Sigma Alpha Lambda announces that Victor Charles Marshall of Great Bend has recently become recognized as a member of Sigma Alpha Lambda, National Leadership and Honors Organization at the University of Kansas. Sigma Alpha Lambda is a national leadership and honors organization dedicated to promoting and rewarding academic achievement and providing members with opportunities for community service, personal development and lifelong professional fulfillment.
Hispanic American Leadership Organization announces 2008-09 officers

LAWRENCE — The Hispanic American Leadership Organization at the University of Kansas, known as HALO, has announced its newly elected 2008-09 officers. Among them is Audrianna Kozlowski, Larned, freshman in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, daughter of W. Bruce and Stacie Kozlowski of Larned. Kozlowski will serve as director of public relations.

Formed in 1971 as the Association of Mexican American Students, the group changed its name in 1974 to Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan. In 1986, it became known as HALO to better reflect the diversity of Hispanic representation. The group's mission is to meet the academic, social and cultural needs of the Hispanic student population at KU. Among its signature events during the school year are Hispanic Heritage Month in September and Cinco de Mayo in May. The group also assists KU with statewide outreach events for Hispanic high school students and participates in area festivals and cultural events.

The group is funded by Student Senate and is overseen by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Juan Izaguirre, assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, has been HALO staff adviser since 2003.

HALO is among several student groups that co-sponsor programs with the Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center, located in a new building on KU's Lawrence campus. Others are the Asian American Student Union, Black Student Union, Diversity Peer-Education Team, First Nations Student Association, Hillel, National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, National Pan-Hellenic Council and Queers and Allies.

The 7,000-square-foot, $2.7 million center that joins the Kansas Union in the northeast part of campus typifies KU's commitment to enhance and support the university's culturally diverse student population. Student fees, along with a $1 million donation from the Sabatini family, funded the construction of the new building. In addition to gaining a prime campus location, the new center will allow more student groups to gather, study and host multicultural events throughout the year.
Tom Brokaw has covered a lot of political campaigns. The former NBC anchorman spoke recently at Kansas University's Dole Institute of Politics and took a number of questions from the audience. When he was asked to comment on the current presidential campaign, he paused just a moment before saying that he thought one of the problems with the campaign is that there had been "too much commentary" and "too little reporting."

Our next president, Brokaw noted, will face unprecedented challenges that include wars in two countries, reform of our health care system, a looming crisis in Medicare and Social Security and a burgeoning national debt. As Brokaw said, those are the issues on which we must focus, not on Hillary Clinton's misstatement being under fire on a foreign visit or on statements made by Barack Obama's former pastor.

Brokaw's words should resonate with those who want to see this nation move forward. The answer, according to Brokaw, is for Americans to "re-enlist as citizens" and insist that both the news media and candidates get focused on the important issues facing the nation. Voters need to send the message that they are willing to support people who will attack problems and get results regardless of their political affiliations.

Even in his retirement, Brokaw is careful to be evenhanded. He said he remains friends with many former officeholders from both parties, and he gracefully dodged a loaded question about President Bush's place in history by saying we'd have to wait to let history be the judge.

Few people, however, have had a better opportunity than Brokaw to observe and evaluate American culture and politics. The message of such a trusted newsman surely strikes a strong chord with many frustrated American voters.

— Lawrence Journal-World
Nathan Gill of Iola was among the students at the University of Kansas William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications who placed in the 48th annual Intercolligiate Writing Competition in the Hearst Journalism Awards competition.

Gill, a senior in journalism and son of Robert and Rebecca Gill, won $5,000 for spot news writing for off-campus newspapers. Gill’s article placed 10th at the competition. He was working as a summer intern when he wrote a story for a special edition of the Osawatomie Graphic describing how more than 200 Miami County residents were driven from their homes by a flash flood and took refuge in an Osawatomie elementary school.

The Hearst competition is the most challenging writing contest in the country, Ann Brill, dean of the school, said.

Publisher William Randolph Hearst established the William Randolph Hearst Foundation and the Hearst Foundation Inc. in the 1940s.

Since then, the foundations have awarded more than $500 million in grants and programs.
The Topeka IABC presented 17 Awards of Excellence and 9 Awards of Merit. There were 54 entries in 13 categories. Categories and award winners included:

- **Communication campaign, Internal** — Award of Excellence to **Teresa Jenkins**, Kansas State Historical Society; **Laura Lutz** and **Tamara Taylor**, FHL Bank, Topeka.
- **Communication campaign, external** — Award of Excellence to **Mary Beth Chambers** and **Danielle Pettit**, both with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas; **Leslie Palace** and **Linda Bull**, Jones Huyett Partners; **Alex Reilly**, MB Piland Advertising (two awards); and **Kimberly Gerlach**, FHL Bank Topeka. Awards of Merit went to **Sharon Boranyak**, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; and **Dave Clason**, Security Benefit.

