More than 4,900 undergraduate students at The University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the spring 2008 semester.

Area students on the honor roll, listed by name, hometown, parents, program, year and high school, include:

Joanna Linn Hamel, of Chapman, daughter of Greg and Julie Hamel, liberal arts undergraduate, sophomore, Chapman High School; Emily Elizabeth Markley, of Chapman, daughter of Joe and Sheila Markley, fine arts undergraduate, junior, Chapman High School; Callie LaRae Phillips, of Enterprise, daughter of Charlie and Jackie Phillips, liberal arts undergraduate, senior, Chapman High School; Levi B Brehm, of Hope, son of Patricia and Russell Brehm, liberal arts undergraduate, junior, Chapman High School; and Adam P Gantenbein, of Hope, son of Kenny and Rita Gantenbein, education undergraduate, senior, Hope High School.

Also on the honor roll is Tammy M. Gleason, of Lawrence, a pharmacy student who graduated from Chapman High School.
Nine local students named to KU spring honor roll

LAWRENCE – Nine KU students from the local area were recently named to the Spring Honor Roll at the University of Kansas.

Those students, their parents and their courses of study included:

Erin Ilene Sample of Garnett, daughter of Sandy and Roger Sample, Education Undergraduate Senior 2008.

Kassidy Leann Spring of Garnett, daughter of Steven and Marcia Spring, Liberal Arts Undergraduate Sophomore 2008.

Leila Bellei Wang of Garnett, daughter of Christopher and Cui Hong Fink, Business Undergraduate 2008.

Janell L Katzer of Greeley, daughter of Eileen Katzer, Pharmacy Professional Prof 1 2008.

Whitney Mariah Kimball of Richmond, daughter of Kevin and Terri Kimball, Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior 2008.

Ashli Nicole Bowman, Education Undergraduate Senior.


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These students, from the Lawrence campus and the schools of allied health and nursing at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan., represent 101 of 105 Kansas counties, 42 other states and the District of Columbia and 39 other countries.

The honor roll comprises undergraduates who met requirements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the schools of allied health, architecture and urban planning, business, education, engineering, fine arts, journalism, nursing and social welfare.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university’s academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum grade-point average for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

Honor students from the area include:

Atchison —
Gregory Arnold II,
Kelsey Burchett, Rong Chen, Benjamin Combs,
Emily Dodson, Jonathan Griffith, Amanda Howard,
Lilli Johanning, Clare Prohaska, Emily Prohaska,
Spencer Pummel, Hillary Rice and Laura Schneider.

Horton —
Jessica Morris.

Denton —
Matthew Dunlap.

Troy —
Leigh Massey.

Whitney Franken, Bret Johnson and Kristen Young.

Wathena —
Samuel Flinders and Darren Koehler.

Nortonville —
Stephanie Oxandale.

Valley Falls —
Laina M Burdiek,
Charles Erhart and Emily Shannon.
Man arrested in KU student’s death found dead in N.J. jail

25-year-old grad student from Hays discovered dead at suspect’s apartment

LAWRENCE (AP) — A man suspected of killing a University of Kansas law student killed himself after being arrested in New Jersey, police say.

Adolfo Garcia-Nunez, 46, was arrested in Elizabeth, N.J., on Friday night, after police found his unoccupied pickup in that same town, Lawrence police Sgt. Paul A. Fellers said in a news release Saturday afternoon. Garcia-Nunez took his own life while he was in custody in New Jersey, Fellers said.

Garcia-Nunez was suspected of killing Jana Mackey, 25, of Hays, who was found dead at Garcia-Nunez’s Lawrence home on Thursday, hours after a friend reported her missing. A second-degree murder warrant had been issued for his arrest.

Mackey and Garcia-Nunez, an artist who also went by the name Fito Garche, had recently ended a relationship.

No additional information about Garcia-Nunez’s death or arrest will be available until the Lawrence Police Department’s investigators return from New Jersey, Fellers said.

According to the Kansas Department of Corrections, Garcia-Nunez was sentenced in November 2005 for aggravated assault, aggravated battery and making a false writing. He was paroled the following August.

But Gary Likes, who lived across the street from Garcia-Nunez, was surprised when his neighbor’s name came up in connection with Mackey’s death.

“I saw no signs of this guy being capable of this,” Likes said. “He kept to himself and was very protective of the people around him. He was a very good neighbor.”

Those who knew Mackey said she had been a devoted advocate for women’s rights.

“It appears now she’s been the ultimate victim,” said Sylvie Rueff, who worked with Mackey in the National Organization for Women, where the second-year law student was dedicated to reducing violence against women. “I really could not believe she got killed because she was just such a remarkable woman.”

Sarah Jane Russell, executive director of the GaDuGi Safe Center, said Mackey had worked as volunteer advocate for the nonprofit organization, which helps victims of sexual assault. She was still on the list of advocates but was on hiatus during law school, Russell said.

Being an advocate “takes a heart, and it takes being honey on steel, and she had that,” Russell said.

Beth Cateforis, supervising attorney for the university’s Paul E. Wilson Defender Project, where Mackey was enrolled for the summer, said Mackey was vibrant and had a great sense of humor.

“She was a pleasure,” Cateforis said. “I always looked forward to walking into class and seeing her smile and hearing what she had to say or hearing her big laugh.”

In her work with the defender project, Mackey represented federal prisoners in appellate and post-conviction litigation in state and federal courts.

