with lacerating lines wrenched
from sources as diverse as the Sex
Pistols and David Bowie and early
Beatles.

The only disappointment was
attendance. Although attracting
a number of Haskell students, the
rest of northeast Kansas appar-
tently had been caught up with
football. For those who missed
the show, Bedard and Deni can be
heard on the acclaimed albums
"Warrior of Love," "Raven in the
Midnight Sun" and "I.D. EP."

Chuck Berg is a professor
at The University of Kansas.
He can be reached
at cberg@ku.edu.
WTC beams came from Tower One

LAWRENCE — An engineer for the World Trade Center in New York City has identified the original location of two steel support beams now at the Dole Institute of Politics at The University of Kansas to memorialize the Americans killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

John M. Barson was able to read markings from one column and conclude they originally supported floors 58 to 61 in Tower One. The two beams — still coated with flame-retardant foam, jet fuel and debris — now flank the world’s largest stained glass American flag at the south end of the Dole Institute’s Hansen Hall.

After the attacks, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg presented the steel beams to former Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., as a gift of appreciation for his work with President Clinton on the Families of Freedom Scholarship Funds.
Sept. 29 named special day

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has proclaimed Sept. 29 "Aaron Douglas Day" in Kansas, in recognition of the Topeka-born artist known as "the father of Black American art."

The governor signed a proclamation Monday to call attention to Douglas, whose life and work is being celebrated this fall at The University of Kansas' Spencer Museum of Art. The "Aaron Douglas: African American Modernist" exhibit is free and open to the public through Dec. 2.

In 1970, Douglas attended a Topeka celebration honoring him and his work at the Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University. He died in 1979 in Nashville, Tenn.
Blue U

KU coach gets a lesson about public behavior; one many more should heed

In cyberspace, everyone can hear you scream.

Kansas football coach Mark Mangino learned that lesson the hard way when video of his obscenity-laced sideline tirade in KU’s season opener was posted on YouTube, a popular Internet site.

The clip, which shows Mangino profanely criticizing KU punt returner Raimond Pendleton for drawing an excessive celebration penalty, has drawn 170,000 viewings and counting. That crimson you see in Lawrence? It’s not only one of KU’s school colors, it’s in the faces of more than a few KU fans and administrators.

In another era, what Mangino said on the sideline might have stayed right there. He certainly wasn’t the first coach to use coarse language in the heat of a moment, and you can definitely argue that Pendleton deserved to be chewed out for showboating. The sophomore drew the penalty for diving into the end zone unnecessarily to punctuate a touchdown he scored on a return.

But at a time when video cameras are practically everywhere — and video footage is routinely posted on the Internet — Mangino’s blue words echoed well beyond Memorial Stadium.

The situation underscores a fact of modern life for public officials, who must watch their behavior more closely than ever thanks to the ongoing proliferation of video technology and ever-growing interest in video-sharing Web sites.

Now more than ever, technology has made it easy for public officials to get caught in embarrassing situations.

Or, in some cases, bring embarrassment on themselves.

Just ask Tonganoxie Mayor Mike Vestal, who recently volunteered to resign after it came to light he had sent out an e-mail message containing an image of a nude woman and a joke that was obscene and racially insensitive.

The message read, “Next Monday is National Female Breast Appreciation Day. Beats the (expletive) out of Martin Luther King Day! Doesn’t it?”

Vestal quickly apologized, admitting that sending the message was an error in judgment. That much is abundantly clear — especially since Vestal accidentally sent the message to a female news reporter — but Vestal deserves some credit for immediately taking responsibility for his blunder.

Unlike Vestal, Mangino wasn’t directly responsible for bringing his questionable behavior to light. The clip was shot by a WIBW-TV videographer and also was posted on the station’s Web site.

Jim Marchiony, associate athletic director at KU, said university officials believed there was an implied agreement with credentialed media not to air footage containing locker-room language on family newscasts or on media organizations’ Web sites. So perhaps Mangino would have reacted differently if he had known his tirade would have been offered up for public consumption.

It will be interesting to see how KU officials react to the situation. So far, they have placed no new limits on media access.

That’s good.

If KU administrators are concerned that the conduct of Mangino or any other coach might taint the university’s image, the issue isn’t with the messenger but with the coach.

Besides, it’s not just the media who are watching.

Electronic eyes and ears are everywhere.
Public figures would do well to remember that, and adjust their actions accordingly.