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Award Description</th>
<th>Winner(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Publications/newsletters (color)</td>
<td>Award of Merit</td>
<td><strong>Lisa Sisley</strong>, New Boston Creative Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications/newsletters (all other)</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
<td><strong>Toni Dixon</strong>, KU School of Business</td>
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<td>Publications/annual reports (over $5,000 budget)</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
<td><strong>Bill Neff</strong>, Hill’s; <strong>Alex Reily</strong>, MB Piland Advertising.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications/direct mail materials</td>
<td>Award of Merit</td>
<td><strong>Sharon Boranyak</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Diane Stotman</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Kevin Friessen</strong>, Friesen Design.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications/multi-page materials</td>
<td>Award of Merit</td>
<td><strong>Sharon Boranyak</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Diane Stotman</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Kevin Friessen</strong>, Friesen Design.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design and photography/brochures</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
<td><strong>Kimberly Gerlach</strong>, FHL Bank Topeka; <strong>Guido Stolten</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Kevin Alesn</strong>, Freisen Design.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video/sales marketing, advertising</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
<td><strong>Bill Neff</strong>, Hill’s; <strong>Alex Reily</strong>, MB Piland Advertising.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video/computer generated video production</td>
<td>Award of Merit</td>
<td><strong>Sharon Boranyak</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Diane Stotman</strong>, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; <strong>Kevin Friessen</strong>, Friesen Design.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internet Design</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
<td><strong>Amy Pleaschew</strong>, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas</td>
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<td>Wild Card</td>
<td>Awards of Merit</td>
<td><strong>Tracey Stratton</strong>, Jones Huyett Partners; and <strong>Teresa Jenkins</strong>, Kansas State Historical Society.</td>
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Deforestation in Mexico could ruin a natural wonder — the mysterious 3,000-mile migration of the monarch butterfly.

A University of Kansas researcher said the migration of millions of monarchs could collapse without urgent action to end illegal logging that is threatening the butterfly’s sources of food and shelter.

Chip Taylor, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, leads Monarch Watch, a group that has tracked monarch populations since 1992 at the butterfly’s winter home in Mexico.

“We have to create new habitats, and we have to protect the habitats we have,” Taylor said.

Mará Rose Williams, mdwilliams@kcstar.com
Johnson County Community College trustees decided this week to provide guns for the school's previously unarmed public safety officers.

The 6-0 decision Thursday also will make the public safety department an official police department, much like the one that already patrols the University of Kansas campuses.

Community college vice president Wayne Brown said the move was necessary to properly equip the officers, who do many of the tasks police officers do, including answering alarm calls and stopping suspicious vehicles.

Vehicle stops are "one of the most dangerous things a law enforcement officer can do," said Brown, who oversees the public safety office and himself spent 14 years in law enforce-
COLLEGE: Safety officers will become official police force

FROM B1

ment. “They really haven’t had the tools to do the job we sent them out to do. We treated them like the police but hadn’t given them the tools.”

It won’t take much to get the officers trained for their new responsibilities, public safety supervisor Jerry Naas said.

Fifteen of the school’s 25 safety officers are former police officers and are or soon will be qualified to carry the .40-caliber handguns the college plans to give them this summer. The guns for those officers will cost about $500 each, officials estimated.

The officers “have a good deal of experience,” Naas said. “I spent 30 years with the Kansas City Police Department and retired after 17 years as a sergeant. The firearm was just part of my equipment like wearing shoes. ... I have no disagreement with the decision, but I didn’t feel ill at ease being unarmed and won’t feel ill at ease being armed.”

Naas said the board’s decision to arm the department came as no surprise to him after tragedies like last year’s Virginia Tech shooting.

Brown agreed that school shootings played a role in the decision but said officials also weighed other factors.

For example, Johnson County Community College is like a small town with about 2,500 employees and more than 30,000 degree-seeking and continuing-education students, he said. It does not have dormitories, but does have a credit union, food court and bookstore.

The idea for the change dates to last September, when Brown started overseeing the public safety office and realized that officers did the work of a police force but without the firearms.