Mackey also was a singer and actress, receiving honors as an undergraduate for her theater performances.
KSU lists honors

Area residents receiving spring 2008 semester honors at Kansas State University in Manhattan were:

Kelsey Leigh McGie and Benjamin Edward Clubine, Iola; Tanner Ray Korf and Clement David Neely, Humboldt; and Jacqueline Kay LaRue, Jodie Lea Sager and Amy Nicole Walton, Moran.

Receiving graduation honors was Sheridan Rae Larson, bachelor of science degree in education with magna cum laude distinction.
Hal Laurence was happy to get one more shot at winning a national title at this year's Future Business Leaders of America competition in Atlanta, Ga.

Thankfully, not only did Laurence, a recent graduate of Lansing High School, participate in the business ethics contest with his partner Nick Novak, but the team won first place.

After a fourth-place finish at last year's national contest, Laurence said he was not expecting to do as well as he did.

"At state, I expected to do well enough to go to nationals," he said.

After their test, Laurence said he and Novak had different ideas on how they had performed.

"I felt about the same as I did after last year's finals, so I thought we might have gotten fourth place," he said. "And Nick's like 'No, we won.'"

After speaking to several observers, the tide shifted, with Laurence believing the team had taken the top spot and his partner thinking they had come up short.

"It wasn't until the awards ceremony, when every other team received their awards, that Laurence said he realized his team had taken first place.

Sue Lednicky, FBLA advisor at LHS, said the announcement took her by surprise, too.

"When they announced second place, I screamed and fell on the floor," she said.

The team competed in the business ethics competition. In the contest, Laurence said each team is composed of either two or three competitors who are presented with an ethical problem from the business world. The team is then sent to a room to decide on a solution to the problem together.

Laurence said it is important for each team to come up with as realistic a solution as possible. After developing a solution, the team defends their decision before a panel of two or three judges.

Laurence said his background in ethics and he and Novak's background in public speaking helped them in the contest.

The team also studied to make sure their view of ethics and business law were accurate.

"You have to know what businesses do when they handle problems," he said.

Balancing the duration in which each speaker addresses the panel of judges is another aspect of the competition that Laurence said helped his team.

"It's an art and a science," he said.

Though Laurence will move on to college, studying engineering at the University of Kansas, Novak will compete again next year.

Lednicky said the FBLA at LHS is relatively new, at only four-and-a-half years old.

She said the group currently has 20 active members, and she is looking for more.

Laurence said participating in FBLA has been valuable for him, providing him with important experience for the business world. He also thanked his family and friends for their support.

It's an art and a science."

— Hal Laurence
Hal Laurence and Nick Novak accept the first-place trophy in the business ethics competition at the national contest for the Future Business Leaders of America.
Louisburg, Bucyrus alumni among more than 4,900 students named to honor roll

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For Bucyrus: Brooke Lauren Beutler, Colin Patrick Davidson, Dana J. Dougan, Devin Cole Dougan, Talia Kaelin San Roman, Mark Christian Scharosch and Matthew Hunter Schons.

For Louisburg: Brittany C. Barney, Jessica Lynn Bergman, Kelsey Loree Dennis, Natalie Nicole Goodloe, Nicole Elizabeth Hoover, Michael Drew Hutchison, Molly Marie Manger, Brandon Kyle Murray-Mazany, Dana Michelle Noyes, Emily Suzanne Thompson, Cher Ulrich and Lance Michael Windholz.


For Fontana: Alyssa Nicole Auten.

For Lane: Brandon Lee Walker.
We Weather brings invasion of ants, termites

Associated Press

TOPEKA — Mild weather allowed marginal ant and termite colonies to survive the winter, and persistent rainfall into the summer is helping them survive and invade homes in bigger numbers than in the past, experts say.

In Topeka, reports of ant infestations are up 10 percent to 15 percent, while termite infestations are up almost 50 percent from previous years, local exterminators said.

“IT would be my assumption that because we had a wet winter that wasn’t too cold and we’ve had a long, wet spring, most insects are able to reproduce and live better,” said Zachary Falin, collection manager with the University of Kansas Division of Entomology.

“The conditions could allow marginal colonies to squeak by in the winter and then boom around now,” he said. “Usually around this time, it’s too hot to see this much activity.”

Pete Lake, branch manager for Terminex in Topeka, said ants are expanding in homes to more locations than the typical kitchen and bathroom.

“The ants are flourishing, and they’re also seeking food and shelter in people’s homes,” Lake said.

Jeff Bodine, co-owner of Bodine’s Pest Control, said he’s not as concerned about the ants as he is termites.

“The tiny little ants are what we’ve been seeing more of, and they’re really just a nuisance,” Bodine said. “The termites are a bigger concern for me.”

People should wash ant trails with warm, soapy water, experts said, seal any cracks around doors and windows and keep food put away.

Keeping clutter away from the house is important in keeping termites out.

“Even branches that touch the house can lead to a termite problem,” Bodine said.

Bugs will continue to be a problem as long as the weather remains wet and temperatures stay moderate, Falin said.

“They’ve had a run of good luck and as soon as it gets dry and hot, things will slow down for the insects and they’ll start dying off,” he said.
Man killed, arrested in KU student's death

Associated Press

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The Provost Richard Lariviere struck down a proposal that had been approved by the Kansas University Memorial Corporation Board. The proposal would once again allow the sale of 3.2 percent beer in the KU Student Union. The decision from the provost had many reasons behind it but the two main issues involved the high number of alcohol abuse; and that the union holds many events for children and high schoolers, and the presence of beer could hurt the KU image.

— Lawrence Journal World

Compiled by Aaron Pauls