In January, Brown requested that an armed Overland Park police officer be placed on campus to answer the more risky calls. When the campus police become operational, that officer will leave, but Overland Park will investigate major crimes.

To reach Benita Y. Williams, call 816-234-7714 or send e-mail to bwilliams@kcstar.com.

CAMPUS SURVEY

A JCCC survey found that 52 percent of faculty, staff and students would feel more secure if the public safety officers carried firearms, compared with 17 percent who said they would feel less secure. About 31 percent said it wouldn’t make a difference.

When asked what the officers should be armed with, 72 percent said yes to pepper spray, while 57 percent OK’d guns. Only 8 percent said they should not be armed with pepper spray, stun guns, batons or guns.
That jolt some Wichita area residents felt early Friday may have been the result of the 5.2 magnitude earthquake centered in southeast Illinois.

And while less likely, geophysicists said, a late-morning aftershock could have been felt by residents in south-central Kansas.

"It wouldn't surprise me a whole lot that people in Wichita might feel the earthquake, which registered at 4:36 a.m., said Don Steeples, a geophysics professor at the University of Kansas who has studied earthquakes for more than 30 years. "You might have noticed it for maybe two, three to four seconds."

Sedgwick and Butler county
911 dispatch supervisors had no local reports at the time of the earthquake that may have been related to it.

But it was long and strong enough that someone could have noticed a lamp shaking or felt a “wiggling motion,” Steeples said.

Even an aftershock with a magnitude of 4.6 about 10:15 a.m. was reportedly felt in Wichita, about 550 miles from the epicenter.

“It’s a possibility,” said Angel Gutierrez, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo.

Steeples, of KU, said he heard from some people in Lawrence who thought they had felt the aftershock.

“That’s a little surprising,” he said, “but not unheard of.”

According to the USGS National Earthquake Information Center, earthquakes in the central and eastern U.S. are typically felt over a much broader region. East of the Rockies, an earthquake can be felt over an area as much as 10 times larger than a similar magnitude earthquake on the West Coast, according to the center.

“Here in the mid-continent,” Steeples said, “the earthquake waves are able to travel unfettered.”

Steeples said that about 20 earthquakes occur each year in Kansas, but most register a magnitude of 2.5 or less. It’s possible for people to feel them, but they would likely have to be within 10 or 20 miles of the epicenter, he said.

The greatest chance for a large-scale earthquake in the state would be on the Humboldt fault, which runs through Kansas from Omaha to Oklahoma City, Steeples said.

The worst earthquake in Kansas history was recorded April 24, 1867, along the Nemaha Ridge. It started near Manhattan, was felt as far away as Indiana.

The fault, which goes through El Dorado, is capable of producing a 6.0 to 6.5 magnitude earthquake, Steeples said, although an earthquake of that size would occur once every 2,000 years.

No one knows when the last earthquake of that magnitude occurred in Kansas, he said. “So we have no clues when the next one will be.”

The remote possibility of a severe earthquake has caused the Army Corp of Engineers to strengthen the Tuttle Creek dam, which the fault runs through.

Steeples said the dam is being retrofitted so that it would be able to withstand an earthquake in the low 6.0 magnitude range.

Reach Joe Rodriguez at 316-268-6644 or jrodriguez@wichitaeagle.com.
KU debate team tops again

LAWRENCE (AP) — For one championship captured by a University of Kansas team, jubilant fans did not spill into the streets of Lawrence in celebration.

Overshadowed by the lingering hoopla around the Kansas Jayhawks’ NCAA basketball title was the championship won by KU’s debate team.

The 16-member team has been No. 1 in the nation twice in the last three years. This year Kansas debaters collected 515 points, in front of second-place Emory University’s 509 points and 481 for No. 3 Harvard.

The debate team may not have been honored with parades and rallies, but they received a standing ovation when KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway introduced them at last week’s Kansas Board of Regents meeting.

The ranking comes from points won at the nation’s two largest debate competitions and all other tournaments during the season.
KU debaters finish No. 1

LAWRENCE — The University of Kansas debate team ended the 2007-08 season ranked No. 1 in the country in the National Debate Tournament varsity rankings.

This is the second time in the past three years the KU debate team ended the year on top of the national varsity rankings.

“The rankings are based on the cumulative performance of the entire squad over the course of the season, including the end-of-the-year national tournaments,” said Scott Harris, debate coach.

Though Wake Forest University won the national tournament, its points earned over the season left it in fourth place in the final varsity rankings.

The Capital-Journal